



Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island

The Right Reverend Sandra Fyfe, Diocesan Bishop - bishopsoffice@nspeidiocese.ca

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January 17th, 2022

Dear Clergy and Synod Delegates,

First, let us offer each of you, thanks. Thank you for being a part of the Synod of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and thank you for the time and effort you put into this important role. As Executive Director and Executive Secretary to Synod, we are committed to making sure the administration and business of our diocese runs smoothly and, in these COVID times, safely.

We are writing to you, at this time, to notify you of a change in the date of our Special Synod. Scheduled originally for Saturday, January 29, 2022, we believe that it makes sense to delay this gathering until **Saturday, February 19, 2022**. This gives us a bit more time to allow gathering sizes to increase and for more members to receive the advised vaccination booster. And that is just another reason to offer you our thanks: thank you for all that you are doing to help keep our communities safe.

We have not reset the Nominations deadline for General Synod delegates because the Nominations Committee has already met to receive and approve those nominations submitted by the January 10, 2022 deadline. We do want to remind you, however, that nominations may be received the morning of our Special Synod. The criteria for a delegate is that they be a member of the Diocesan Synod and that they be confident fulfilling the attached volunteer job description (see Volunteer Job Description for Members of General Synod). We have also attached the Nominations form for your convenience.

Our list of regional gatherings follows. If you are unsure where you are to gather, please contact your parish priest or the Executive Secretary to Synod. We will gather at 9 am for a 9:30 am starting time. We will not be gathering over a meal hour, thus you are invited to bring your own snacks and beverages for the morning. You will also be required to provide Proof of Vaccination to attend the regional gathering. There are no alternate arrangements for delegates who cannot provide this information as it will also be required to travel and to attend General Synod.

GATHERING PLACES are attached separately.

The day of Synod will open with shared worship, a call for nominations from the floor of Synod once we have heard the reports on quorum, motion(s) to receive the slate of nominees for election to General Synod from the Nominations Committee, an election (to be completed by Order), and with the Bishop's Assent to the work of this Special Synod, we will adjourn.

As noted, voting will be by Order: Order of Clergy and Order of Laity (youth delegates a subsection of the Order of Laity and are elected by their peers, youth delegates to diocesan synod). At the time of voting, the names of those eligible for election will appear on a screen in your location. You will have been provided with a colour-coded voting card for your Order. You will be invited to write three names of your choosing from the list of eligible delegates on your voting card. These will be collected and counted by the regional scrutineers and, in turn, reported to the Chief Scrutineer. Once all results are tabulated, they will be announced by the Bishop.

As we prepare for this Special Synod, Tanya Moxley is working behind the scenes to assure its technical success. Each regional meeting will have its own MC charged with coordinating the regional activities with the Cathedral where the

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Bishop, the Chancellor, the Dean, Diocesan Staff, and the Executive Secretary to Synod will gather. Your Regional Dean and Archdeacon will be in attendance at your regional gathering.

We understand that this later date means that there will be additional changes to the membership of Synod and will be keeping in touch with parishes and parish leadership to assure accuracy of membership and that everyone participating is well-informed.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either of the undersigned. We thank you, finally, for your continued prayers for this synod gathering and for your discernment both to let your name stand as a potential General Synod delegate and to determine for whom you might vote.

In shared ministry,

The Reverend Will Ferrey, Executive Secretary to Synod & The Reverend Ann Turner, Executive Director