

2009 FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

The Committee on Resolutions received eight proposed resolutions by the January 15, 2009 deadline for submissions, one later withdrawn, and one following that deadline. Hearings were held on Saturday, February 21, 2009, at Diocesan House, at which several of the proposals were modified by their proposers from the language in the Preliminary Report, one proposal was withdrawn in favor of a similar one, and, following the hearings, the Committee combined two other similar proposals. This Final Report thus supersedes the Preliminary Report and also includes the recommendations of the Committee on Resolutions.

As provided by the Rules of Order, Proposed Resolution 2009-8 and other proposed resolutions not timely submitted to the Committee on Resolutions, and not required by canon to be submitted to some other committee, may be brought to the floor of Convention for consideration only upon a two-thirds vote of Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee on Resolutions
The Rev'd Dirk C. Reinken
The Rev'd Terence Blackburn
The Rev'd Jane L. Rockman
Ms. Margaret Hughes
Mrs. Cynthia A. Miller
Mr. John A. Sully
Paul Ambos, Esq., Chair
Ms. Mary Anne Rhoads, Diocesan Liaison

RESOLUTION 2009-1:

Subject: 2009 General Convention Support of Seminarians

Be It Resolved, That the Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey join with its Deputies to General Convention in submitting the following resolution for consideration at the 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church to be held in Anaheim, California, in July 2009:

TITLE: Financial Support for Seminarians

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance provide funding for the next triennium to underwrite the mounting costs of theological education by providing needs-based scholarships for Episcopal Seminarians; and be it further

Resolved, That said funds be administered and distributed to needy seminarians

through the existing Scholarship Program of the Society for the Increase of the Ministry (SIM), said Society having an established record of 151 years of experience in administering scholarship grants to Episcopal seminarians; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention direct SIM to report annually to the Executive Council on this work and its effectiveness in meeting the needs of the future ordained leaders of this Church and that the Executive Council, in turn, provide a full report to the 77th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation in the amounts of \$100,000 in year one, \$150,000 in year two and \$200,000 in year three for the implementation of this resolution.

EXPLANATION:

The cost of three years of seminary can range from \$51,000 to over \$100,000, depending upon family circumstances and one's choice of seminaries. About half of our seminarians struggle under the burden of debt, most of which is educational debt. The Society for the Increase of the Ministry reported in autumn 2007 that some 42% of the graduating 2008 class will have incurred an estimated indebtedness of \$62,000, which will amount to about \$12,000 per year against a median postgraduation income of \$45,500. SIM also reports a declining enrollment of students in the Master of Divinity degree programs at Episcopal seminaries (a decrease of 25% over the last three academic years) reportedly related to the level of incurred student indebtedness. The high cost of seminary education and the threat of debilitating debt limits diversity among our seminary student bodies and limits the placement opportunities for ordinands to those congregations which pay better than others. This funding schedule is intended to bring the support from the General Convention budget to a level matching the annual grants committed by SIM (\$225,000 for the academic year 2008-09).

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Joan M.P. Anders, Chair, on behalf of the Diocese of New Jersey Deputation to General Convention

Statement in Support of Resolution 2009-1 by Proposers:

The Episcopal Church is the only major denomination in the United States that does not have a central funding source to support seminarians in their education, training, and formation. The Society for the Increase of the Ministry (SIM) is an independent, non-profit scholarship foundation. Most SIM grants are awarded to full-time students who have been granted postulancy by their bishops and who are enrolled in a master of divinity program at the eleven accredited seminaries of the Episcopal Church. In addition, through an Alternative Program, SIM grants a limited number of scholarships to postulants meeting the same criteria who are preparing for ordination in the Episcopal Church at alternative educational institutions. SIM solicits donations from individuals, parishes, and dioceses and has received some funding from General Convention within the last forty years.

