**Sending of Delegates to Diocesan Synod**

*Leader:* Sisters and brothers, siblings in Christ, it is the good pleasure of our God to gather up all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth. As part of the Diocese of Algoma, it is our duty and delight to share in the gathering work of Christ so that his newness of life overflows into hearts and homes, churches and communities.

This week, from Wednesday evening until Saturday noon, representatives commissioned by congregations across Algoma will assemble in Synod. Together they will exercise the ministry of prayer, discernment, and governance entrusted to them by the people of this Diocese. We pray these delegates we send, and all who gather, will act in the confidence that God continues to accomplish all things according to his purpose and will.

I call forward *[names of clerical and lay delegates from the congregation]*.

*When the delegates have come forward, the Leader invites the members of the congregation to stand/remain standing in prayer, and may invite them to extend their hands toward the delegates in a gesture of blessing.*

*Then the Leader prays,*

God our hope, by the Holy Spirit

you presided at the Council of Apostles

to guide them in all knowledge and truth,

and to inspire the whole company of disciples

to share faithfully in your mission to the world.

Be present with these your servants

chosen from our midst to serve in Diocesan Synod.

In deliberation and debate,

give them a spirit of wisdom and revelation.

In the face of opportunity and challenge,

spark courageous and creative imagination.

In moments of decision, fill them with desire

to live for the praise of your glory alone.

We ask this through the One

in whom heaven and earth have been gathered,

Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God,

who is worthy to receive power and wealth,

wisdom and might,

honour and glory and blessing,

for ever and ever.

*People:* **Amen.**

*Leader:* *N.N.,* may you go with God as you travel to and from Synod, and may you know God’s blessing as you serve.