

The Incorporated Synod of the
Diocese of Ontario

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The Anglican Church of Canada - L'Eglise anglicane du Canada

The Venerable Wayne A. Varley
Archdeacon of Ministry and Program

November 8, 2018

The Venerable Dr. Michael Thompson
General Secretary
The Anglican Church of Canada
80 Hayden Street
Toronto, ON
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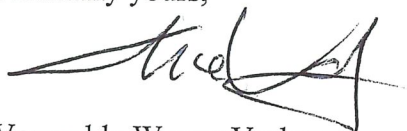
Dear Michael,

On behalf of Bishop Michael Oulton, the clergy and laity of the Diocese of Ontario I am pleased to send to you all of the material prepared by members of the Diocese of Ontario in respect of the proposed changes to Canon 21 and to fulfill the request of Resolution A054 of the General Synod 2016 in preparation for General Synod 2019 second reading.

The Bishop appointed a Steering Committee and they facilitated our consideration of the proposed changes to the Marriage Canon. Individuals, parishes and other interested parties participated. For example, there was a clergy day held in February 2018 facilitated by Bishop Linda Nicholls to consider This Holy Estate. Bishop Oulton and Reverend Dr. Bill Morrow led three archdeaconry meetings in April 2018 that addressed the process for consideration as well as unpacking the biblical rationale of This Holy Estate. The Bishop required of the clergy, at a minimum, that they discuss the proposed changes with their parish's lay representatives to Synod in preparation for the session of diocesan Synod occurring November 1 to 3, 2018. It was during Synod that we heard three presentations from Reverend Dr. Christopher Brittain who addressed the worldwide Anglican Communion treatment of the issue; Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat presenting the biblical rationale in favour of changing the Marriage Canon to accommodate same-sex relationships; and Reverend Dr. Glen Taylor presenting the biblical rationale opposing making changes to the Marriage Canon to accommodate same-sex relationships.

Synod's consideration culminated with a non-binding straw poll to determine where our Diocese might stand on the proposed change to Canon 21 (the result is included with this material) and the approval of a resolution to memorialize the General Synod with our input.

Faithfully yours,



Venerable Wayne Varley