



Anglican Network
in Canada

Bishop's Charge

SYNOD 2021 - NOVEMBER 17, 2021

"O *God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Beloved bishops, clergy, all delegates, guests and all who may be kindly and prayerfully observing once again this online Synod;

I thank you for participating in this 14th Synod of the Anglican Network in Canada (ANiC) a diocese of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).

We all, I believe prayed for months that this year we would be in person and Saint Matthew's, Abbotsford was ready to receive us and welcome as they do so wonderfully well. Alas, on June 18/21, I sent a letter to the Diocese where I shared the disappointing news that we of the ANiC Council has taken the decision that again this year our Diocesan Synod needed to be another on line Synod.

An excerpt from that letter: "For these reasons and more Council voted to hold this year's synod online. And though many of us have (certainly I have fervently) prayed for over a year that this Synod, of all synods, would be in-person, I believe the ANiC Council has made the right decision.

And, though we deeply regret another year without us having the joy of fellowship together in person, we are trusting and praying that, by the Lord's grace, this year's synod will be exactly what the Lord is calling us to and the outcome His perfect will."

And so here we are once again. Thankfully, through improvements in the Zoom technology, this year we can see each other's faces and I am also aware that across the country and in New England, delegates are meeting together with others in their area so that they can enjoy as may be possible, still mindful of the ongoing

restrictions of COVID, some sense of connection with others of the Diocese beyond their own congregation that being together brings.

Congregations also in their Eucharist celebrations last Sunday, made their congregational Eucharist part of our Diocesan entry into our 14th Synod.

Our theme for this year is Hebrews 13:20,21. Some of you have already memorized it but if not yet, there's still time.

20 Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,
21 equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.
Hebrews 13:20-21

Already today, through the wonderful teaching of the Reverend Keith Ganzer, who just a few months ago completed a fifty-six sermon series on the Epistle to the Hebrews, we are beginning to encounter afresh our Lord Jesus Christ who, as the great high priest, of the order of Melchizedek, made once for all upon the Cross, a sacrifice which won salvation for all eternity those who by faith look to Him.

Just as last year's Synod Theme verse was close to the end of 1 Thessalonians so, Hebrews 13:20, 21, a benediction often particularly used in the season of Easter, is a prayer and benediction that flows from the whole of this great epistle.

The pastor, having urged the readers "pray for us" (Hebrews 13:18a), goes on to pray:

"Now may the God of peace
who brought again from the dead
our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep,
by the blood of the eternal covenant,
equip you with everything good
that you may do his will,
working in us that which is pleasing in his sight,
through Jesus Christ,
to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen "

So in my Charge, based on this prayer and benediction, I hope to reflect on the promises and purposes of God as they apply to ANiC at this critical time in our history, under the following headings:

1. **All glory to Jesus**
2. **Equipped with everything good to do His will**
3. **Working in us that which is pleasing in His sight**
4. **Prayer for our hope and future, with thanksgiving**

1. All Glory to Jesus

The prayer begins with the words: “now may the God peace”. It would be an interesting survey to find out, if you or I were to describe the living, true God, “now may the God of ——?—— “ what word would you have inserted? My guess is most of us might not have thought of “peace”. But how wonderful that the writer of Hebrews, under the leading and inspiration of the Holy Spirit (“For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” 2 Peter 1:21) described the living God as “the God of peace”.

- God is a “God of peace” - there is complete peace and unity between Father Son and Holy Spirit - John 5: 19 “So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise.²⁰ For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing.” John 5:19-20a
- “By the blood of the eternal covenant”- Jesus came to win peace by the Cross – (But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, Ephesians 2:13-14a)
- “Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep” - The resurrection of Jesus proves who Jesus is and gives assurance of the success of the Cross (by Jesus who laid down his life for the sheep) in establishing peace - also Acts 17:30,31- “³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.” Acts 17:30-31
- “Through Jesus Christ, To whom be glory forever and ever. Amen” It is all by him and through him alone! We are called to choose to work out what he is doing (Philippians 2:12b,¹³ – “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.” Philippians 2:12-13)

So let’s walk with him.

