



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE GENERAL CONVENTION

BONNIE ANDERSON, D.D.
PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES

December 6, 2007

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you in this Advent season of hope and expectation.

It is almost one year since I had the pleasure of being with you in the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin at the wonderful event organized and hosted by Remain Episcopal. You have been with me daily in prayer. You dance through my mind many times each day and I whisper prayers for your strength, faith, vision and caring for each other. You have been patient, strong and faithful in Christ. I am thankful that you are Episcopalians, and that we are participants in this great mystery with each other and Jesus Christ.

The Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin has a rich heritage of over 100 years. As loyal Episcopalians in your diocese, you have a heritage that connects you to those who have gone before you and upon whose shoulders you stand. You gather great strength from these saints.

You are also an important part of the larger Episcopal Church. Many of your sisters and brothers in Christ in neighboring dioceses and beyond, stand beside you, ready to walk with you through these times. Many stand ready to help you create a continuing community of faith, called to mission and ministry in God's world. Please continue to refer to the steps for going forward as outlined again most recently in the ENS article found at: http://www.episcopalchurch.org/79901_92311_ENG_HTM.htm

Most of all, know that you are God's beloved. Know that you are safe. Know that you are never alone. Move forward together in joy. Rejoice in the power of the spirit!

"Thus I saw that God is our true peace and He is our sure keeper when we are ourselves unpeaceful, and He continually works to bring us into endless peace. And thus, when we, by the action of mercy and grace, are made humble and gentle, we are completely safe."

From the Revelations of Divine Love, Blessed Julian of Norwich

Peace,

Bonnie Anderson, D.D.
President, The House of Deputies