

Office of the Coadjutor Bishop

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Letter to ANiC clergy, parish synod delegates and congregation members

Dear friends,

I welcome you to join us April 17-20 2013 for the ANiC Eastern Assembly at the Crossroads Centre in Burlington, ON.

We as a church are serious about gospel proclamation because Jesus, who is Lord and King, has called the church to preach the gospel to every person everywhere, making disciples of all nations, and in the power of the Holy Spirit to be a witness to Jesus in an ever-increasing circle of influence.

It is our joy to join the apostle Paul who says: "Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me." Colossians 1:28

From this Scripture text, we've drawn our theme for the regional assemblies across Canada: "Him we proclaim...presenting everyone mature in Christ."

In keeping with this theme, all aspects of our assembly will focus on gospel proclamation. In my Charge, I will share my vision and heart for gospel proclamation. There will be rich biblical teaching, workshops, worship, and discussion about how we can move forward together —as a region, as congregations and as individuals — in this great enterprise of gospel proclamation.

The regional assembly begins Wednesday evening, April 17 with a service of **Holy Communion**. Our diocesan and moderator Bishop Donald Harvey will be the celebrant and our preacher will be our special guest, the **Primate of the Southern Cone, the most Reverend Hector (Tito) Zavala**.

In our four **Bible teaching** times, the Reverends Keith Ganzer (Emmaus, Montreal) and Ray David Glenn (St George's, Burlington) will expound Old Testament passages which make known Jesus whom we are seeking to proclaim. We know the whole Bible is about Jesus, from Genesis to Revelation. Walking on the road to Emmaus, on the day of His resurrection, Luke 24 tells us that Jesus "...beginning with Moses and all the prophets... explained the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures."

Anglican Network in Canada

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There will be an opportunity to learn from our guest Primate, Archbishop Zavala, who will be sharing what's happening in the Southern Cone and also reporting to us as a primate of the GAFCON movement.

Five workshops, each led by one of our regional archdeacons, on a theme which ultimately strengthens our gospel work, will be offered twice and so each person will have a chance to go to two of the five over the course of the Assembly. These workshops are:

- Prayer & fasting, paving a way for effective gospel proclamation Archdeacon Paul Crossland
- 2. Diving deeper into God's Word (a necessity for effective gospel proclamation) Archdeacon Paul Charbonneau
- 3. Ministry to children and youth (a central and strategic part of gospel proclamation) Archdeacon Tim Parent
- 4. Planting churches (a platform for gospel proclamation) Archdeacon Michael McKinnon
- 5. Ministry to sexual brokenness (all part of faithful gospel proclamation) Archdeacon Darrell Critch

There also will time for **congregational sharing**, when the official delegates from each congregation will have an opportunity to briefly:

- 1. Report on what is happening in their congregation,
- 2. Share a prayer concern, and
- 3. Offer, on behalf of their congregation, a vision or a recommendation for how we can move forward together as a region in gospel proclamation.

The concluding service of Holy Communion on Friday night include prayer ministry for any who wish it, so we can send one another to back to our respective places of ministry strengthened and with renewed enthusiasm for gospel proclamation.

The good news is that not only we are counting on all congregations of our Eastern Region being represented by their official delegates but we invite all members of ANiC congregations in the east – as well as other friends – to join us for this important and exciting regional assembly. And for those who can't attend the entire event, the Friday evening Holy Communion is open to non-registrants.

Please check out the details of our assembly on ANiC's website (www.anglicannetwork.ca).

Your partner in proclaiming the gospel,

Bishop Charlie Masters

Bishop Coadjutor, Eastern Region