This is all to say that as those who trust in the Lord Jesus and can call him “our Lord Jesus” and know him as the Great Shepherd of the sheep, who by the blood of his eternal covenant was brought again from the dead to prove the success of his sacrifice, knowing all this, with joyful assurance, we can stay the course “For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.” (Hebrews 10:36)

In the Gospel we have everything we need to live out all that the Lord has called us to.

We have confidence, not because we think we are good as a Diocese , or because we think we are competent, or believe we have a good plan or are hopeful in the one who will lead us in the next stage of our life, it is only in our confidence in the Lord Jesus and in the power of the Gospel of the God of peace.

All to the glory of Jesus!

2. Equipped With Everything Good to Do His Will

In Ephesians 4, in a very famous portion of the Bible, the apostle Paul describes the call of pastors and teachers "11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-12)

Our Clergy are not called to do all the ministry but they do have responsibility to teach and equip the saints (that's the people of God) for the work of ministry.

It should come as no surprise therefore that the evil one strategically attacks and seeks to undermine the training of clergy so that ultimately the people do not hear the pure word of God preached and taught so they do not hear the gospel and cannot come to faith and grow up in the Lord. Attack the training of clergy and down the line the whole church and the cause of the Gospel is deeply harmed.

Any study of church history makes clear some very promising and exciting movements lost spiritual steam and soon ground to a halt due to unfaithful teaching and training of the Clergy.

You and I are enjoying some of the joys and excitement of new beginnings. We feel at times like the New Testament church and we love it even with our smallness and inexperience in many things.

But with all our enthusiasm, we are vulnerable if we fail to attend to a serious plan for the faithful training of our clergy in the Gospel, the Bible and in the Anglican way. For our mission is to make disciples of all nations right here in Canada and New England by building biblically faithful, Gospel sharing Anglican churches.

The Apostle Paul charged young Timothy: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15) Dear friends it is our responsibility before God and certainly, as Bishop, I feel the weight of responsibility to take care to raise up young clergy who "handle rightly the word of truth" for the long term health of our Diocese in its mission, we must make plans and take responsibility to prepare ministers to reach Canada for Christ so that He may have dominion from sea to sea and receive the glory which is his forever and ever. Amen.

Accordingly, even with my retirement drawing closer by the day, I shared with last year's Synod, my intention to address this critical need. In my Charge then I mentioned in a conversation with the recently retired General Secretary of GAFCON, Archbishop Peter Jensen, who continues to lead the GAFCON Theological Education Network, he challenged me that if he had two years remaining in tenure as a Diocesan Bishop he would prioritize our theological education which is providing a diocesan-faithful, work-able plan that will serve the needs of preparing our leaders to be mighty, biblically grounded folk who handle the Word of God faithfully; have a vital, growing relationship with the Lord; know how to lead people to Christ; teach and equip God's people in the power of the Holy Spirit; are growing in Christ-like character and the fruit of the Spirit; and have growing competencies to lead a church family, and in most cases to plant churches. I took his challenge very seriously and immediately took steps to address this need and challenge in two important ways which have been going forward quietly but very seriously:

I appointed Bishop Stephen Leung to chair of an Ordination, Clergy Training, Theological Task Force to begin a two year project. They have been labouring faithfully, reporting regularly to the House of Bishops and to ANiC Council. Recently they hired the Reverend Anna Spray as their Ordination Task Force Staff. The Task Force will be making a presentation on Friday.

The second step taken was to commission a Seminary Working Group. We received an anonymous donation that allowed the diocese to hire the very gifted and experienced Dr. Gary Graber as Advisor to the Bishop to consider the need, wisdom and feasibility of us launching an ANiC Diocesan Theological College in St John's Newfoundland to be housed in the immense and wonderful building the Lord has recently provided to Good Samaritan Church. Within days of them taking possession, I approached the Rector, Archdeacon Darrell Critch and the Church Council about whether they would have space and if so would they be willing to host and provide a section of their church building and even an additional building potentially become a dormitory for the proposed College. They immediately and incredibly generously responded with a unanimous yes.

