

## **Sending of Delegates to Diocesan Synod**

*This form is provided for those congregations desiring to pray for and commission their clergy and lay delegates to Synod on the Sunday immediately prior to this year's convocation. It is suggested that, if used, it take place during the congregation's primary Sunday Liturgy on the Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 3, 2015.*

*Ideally, the Sending of Delegates to Diocesan Synod is led by either or both Wardens, or another suitable leader (for example, a Lay Reader), so that the Incumbent may stand with all those being sent to Synod from the congregation.*

*At a Eucharist using one of the rites from the Book of Alternative Services (BAS), the sending of delegates takes place immediately before (the blessing of the people, final hymn, and) the Dismissal (p. 215 or p. 248).*

*At a Eucharist using the rite from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), it takes place after the Gloria in excelsis (p. 86).*

*At Morning or Evening Prayer using the rite from the BCP, it takes place immediately before the Prayer of St. Chrysostom (p. 15 or p. 24).*

*At Morning or Evening Prayer using the rite from the BAS, it takes place immediately before the Lord's Prayer (p. 54 or p. 70).*

*It is not necessary to print the text of this ceremony in the Sunday worship bulletin or to provide it in the PowerPoint slides. However, if it is found desirable to do so, the form has been provided in a format that makes this readily possible.*

## **Sending of Delegates to Diocesan Synod**

*Leader:* Hear the word of the Lord as voiced by the Psalmist: “With thee is the well of life: and in thy light shall we see light.”

Sisters and Brothers in Christ, this week, from Wednesday evening until Saturday afternoon, representatives from congregations across the Diocese of Algoma will assemble in Synod. Together they will exercise the ministry of prayer, discernment and governance entrusted to them by the people of this Diocese. We pray that all who gather, especially the delegates from this parish, will be so directed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit that the church in Algoma will emerge from this Synod with a renewed conviction that Jesus Christ is Lord of all, confident that God’s purpose and promises will prevail.

I call forward [*names of clerical and lay delegates from the congregation*].

*When the delegates have come forward, the Leader invites the members of the congregation to stand/remain standing in prayer, and may invite them to extend their hands toward the delegates in a gesture of blessing.*

*Then the Leader prays,*

God our hope, by the Holy Spirit  
you presided at the Council of Apostles  
to guide them in all knowledge and truth,  
and to inspire the whole company of disciples  
to share faithfully in your mission to the world.  
Be present with these your servants  
as they take their place in Diocesan Synod  
with representatives from across Algoma.  
In deliberation and debate,  
fill them with your wisdom and peace.  
In the face of the challenges and opportunities  
before your church,  
spark their imagination and give them courage.  
In moments of decision,  
prompt and empower them to seek only your glory,  
so that, as your church  
lives and ministers on the margins,  
it may be a sign, witness and foretaste  
of the Kingdom announced by your Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.

*People:* **Amen.**

*Leader:* *N.N.*, may you go with God as you travel to and from Synod, and may you know God’s blessing as you serve.

## **Prayers of the People – Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 3, 2015**

*The Intercessor begins,*

The church in our time finds itself on the margins of society. Yet, we can live by hope and need not despair. For in every generation and place where this has been so before, the church's most effective ministry has taken place. Therefore, that we may faithfully and joyfully engage in God's mission on the margins today, let us offer ourselves in Christ, saying/singing, "Lord, hear our prayer."

*If it is customary to instruct people to stand or kneel for the Prayers of the People, do so. Allow time for people to assume the congregation's posture of prayer before beginning the following biddings.*

Let us pray for the church of Christ around the globe.  
With Anglicans throughout the world,  
let us pray especially for the Diocese of Ngbo - (Enugu, Nigeria)  
and its bishop, Christian Ebisike.  
Let us pray, too, for our sisters and brothers who minister  
where people suffer from poverty, violence or injustice, *especially N.*

*(pause for silent prayer)*

And that all God's people may be given grace and strength  
to bear witness to the truth like Philip,  
we offer ourselves in Christ:

Let us pray for Stephen, our Bishop,  
for N., our Incumbent, *(for N.N.,)*  
and for Charlene Scriver and James Mosher,  
called to ordered ministry in Christ's holy catholic Church.

*(pause for silent prayer)*

That they may be for us icons of hope,  
signs of grace,  
and examples of gospel service,  
we offer ourselves in Christ:

Let us pray for all those who gather this week  
for the forty-seventh convocation of the Synod of the Diocese of Algoma.

*(pause for silent prayer)*

And that the words, decisions and actions of this congregation  
may be guided and shaped by love,  
we offer ourselves in Christ:

Let us pray for the nations and peoples of the earth, *especially N.*  
(*pause for silent prayer*)

That the paths we walk will prove wide enough  
for those who are homeless,  
aliens in flight,  
prisoners,  
and all on the margins of society,  
we offer ourselves in Christ:

Let us pray for the sick and all who suffer, *especially N.*  
(*pause for people to offer petitions silently or aloud*)

That, by our care for them,  
troubled hearts may be stilled and God's peace savoured,  
we offer ourselves in Christ:

Let us remember the dead, *especially N.*,  
and let us pray for those who miss them most keenly.  
(*pause for silent prayer*)

And that we may worship with them in endless day  
before the throne of God and the Lamb,  
we offer ourselves in Christ:

*At Morning or Evening Prayer, the Prayers of the People conclude with the Collect of the Day. At Eucharist the following prayer may conclude the Prayers of the People.*

We long for the day, O God,  
when every race and tribe will walk by your light,  
their glory and honour gathered in the New Jerusalem.  
Hear the prayer we offer before you this day.  
Judge the peoples with equity,  
guide the nations upon earth,  
and work in us according to your gracious will,  
that all Creation may be glad and sing for joy.  
Let the peoples praise and revere you, O God,  
through Jesus Christ the Lord.