The need is great. Past General Conventions have passed resolutions encouraging parishes to devote 1% of their net budget income to the support of seminaries of The Episcopal Church, but the last reported Parochial Report figures from 1999 demonstrate that such support amounted to only .0027% (barely one quarter of one percent) of the called-for support. Had support been sustained at 1% of net budget parish income, scholarship funds would have increased substantially and the cost of such education, training, and formation would have been reduced very significantly, and the situation with our seminaries might be quite different. The sponsors of this proposal therefore also call upon parishes to consider including funding for SIM in their own budgets.

The proposed resolution has already been submitted to the General Convention office by individual Deputy Joan M.P. Anders with the endorsement of Deputies Joan Fleming, Noreen Duncan, and John Wood Goldsack. General Convention rules allow submissions by individual Deputies, by Bishops, by Dioceses, or by Provinces. If approved by this 225th Diocesan Convention it will be resubmitted on behalf of the Diocese.

Recommendation by Committee on Resolutions:

The Committee makes no recommendation as to this proposal.

RESOLUTION 2009-2:

Subject: Liturgical Creation Cycle of the Pentecost Season

Be it Resolved, That the 225th Annual Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey commend to the diocese and congregations the optional celebration of a liturgical Creation Cycle of the Pentecost Season from St. Francis' Day to Advent, for the purpose of affirming the sacredness of God's creation, of spreading hope about God's reconciling work in creation, and of an understanding of environmental stewardship and ecological justice; and be it

Further Resolved, That the Liturgical Advisory Committee of the Diocese be encouraged to study materials on the Creation Season and make them available to congregations; and be it

Further Resolved, That the Diocesan Convention propose the following resolution to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church meeting in 2009:

TITLE: Creation Cycle of the Pentecost Season

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76th General Convention establish a liturgical Creation Cycle of the Pentecost Season from St. Francis' Day to Advent, for the purpose of affirming the sacredness of God's creation, of spreading hope about God's reconciling work in creation and an understanding of environmental stewardship and ecological

justice; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention direct the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to develop prayers and other liturgical materials celebrating a Pentecost Season Creation Cycle for inclusion in the next edition of the Book of Occasional Services and that it report its work to the 77th General Convention.

EXPLANATION:

God the Creator has made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, planets, galaxies, and the Earth with its infinite complexity of living creatures. Our Gracious God has filled all living creatures with plenteousness and generativity and has blessed human beings with the task of the stewardship of the creation upon Earth.

Traditional Anglicanism has observed the beauty of the Creation over the centuries by celebrating the octave of Rogation, and has commended this practice in its foundational documents and continuing liturgical traditions. Since 1991, many Episcopal Churches in the United States have celebrated a "Creation Cycle of the Pentecost Season" to honor God the Creator with worship, music and praise for these gifts of life. This practice has spread to churches and cathedrals in the Episcopal Church, and also to Australia where it has become a national religious observance.

In June of 2008, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, joined ecumenical leaders in England in calling for the celebrating of a liturgical period annually in all churches of the United Kingdom to "be dedicated to prayer for the protection of Creation and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles that reverse our contribution to climate change."

In affirming the Creation Cycle of the Pentecost Season, the Episcopal Church would be taking leadership in the Anglican Communion in the promotion of this important liturgical innovation.

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Dr. Franklin Vilas, Interim Rector, St. Mark's, Basking Ridge; the Rev'd Joan M.P. Anders, Rector, Christ Church, Toms River, individually and, as Chair, on behalf of the Diocese of New Jersey Deputation to General Convention; the Rev'd Sheelagh Clarke, Assistant, St. Paul's Church, Westfield; the Rev'd Margaret Hodgkins, Rector, St. Andrew's Church, New Providence; the Rev'd Jeffrey Kirk, Rector, Church of the Atonement, Laurel Springs; the Rev'd Lisa Mitchell, Rector, Christ Church, Shrewsbury; the Rev'd C. John Thompson-Quartey, Rector, St. Mary's-by-the-Sea, Point Pleasant Beach; the Rev'd Richard C. Wrede, Rector, Christ Church, Riverton; and the Rev'd Joseph R. Parrish, Jr. on behalf of the Environmental Commission of the Diocese of New Jersey

Statement in Support of Resolution 2009-2 by Proposers:

The Explanation appended to the proposed General Convention resolution above is our Statement in Support for the adoption of this Creation Cycle not only by The Episcopal Church but by this Diocese and its congregations as well.

