

ELECTIONS FOR PROVINCIAL SYNOD

Under the Constitution of the Diocese of Toronto and the Constitution of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, Synod is required to elect four clergy and four lay members to serve as members of Provincial Synod. The next Provincial Synod will be held from October 9 to 12, 2012 in Kingston, Ontario.

The Provincial Synod meets every three years and considers matters of interest in the provincial sphere such as theological education, social issues, government relations, chaplaincies and vocational diaconate ministries.

This year, nominees for Provincial Synod were asked to submit approximately fifty words about their involvement at the diocesan, parish and community level. The following are the biographies submitted by the nominees.

PROVINCIAL SYNOD – Four Clerical Members to be elected

- **The Rev. Canon Matthias Der – St. Christopher** - Matthias has been the Incumbent of St. Christopher since 1992. With a strong emphasis on discipleship, evangelism and outreach, the parish has grown from a humble Chinese speaking church plant to a vibrant parish which carries out its ministry at two locations, namely in North York and Richmond Hill. St. Christopher's is now offering three Sunday worship services and a variety of programs for people of all ages in different ethnic groups, in both Cantonese and English. Matthias is an elected member for the Provincial Synod for 2009-2012 and for the General Synod for 2010-2013. Currently, he serves in the Postulancy Committee and is the chair of the Ethnic Ministry Consultation Committee. He was a member of the Decentralization Task Force Committee, Doctrine and Worship Committee, Ministry Allocation Committee and a member of the board of trustees at Wycliffe College.
- **The Ven. Peter Fenty – St. Hugh and St. Edmund** - Peter serves as Executive Officer to the Bishop of Toronto and Metropolitan of Ontario and is the Archdeacon of York. Prior to this appointment he served as Incumbent of St. Joseph of Nazareth (1997-2003) and as Regional Dean of North Peel from 1998. Peter served as a member of the Anglican Church of Canada's Anglican Communion Working Group-The Covenant for the Anglican Communion. Peter is a member of Ethnic Ministry Consultation Committee and the Anti-Racism Implementation Group of the Anglican Church of Canada. Peter also has responsibility for overseeing the work of the Postulancy Committee, Fresh Start Program (clergy) of the Diocese of Toronto, Momentum and is a member of the Social Justice and Advocacy Committee, among others.
- **The Rev. David Giffen – Transfiguration** – David and his wife Heather have moved home to Toronto from the Diocese of Huron, where David served the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul for almost five years. David began his ordained ministry as Assistant Curate to Dean Terry Dance, and upon Dean Dance's election as Suffragan Bishop of Huron, David was appointed Vicar and Priest-in-Charge of the Cathedral. David served the Cathedral in this capacity for the eighteen month interim period before the appointment of their new Cathedral Dean. David currently serves as Priest-in-Charge of the Church of the Transfiguration where together they have seen significant increases in Sunday morning attendance and a demographic shift towards younger families who live in their surrounding community. David has a wide variety of Diocesan leadership experience: Mission Shaped Intro Leader, 2011 (Toronto, York-Scarborough), Back to Church Sunday Committee, 2011-Current (Toronto), Grants and Loans, 2011 – Current (Toronto, York-Scarborough), Strategic Planning Task Force, 2009 – 2010 (Huron), Huron Church News Board, 2009 – 2010 (Huron), Fresh Expressions Working Group, 2009 – 2010 (Huron), Program Director for Diocesan Youth Synod, 2009 (Huron).

