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January 4, 2017

Dear St. Paul's Parishioner and Friends of St. Paul's:

I am writing to inform you that I am a nominee for Bishop of The Diocese of North Carolina. Since the election of Bishop Michael Curry as Presiding Bishop, our diocese has been in a period of transition as we move towards the election of our next bishop.

On November 21, 2016, the Nominating Committee announced three nominees for bishop, one of whom has since withdrawn. After the Nominating Committees announcement a two week period opened where other candidates could be nominated through a Petition Process. I was approached by some clergy and laity of our diocese who feel strongly that I would be a good bishop for our diocese, and that it would be of value for my voice to be a part of the conversation in the wider Episcopal Church and House of Bishops. That's quite a humbling thing to reflect upon. With their encouragement I allowed my name to go forward.

Let me provide what happens now. You may go to the diocesan website where you will find my responses to three questions posed to all the nominees, my resume, personal statement and brief biography. Later in January there will be videos produced on each nominee and put on the diocesan website. Then during the week of February 13-18, 2017 Mary and I will be traveling the entire diocese, along with all the nominees for a week of what is referred to as the "walkabout". Each day Mary and I, along with the other nominees and spouses, will travel the diocese with daily stops in congregations and places of ministry where clergy and lay delegates from that area of the diocese will meet and hear from the nominees and get to know them.

Then on March 4, 2017, at a special gathering of diocesan convention, the clergy and lay delegates from throughout the diocese numbering over 500 will gather for the election of the next bishop. The person elected will require a majority of votes of the clergy delegates, as well as a majority of votes of lay delegates. The bishop-elect will then need to receive, during the next couple months after the election, the consent of bishops and Standing Committees of a majority of the 109 dioceses that comprise the Episcopal Church. The bishop-elect will be ordained bishop on July 15, 2017 at Duke Chapel with The Most Rev. Michael Curry presiding.

I feel it an honor and a privilege to have been nominated. I have humbly walked in discernment with the Diocese of North Carolina knowing that the election of the next bishop is in the hands of the Holy Spirit.

Let me share with you my personal feeling about this. I have been rector of St. Paul's for almost 18 years. St. Paul's has been a gift in my life and these years have been the greatest years of my priestly ministry. We have accomplished so much together as a parish, and in many ways my being a nominee is a recognition of that by the wider church. There is so much more to do and I am excited about our future, whether it is as your rector or your bishop. I ask for your prayers and support during these next few months.

Please pray for Mary and me, and my family, as we walk this journey together. I hope you understand. I can't do it without your prayers and support.

Faithfully,

Rev. George Adamik