

## Resolutions of the 2012 session of the 49<sup>th</sup> Synod

### 1/12 Review of School Chapels and Chaplains Ordinance 1975

Synod, noting the report concerning the review of the *School Chapels and Chaplains Ordinance 1975* (the Ordinance) –

- (a) encourages Synod members, school councils and the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation to consider the report and its recommendations and to provide comments on the report to the Diocesan Secretary by 31 March 2013, and
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to bring to the 2013 session of the Synod suitable amendments to the Ordinance having regard to such comments.

(Mr Tony Willis 8/10/2012)

### 2/12 Amendment to Diocesan Policy Statement on Education

This Synod, noting the importance of students in Anglican schools learning to appreciate, refine and ennoble human culture in all fields of endeavour, particularly in the visual and performing arts, music and the media, amends the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education by adding another dot point under “A Christian approach to education .... education that is fully Christian will promote teaching and learning that ”

- “• cultivates, critiques and seeks the transformation of culture in accordance with godly wisdom ”.

(Dr Philip Selden 8/10/2012)

### 3/12 Archbishop Rowan Williams

Synod, noting that Archbishop Rowan Williams will be stepping down from the office of Archbishop of Canterbury at the end of this year, prays for Dr Williams as he concludes his term of office and prepares to take on the role of Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge. The Synod also prays for wisdom and discernment for those involved in the choice of Dr William’s successor.

(The Rev Philip Bradford 8/10/2012)

### 4/12 The Rev Canon Boak Jobbins OAM

Synod gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Rev Canon Boak Jobbins OAM. Boak grew up as a member of St Mark’s Darling Point, trained at Moore College and served Christ’s people at St Jude’s Dural, Holy Trinity Adelaide, St Swithun’s Pymble, as Dean of Sydney and at St Mark’s Darling Point. In each of these places his faith in Christ, his powerful preaching and teaching ministry, his pastoral care, and his willingness to serve in a myriad of ways left a deep mark on the lives of many men and women. Boak’s contribution to the life of the Diocese, not only as the Dean between 1992 and 2002, but in the Synod, its Standing Committee, the Liturgical Commission, the Presentation Board, and many other avenues has deeply enriched us. Shocked by his sudden death on 1 September, we commit ourselves to pray for his wife Di and for their family.

(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson 8/10/2012)

### 5/12 Reduced number of days for Synod in 2013

Synod supports the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session of the 49<sup>th</sup> Synod in 2013 being held over 3 days on Monday 14, Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 October, and for this purpose agrees to commence meeting at 2 pm and conclude meeting at 10 pm on each of those days, and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Dr Karin Sowada 9/10/2012)

## **6/12 Violence against Christians in Nigeria**

Synod –

- (a) expresses dismay at recent reports of the murder in the early hours of Tuesday October 2<sup>nd</sup> of at least 25 Christian University students in Mobi in Northeastern Nigeria, where gunmen went door-to-door in the off-campus student accommodation in search of victims – especially as the attack is the latest in a long list of violent attacks attributed to Boko Haram and other Islamist groups which include bombings and other attacks on churches, the burning of homes where Christians had taken refuge and the murder of pastors, with over 700 deaths attributed to Boko Haram this year alone;
- (b) in accordance with the teaching of Jesus, rejects violence in the cause of religion and calls on all people of good faith to do the same and to work for the freedom to practice religion without fear of violence in every country throughout the world;
- (c) assures our brothers and sisters in Nigeria of our prayerful support as they go through this terrible time of testing and as they seek to use this trouble to witness to the love and mercy of Christ; and
- (d) requests a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Primate of Nigeria and the General Secretary of IFES Nigeria (NIFES).

(The Rev Richard Blight 9/10/2012)

## **7/12 Director of Ministry Training and Development**

This Synod notes that Dean Phillip Jensen concludes his 10 year appointment as the Director of Ministry Training and Development in December 2012.

Synod expresses its gratitude and appreciation for Dean Jensen's leadership of Ministry Training and Development and –

- (a) the systemic changes that have been, and continue to be, implemented to ordained ministry in the Diocese of Sydney;
- (b) the 26% increase in the number of ordained ministers over the last 10 years; and
- (c) the establishment of a culture of training that brings a high degree of commitment to the cause of Christ and the proclamation of the gospel in accordance with the teaching of scripture.

