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Clergy of the Diocese of Fredericton

**Re: DIOCESAN STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE - 16-17 OCTOBER 2009**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write at the request of the Diocesan Council Stewardship Team to draw to your attention an important event being planned for Friday and Saturday, 16 and 17 October 2009. It was clear from the recent Diocesan Synod that there are many issues that need to be high on our priority list as a diocese in the coming months as we go forward with the guidance of God's Holy Spirit. One of those is the issue of stewardship, a topic with which we all seem to struggle. That struggle is possibly the very reason this needs to be an important area of emphasis in the near future for the Diocese and its parishes.

We have been able to make arrangements for Bishop Edward Salmon to return to the Diocese to lead us in a conference for both clergy and laity. I welcomed Bishop Salmon with his inspirational messages when he visited in 2008 and I look forward to seeing him among us again this Fall.

**I am asking that all stipendiary clergy appointed to parish ministry make this event a priority. All clergy are, of course, welcome. The Team is asking that clergy be present on Friday, 16 October and that a minimum of two lay persons from every parish, at least one being a church warden, join them on Saturday, 17 October 2009. Please mark your calendars now to assure attendance and take action now to determine the laity who will be attending.**

Mr. Roger Castonguay (Parish of Coldbrook and St. Mary) of the Stewardship Team will be the coordinator of the Conference. Plans now are that the event will take place in the Parish of Sussex as they have graciously offered to assist with many of the practical details required. Details will follow as they become available.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Claude W. Miller (The Rt. Rev'd Dr.)  
Bishop of Fredericton

CWM/gh

ec      Members of the Diocesan Council Stewardship Team  
          Bishop Edward Salmon