

The Anglican Province of Christ the King  
Diocese of the Western States  
2725 Sacramento Street  
P.O. Box 15095  
San Francisco, CA 94115



May 2, 2018  
The Feast of Saint Athanasius

To the Clergy and Laity of the Diocese,

I have had so many wonderful reports telling me how so many clergy and laity thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were spiritually strengthened by our recent Synod. That tells me we are doing much that is right and we are continuing-on in the path charted by Bishop Morse.

I am particularly grateful to the parishes who were able to send money to support the expenses of the Synod. Nona called me this afternoon to tell me that you and your parishes sent a record breaking five thousand one hundred and fifty dollars to help underwrite the Synod. **THANK YOU!** I am also grateful for the wonderful outpouring of financial support for Canon Dillon and his wife Betsy, not to mention the numerous items brought for the ACW Drawing and the Men's Auction.

The Synod began on Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. with the Standing Committee interviews. At 6:00 p.m., fun was had by all at the Opening Reception (hosted by the ACW) featuring Father Benjamin Brown's "clerical saga" **Have Sermon Will Babble**, starring Father Tony Sands and the Synod Radio Players. On Thursday, Father Daniel Canda celebrated the Eucharist and Father Scott Mitchell led a morning double header workshop on Youth Camps and Parish Security followed by the Anglican Church Women and Clergy Luncheon; itself followed by the Anglican Church Women Meeting (led by President Gillian Golden) and the Clericus. The Laity were on their own for dinner and the clergy attended dinner at Postino's Restaurant in Lafayette.

Friday's Synodical High Mass at Saint Joseph's was simply stunning and the high point of the Synod. Bishop Hansen's sermon called us back to the foundations of our movement. We bussed back to the hotel where lunch was enjoyed by all (many of the clergy and laity eating at the little Mexican restaurant down the street) while the Bishops paid tribute to the wives of the clergy (and all they do) at the annual Clergy Wives Luncheon. The business meeting was short, efficient and sweet – in our DWS style. We concluded with our social hour, the banquet and the ACW Fund-raiser drawing.

Lastly and most importantly, I want to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart for helping to make our twenty-seventh Synod and ACW Conference the best one yet.

Yours faithfully in our Blessed Lord,

+ Donald M. Ashman  
Bishop Ordinary