The proposed General Convention resolution has already been submitted to the General Convention office by individual Deputy Joan M.P. Anders with the endorsement of Deputies Joan Fleming and Noreen Duncan and will be considered as Resolution D001. General Convention rules allow submissions by individual Deputies, by Bishops, by Dioceses, or by Provinces. If approved by this 225th Diocesan Convention it will be resubmitted on behalf of the Diocese.

Recommendation by Committee on Resolutions:

The Committee makes no recommendation as to this proposal.

RESOLUTION 2009-3:

Proposed Resolution 2009-3 was withdrawn by the proposers, who have endorsed instead Resolution 2009-2.

RESOLUTION 2009-4:

Subject: The Merciful and Humane Treatment of God's Creatures

Be It Resolved, That the 225th Annual Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey support the humane and merciful treatment of all of God's Creatures, with specific concern as to (a) actions that can lead to the extinction of species of animals in the wild and (b) housing and treatment of domestic animals that are grown for our food; and be it

Further Resolved, That the Diocese direct the Environmental Commission to provide information to educate our parishes about decisions that would affect the lives and health of the most vulnerable of animal life; and be it

Further Resolved, That each congregation be encouraged to refer this resolution to their outreach committee or other such venue in order to educate and disseminate information to their members and encourage environmentally friendly actions.

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Joseph R. Parrish, Jr. on behalf of the Environmental Commission of the Diocese of New Jersey

Statement in Support of Resolution 2009-4 by Proposers:

The Christian Tradition holds that God has created the earth and all that lives herein. It teaches that all God created is "good", and further, that we are held accountable for the right stewardship of God's creation.

Endangered species are rapidly becoming extinct, several thousand species each year. As examples, the red knot bird that traverses between Tierra del Fuego, Chile, and the Canadian Arctic with a vital stopover in Cape May, New Jersey is one specific local species under siege from industrial pollution and loss of habitat. And overdevelopment of New Jersey's virgin lands has put the indigenous bog turtle's existence in jeopardy.

Food animals continue to be cruelly and mercilessly treated: pregnant sows are totally confined in gestation crates, veal calves are penned in veal crates and are barely able to move around or even stand up; chickens are crammed together for life into battery cages in a space no larger than this page; geese are brutally force fed to make *foie gras*; grazing animals are fed antibiotics to increase size, that are then contained within their meat, passing these antibiotics on to consuming humans who become more and more vulnerable to resistant bacterial strains. Huge factory farms house animals in deplorable and unsanitary conditions resulting in foul run off and polluted ground water. Stressed food animals produce stress hormones in their flesh which are unsafe for human consumption.

By education we can make a real difference in the level of awareness of these problems and practices. Congregations can become aware of the most vulnerable of God's creation and respect the dignity of "*all things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all*" (Cecil Frances Alexander, Hymn 405 in *Hymnal* 1982).

Recommendation by Committee on Resolutions:

The Committee makes no recommendation as to this proposal.

RESOLUTION 2009-5:

Subject: Environmental Justice

Be It Resolved, That the 225th Annual Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey support an environmentally just treatment of all in God's Creation, especially children, indigenous peoples, and the economically marginalized; and be it

Further Resolved, That the Diocese direct the Environmental Commission to provide information to educate our parishes about decisions that would affect the lives and health of all of us and disproportionately the most vulnerable persons in our society; and be it

Further Resolved, That each congregation be encouraged to refer this resolution to their outreach committee or other such venue in order to educate and disseminate information to their members and encourage environmentally just actions.

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Joseph R. Parrish, Jr., on behalf of the Environmental Commission of the Diocese of New Jersey

Statement in Support of Resolution 2009-5 by Proposers:

It has been well documented that environmental injustice is common experience for groups that have a racial or age mix different from the majority of the population.