Working with a small Seminary Working Group under the chairmanship of Canon David Short, Dr Graber was employed and charged with the task of bringing a Report to me by this Fall, 2021.

On March 10th, 2021, I sent out an open letter in which I shared my heart and burden for this project. Under the heading, "Training Labourers for the Harvest" , I wrote: "In keeping with this, I have also had the clear and growing sense that our ANiC clergy need to be formed in a comprehensively Anglican way which is reflective of what is sometimes described as the 'three-streams' nature of our diocese. I believe that to fulfill this it is necessary that we have a Diocesan Theological College. This college would be residential, and clearly representative of the Catholic, Evangelical and Charismatic traditions within Anglicanism. It would be a college for the training of both women and men. It would facilitate Anglican spiritual formation which would be centered on the chapel life of the college – with the regiment of daily Morning and Evening Prayer, and Feast Day Eucharists. The academic program would be primarily the study of the Scriptures (including Biblical languages) together with church history and historical theology. In keeping with our diocesan vision there will also be a focus on church planting and a commitment to our five priorities."

Dr. Gary Graber's Report was comprehensive and for me persuasive that given this extraordinary opportunity that is provided at Good Samaritan and the growing conviction in me, the Seminary Working Group and others that as a Diocese we have a responsibility to take seriously as a Diocese the training of labourers for the harvest, to establish a Diocesan College shaped by the following Values:

Faithful to our Anglican heritage, serving all of ANiC;

- Academically rigorous;
- Employing qualified Anglican professors;
- Small, residential, and affordable;
- Preparing men and women for sacrificial ministry;
- Immersing students in the rhythm of daily chapel and ministry;
- Managed by a professional Board and Faculty who are bound by the seminary's Founding Principles and ANiC's canons;
- Conforming to the highest accreditation standards;
- Working shoulder-to-shoulder with orthodox Anglican seminaries around the world.

It is our goal, and my personal conviction, to open this new seminary in Fall 2022.

I am well aware there are a number of very good theological colleges in Canada. We are deeply grateful for them but we cannot and should not abrogate our own responsibility as a Diocese to train our own clergy in a manner that embraces our Anglican values and traditions. (Just as parents cannot solely look to the local church to train their children as disciples of the Lord. Parents need to take personal responsibility so we as a Diocese, I believe, must do so in terms of theological training for those who are called and being prepared for ordained ministry.)

I am convinced the Lord is leading us in this way. Consider the amazing things he has already done which I am convinced are evidence the Lord is in this:

1. An incredible Building in St John's, Newfoundland literally and unexpectedly has been dropped in our laps to be used faithfully for Gospel ministry.
2. Dr. Gary Graber who was available to assist and with the anonymous gift we were able to enlist his expert assistance. This man has unique experience and gifts which make his report and now ongoing commitment to this project incredibly valuable and on the strength of faith alone, that this is worthy of their sacrificial efforts, Gary and Lynne Graber have secured a home in St John's and are right now moving there.
3. The Seminary Working Group is itself an incredibly gifted and a visionary group. I have been amazed at the high degree of unity. The membership are: Canon David Short, Archdeacon Darrell Critch, the Reverend Jane Parent, the Reverend Colton Carrick, in addition to myself and Dr. Graber, and most recently as we now pivot towards formalizing a structure, John MacDonald has become the transitional Chair as one who has much experience in governance so that we can move quickly towards a formal Board structure. Truly this small group represents the three streams, men and women and commitment to the five priorities. It is truly a joy to see them work together with such joy and urgency.
4. I am personally amazed at the deep desire I myself have to contribute to this in any way I can. Right now, I am seeking to raise start-up funds hopefully by the end of this calendar. I also have quietly offered to the Seminary Working Group, and mentioned to our House of Bishops and our two candidates for Episcopal election that I would be willing to assist after my retirement in any way, if I receive my successor's blessing to do so.
5. I am grateful and pleased to report that there has been widespread support for the College. The House of Bishops, the Archdeacons, both candidates for Bishop, and ANiC Council have all expressed encouragement for the project. I might add that as of today, ANiC is able to receive donations on behalf of our Diocesan College. Additional information will be forthcoming on the ANiC website in the months to come.
6. Finally and perhaps what is the most exciting is that recently through Canon David Short, we approached the family of the Reverend Canon Dr. JI Packer, now with the Lord, to express our desire to name this Diocesan College after Dr. Packer if they were comfortable with this. Mrs. Kit Packer responded with much joy giving their permission. So dear friends I am announcing today that our Diocesan College will be called Packer College.