- **The Rev. Christopher (Kit) Greaves – St. John, Bowmanville** – Christopher was born and baptized in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, and was ordained in 1988. He served as an Assistant Curate in the Parish of Innisfil, Associate Priest St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough, Incumbent of the two-point Parish of Haliburton and, since 2004, Incumbent of St. John, Bowmanville (95 km. east of Toronto). Christopher was Regional Dean in Victoria-Haliburton and for the last three years Regional Dean of Durham-Northumberland. One Deanery initiative includes support for the Parish of Kashechewan, Diocese of Moosonee. Christopher was a member of the former diocesan RCMP (Rural Committee on Multi-point Parishes), represented the Diocese of Toronto at the Primate's Evangelism Network Conference, is a member of Area Council, currently facilitating a weekly reflection group on the Anglican Covenant, helped launch, as co-chair of the ministerial, a free monthly meal, averaging 100 guests. Christopher has co-led two mission teams to Guatemala in the last two years, building houses and working with children at several Spanish schools. Soul food/exercise include: following Jesus, father of three (one out of the house; two getting close), playing hockey and guitar, walking/cycling with his wife Dianne and the dog.
- **The Rev. Mark Kinghan – St. Mary, Richmond Hill** - Mark is the Incumbent of St. Mary's Church in Richmond Hill, having previously served as Incumbent of St. John, Weston and as Assistant Curate at All Saints, Whitby. He is currently the liturgical consultant for York-Simcoe, a member of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on the Reception of Orders, the Diaconal Review Committee of the Diocese, the diocesan Back to Church Sunday working group and is a facilitator for the York-Simcoe Fresh Start clergy group. Mark is also participating in the Missional Transformation process being sponsored by the diocese and is volunteering at Homebase, a community organization that reaches out to disenfranchised youth in Richmond Hill. In his spare time, Mark sings with the Toronto Classical Singers and enjoys photography as a hobby. In particular he is interested in the connection between photography and spirituality.
- **The Rev. Warren Leibovitch – St. Paul, Lindsay** – Warren was ordained Deacon in November 1991 and Priest in October 1992. His parishes include: St. Paul, L'Amoreaux in Scarborough (1991-1993), St. Margaret, Barrie (1993-2008) and St. Paul, Lindsay (2008 to present). While in Barrie, Warren's love for church planting helped grow a small mission church from a plaza location into a portable building on its own land in the northwest end of the city in 1995. Warren used a variety of worship styles and technologies to reach out to a new and growing local community. The congregation outgrew its space quite quickly, and in 1999 built their first permanent building. Warren's past diocesan involvement includes membership on the Diocesan Candidates Committee, the Planning and Development Board and sub-committees, York-Simcoe Area Council, Regional Dean of Nottawasaga, and a member of the Diocesan Investment Committee. Community involvement has always been an important part of Warren's ministry. While in Scarborough he was a member of pastoral care committees for a local nursing home and the former Centenary Hospital. In Barrie, Warren was a member of the Royal Victoria Hospital pastoral committee. During his five years on that committee, he advocated for the establishment of a permanent chaplaincy position and department. At present, Warren is Co-Chair of the Lindsay and Area Ministerial, and the clergy representative on the local Mental Health Association Ethics Committee. In his present church in Lindsay, Warren is developing programs and contemporary worship options to attract young families and their children. Beginning this fall, the parish is also partnering with the area of Trent Durham Youth Coordinator to establish a youth ministry apprenticeship training position in the parish to further youth program development in the parish and outreach into the community of Lindsay.
- **The Rev. Matthew McMillan – Parish of Churchill and Cookstown** - It is important that delegates, both clergy and lay, represent the truly diverse nature of our diocese. As an incumbent of a multi-point and rural parish, Matthew hopes to bring a unique voice. Graduating in 2000, with a political science degree, he worked for the Ontario Government, as a regional director. His focus and specialty were communications, long-term strategic planning and policy development. He then studied Ag-Business at Guelph for two years, before attending seminary and being ordained in 2007. He possesses a wealth of experience, having served on; Diocesan Council, the Agenda Committee of

Synod and The Board of Trinity College. He has worked in our diocese as a sexton, paid youth worker, park chaplain and diocesan staff member. From 2003 – 09, he served as the Chair of the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee and Co-founded the Diocesan Youth Synod initiative. He would consider it a privilege to serve our diocese.

- **The Rev. Canon Ann Smith – Retired** - At time of posting to the website biographical information was not available.
- **The Rev. Paul J. Walker – St. Hilary (Cooksville)** - At time of posting to the website biographical information was not available.

