

Office of the Episcopal Vicar The Right Reverend Donald Harvey

Dear Friends in Christ:

It was a joy to see so many of you at Synod in Ottawa and to share in most of the activities surrounding that event. Both Trudy and I were deeply moved by the dinner at the National Arts Centre and the re-living of so many memories of events as we recalled both the high and low points of our journey together. Having Archbishop and Mrs. Venables with us added even another dimension to it since we all then had opportunity to express our gratitude to them and the integral part they played in our formation as a Diocese.

As you may recall, we had to leave before Synod ended and so did not get much opportunity for individual farewells. So, a couple of weeks later when a rather ordinary looking envelope came in the mail, it was with surprise and delight that I discovered it contained an impressive number of sheets of specially designed stationary, each one containing beautiful personal messages from you. We both were rather overcome with the intimacy of these greetings and the love and affection expressed in them, but really feel that you were over generous in your comments.

In late January I propose to go on my annual Retreat in England. During those days of silence I get much time to relax, reflect and meditate as I consider where I have been and if, even now, God still has opportunity in store for me in whatever time lies ahead. With that in mind, it is my intention to bring these well wishes with me, and taking a few at a time, offer thanksgiving to Almighty God for each of these friendships and pray for your needs as you labour on fulfilling the vision we have been given.

Although Bishop Charlie already has conveyed greetings from us in his beautiful Christmas Letter, do let me use this opportunity to extend warm wishes for a wonderful Christmas Season and for all that is good for you and your families in 2015.

Trudy joins me in extending our love and warmest wishes to you all,

+Donald

The Right Reverend Donald F Harvey Episcopal Vicar

Season of Advent, 2014

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