



ANGLICAN PROVINCE OF CHRIST THE KING

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

THE MOST REVEREND FREDERICK G. MORRISON

To: ALL CLERGY – LAY READERS – CONGREGATIONS APCK
Subject: 'THE YEAR OF THE THREE SYNODS'

50+ years in Holy Orders and Ministry – you think you know it all – that you have experienced it all – that you have witnessed it all – how foolish!! Each year the Lord has things new to share with me - this year 2016 - is the *Year of the Three Synods*, or at least it has been for me and the humorous aspect, because we all know the Lord to have a rich sense of humor, is that I am a Priest and Bishop who has always found **one** Synod to be a challenge!

Each of the Bishops Ordinary were duly and fully installed in the midst of a Solemn Mass which took place at the end of their respective Diocesan Synods. I can say with all sincerity that each one was a great experience on its own merits, and it was an enormous privilege to share in the obvious joy in each place. Each newly installed bishop giving his first solemn blessing to the Archbishop and then proceeding with Mitre on head and Crozier in hand to walk down the center aisle blessing the congregation on the way – it was and is memorable.

Just as important as the liturgies and the glorious music were the opportunities afforded by attending the three Synods for Jennifer and I to meet, greet and mingle with the clergy, their wives and the people of each Diocese – many of whom we had not encountered before. We will not forget these occasions nor the many people we met, nor the laughter shared and the happiness clearly evident and captured for perpetuity by the photographers and videographers at the events. Each Synod had its own characteristics, even to the weather! **Everyone** was welcoming and kind, we will have fond memories of the *'Year of the Three Synods'*.

Our prayers and congratulations are offered to the three men who served very diligently as Suffragan Bishops within our Province. During the interregnum that occurred the Archbishop found himself overseeing the functions of three very different dioceses – and he could not have done so without the full participation of the Suffragans. They too found themselves catapulted into the front line of episcopal business, there are those in certain fraternities who refer to this as 'being bloodied', fortunately they had already served as diocesan administrators for some time and largely took their new responsibilities in their stride. Their Lord did not fail them and neither did they fail to meet their commitment.

What exactly is a Bishop Suffragan? People often ask this question, as one who began his ministry in our Mother Church where Suffragans are common enough I can attempt a readily understood answer. Suffragan bishops are experienced priests who function as curates in episcopal Orders who serve the diocesan bishop in the diocese to which they are appointed. Suffragans may or may not go on to be installed as Ordinaries. Many serve as Rectors of parishes or Deans of cathedral churches and happily combine their duties with assisting the diocesan bishop with episcopal functions too. I have every confidence that our three bishops – Donald Ashman – John Upham and Frank Brulc will serve our Province well. Laus Deo!

Now to **'More Provincial News'**

Monty Stanford Ph.D. has been appointed as Director of Communications and Media for the Province of Christ the King. One of his demonstrated talents/tasks is the regular compilation and production of 'Christus Rex' – this is an excellent means of news sharing and connectivity around our Province and within each diocese. As your Archbishop I particularly request and would be grateful – if we could ensure that interesting and relevant news items relating to our dioceses continue to be fed to Monty as they occur. It really is of interest to the people of a diocese to read about what is happening in another, it ties our people closer together – not just in shared experiences, ideas and examples and all being able to join in success, fun and laughter – but – also to add our prayers to others in support of those who are struggling, lonely, sick and especially those who are on their final journey.

Bishop Donald Ashman is appointed Provost of St. Joseph of Aramathea Theological College in Berkeley, California with immediate effect.

One of the tasks of the college of Bishops will be to focus on the Seminary, specifically it's curriculum and more broadly preparing men with vocations for the priesthood into the future. There will be more to come on this as we move forward.

St. Joseph's Summer School

Will take place at our Seminary in Berkeley, California. The course has additional study opportunities this year. Enrollment is up and a number of students have pledged to attend: clergy, postulants, laymen and two prelates.

Morning Prayer, Daily Mass, Seminars, Tea Time Open discussions and meal breaks run from 8am through 8:15pm, the day ending with New Testament Greek.

- a. First Session: July 18th thru the 22nd which runs Monday through Friday,
- b. Saturday July 23rd a 2.5hr practicum with the Examining Chaplains.
- c. Second Session: July 25th thru the 29th which runs Monday through Friday.

* Certificates of Completion will be awarded upon successful passing of the Examination in Canon Law (1st week) and New Testament (2nd week).

As Archbishop I extend my gratitude to the distinguished faculty offering this Summer School, I would also like to recommend this opportunity to as many clergy, postulants and laymen **who are able** to consider attending this year, and ask our parishes to consider setting up or expanding their clergy education fund to enable more participation. As previously stated our plan is to expand this and other vital offerings to prepare men with vocations and interested laypersons for the - future and beyond - of parish ministry and service.

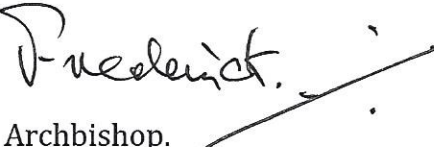
The College of Bishops continues to meet via teleconference each month and other phone conferencing as required during each week to conduct the business of the Province and to consider points raised by both clergy and lay members of our jurisdiction.

Our Provincial Summer Camp As many of you already know the Archbishop Robert Morse Youth Camp is being held in Washington State at the Warm Beach Camp and Conference Center. It is held under the flag of Bishop Ashman and leaders Mary Margaret Feagin and Erin Ashman Salazar, they got off to a great start on the afternoon of Sunday July 3rd and they go thru Friday morning July 8th. This camp takes an enormous amount of work and Mary Margaret and Erin are to be congratulated for the enthusiasm, the energy and the attention to detail that they have put into the event. They have gathered a very great team of helpers around them – SO terrific. I would love (in the spirit of the enthusiasm held by our beloved Archbishop Morse in the ideals of this experience for our youth) to see this opportunity become more available across our Province, if the expense of travel to the far northwest is prohibitive - perhaps the other two dioceses would think about making a camp of their own or combining centrally – I am certain the western diocesan team would share their advice.

Archbishop's Reminder Regular 'days-off', retreats or quiet days (it is amazing what 24hrs away can do) and planned vacations are of necessity for **ALL** APCK clergy. In the manual for parish/mission officers this comes under the heading - 'How to Help your Clergyman to keep on going.' ONE CAVEAT - do not forget to let your bishop know the details, including who is in charge of your parish whilst you are gone, we are responsible for you even when you are snoozing on some white beach with azure waters and palms nearby! Also if you plan on travelling into another diocese and are hoping to take on duties for a priest one weekend as a favor - let your Bishop know and the Bishop in whose diocese you will be functioning, this is not just a courtesy.

Finally to ALL who are on vacation or - going on vacation - Clergy, families and friends, parishioners et al have a great time, travel safely and come back refreshed - that's an order!

With God's blessing - and mine.

✠ 
Archbishop.