(Bishop Peter Hayward 9/10/2012)

## **8/12 Mr Peter Kell**

Synod notes that this is Peter Kell's 41<sup>st</sup>, and last ordinary, session of Synod. Synod gives thanks to God for Canon Basil Williams who first encouraged Peter that he might use his time, talent and energy to serve in this forum. Synod further thanks God for Peter's extensive, consistent and long-lasting service of Christ, through his service of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney. This includes various roles at St Michael's Wollongong; in the Wollongong Region; at this Synod, notably as Deputy Chair and Chair of Committees; on the Standing Committee, as Ordinance Reviewer and Chair of Committees; as well as on other committees over the years, including the Moore College Council, the Mission Property Committee, the Mission Board Strategy Committee, and most notably in recent times, as CEO of Anglicare, and as Chairman of the Archbishop's Strategic Commission.

Synod thanks God for Peter's public civic ministry seeking the welfare of the cities in which he has lived and served, both greater Sydney, and his own beloved Wollongong. Synod also acknowledges the sacrificial and loyal support of his wife, Faye.

Synod expresses its appreciation for Peter's clear and logical thinking, his calm and organised manner, his ability to attend both to detail and to the 'big picture', for his ability to work with a variety of personalities and situations, for his teamwork and loyalty, and especially for his commitment to Christ as Lord and Saviour, to the Scriptures as God's Word, to the gospel as the power of salvation, and to loving good works as the appropriate fruit of the gospel. We pray for God's blessing on Peter and Faye in a continued active retirement.

(Canon Sandy Grant 9/10/2012)

**9/12 Retirement of the Rev Dr John Woodhouse**

Synod gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Rev Dr John Woodhouse, the Principal of Moore College since 2002, as he plans to retire from the position in early 2013. Spanning nearly four decades, his contribution to the work of the gospel both in our Diocese and throughout the world as a pastor, as a scholar, as a writer and, in particular, as the Principal of the College has been marked by his unwavering commitment to the authority of the Scriptures and his deep and passionate concern for the growth of God's people.

During his time as the Principal, the College has been richly blessed by God with the growth in the number of godly and gifted students and the corresponding expansion of the well-qualified and equipped faculty that have produced significant academic works which do not go unnoticed by the Christian communities around the world. Furthermore, under his leadership, the College has been able to establish a number of significant achievements, including being granted self-accrediting authority by the Federal government for its courses, entering into agreements with various universities to supervise PhD students, establishment of the Priscilla and Aquila Centre for the encouragement of the ministries of women in partnership with men, as well as the Centre of Christian Living for assisting Christians to think theologically about various aspects of social issues. He has also paved the way for the redevelopment of the Newtown campus by overseeing the process of obtaining the approval for the master plan from the State government. In initiating, overseeing and facilitating these often complex and challenging works, his primary concern has always remained with the nurturing of the students and their development as ministers of the gospel.

Synod expresses its most profound gratitude to John and wishes him and his wife Moya God's blessing upon their future life and ministry.

(The Rev Kevin Kim 9/10/2012)

**10/12 Churches Together NSW/ACT**

This Synod –

- (a) notes that the NSW Ecumenical Council, trading as Churches Together NSW/ACT, of which this Diocese has been a long standing member, has undergone a process of prayerful reflection, evaluation and reinvention, resulting in a simpler structure, as it seeks to encourage and support churches in ecumenical co-operation;
- (b) sends its prayerful good wishes to Churches Together as it seeks to serve the churches and bear witness to Christ; and
- (c) notes that the Diocese is currently not able to make a financial contribution to the work of Churches Together NSW/ACT, but encourages interested individuals and parishes to consider making a financial contribution to the Council as part of their giving.

(The Rev Dr James Collins 9/10/2012)

**11/12 Youthworks' 2012 Webby award**

Synod congratulates the CEO and staff of Youthworks on being awarded the 2012 Webby in May 2012, following the adjudication of FERVR as the top internet site in the world in the "Religion and Spirituality" category. Synod assures Youthworks of its prayerful support as the staff work with churches and schools in Word ministry to children, youth and families, to raise mission-minded disciples for the glory of God. Synod also commends FERVR to all members and leaders of the youth groups in Diocesan churches and schools.