There is no one in our brief history who represents more a deep commitment to Theological Training, to catechism and a love of the Anglican Way. In the last couple of years of Dr Packer's life, I made a point of visiting him a few times. They remain for me very significant and precious memories. In one of my very last conversations with Canon Dr J.I. Packer, he encouraged me and challenged me that in his view ANiC held a very unique and strategic place in the ACNA which, in his view, was very important because there are some benefits to being Canadian (yes), but primarily because truly we are three-stream.

I cannot imagine a name based on the life, ministry, writing and witness which could better represent what we would aspire to as a Diocesan College. We are humbled and challenged by this incredible gift and feel the

weight of responsibility to live up to the name.

I trust that, even now, the Lord is moving in the hearts of men and women who are discerning a call to ordained ministry, and I encourage them to reach out to us.

All of these things, to me and I submit to you as our Diocesan Synod, speak of a work of God which he is doing in our midst in these days which invite us to step out in faith and see what he will do, he who we pray will equip us with everything good that we may do his will. And so my friends “as for me and my house”, I am believing God and expecting that Packer College will be welcoming students next September 2022. Please join me in praying exactly for that.

O God, our heavenly Father, you manifested your love by sending your only-begotten Son into the world, that all might live through him: Pour out your Spirit on our Diocese as we seek to launch a Diocesan Theological College now called Packer College that will train faithful ministers to fulfill his command to preach the Gospel to all people. Raise up a new generation of pastors who will be sent forth as laborers into your harvest; defend them in all dangers and temptations; and hasten the time when the fullness of the Gentiles shall be gathered in, and faithful Israel shall be saved. Amen

3. Working In Us That Which Is Pleasing In His Sight

It seems a long time ago now, but not long before Bishop Don handed on the spiritual authority to me as Diocesan in 2014, I took some time with the Lord asking the Lord’s leading as to what needed to be the priorities I/we needed to be working on.

What was the Lord wanting to work in us that would be pleasing to Him through Jesus Christ?

There were five priorities which I believe he led me to that I sought to promote ever since. I remember sharing first with the ANiC Council, I can picture us in the AMMIC offices in Richmond, BC where I assured them that I considered them to be non-negotiables and that they could expect me to be pounding away at these five for as long as I was Bishop.

They were:

- Bold witnesses
- Biblically grounded
- Loving children and youth into the kingdom
- On mission
- And planting and growing churches

I remember Marilyn Jacobson having bookmarks Prayer cards that encouraged all to pray daily “ that these five priorities would become a transformational reality in every ANiC congregation.

I appointed five very fine leaders to each Chair and promote their respective priority. Joan Deeks took on Diocesan Strategic Coordinator to work with the five Chair.

Over the years, there have been some changes in Chairs but always we have been very blessed as a Diocese by their leadership.

The present Chairs are: Scott Hunt- Bold witnesses , Canon George Sinclair- Biblically Grounded, the Reverend

Jeremy Graham- Loving Children and youth into the kingdom, Canon Brian McVitty - On Mission and Canon Alastair Sterne- Planting and growing churches.

As I travel, I have been greatly encouraged by the fact that truly the DNA of our Diocese and our congregations demonstrates these priorities are becoming transformational realities more and more.

Because of the special nature of this particular Synod, sadly we will not have time to hear from each group but in your materials there is a report from each priority and for some a brief video message as well.

I want to thank all who have served our Diocese in these priorities and each congregation's moving forward.

I pray that for years to come, that these priorities would be very distinctive marks of our life together as the Lord Jesus works in us that which is pleasing in his sight.

