

Dear Fathers, Brothers, and Sisters in Christ,

We at St. Jude's welcome you to Richmond, VA, in October for the annual Synod of the Diocese of the Central States. The dates of the Synod sessions are Thursday, October 27 - Friday, October 28, 2016, with arrival on Wednesday, 10/26/2016.

Let me fill you in on the arrangements. We will be arriving at the Embassy Suites Hotel (Hilton), 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA, 23294, where we have arranged for a block of suites at very discounted prices. Registration for the Synod will be in the Jefferson Room of the hotel, off the atrium area, from 4:30 P.M. to 7 P.M. Wednesday, 10/26/2016. There will be a **private welcoming reception** in the registration room during those hours with wine, beer, soda, and hors d'oeuvres. Registration and payment will be transacted there, badges provided, and important information packets provided, so don't miss the complimentary reception and fellowship. Dinner the evening of arrival will be on your own. There are numerous restaurants in the area, as well as one in the hotel.

This hotel is in a business park area right off I-64, and within 15 minutes of St. Jude's Anglican Church, where we will be meeting. The hotel is an all-suite hotel, and each room has either a king or two doubles, with separate seating area. The rooms include a refrigerator, two bathroom sinks, and other nice amenities. The hotel is about 35 minutes from the Richmond airport.

Our worship and meetings will be at St. Jude's Anglican Church (REC), 8102 Ridge Road, Richmond, VA 23229. A catered lunch will be provided on Thursday, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>. The meetings will conclude at or before noon on Friday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>.

Our traditional banquet will be Thursday evening at the **Country Club of Virginia**, the most prestigious and beautiful

Country Club in Richmond, under the sponsorship of one of our parishioners. The banquet will be a sumptuous buffet with meat and fish selections (menu coming later), so there will be no need for preselecting entrees, etc. There will be a cash bar. We will convene at 6 P.M. for hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, and begin dinner at approximately 7 P.M.

### **Embassy Suites & Reservations:**

- All of the standard rooms are the same except for bed configuration (one king or two doubles). Couches in the seating areas also make into beds. The rate for our group is \$124.00/night (plus 13% taxes). You can locate the hotel on Google Maps at 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA, 23294. Check out the hotel rooms and lobby at <http://embassysuites3.hilton.com/en/hotels/virginia/embassy-suites-by-hilton-richmond-RICDNES/index.html>
- The block is set aside for Wednesday and Thursday nights. If you wish to stay extra nights after the Synod concludes, you may make arrangements individually, and the conference rate will apply. The hotel should be able to accommodate you if you book early. **Reservations must be made by October 7<sup>th</sup>**. After this date they will release the unsold portion of blocked rooms for general sale. They will continue to accept reservations after the cut-off date, subject to room rate and availability. We urge you to **make reservations now** in order to obtain the room configuration you want, and to give us early notice if we need to procure more rooms.
- The room rate includes breakfast, which is served as a buffet in the lobby dining area. This is a **full breakfast with cooked-to-order eggs and omelets**, as well as breakfast meats, hash browns, biscuits, etc. Of course, lighter fare is available as well. The room rate also includes

**complimentary cocktails, wine, beer, and snacks** in the atrium area each evening.

- Reservations must be made individually. All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card. Reservations may be made by telephone or online:
  - Telephone reservations may be made by calling 1-888-409-5345. You will have to go through an automated menu, but when you reach a human being, ask for the “Diocese Central” group rate.
  - Online reservations are suggested. They may be made at <http://www.richmond.embassysuites.com/>. Enter your dates, then before clicking on the “Check Rooms & Rates” box, look just above that and click on the blue “Add special rate codes” text. Code boxes will appear. In the **Group Code** box, type **TDC**. Then click the “Check Rooms & Rates” box. This will bring up our special rate. There may be other room options listed also, but our rates for the 1 King or 2 Double rooms will be there, and “Diocese Central” will be noted.

### **Registration for Synod & Banquet:**

- **Synod Registration is \$50/Person.** Anyone attending the Synod (meaning those who are badged into the meetings with nametags) must have paid the registration fee. Checks for registration fees must be made payable to St. Jude’s Anglican Church and provided at the registration/reception desk at the hotel.
- **Banquet Cost is \$50/Person.** Banquet passes will be provided with nametags at registration for those attending.

- **Payment.** All fees will be collected at registration. We are not able to accept credit cards. Only cash or checks are acceptable. Checks must be made payable to St. Jude's Anglican Church.
- **Web form for registration:** Please use the following web-form to register: [REGISTER NOW](#). **Please have all registration information submitted by August 31, 2013.** This is necessary to confirm counts for meeting setup, refreshment catering, meal catering, and banquet catering. Using the form helps ensure the transmission of the necessary information and facilitates accurate name/ID tags. You may register up to six different individuals on a single form.

**Additional notes:**

- Again, we look forward to your visit to Richmond. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [frsthompson@icloud.com](mailto:frsthompson@icloud.com) or call me at **703-395-3423**.
- Additional Synod program information will be forthcoming by email to registered attendees as we get closer. For now, please get registrations completed as soon as possible (with accurate email addresses), and avoid missing important information notices.

Blessings,

**Scott+**

The Very Rev. W. Scott Thompson, Rector  
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