

# The Anglican Province of Christ the King Diocese of the Western States

## Diocesan Office

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The Feast of the Epiphany

## Letter of Call for the Annual Synod of 2024

Greetings to the Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of the Western States as I hereby make formal call for the assembling of the thirty-third Synod of the Diocese of the Western States to be held at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Walnut Creek supported by the parishes of Saint Joseph of Arimathea in Berkeley and Saint Martin of Tours in Concord from April 16<sup>th</sup> to April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

The membership of Synod consists of: (a) The Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor and Suffragan Bishop; (b) All Presbyters of the Diocese. [Note that Deacons of the Diocese are entitled to seat and voice without vote]; (c) Three lay delegates from each Parish of the Diocese and one lay delegate from each Mission of the Diocese.

Synod is the legislative body of the Diocese, subject to its own Canons and the Canons of the Province. Synod may levy assessments on Parishes and Missions and adopt a balanced budget. Synod also admits new parishes and missions; hears and receives status reports about various functions of the Diocese; and elects its officers and committees.

This year we will meet as one Diocese with the former Diocese of the Southwestern States so that the APCK will become a two diocesan model: The Atlantic States and the Western States. And like last year, we will have two special (optional) events. On the afternoon of April 16<sup>th</sup> we will have a tour of Saint Joseph's Seminary and Solemn Evensong; and the following morning (April 17<sup>th</sup>) a retreat (quiet morning) at the hotel with the Daily Offices, prayers, meditations and a noon Eucharist.

I am well aware that attendance at Synod involves personal effort and expense, especially for working clergy and smaller parishes. Let us not forget the sacrifices of the pioneers who helped us win our freedom. Use proxies if you cannot attend but I strongly encourage all parishes and missions (wherever possible) find ways to help their clergy and laity to attend.

Yours faithfully in our Blessed Lord,

+ Donald M. Ashman  
Bishop Ordinary