



February 20, 2008

My dear friends,

What a joy to be part of the family of God!

Over the last days, members of the Anglican Network in Canada have joined in intense prayer for your parish and your vestry meeting. When we heard the welcome news of your decision and the unity of spirit with which you made it, our joy was full indeed.

For years, your parish has stood firm for historic Christian and Anglican doctrine. You have worked with us to restore Anglican orthodoxy and resist further theological decay. Now, your convictions have prompted you to take this significant step. Please know that your faith and your courage will embolden many throughout Canada.

It has been a long, painful journey – a journey of faithfulness in the midst of intense opposition and soul-searching struggle. While the journey is not over, it is good to reflect on how far we have come – and where we are going.

Welcome to this new stage of your journey. Welcome back into full communion with the Church of England throughout the world. And welcome to a biblically faithful Anglican Province.

Now, as a new day dawns, we are only too aware that, once again, we will face the burden and heat of this day. Yet, we have our Father's assurance that His grace is sufficient. May the joy we now share help sustain and give us the zeal to continue this good work that God has begun in us.

Other congregations across Canada are still in the process of coming to a decision and need our prayers. Please pray, as well, for those who have taken this decision and, like you, now face opposition.

Our Lord tells us in Luke 12: 32-34, *Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches, and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

You have clearly witnessed to the world where both your heart and your treasure really are, and you have encouraged many by this powerful witness.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald", with a cross symbol to its left.