



# The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

October 7, 2010

Dear Delegates and Clergy,

We are looking forward to gathering the diocesan community for a one day convention at St. Stephen's Memorial Church in Lynn on Saturday, November 6. And we are grateful to the congregation and the North Shore Deanery for welcoming us among them.

Because Convention is one day rather than the two days we are used to, the rules of order for this convention do not allow for an out of session discussion of resolutions and the budget. So please read carefully the enclosed documents and then take advantage of the pre-Convention forums in October to ask questions and raise issues. Of course there will be time for debate before we vote at Convention.

We will elect deputies to the 2012 General Convention in Indianapolis, connecting our diocese with the wider church, and we will fill positions necessary to the ongoing life of our diocese.

Worship will be woven throughout the day using a Eucharistic liturgy from the Anglican Church of Kenya in honor of the Kenyan members of St. Stephen's. Music and readings will reflect the breadth of the congregations in the North Shore Deanery. The Propers are for William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1944.

This year's offering will go to Ecclesia Ministries to support its work with the homeless and in recognition of the Rev. Debbie Little its founder.

St. Stephen's is blessed with several large meeting rooms which will serve as places to eat lunch. Lunch will be a time to visit with others from across the diocese whom we sometimes see only this one time each year. Suggestions for discussion questions and collects by Archbishop of Canterbury William Temple will be placed on each table if you need a place to start.

At convention we have a chance to gather the whole diocese, congregations and campus ministries, hospital chaplaincies and non parochial ministers, diocesan youth and those seeking ordination. Together we pray and ponder, debate and decide, focusing on hearing and answering God's urgent call to us. Together, through the work of Convention carried home to our various places of ministry, we begin to answer that call, together. We thank you and we thank God for your willingness to join in God's mission.

Faithfully yours,

The Rt. Rev. M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE

The Rt. Rev. Bud Cederholm

The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris



Inviting  
Forming  
Sending  
Serving