Children are helplessly subjected to breathing the cigarette smoke of their close family members, resulting in very high rates of childhood asthma in New Jersey. By virtue of their rapid development, they are also the most vulnerable of the population to airborne particulates including lead, mercury, and other heavy metals from paints, industrial processes, coal-burning power plants, and the like, with some of the highest blood lead levels of all U.S. children being found in the urban environments of New Jersey.

Indigenous peoples have borne the brunt of deposits of radioactive materials from nuclear power plants and weapons development. Every indigenous tribe in America either has a nuclear waste site on its tribal lands or has such a site within a short distance from their lands, polluting their water supplies with resultant dramatic illnesses and morbidity.

Waste incinerators are generally sited in non-white communities, as evidenced by the largest waste incinerators in New Jersey, which are in a black neighborhood of Rahway, a black neighborhood in Camden, and a black neighborhood in Newark.

We recall the advice of the prophet Micah, to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with

our God. Educating adults about how their smoking affects our children, making all aware of how environmental wastes are hidden from sight unjustly, and calling our society to review and correct the unjust siting of waste depositories and incinerators would put the Diocese on a track to become a leader for environmental justice.

Recommendation by Committee on Resolutions:

The Committee makes no recommendation as to this proposal.

RESOLUTION 2009-6/7:

Subject: Financial Reports for Diocesan Trusts

Be It Resolved, That the 225th Annual Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey direct the Trustees of the six trust funds of the Diocese named in Canon 13 to prepare forthwith full and complete financial reports for the years 2007 and 2008, covering both the capital accounts and the income accounts of each and every trust fund for which they have fiduciary responsibility; and be it

Further Resolved, That Convention direct the members of the Diocesan Council to prepare forthwith full and complete financial reports for the years 2007 and 2008, covering both the capital accounts and the income accounts of each and every trust fund for which they have fiduciary responsibility; and be it

Further Resolved, That those sections of the reports that show the disbursements from the income accounts of each fund provide sufficient detail to demonstrate that the funds were expended in a manner that is in accordance with the stated purposes and restrictions set forth in the trust documents by which the trusts were established; and be it

Further Resolved, That copies of these reports be distributed promptly to every member of the clergy canonically resident in the Diocese and to each congregation of the Diocese.

SUBMITTED BY: The Rev'd Elmer L. Sullivan

Statement in Support of Resolution 2009-6/7 by Proposer:

Canon 13 provides for a board of six persons who serve as trustees of the six incorporated trust funds of the Diocese. Each of the six corporations has a fiduciary responsibility for a number of individual funds under its care. Annual financial reports are required by Section 5 of the Canon:

SECTION 5. The trustees shall present to each annual meeting of the Convention separate reports of the various trusts under their control. These reports shall contain a **detailed** statement of the names and properties in each fund, with all additions and changes therein, including **appropriations** made therefrom. [Emphasis added.]

In addition, Canon 76, Section 3, provides as follows:

SECTION 3. **Complete** financial reports shall be made to the Convention of all funds of the Diocese and of all funds under the control of any board of trustees, committee, commission, or other agency of the Diocese. [Emphasis added.]

The Diocesan Council as established by Canon 19 is incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey and is empowered to maintain general supervision over the financial affairs of the Diocese. The members of the Council are a corporate board of trustees who have fiduciary responsibility for certain other trust funds not under management of the Trustees of Diocesan Trust Funds under Canon 13, among which are the Harriet Procter Matthews Fund, for which they have full responsibility, and the Venture in Mission Endowment Fund, for which they have partial responsibility.

Annual financial reports are required by Section 7 of Canon 19:

SECTION 7. The Diocesan Council shall report annually to the Convention on the program and financial affairs of the Diocese, with a **detailed** financial statement. The Bishop may edit the report for publication in the Journal. [Emphasis added.]

In addition, Canon 76, Sections 3, provides as follows:

SECTION 3. **Complete** financial reports shall be made to the Convention of all funds of the Diocese and of all funds under the control of any board of trustees, committee, commission, or other agency of the Diocese. [Emphasis added.]

