



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH

The Rt. Rev. Jack L. Iker, D.D., *Bishop of Fort Worth*

TO: All persons affiliated with All Saints' Episcopal Church, Fort Worth

DATE: March 6, 2015

RE: Canon 32 of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

Pursuant to the orders of the 141st District Court of Tarrant County, I am writing to you to invoke the long-delayed Canon 32 process with respect to controversies between the Diocese and All Saints Episcopal Church, Fort Worth. The court has declared that I am the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Corporation of the Diocese. I understand that some of you have dissociated yourselves from the Diocese due to the decision of our 2008 Diocesan Convention to dissociate from the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, while others among you wish to remain in union with the Diocese as a member parish.

I would like for you to know that I respect the views of those whose opinions differ from mine, and although I do not require anyone to concede his or her position, I am required by my duty as Bishop to follow the provisions of Canon 32, which set forth the process by which disputes between congregational leaders and the Diocese are resolved. As you know, that process has proven successful in resolving disputes with three other parishes, and I am hopeful it may serve a useful purpose here too. Since all parties have made their positions clear over the last six years of litigation, participation in the Canon 32 process should not and will not be treated as waiving anyone's rights or positions in the pending litigation.

In the spirit of openness to both sides, I invite you and everyone claiming to be a member of the parish to attend a meeting where differing viewpoints may be expressed as we seek an amicable resolution of all issues, including ownership and possession of church property. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2015, in the nave of All Saints' Episcopal Church at 5001 Crestline Road.

In order to make the meeting as efficient as possible, I am asking both groups to supply me with the following information in their possession not less than seven days before the scheduled meeting:

1. A copy of all Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws (including amended, re-stated and revised versions) of the parish or any parish-related entity.

2. A copy of all minutes of vestry meetings held during the years 2007 through 2009.
3. A copy of any "Loyalty Oath" (or similar document) presented at any time to vestry candidates, nominees for Convention delegate and/or parish members seeking to vote at an annual parish meeting.
4. A list of all communicants of the parish in good standing and entitled to vote as of November 1, 2008.

Thank you for your cooperation with these requests. I am confident that a resolution of the differences among us can be reached without further litigation if we approach this difficult matter prayerfully and with Christian charity towards the opposing side.

Faithfully in Christ,



The Rt. Rev. Jack L. Iker
Bishop of Fort Worth

CC: Standing Committee
Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth
Chancellor

Enclosures