



Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

Office of the Bishop *The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates, Bishop*

June 18, 2015

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Annual Convention of the Diocese is always an important moment in our life together, and never more so than this year's gatherings on Friday, November 13, and Saturday, November 14.

Friday evening will highlight the renovation of our diocesan cathedral, slated for completion in September. What a joy it will be to worship in that renewed space, rededicating the Cathedral Church of St. Paul as "a house of prayer for all people" and the liturgical heart of our diocesan community!

At Saturday's session we will celebrate ways in which the Spirit has been moving in our midst; I will share reflections on my first year as your bishop; plans for communal discernment of our diocesan mission strategy will be laid out; and we will conduct such annual business as our common life requires.

Please read carefully the Secretary's letter enclosed in this mailing, detailing important dates and deadlines which lead up to our time together in November. Consider prayerfully the possibility of presenting yourself or others as nominees for election to diocesan leadership positions, and reflect on vital matters which might be fruitfully addressed through resolutions.

Bishop Gayle and I look forward to being in worship and deliberation with you!

Faithfully and fondly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan M. Gates".

The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates
Bishop