May 16, 2011

Dear Convention Delegates,

Our 179th Annual Convention in Birmingham approved my call for the election of the 11th Bishop of Alabama. The nominees have now been reported to the diocese by the Standing Committee. They are featured on our website and will be presented soon in the Alabama Episcopalian. I am writing to inform you of two important dates in the election of our next diocesan Bishop.

A “Walk About” day of conversation with the nominees will take place on Saturday, June 25th at St. Luke’s Parish, Birmingham. All members of the diocese are invited, but it is especially important for all voting delegates to attend. Voting delegates will be asked to submit a question on an index card distributed at registration for the candidates to consider. The schedule will be as follows:

11:30 AM - Registration begins
12:30 PM - Opening session in the nave
1:30 PM - Small group conversations begin
3:45 PM – Closing session in the nave
4:30 PM - Walk About Ends

Please note that lunch is not included. Please dine before arrival.

The election of the 11th Bishop of Alabama is scheduled for Saturday, July 16th at the Cathedral Church of the Advent. This will be a special meeting of the 180th Convention. Delegates elected for the annual convention in February will be the delegates for this special meeting. The schedule will be as follows:

11:00 AM - Registration begins
12:30 PM - Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
1:45 PM - First Ballot, followed by additional balloting as necessary, clergy and lay delegates sitting separately

Please note that lunch is not included. Please dine before arrival. Guests will be seated separately from the voting delegates. Refreshments and snacks will be provided at breaks. For both of these events childcare will not be provided. We encourage carpooling as there is limited parking.

Please keep the nominees in your prayers and pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in this important time of discernment for our diocese. May God bless you in all you do.

Faithfully in Christ,

Henry Nutt Parsley, Jr.
Bishop

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