



December 31, 2025

Dear Clergy, Lay Leaders, and Faithful Members of the Anglican Diocese of the Living Word,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We write to you as the Standing Committee of the Anglican Diocese of the Living Word in light of a recently published article in *The Washington Post* that has raised serious questions and allegations concerning the character and financial integrity of our diocesan bishop, Julian Dobbs, and, by implication, the life and leadership of this diocese.

We recognize that many of you have read the article or have become aware of its claims through other means. We also recognize that such reporting can be unsettling, confusing, and painful, particularly when it concerns those entrusted with spiritual oversight. We therefore believe it is both appropriate and pastorally necessary to address you directly.

We wish to state clearly and unambiguously that there is no factual or evidentiary basis for the allegations presented in the article. The matters referenced have been examined over a number of years through multiple avenues, including diocesan review, external professional evaluation, and provincial oversight. At no time have these processes substantiated claims of financial impropriety or personal misconduct.

As the Standing Committee, we take seriously our canonical responsibility to provide counsel, accountability, and support within the life of the diocese. We do not offer our assurance lightly. We are confident that the narrative presented in the article reflects a selective and misleading portrayal that fails to account for the full history of review, the findings of those entrusted with oversight, or the fruit of faithful Gospel ministry that has been borne across our congregations.

Notably absent from the article was any serious engagement with the extraordinary work being carried out daily by faithful clergy and lay people serving Jesus Christ across this diocese and in the ACNA—missional communities being formed, sustained, and renewed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That omission does not define us, nor does it diminish the work God is doing among us.

We are also mindful that trust is sacred in the Church. It is not something to be presumed, demanded, or taken for granted. For that reason, we affirm both the right and the responsibility of clergy and lay members to ask questions, to seek clarity, and to desire truth. We encourage such conversations to take place within the bonds of charity, patience, and prayer, rather than speculation or rumor.

Scripture reminds us: “The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1 Timothy 1:5)

We urge the diocese to remain steadfast in this moment, anchored in Christ, committed to truth, and resolved to walk together in unity. The mission entrusted to us has not changed: to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to make disciples, and to bear faithful witness in a world desperately in need of the good news of Christ.

Please be assured of our prayers for you, for our clergy and congregations, and for Bishop Julian and Brenda. We ask in return for your prayers for wisdom, discernment, and peace, and that the Lord would guard our hearts from division and strengthen our common life in Christ.

Yours in the service of Christ and His Church,

Standing Committee by name

The Rev. Ife Ojetayo

The Ven. Will Wilson

The Rev. David Haig

Prof. Lloyd Onyirimba

Mr. Robert Winebrenner

Capt. Dorathy Smolkis

Mr. Ben Sturgeon

Mrs. Barbara Raczynski, Diocesan Secretary

The Rev. Deacon Matthew Fleming, Diocesan Treasurer

Mr. Jason Carlton, Diocesan Chancellor