

The Prayer Book Society of Canada

National Chairman - The Rev'd Canon Dr. Gordon R. Maitland

Michaelmas 2025

Dear friends and supporters of the Book of Common Prayer,

I want to begin by thanking everyone who encouraged us during our presence as a Society at General Synod this past June. In the newsletter that accompanies this cover letter, you can read about my personal reflections regarding our time spent there. There were many positive interactions with the delegates who were present representing their home dioceses. The two most profound events at Synod were the election of a new Primate (a very positive development) and the shocking revelations about an expensive lease that was signed with the United Church of Canada to share office space, which was done without consultation or the permission of the governing authorities of our church. Unfortunately, this may have serious implications for the financial health of the Anglican Church of Canada.

While this past Synod did not pass any motions that had negative implications for the liturgical life of the ACC, this certainly has not been true of past Synods. An article in the accompanying newsletter reveals that one of the new collects approved at the last General Synod actually appears to be addressed to the Prince of Darkness, Satan! These collects were intended to be an optional resource to be used in conjunction with the Revised Common Lectionary. Since there were almost 500 prayers in this resource, it is perhaps not surprising that the prayer in question was overlooked before being approved. But now that it has come to light, it surely behooves our church to remove this misleading and offensive prayer from circulation in our worship materials.

That article, written by one of the National Vice-Chairmen of the PBSC, demonstrates how we, as a Society, are vigilant in trying to call the Anglican Church of Canada back to orthodox Christianity. This kind of work is only possible with your financial support. If it is at all possible, please assist us with a contribution towards the ongoing work of the Society. And please continue to pray for us and for the church, that we will be faithful in proclaiming the true worship of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Your servant in Christ,

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