

## The Rev. Joseph Pickard to attend CREDO Conference

The Rev. Joseph Pickard has accepted an invitation to attend a CREDO conference from September 27 - October 4, 2010 at the Roslyn Conference Center located in Richmond, Virginia.

The eight-day conference provides participants with the means to find direction and clarity in four component areas: spiritual, health, vocational, and financial. CREDO provides a foundation for participants to embrace wellness and to prayerfully discern the direction of their vocation.

CREDO was founded in 1997 as a pilot program funded by The Church Pension Group. Episcopal clergy, deacons and bishops from virtually every diocese in the country have taken advantage of the CREDO benefit. Participants are selected at random from all active clergy with more than one year in the Pension Fund. The Church Pension Fund pays all but \$500 of the conference costs.

Fr. Joe will join approximately 30 other clergy in the CREDO conference. Over the course of the conference, participants will meet in plenary sessions, small groups and private consultations with faculty members. Participants also have ample quiet time to reflect on their personal and professional lives.

Each participant commits to extensive reflection through pre-conference instruments and surveys that focus on personal and professional wellness. The work of CREDO is organized around four major areas in each person's personal and professional life. Each of these components is explored as an integral part of the whole.

- **Spiritual** – offers a sacred space where each participant can reflect on his or her interior life and relationship with God in Christ.
- **Vocational** – provides opportunities for reflection, discernment, and planning in the professional areas of vocation, career, and work.
- **Health** – encourages reflection on physical and emotional health and well-being, stewardship of the body, and development of a plan to address the individual's health needs.
- **Financial** – explores all aspects of personal financial management and encourages reflection on God-given resources and how best to use them in response to God's call.

Through this discernment and visioning process, and with the help of a faculty team of professionals, each participant builds a CREDO Plan – a personal covenant based on his or her CREDO work and a formal expression of the CREDO experience. The CREDO Plan provides a personal baseline and strategy for effective implementation.

We ask that you keep Fr. Joe, along with all the CREDO participants and presenters, in your thoughts and prayers as the weeks and months unfold, and he joins the other conference participants in late September.

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