PROVINCIAL SYNOD – Four Lay Members to be elected
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- **Mr. John Brewin – St. Simon-the-Apostle** - John was elected a member of General Synod in 2007 and a substitute member of General Synod in 2010. Following Synod in 2007 he was appointed by the Primate to the Partners in Mission and Ecojustice Committee. John splits his residency between Toronto and Lakefield (north of Peterborough) and is a member of the Diocesan Synod from the Church of St. Simon-the-Apostle in Toronto. A labour relations lawyer, John also has a Master of Theological Studies degree and is an adjunct professor at Trinity College. From 1988 to 1993 he served as Member of Parliament for Victoria, B.C.
- **Ms. Marilyn Csihas – St. George, Pickering Village (Ajax)** – Marilyn has been involved in Guiding for 16 years holding every leader position including Deputy Commissioner for 6 years, District Treasurer for 4 years and District Cookie Convenor for 6 years. She is Chairperson on many different school advisory boards. She is an active member of the Ajax Garden Club and presently serving as the recording secretary. Her family has been members of St. George, Pickering Village since 1987. She taught Sunday school, has been Deputy Rector's Warden, Deputy People's Warden and on Pastoral Care. She was the original chairperson of the St. George's Daycare and was involved and responsible for the set up for this worthwhile project, which today has 132 children enrolled. She is currently a Lay Member of Synod, Lay Reader, and serves on the Altar Guild, Christmas Bazaar, Social Committee, Garden Committee, Outreach, Women's Group, Monthly Soup and Sandwich for the community and the recording secretary to Advisory Board. In her spare time, she runs her own in home daycare and has been doing so for the past 20 years. She is married with 5 children and 3 grandchildren.
- **Mr. Christian Harvey – St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough** - At time of posting to the website biographical information was not available.
- **Mr. Kennedy Marshall – Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale** - Kennedy has been a member of the Church of the Epiphany & St. Mark, Parkdale for thirty years and has served his parish in many capacities including Treasurer, Advisory Board member and chair, and churchwarden. At parochial and diocesan levels, he has served and continues to serve on several commissions, working groups, committees and boards, including being a member of the present Steering Committee of Our Faith – Our Hope financial/ministry campaign, and an ad hoc Ethnic Ministry Committee that will present its report to the College of Bishops shortly. He serves on the Board of Management of St. George-the-Martyr, Parkdale, and the Board of the Downsview Youth Covenant, associated with the Church of St. Stephen, Downsview. He is a member of Diocesan Council and Executive Board. Presently, he is a member of General Synod and serves on the Financial Management Committee and chair its Investment Sub-Committee. He is a professional accountant and a member of the Certified Management Accountants of Ontario. He is a Senior Advisor with Ontario Power Generation Inc.
- **Mrs. Marion Saunders – St. George (Clarke), Newcastle** - Marion is Immediate Past President of the National Anglican Church Women of Canada (President 2007-2010); Immediate Past President of the Toronto Diocesan ACW (President 2004-08) and VP for Trent Durham; was Lay member of General Synod for the Military Ordinariate (MO) and member of MO Chapter 1995-98; is a member of Diocesan Council (since 2004) and the Diocesan Executive Board (since its inception); was member of Diocesan Stewardship Committee, FaithWorks Speakers' Bureau,

Archives, Budget Working Group; First President of PWRDF and member (as of 1995); member of Council of General Synod and Mission Coordination Group; Honorary Life Member PWRDF; National President of the Canadian Forces Protestant Chapel Guilds 1990-97; is a Licensed Chalice Bearer and Pastoral Visitor; Choir Director, St. George's Newcastle; Past Chair Lakeridge Health Corporation (member 2000-2009); is Vice President Association of Hospital Volunteers-Bowmanville, and Secretary/Treasurer Central East Region Hospital Auxiliaries Association of Ontario (HAAO). She was awarded Governor General's Caring Canadian Award for Volunteerism.

- **Ms. Marion Thompson – St. Peter, Oshawa** – Marion is a native Montrealer and is a member of St. Peter, Oshawa where she serves as a licensed lay reader and lay pastoral associate. Previously, for many years she served the Church of St. Simon-the-Apostle, Toronto, in a wide range of capacities, including churchwarden and licensed lay reader. More recently, she was lay ministry associate at St. George, Pickering Village (Ajax). She spent eight years as an AIDS volunteer at Barrett House, Toronto, volunteered with Toronto Community Chaplaincy, Corrections Canada, and has served on the boards of The Bridge Ministry and St. Simon's Shelter, Inc. (a homeless shelter), of which she is currently Treasurer. A founding member of The Marion Singers, who sing to benefit not-for-profit or humanitarian causes, she holds a Diploma in Lay Ministry (Wycliffe College). While earning her MDiv degree at Trinity College, she also served as Co-Head of Divinity. Marion lives in the historic hamlet of Whitevale with her husband Jim.
- **Ms. Laura Walton-Clouston – Christ Church, Batteau** - Laura is a mother of two and in a private practice as a Family Counsellor with a background in Criminology, Mediation, Bereavement and Addictions. She volunteers at the Nottawa Elementary School and has been Chair of the School Council for 8 years. Currently, Laura is the treasurer for Christ Church, Batteau, as well as a musician at All Saints', Collingwood. At the diocesan level, she volunteers on the Executive Board, Diocesan Council, Agenda Committee, and is the Honorary Lay Secretary to Synod and Chair of the review committee for the Anglican Foundation. Laura also is a member of Provincial Synod, the Provincial Synod executive council, General Synod and continues in her role as the Children's Ministry Network Coordinator for the Diocese and does consulting with areas and parishes in the area of Children and Youth ministry.