

April 2010

## Welcome to the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Synod

**Dear General Synod Delegates** 

The novelty of this method of distribution as an alternative to the very thick package of paper that General Synod delegates traditionally receive underscores our determination to make this 39<sup>th</sup> Session of General Synod more sensitive to the stresses that such large gatherings place on the environment.

On this site, you will find information, reports and resolutions that will be before you when we gather in Halifax June 3 – 11. Between now and then, additional material will be posted here, so you are encouraged to visit the site from time to time and to familiarize yourself with the material. I draw your attention to three documents that may be especially important as we look to the future: The report of the *Vision 2019* Task Force, the report of the Governance Working Group, and the report of the Primatial Role Task Force. I urge you to read and study all the documents, individually or in parish or diocesan groups. Your preparation will enrich the life of the Synod as a whole.

The General Synod Planning Committee has worked very hard to ensure that we come together as a community of the faithful and that our time together is grounded in prayer, worship, discernment and a fruitful exchange of ideas. We are a diverse Church with a wealth of experiences, stories and ideas and we must know that for the great strength that it is.

General Synod is many things, not the least of which is an opportunity to celebrate the diversity of our Church. I look forward to seeing you there.

Yours in faith

Vianney (Sam) Carriere Acting General Secretary