

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

1st Session of the 47th Synod Business Paper: Tuesday 18 October 2005

(Page references are to the Standing Committee's Report unless otherwise indicated - see Part 5 of the Synod Business Rules for ordinance procedures.)

Members of Synod are asked to identify themselves each time they speak.

1. **Devotions will be led by the Rev Mike Raiter: see attached**
2. **Minutes of 17 October 2005**
3. **Petitions**
4. **Procedural motions from members**
5. **Calling of motions on the business paper**
6. **Motions**

To be taken today from 3:30 pm

6.1 **Anglican Communion**

Synod notes the establishment of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Panel of Reference and encourages the Archbishop of Canterbury in making arrangements to protect and support parishes seeking alternative Episcopal oversight over matters of significance where there is repudiation of Biblical authority.

(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson/Dr Philip Selden)

6.2 **Administration of confirmation by presbyters**

Synod -

- (a) endorses the proposal that confirmation should not be required of those baptised as adults, before their being admitted to holy communion,
- (b) endorses the proposal that clergy, under licence from the Archbishop, be allowed to administer confirmation,
- (c) encourages the involvement of senior laypersons in the catechetical preparation of candidates for confirmation,
- (d) endorses the proposal that clergy, under licence from the Archbishop, be allowed to receive into the fellowship of the Anglican Church people who are communicant members of other Christian denominations, and
- (e) requests that the Standing Committee bring an ordinance to a forthcoming session of Synod or promote a General Synod Canon for the next General Synod that would make the above proposals possible.

(Page 44)

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

To be taken today at 4:30 pm

6.3 **Diocesan Development (Provision of Capital) Ordinance 2005**

That the Diocesan Development Fund (Provision of Capital) Ordinance 2005 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.

(Supplementary Report Page 49)

(Mr Rodney Dredge/Dr Laurie Scandrett)

6.4 Affiliated Churches Ordinance 2005

That the Affiliated Churches Ordinance 2005 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.
(*Supplementary Report Page 63*) (Dean Phillip Jensen/Mr Neil Cameron)

6.5 Associated Congregations (Amendment) Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the Associated Congregations (Amendment) Ordinance 2005.
(*Page 149*) (Bishop Robert Forsyth)

6.6 General Synod - Holy Orders Relinquishment and Deposition Canon 2004 Adopting Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Holy Orders Relinquishment and Deposition Canon 2004 Adopting Ordinance 2005.
(*Page 168*) (Mr Neil Cameron)

6.7 General Synod - Constitution Amendment (Relations with Other Churches) Canon 2004 Assenting Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Constitution Amendment (Relations with Other Churches) Canon 2004 Assenting Ordinance 2005.
(*Page 163*) (Mr Robert Tong)

To be taken today at 7:00 pm

6.8 Reforming parochial structure and administration

Synod, noting the Policy 4 report about reforming parochial structure and administration –

- (a) gives its in-principle support for the proposals outlined in the report, and
- (b) requests that the Standing Committee bring to the next session of the Synod an ordinance or ordinances which would give effect to these proposals.

(*Page 126*) (Bishop Robert Forsyth)

To be taken today at 8:00 pm

6.9 Safe Ministry Ordinance 2005

That the Safe Ministry Ordinance 2005 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.
(*Page 204*) (Mr Philip Gerber/Mr Glenn Murray)

6.10 Safe Ministry Policy

Synod -

- (a) again requests that each parish council and diocesan organisation specifically adopt the following Safe Ministry Policy -

“The [name of Parish or organization] is committed to the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare and safety of all people, particularly within its own community. To ensure the safety of children and vulnerable people in our communities, the Church will -

- Carefully recruit and train its clergy and church workers,
- Adopt and encourage safe ministry practices by its clergy and church workers,

- Respond promptly to each concern raised about the behaviour of its clergy and church workers,
 - Offer pastoral support to any person who has suffered abuse, and
 - Provide supervision of and pastoral accountability to any person known to have abused a child or another vulnerable person”
- (b) requests that each non-parish organisation appoint at least one safe ministry representative equivalent to the parish safe ministry representative or a committee, if required, to take responsibility under the CEO to implement safe ministry policies in their organisation.

(Page 194)

(Mr Philip Gerber/Mr Glenn Murray)

Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration

6.11 Anglican – Roman Catholic International Commission

Synod notes the release by the Anglican – Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC) of *Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ* (The Seattle Statement) on 16 May 2005 and notes that many of the conclusions of the report are in conflict with the teaching of Scripture. We therefore distance ourselves from the report and further state that the Commission does not represent or speak on behalf of the Diocese of Sydney.

(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson)

6.12 Communion with the Church of England in England

Synod, while supporting the adoption of the General Synod canon to substitute a new section 6 in the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia –

- (a) notes, with regret, that the recent developments within the Church of England in England relating to same sex relationships may make it desirable that the existing section 6 of the Constitution (if it remains unchanged) and the proposed section 6(1) (if it is substituted for the existing section 6) be modified to make continued communion with the Church of England in England subject to the operation of canon of the General Synod, and
- (b) requests that the Standing Committee address this matter.

