



January 2012

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

On behalf of the Rt. Rev. Morris K. Thompson, Jr., and the parish of St. James, I am excited to invite you to Baton Rouge for the 175th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana.

Please consider coming early or staying late to experience the natural beauty and fascinating history of Baton Rouge and historic St. James Church. Discover the details of our inspiring worship space with self-guiding booklets about our windows, carvings, Civil War font, and more. Explore the Baton Rouge riverfront which is within walking distance from our church and the convention hotel, as is the Shaw Center, home to the LSU Museum and School of Art galleries. Walk north to the State Capitol or historic Pentagon barracks, or, a short drive south on Highland Road will bring you to the campus of LSU — a champion school!

The Convention steering committee has been hard at work planning our time together. Registration will begin the afternoon of Friday, March 2 and follow with a plenary session and conclude with Evensong. A grand social will be held Friday evening in the historic Heidelberg Ballroom of the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center, two blocks from St. James.

St. James Place Retirement Community will host the Saturday morning breakfast in Bishops Hall. After celebration of the Holy Eucharist, committee meetings and the morning plenary session, we'll enjoy a picnic-style lunch hosted and prepared by St. James Place Retirement Community and the *Holy Grillers*, St. James' highly-elite barbecue team! Convention will conclude with the Saturday afternoon session.

Vendors and exhibitors will be available in the Parish Hall parlor on both days, and we feel sure you will appreciate the beauty of the St. James campus — our tranquil oasis in the midst of downtown Baton Rouge — for your meeting space, fellowship spots, and meditation areas as you need or desire.

Until March 2, we wish you a festive Epiphany leading to a blessed Lent and look forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge!

Peace,

The Very Rev. J. Mark Holland  
Rector

*We proclaim Christ crucified and risen, and invite you to join with us in ministry together in his name.*

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