Trust fund reports come in two parts: the principal account and the income account. The report of the principal account gives the dollar value of the fund's invested capital at the beginning and ending of the year. The report of the income account gives the amount of income received from these investments during the year and lists the disbursements made from this income.

A Report of trust funds under the care of the Trustees and of the Council for 2007 was distributed at the 2008 Convention. It provided adequate information about the value of the principal accounts of the funds for which the Council is responsible, but it gave no information at all about the income received by any of the funds nor any information at all about disbursements from this income.

The purpose of this resolution is to direct the Trustees and the Council to comply with the canonical requirements for annual reports that are "complete," "detailed," and include information about disbursements and appropriations as well as income.

In the past some financial reports have been distributed that simply say that the money from trust funds was transferred to the diocesan budget. Such limited reporting does not reveal whether the income from the trust funds was applied to purposes for which the trust funds were established nor does it give a clear picture of our stewardship of these trust funds.

The purpose of the further resolved paragraph is to direct that the Trustees' and the Council's financial reports be sufficiently detailed as to demonstrate clearly that disbursements have been made in accordance with the terms of the trust, if any, and that

the people of the Diocese have been good stewards of the funds entrusted to our care.

Recommendation by Committee on Resolutions:

The Committee makes no recommendation as to this proposal.

RESOLUTION 2009-7:

This proposal, and its accompanying statement, has been combined with Resolution 2009-6 by the Committee to eliminate duplication.

Note from the Committee on Resolutions: The following proposal was submitted to the Committee after the January 15, 2009 deadline under Rule VIII due to the fact that the regular monthly meeting of the Oasis Taskforce set for January 11, 2008, at which the proposal was scheduled for approval by the Taskforce, was canceled for the safety of its members due to the snowstorm that began the day before and rescheduled for the following week. It was promptly submitted thereafter. It may be come before Convention only upon a two-thirds prior consent for its consideration.

RESOLUTION 2009-8:

Subject: 2009 General Convention Affirmation of Canonical Process

Be It Resolved, That the 225th Annual Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey submit the following resolution for consideration at the 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church to be held in Anaheim, California, in July 2009:

TITLE: Affirming the Canonical Process

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76th General Convention affirm the canonical commitment to full access by members of this Church to the discernment process for any ministry, lay or ordained (Canon III. 1.2–3), and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention affirm the existing canonical process for the election, consents, and ordination of a bishop in this Church, in which the Christ-centered manner of life of candidates and, later, bishops-elect is tested by the theological, moral, and psychological concerns of this Church, understanding that determination of the appropriateness of such election and subsequent consents and ordination includes concerns for the challenges such election may present to members of this church or of other churches in the Anglican Communion, and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention continue its pledge to engage in a process of healing and reconciliation with member churches of the Anglican Communion who have declared themselves in a state of impaired communion with this Church, and be it further

Resolved, That the content of this resolution supersede the content of Resolution B033 of the 75th General Convention.

EXPLANATION:

The existing canons of The Episcopal Church are intended to be comprehensive and contain all processes and provisions that are to be used for the discernment of vocation for the episcopate. The canons have no restrictions on non-celibate gay and lesbian persons and specifically prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. Therefore B033 contradicts these canons by imposing an extra-canonical restraint (cf. Title III, Canon 11 and Title III, Canon 1, Section 2). Resolutions such as B033 and its extra-canonical restraints are non-binding; resolutions are strong recommendations. A recommendation that is in conflict with a canon does not require compliance and needs to be rescinded in order that it does not offer opportunity and justification for those seeking to act outside canon law.

SUBMITTED BY: The Oasis Taskforce of the Diocese of New Jersey: The Rev'd Teresa Suruda, the Rev'd Cipher Deavours, the Rev'd Robert Counselman, Ms. Kathy Foley, the Rev'd Kristen Foley, Mr. Theodore Foley, Ms. Lyn Headley-Deavours, and the Rev'd Susan Norris

Statement in Support of Resolution 2009-8 by Proposers:

We are recommending the above resolution be sent by the Diocese of New Jersey to the next General Convention for the following reasons:

(a) In March 2006, the Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey passed Resolution 2006-3 in part affirming that our diocese "is a welcoming diocese for all people, and that no condition or requirement, either overt or implied, based on race, gender, sexual orientation, or any other category of National Canon III.1.2, be permitted for any church-related position or other program of this Diocese." The restraint called for in B033 clearly contradicts the resolution passed by our own diocese in 2006.