4. Prayer With Thanksgiving For Our Hope And Future

The theme verses we are considering for this Charge are a prayer and benediction.

Though I am still more than a year away from handing onto one of our two wonderful Candidates the spiritual responsibility for this great Diocese, I find myself already praying daily these wonderful words into our Diocese and yes into their lives and will continue to do so.

May I say briefly that, so far I have said little about what is uppermost in all our minds which is the Episcopal Election.

I just want to now thank these two fine men of God and their wives and families for their willingness to be available to God for this unique and costly calling. This is for both of them an act of humble obedience for which we are all so grateful to God.

It is clear to me and all that the Lord has important and wonderful plans for you both. I can promise to you both I will be praying for you both not just the one who will be elected as Coadjutor Bishop in the days ahead and yes very much tomorrow and will be praying Hebrews 13:20,21 into your lives and ministry.

I am so impressed with both that already regardless of who is elected to this calling that I know I will be absolutely confident, peaceful and thrilled to hand this commitment on knowing that by God's grace and care and leading this Diocese and its future will be in excellent hands and all glory will go to Jesus.

May I just say that it is important to me that both have been part of ANiC right from the beginning, are well aware of the history and heritage of us as a Diocese and our patterns for our life and ministry. They know them and are committed to continuing these Diocesan patterns of life and ministry which have served us well and make us the Diocese we are. Both are passionate about the Lord Jesus, passionate about the Word, passionate about our call to Gospel ministry and are highly missional in their outlook and both are also eager for the pattern of life as a "three stream Diocese" which we have lived out these past 14 years will be continued. They are both gracious and faithful men of God who are well equipped to lead us we seek together to build biblically faithful Gospel sharing Anglican churches.

The Lord knows the plans he has for us, to give us a future and a hope. In Jesus, the Lord is going to lead us into this future and hope and tomorrow we are trusting the Lord to direct us as a Synod to the man who is to lead

us into that future.

May I also say how grateful I am to our Executive Archdeacon Paul Charbonneau and his excellent and faithful Episcopal Nomination Committee and Bishop Bill Murdoch on behalf of our Primate, Archbishop Foley Beach and our Province for their care of leading us to point where can prayerfully discern the leading of the Lord for our next Bishop.

Let's pray right now again:

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Bishop for this Diocese that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

What is clear is that we do have a godly history and heritage and yes it is also true that we have a number of our heroes who have been promoted to glory.

We have already mentioned JI Packer who died July, 2020.

This year, all of ANiC was shocked and deeply saddened that my dear friend Ron Bales died very suddenly in April, 2021. He was serving the Lord with such energy and joy right to the end. He was our ANiC Treasurer, as well as a key leader and Treasurer of Christ the King, Toronto.

Words are not adequate to express our gratitude to God for dear Ron and his wife, Pam. They have both served the Lord so wonderfully for many many years and have touched so many lives for good.

Let me just say, before ANiC existed as an ecclesial body, one morning in an apparently casual conversation over a coffee at a Tim Horton's, in my then capacity as National Director of Anglican Essentials but anticipating the launching of ANiC, I asked Ron if he would be willing to help me set up an office. He accepted and in his normal generous whole hearted way, jumped in and the rest as they say is history and much very much of who we are and how we are set up is as a result in large part to Ron's leadership and care. Without spoiling the wonder and joy of the financial report which will be presented on Friday, I can say, the results and the bottom line is all to the glory of Jesus and with deep gratitude for everyone's generosity but what a joy it must be to Ron in heaven to see the results of his and others care that have brought us to this point.

This year, in our New England Archdeaconry clergy, we were deeply saddened and shocked by the unexpected death of two of our Clergy.

In May, 2021 as a result of a tragic accident as he was travelling home from work, Deacon John DeMartinis Sr. died. Deacon was a passionate evangelist.

And in August, 2021, Father Andrew Carlson died, a faithful pastor and Rector of All Saints Rutland, Vermont.

We grieve the loss of these faithful mighty men of God but rejoice with them that they have been promoted to glory.

