

## **Youth Synod Council Synod Memorial**

For more than seventeen years, the Youth Synods of the Diocese of Niagara have been repeatedly led by the Holy Spirit to call for the full and equal inclusion of gay and lesbian Anglicans within our Church. Most recently, this call has been expressed by our conviction that it is past time for the Church to bless same-sex unions. In the memorial to General Synod this past summer, Youth Synod noted that:

- as a Church, we have been talking about this issue for thirty years
- that this diocese has--in its 130th Synod--shown itself to be ready to move forward
- action at the 2004 General Synod acknowledged and “affirmed the integrity and sanctity of committed adult same sex relationships”

Given the events at the 2007 General Synod in Winnipeg, and the declaration by that body that the blessing of same-sex unions is “not in conflict with the core doctrine” of our church, Youth Synod Council sends this memorial to say again that God leads us to believe that our diocese needs to move forward on this issue.

We call upon the delegates to this diocesan synod, and upon our diocesan bishop, to act on this important work now recognizing that through the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of baptism, all the baptized are full members of Christ’s Church.

*Approved by Youth Synod Council on Saturday, October 21, 2007*