(b) Also, the following year our convention passed Resolution 2007-2, which that in part expressed "deep regret for the pain and anguish suffered by our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters, their families, and friends, because of the adoption of Resolution B033". By passing the above resolution this year, our Diocese can make a tangible step in healing the wounds caused by B033.

(c) The Canons of The Episcopal Church prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. "No person shall be denied access to the discernment process for any ministry, lay or ordained, in this Church because of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities or age, except as otherwise

provided by these Canons." (Title III, Canon 1, Section 2)

(d) The Canons of The Episcopal Church contain all processes and provisions that are to be used for the "discernment of vocation to be a Bishop" (Title III, Canon 11, Section 1).

Recommendation by Committee on Resolutions:

The Committee makes no recommendation as to this proposal.

Addendum to proposed Resolution 2009-8 by Committee on Resolutions: Texts of the Resolutions and Canons referred to above are as follows:

General Convention 2006 Resolution B033 (as passed)

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention receive and embrace The Windsor Report's invitation to engage in a process of healing and reconciliation; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention therefore call upon Standing Committees and bishops with jurisdiction to exercise restraint by not consenting to the consecration of any candidate to the episcopate whose manner of life presents a challenge to the wider church and will lead to further strains on communion.

Canon III.1, Of the Ministry of All Baptized Persons:

Sec. 2. No person shall be denied access to the discernment process for any ministry, lay or ordained, in this Church because of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities or age, except as otherwise provided by these Canons. No right to licensing, ordination, or election is hereby established.

Sec. 3. The provisions of these Canons for the admission of Candidates for the Ordination to the three Orders: Bishops, Priests and Deacons shall be equally applicable to men and women.

Canon III.11, Of the Ordination of Bishops:

Sec. 1. (a) Discernment of vocation to be a Bishop occurs through a process of election in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Convention of the Diocese and pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution and Canons of this Church. . . .

Diocese of New Jersey Resolution 2006-3:

RESOLUTION 2006-3:

Subject: Inclusiveness

Be it Resolved, That the Diocese of New Jersey, at its 222nd Convention and in order to more fully realize the promises contained in our baptismal covenant "to strive for justice and peace among all peoples and respect the dignity of every human being," affirm that it is a welcoming diocese for all people, and that no condition or requirement, either overt or implied, based on race, gender, sexual orientation, or any other category of National Canon III.1.2, be permitted for any church-related position or other program of this Diocese, including all clerical offices throughout the Diocese, whether elected or appointed, as well as all positions held by lay persons within any mission, parish, or other organization of this Diocese; and be it

Further resolved, That this declaration be read at all convocations of this Diocese during the coming year and that attendees be provided with printed copies of this resolution and urged to make their congregations aware of its contents; and be it

Further resolved, That a copy of this resolution, or similar affirmation, be placed prominently on the diocesan web page.

Diocese of New Jersey Resolution 2007-2:

RESOLUTION 2007-2:

Subject: Expression of Gratitude and Regret

Be it Resolved, That this 223rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey acknowledge deep

respect and gratitude to the Deputies to the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church who prayerfully struggled in conscience with their vote on Resolution B033 (On Election of Bishops); and be it

Further resolved, That the Diocese of New Jersey, mindful of our baptismal covenant to "strive for justice and peace among all peoples and respect the dignity of every human being," express deep regret for the pain and anguish suffered by our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters, their families, and friends, because of the adoption of Resolution B033; and be it

Further resolved, That the people of the Diocese of New Jersey continue to offer forgiveness to each other and to others in the world-wide Anglican Communion as we seek to enter into deeper levels of communion with one another.