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on."
"Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!" Revelation 14:13

Speaking of a godly and good heritage, I wanted to write briefly of my dear colleague in ministry and ever since

November 13th, 2009 shared ministry as bishops.

For me, it is difficult to accept that +Trevor was born slightly before me, in part, because Bishop Trevor is the most energetic and vital servant of the Lord I know.

Isaiah 40:30 and 31 accurately describes our faithful friend. "30 Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; 31 but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Isaiah 40:30-31

I am well aware that + Trevor is able to "run and not be weary and walk and not faint" because he waits on the Lord.

Nevertheless, the end of this calendar year and the time for his retirement as Western Area Suffragan Bishop will soon be upon us.

I have been tremendously honoured to labour shoulder to shoulder as bishops along with Bishop Stephen ever since November 13, 2009.

Bishop Trevor is a very gifted and anointed bishop with gifts that I admire greatly. He is an amazing combination of a strategic decisive leader who listens carefully to the Holy Spirit and is not afraid to act boldly, is not intimidated by conflict that from time to time enter church life, is very fair and objective and all these things while remaining as a very tender and gentle pastor/bishop.

I am very thankful that we are looking forward to an event next month, December 11, 2021, hosted by Church of Our Lord, Victoria and led by Archdeacon Emeritus Ron Corcoran to honour Bishop Trevor.

That great day will also afford Bishop Trevor an opportunity to introduce us all to a book which he had the vision for and has worked tirelessly with a small editorial team is the producing of a book, which needed to be written and now thanks to Bishop Trevor's initiative has been, entitled:

**"The Anglican Network in Canada:
Protest, Providence and Promise in Global Anglican Realignment"**

God bless you Bishop Trevor and Dede! We all will be watching and praying with much joy and interest to see what future ministries lie before you in the days ahead and we will always thank God for you and our partnership in the Gospel.

Thinking of Bishop Trevor and Dede's Victoria home, just down the street now lives another Bishop and wife. Bishop Ron and Jan Ferris, this past summer moved to Victoria. At the end of September, Bishop notified me and notified the Primate that he discerned that now after forty years as of March 1, 2021 of very fruitful Episcopal ministry, he has asked to be allowed to be released from his assignment in ANiC as my Assisting Bishop for Missionary planning. Bishop Ron and Jan are now thrilled to be members of Church of Our Lord and Bishop Ron will continue lecture from time to time at Regent College and I trust will still be available to give us the benefit of his wise counsel as we as a Diocese continue to move forward. God bless you Bishop Ron and Jan.

Each year some who have served faithfully in ANiC Council for the past years and we need to elect folk to succeed them. On our behalf I want to express thanks to God for Ron Bales now promoted to glory, Bruce

Clarke, Canon Chis Doering and Canon Mike Stewart for their faithful, enthusiastic and wise care as ANiC Counsellors of all the work of this great Diocese .

Bless you and thank you!

There are so many I should be mentioning and thanking. It has struck me that at next year's Synod, mercifully for you, I anticipate our Coadjutor Bishop will become Diocesan and will hopefully be present his first Charge. I am hoping at that time I will have the opportunity primarily to thank everyone. I have and continue to be so fortunate to serve amongst such a faithful incredible team.

Bishops, archdeacons, canons, priests and deacons and all the people of our congregations and our also our amazing Diocesan staff. They are all truly a delight to serve alongside. Led by our National Director, John MacDonald this incredible team serve us all with skill and grace, and all out of love for the Lord and His Church. Bless you and thank you. Right now, we would ask you to join us in praying for one of our team, Catherine Neal* who is battling illness in palliative care at this time.

(*sadly on the morning the Charge was presented word came that Catherine had just died and been promoted to glory.)

My dear friends, partners in the Gospel, let us give all glory to Jesus, brought again from the dead, the great shepherd of the sheep and let us invite to work in us, equipping us with everything good that we may do just will and working us that which is pleasing in his sight.

"Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!" (Psalms 115:1)

Amen.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie". To the left of the name is a small, stylized cross symbol.

*The Right Reverend Charlie Masters
Diocesan Bishop of the Anglican Network in Canada*