

October 28, 2015

Dear friends,

So the diocesan convention is over, well, sort of. Yes, the people have gone home, the church and hotel are preparing for other events, and historically, people's attention would now be turning to Halloween costumes, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

But maybe this year is a little different. The convention this year was different. People who attended left with questions to be discussed in their parishes, and among groups small and large. Questions about what our diocese, our congregation and other congregations, what we would look like, if we were people of mercy and delight?

Mercy and delight are two avenues for God's grace. God delights in us, doesn't just tolerate us, but DELIGHTS in us! And we are called to delight in God, in each other, in all of God's creation. But when we don't, when we fall short in life, there is mercy, freely given, so that we might be restored to a place where we can once again delight.

It's one way to tackle the question of who we are, and what is St John's? We can ask how we are doing at being people of mercy and delight?

We might well forget who was elected, what the budget was like, or other items of the business at convention. But the questions we will carry with us, and hopefully not forget. The questions, as we wrestle with them both individually and as a parish family, can help shape us, and help us live into God's dream for who we might be.

Fr David