



The Diocese of Rupert's Land

The Right Reverend Naboth Manzongo
Bishop of Rupert's Land

Epiphany 2026

A note from the Bishop to Parish Annual General Meetings

Dear Friends,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

As you gather for your Annual General Meeting, I want to extend my prayers and gratitude for the faithful ministry you offer in your communities throughout the Diocese of Rupert's Land. An AGM is more than a canonical requirement, it is a sacred moment of discernment, thanksgiving, and hope. It is a time to remember how God has been at work among you, and to listen for how the Holy Spirit is calling you forward. Over the past months, I have witnessed remarkable signs of life across our diocese: renewed worship, deepening discipleship, pastoral care offered with compassion, and bold outreach to neighbours in need. Many of you have taken courageous steps in mission, hospitality, reconciliation, and stewardship. For all of this, I give heartfelt thanks.

As you reflect on the past year, I invite you to consider this theme to guide our diocesan life:

Christ Among Us: Incarnational Living: Let us remain rooted in our neighbourhoods, attentive to the needs around us, and confident that Christ is already present and at work. In a world often marked by loneliness, fear, and division, your parish's presence is itself a ministry of hope. In Christ we deepen our communion. Our unity in Christ is both a gift and a responsibility. Continue to nurture relationships within your parish and across the diocese, strengthening the bonds that enable us to pray, learn, and serve together. It is also in Christ that we grow. Christian maturity grows through Scripture, worship, prayer, and shared ministry. I encourage you to consider how your parish is nurturing spiritual formation and encouraging the gifts of all members, young and old.

As you review financial reports and budgets, I also wish to thank you for your faithful support of our Common Mission and Ministry. Your commitment enables us to care for rural parishes, meet our obligations to the wider church, and support diocesan ministries that strengthen us all. I ask that you continue this shared commitment in 2026 as a sign of our mutual responsibility and trust in God's provision.

A Year of Synod: The year 2026 will also bring our Diocesan Synod, an important moment of communal discernment and decision-making. I ask each parish to:

- Pray intentionally for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we prepare.
- Discern and elect delegates who will participate fully, prayerfully, and collaboratively.
- Encourage your representatives to enter Synod with openness, hope, and a commitment to the common good of the whole diocese.

Synod is a sign that we walk this journey together, listening for God's call to us as one body.

Looking ahead, I pray that each parish will seek God's guidance with courage and imagination.

The challenges we face (demographic shifts, cultural change, and limited resources) are real, but so too is the power of the Holy Spirit who sustains and renews the Church in every generation.

Please know that I hold each of you in prayer. May your AGM be a time of honest reflection, gracious conversation, and renewed hope in Christ.

Blessings,

+Naboth

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