

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Rev. Fr. Paul S. Winton Calling for a National Prayer Vigil

Charlotte, North Carolina – June 10, 2010 – St. John’s Episcopal Church will initiate VIGILance 2010, a Prayer Vigil for The Stewardship of God’s Earth with a special emphasis on the Gulf Coast and the oceans and waterways of the earth on Thursday, June 17, 2010 at 7pm.

“In a service of prayer, meditation and gentle music, we will implore God the Creator of the Universe to intervene and stop the oil now seeping into the ocean, onto the beaches and into the lives of innocent creatures and people.” said Rev. Fr. Paul S. Winton, Rector of St. John’s. “We will confess to God our own implication in our failure to care for the earth God has entrusted to us and we will recommit ourselves to tend and care for God’s earth. All who would like to join us for this one-hour service are invited to do so.”

Beyond this local gathering, Fr. Winton is calling all people of faith throughout the United States to devote this same hour, 7-8pm, local time, Thursday, June 17th, to prayer and reflection on this earth-changing matter. The damage being done in the Gulf region will be felt by everyone in our country for many years to come and the consequences of the destruction may very well be permanent. Therefore, he is calling for national ecumenical participation.

The prayers to be used in St. John’s service are available on their website (www.saintjohns-charlotte.org) and may be used by others in creating their own service. St. John’s Episcopal Church is located at 1623 Carmel Road, Charlotte, NC and is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina.

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