

Dear St. Thomas' Community,

On November 19<sup>th</sup>, St. Thomas' will enjoy the privilege of a visit from The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld, who will join us for both our services on that Sunday. This is the Bishop's bi-annual visit to St. Thomas', and it is a great opportunity both to celebrate the activities of our parish and to meet Bishop Hirschfeld. It's also a time for anyone interested in being confirmed or received by the Episcopal Church to have your reception blessed by the Bishop. Please contact the office at 603-742-3155 if you are interested.

The Bishop was ordained on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 1992, and has served several parishes located on or near college campuses: Yale, the University of Connecticut, and the Five College region of Western Massachusetts. He has also served on a variety of diocesan committees and a seminary board of trustees. He is the tenth Bishop of the 47 parishes of the Diocese of New Hampshire, having been elected to this position on the first ballot in May, 2012. He is married to Polly Merritt Ingraham, and they have three children. In addition to the busy schedule of a Bishop, he writes poetry and theological ruminations, paints with mixed media, and sculls for fitness and recreation.

The Vestry hopes that you will make a special effort both to attend one of our services that Sunday, and to spend a little extra time either at the Café or at Coffee Hour to say hello to Bishop Hirschfeld and let him know how you feel about our Parish and the things we are doing. It is also a tradition that the loose plate offering from both services on November 19<sup>th</sup> will be designated for the "Bishop's Discretionary Fund." This is a great way for us all to participate in the wider ministry of the Bishop and the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire, so make a note and contribute if you can.

We look forward to Bishop Hirschfeld's visit, and hope you can join us in welcoming him to Dover on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Best Regards,

Chris Turner, Junior Warden