(Mr Robert Tong)

6.13 Ministry brochure and use of the word “presbyter”

Synod –

- (a) notes the publication by Anglican Media Sydney in August 2005 of the brochure “Full-Time Paid Ministry in the Diocese of Sydney” and commends the authors for their helpful discussion of ministry and ordination in this Diocese.
- (b) commends the authors for their use throughout the brochure of the term “Presbyter” for the second order of ministry.
- (c) encourages the use of this brochure in recruiting suitable persons into the ministry of the Word in Diocese.
- (d) requests the Standing Committee to pursue the request of Synod (35/04) to produce a report of the practicality of replacing the word “priest” with words such as “presbyter” in all our legislation and formularies or at least to consider the legality of using such term in future ordination services and legislation.

(The Rev Richard Blight/The Rev Chris Clerke)

6.14 Funding chaplaincies

Synod, noting that money to support chaplaincies is not allocated in the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2005 -

- (a) affirms that Anglicare chaplaincies are integral to Policy 2 of the Diocesan Mission, specifically in their ability “to take further initiatives to create fellowships by penetrating structures of society beyond the reach of the parish church with the gospel”, and
- (b) encourages Anglicare to seek alternative sources of funding for chaplaincies, and
- (c) requests the Standing Committee to –
 - (i) urgently consider the immediate need for funding Anglicare chaplains and the practical steps necessary for the Diocese to do so, and
 - (ii) explore strategies which strengthen the contribution that chaplaincies make to the Diocesan Mission, and
 - (iii) report back to the next ordinary session of this Synod, and
 - (iv) in preparation for the 2007 session of Synod, when the principles of the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance are determined for the following triennium ensure as a priority that Anglicare chaplains are funded from the Diocesan budget.

(The Rev Stephen Bligh/Mrs Liz McCoy)

6.15 Anglicare chaplaincies

Synod requests that the Standing Committee ensure that a full and frank policy debate regarding Anglicare chaplaincies is scheduled for the next session of Synod. The debate ought to include the role and significance of the chaplains in the light of the Mission and give direction regarding future funding.

(The Rev Mark Calder)

6.16 Corporate prayer

In light of the various difficulties that we face now and into the future regarding the Mission and how we are going to fund and implement it, acknowledging our extreme lack of natural resources regarding time, energy and finances. Knowing that it is a fact, that we are to be men and women who actually listen to the word of God putting it into practice, daring to believe God’s promises to us and in doing so to set an example to those around us, through us asking our mighty living all powerful Heavenly Father and the Father of our glorious risen Lord to intervene in our community, opening doors that need to be opened, closing the doors that need to be shut, providing all that we need to be provided with, regarding our physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs, that is in keeping with the first part of the Mission plan, to be seriously prayerful, asking and seeking God with a fervent bold expectancy of him to move powerfully in response to our prayers.

Synod requests that time is made on a daily basis each day we meet, for a serious time to be set aside for the coming together in corporate prayer, after the preaching of the word.

(Mr Craig Bennett)

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Revised Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Tuesday 18 October 2005.

Tuesday 18 October 2005	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 6.1 Anglican Communion 6.2 Administration of confirmation by presbyters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	6.3 Diocesan Development (Provision of Capital) Ordinance 2005 6.4 Affiliated Churches Ordinance 2005 6.5 Associated Congregations (Amendment) Ordinance 2005 6.6 General Synod – Holy Orders Relinquishment and Deposition Canon 2004 Adopting Ordinance 2005 6.7 General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Relations with Other Churches) Canon 2004 Assenting Ordinance 2005 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 – 8:00pm	6.8 Reforming parochial structure and administration
8:00pm	6.9 Safe Ministry Ordinance 2005 6.10 Safe Ministry Policy Other business as per the business paper

1st Session of the 47th Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney

Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: 18 October 2005

Bible Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:10-17

Bible Reader: The Rev Peter Lin

Bible Study Leader: The Rev Mike Raiter

¹⁰By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. ¹¹For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹²If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. ¹⁴If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. ¹⁵If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.

¹⁶Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? ¹⁷If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple.

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version

Hymn: My hope is built

1. My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ the solid rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

2. When long appears my toilsome race,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

3. His oath, his covenant, his blood
Supports me in the whelming flood;
When every earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

Chorus

4. When the last trumpet's voice shall sound
O may I then in him be found,
Robed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne!

Chorus

Pianist: The Rev Geoff Deutscher

Prayer: Dr Philip Selden

The Mission Prayer

Our Gracious God, we pray that you will help us to proclaim our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, so that everyone around us will hear his call to repent, trust and serve Christ in love, and be established in the fellowship of his disciples while we await his return.

May we continue to pray, to depend on your Holy Spirit, and to glorify you.

Amen.