

I HAVE CALLED *You* BY NAME



GENERAL SYNOD 2019 • VANCOUVER, B.C.

A Memo from Bishop Geoff

June 6, 2019

Anglican disciples will soon gather in the Diocese of New Westminster, in British Columbia for General Synod 2019. <https://gs2019.anglican.ca>

Let us join in daily prayer for our delegates: The Rev. Canon Helen Kennedy, The Rev. Canon Dr. Murray Still, Mr. Bob Wedlake, Mr. Connor Blaikie, and Youth delegate, Ms Brynne Blaikie; along with our brothers and sisters from across the Anglican Church of Canada and for our meeting of General Synod.

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel the General Synod of this Anglican Church of Canada for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honour and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We will be electing a Primate for our Church. This is a crucial time for the Church as God calls us further into mission and ministry, reconciliation and healing, blessing and challenging. The national House of Bishops have nominated for the Church 5 candidates from which to select the new primate.

They are Archbishop Greg Kerr-Wilson (Calgary), Bishop Jane Alexander (Edmonton), Bishop Linda Nichols (Huron), Bishop Michael Oulton (Ontario), and Archbishop Ron Cutler (PEI Nova Scotia).

Let us pray for the election of a new primate God's Church:

Almighty God, giver of all good gifts, look on your Church with grace, and guide the minds of those who shall choose a Primate for the Anglican Church of Canada that we may receive a faithful servant who will care for your people and support us in our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Canada has aided the Anglican Church in meaningful and proactive discussions with Indigenous Anglicans toward paths of healing and self-determination. Reconciliation of the Church and country regarding our ownership of the Doctrine of Discovery, the Royal Proclamation(s), the Treaties, the Indian Act, Indian Residential Schools, and ongoing racism are the pieces of the conversation with which the Church has been called by God to embrace. To this end this meeting of General Synod will be prayerfully considering motions on these concerns.

The proposed second reading on changes to the Marriage Canon (Canon XXI), holds a prominent and public place in our proceedings. Our work in Rupert's Land over the past two decades has been solidly prepared and conversed with dignity and respect. **Let us pray for our delegation as it enters dialogue, debate and resolve, not just about the resolve of the motion, but about how we continue to provide pastoral care, leadership and hospitality.** Our work continues, in Rupert's Land, to listen attentively to the word of God in our many and varied communities. ***Immediately following the decision by General Synod, I plan to issue a statement to the Diocese.***

Also important to our Church is a motion to change the third collect for Good Friday from the Book of Common Prayer.

The Convening Circular, including motions, for the General Synod will be posted on the General Synod website by mid-June.

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