



## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori  
*Presiding Bishop and Primate*

August 11, 2009

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I was saddened to learn of the death of the Rt. Rev. John B. Coburn, a remarkable leader in The Episcopal Church. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and the people of the Diocese of Massachusetts; his kind and grace-filled presence will be deeply missed.

John B. Coburn served The Episcopal Church in many capacities: as a chaplain, bishop, and President of the House of Deputies. I note that he served in the latter role from 1967-1976, a time of remarkable change for this nation and our Church. In the midst of these changes, it is said that John Coburn was a calm and reconciling presence, seeking to find the image of God in all.

Bishop Coburn was a person of profound spirituality and I pray that this Church will continue to be enriched by his writings on this topic. May we all continue to find in his life and example a faithful witness to Christ.

I remain

Your servant in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katharine Jefferts Schori". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katharine Jefferts Schori