



The Episcopal Church in
BROOKLYN ■ QUEENS ■ NASSAU ■ SUFFOLK
 The Diocese of Long Island

Ronald O. Cole
Treasurer
 631.472.5431 (home)
 eloc@optonline.net

October 2, 2009

To Rectors, Priests-in-Charge, and Wardens,

In accordance with the diocesan canons it is my responsibility to request your congregation's support for the 2010 budget.

These canons also require that the treasurer communicate the anticipated pledges to the Diocesan Council in early December. As a result I am asking that you respond by November 1, 2009. I chose this date as at this year's Convention I would like to announce in my address that 100% of the congregations have pledged their support to the 2010 budget.

Between now and then you will have at least one vestry meeting to prayerfully consider what your congregation's pledge should be to support the work of the diocese. Since you are the leaders of your congregations, the commitment must come from you. In other words, you need to lead by example and, while you are prayerfully considering what that pledge should be, remember that "all things come of thee O Lord and of thine own have we given thee."

The proposed 2010 Budget calls for a \$166,433 increase in our support to the National Church, representing a total of \$643,097 for the year which is what they asked for. Leading by example, we cannot ask our congregations to meet our asking until our own house is in order.

Income from the congregations will need to increase by \$292,500 over the anticipated income for 2009. While I realize that we are in some difficult economic times, this increase oftentimes means less than \$5.00 per week from each pledging household. If the average household has 3-5 members in it, we are not talking about a big sacrifice. Remember, "giving comes from the heart."

We have elected a new Bishop which represents a change. I have never heard whistling and cat calls at a church service in my entire life but that is exactly what happened for six full minutes when our new Bishop was presented to us.

Let this be change we can have faith in and let's support that change by completing your pledge by November 1, 2009.

Faithfully yours,

cc: Parish Treasurers and Clerks of the Vestry

**Please complete, detach and mail to:
 Ron Cole, Treasurer, P. O. Box 510, Garden City, New York 11530-0510
 or FAX to 516-248-1616**

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2010 DIOCESAN PLEDGE

We, _____, _____ in gratitude for our Lord Jesus
Church Name Church Location

Christ's sacrifice for us, do hereby pledge \$ _____, payable in monthly installments, to support our 2010 diocesan operating budget.

_____ Rector or Vicar _____ date

_____ Treasurer _____ date

Indicate date the Pledge was approved by the Vestry or Bishop's Committee _____