



PRIMATE OF THE TRADITIONAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

August 15, 2024

Falling Asleep of the Blessed Virgin Mary

To the Bishops, Clergy, and Faithful of the Traditional Anglican Church:

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

The dog days of summer are a time for relaxation and for reflection. A time to reflect on the seasons past, and a time to look forward to the seasons ahead. Shortly, I will be making my way to South Africa for the Consecration of Canon Stephen Smuts to the Sacred Order of Bishop on September 7th. It will be a joyous occasion, a celebration of hope and renewal not only for the Traditional Anglican Church in South Africa, but for the Traditional Anglican Church worldwide. This will be an opportunity for all of us to witness to the unity of our Church globally, and to know that we are part of a greater whole: Christ's one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

This unity, this witness, this participation in the Church universal, will take on an even greater meaning when we gather in Columbus, Georgia next May for the first General Synod of the Traditional Anglican Church. For the first time in the life of the TAC, the bishops, clergy, and laity will come together to reflect on our past, report on our present, and plan for our future. We are most grateful to Bishop Bower, his Cathedral Parish, and the people of the Diocese of the Eastern United States for hosting our first General Synod. We are also very grateful for the support and financial backing of the Anglican Church in America and the Anglican Catholic Church of Canada in making possible our international gathering.

In a relatively short time, we have transitioned from a global Communion to a global Church. It has not been without its challenges, but nothing worthwhile ever is. We have forged an ecclesial bond and Christian witness which goes beyond our national Church boundaries. We look not only to our own national Church needs and interests but to the needs and interests of all parts of the Traditional Anglican Church. In this, we are more than an ecclesiastical body; we are a family of committed, dedicated, faithful Anglicans taking up the great Commission of Christ in unity of faith and common purpose.

As I travel to the various parts of the TAC, I am always mindful of the prayers and generosity of so many who contribute to the mission of the Church through the International Anglican Fellowship. The financial support from parishes and individuals of the Anglican Church in America and the Anglican Catholic Church of Canada enable the ministry of the Church to continue in those areas where resources are limited though the faith is great. None of us should ever take this generous support for granted, nor forget the sacrificial giving of so many. We are truly grateful.

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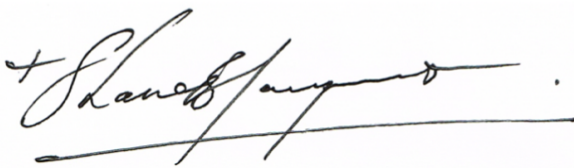
Our progress from international Communion to global Church is part of a larger progress toward greater unity with our brothers and sisters in the other Continuing Anglican Churches. At our forthcoming General Synod, we will discuss this important initiative. In a world which is increasingly hostile to the Christian Church and to Christians in general, it is ever more critical that we come together in common witness and common purpose. The wounds and divisions of the past must be allowed to heal. The challenges and obstacles of the present must be addressed and overcome. Together with the other Continuing Anglican Churches, we must do our part in fulfilling the prayer of our Lord, “that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.” *St. John 17:21*.

Communications are a vital element in bridging the distances we experience across the Traditional Anglican Church. There is no doubt that more frequent communications are needed. To this end, the website of the Traditional Anglican Church has been refreshed with a dedicated section containing current news from across the TAC. Please take the time to look over our website [traditionalanglicanchurch.com] to see for yourself the many events, celebrations, ministry, and mission happening across our Church. In addition, as Primate I will endeavour to provide more frequent messages highlighting the happenings and initiatives being undertaken by the TAC. As well, I will be calling together the College of Bishops on a more frequent basis, via electronic communications, to discuss the global mission of the Church, seeking ways and means of undertaking effective mission and ministry in our modern world.

Our future progress, our present mission, the healing of the past, are wholly dependent upon the grace of the Holy Spirit. We as Church – bishops, clergy, and laity – must continue to look to Jesus, ‘the author and finisher of our faith,’ in seeking to do the work of the Church in our time.

Let us then place our faith in God as we move forward in the Name of Christ.

Yours faithfully
In Christ Jesus our Lord,



The Most Reverend Shane B. Janzen, OSG
Primate of the Traditional Anglican Church