(The Rev Philip Griffin 9/10/2012)

### **12/12 Biblical view of marriage in Anglican schools**

Synod, noting the contestability within the community of the meaning and significance of marriage, encourages the Heads of all Anglican Schools to ensure that their teaching staff are adequately informed and equipped to explain, promote and defend the biblical view of marriage to their students and school community.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue 9/10/2012)

### **13/12 Electronic distribution of Synod materials**

Synod, noting the action that has been taken to date in response to resolution 22/8 (Electronic distribution of Synod materials) and resolution 20/11 (Publication of Synod proceedings in electronic form), requests the Standing Committee to bring to the next ordinary session of the Synod a proposal, together with any necessary changes to our ordinances, to reduce or discontinue the distribution of materials to Synod members in printed form with effect from the 1st Ordinary Session of the 50th Synod in 2014. The proposal to take into account the needs of Synod members who do not have ready access to high volume printing and the desirability of hard copies for archives and libraries. This proposal should consider the provision of a secure website to facilitate the provision of confidential information to Synod members.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue 9/10/2012)

### **14/12 Special Religious Education**

Synod, noting the report on *Special Religious Education in Government Primary Schools – the Challenge over the next Ten Years* –

- (a) affirms its commitment to the sustaining of high quality Special Religious Education within all Government primary schools within the Diocese, and
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to address the need for sufficient funds for this ministry in its 2014-2015 budget.

(Canon Phil Colgan 10/10/2012)

### **15/12 Diocesan Policy Statement on Education**

Synod agrees to amend its Diocesan Policy Statement on Education by inserting a new paragraph 2.6.5 as follows (with consequential renumbering of existing paragraph 2.6.5) –

“2.6.5 Requires that the council of each Anglican school governed by an ordinance of the Synod, the board of each Anglican university college and the board of the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation observe the following protocol in selecting or appointing a person as head –

Prior to the beginning of the selection process, the chair of the council or board is to inform the Archbishop of the process and the Archbishop, or a Regional Bishop nominated by him, is to be invited to be a part of the interview process, and the Archbishop is to be informed of the names on the final list prior to any offer being made for the position of head.”

(Dr Bryan Cowling 10/10/2012)

### **16/12 Prayer for the 2013 Special Session of Synod**

That this Synod, believing that the next Archbishop of Sydney is already known to God, calls upon all parishes to conduct at least one special day of prayer before the Special Session of Synod in August 2013, praying that –

- (a) all Synod representatives will approach the Special Session of Synod in a spirit of humility, prayerfulness and unity of purpose;

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- (b) all debate and election processes will be conducted to the glory of God; and
- (c) that God will guide Synod members towards the person of His choice.

(Ms Lyn Bannerman 10/10/2012)

### **17/12 Responding to cases of abuse**

Synod –

- (a) affirms that the protocols of *Faithfulness in Service* approved by the Synod for the purposes of this Diocese should be adhered to by all clergy and church workers of the Diocese,
- (b) supports transparency and accountability in all dealings with the past failures of any organisation which has, or had, a duty of care toward children to prevent and appropriately respond to cases of abuse,
- (c) grieves with the victims of abuse (and their families) over any form of suffering caused by the actions of ministers or other leaders in any church, and
- (d) is grateful for the ministry and leadership of the Archbishop in responding to instances of abuse within our Diocese.

(The Rev Craig Roberts 10/10/2012)

### **18/12 The Rev Kara Gilbert**

Synod –

- (a) rejoices in God's kindness to us seen in the growth in the ministry of women in parishes, fellowships, specialist training ministries, Anglican Deaconess Ministries, Moore College, the Priscilla and Aquila Centre, Youthworks College and our other organisations,
- (b) gives thanks for the appointment of the Rev Kara Gilbert as the Archdeacon for Women in our Diocese; and
- (c) commits to praying for Ms Gilbert as she seeks to equip, encourage, recruit and train women for ministry throughout the Diocese.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue 10/10/2012)

### **19/12 The Rev Paul Francis Mostyn**

Synod gives thanks to God for the life and ministry of the Rev Paul Francis Mostyn who died suddenly at the age of 54 on Tuesday 25 September 2012.

We acknowledge his varied ministry at the parishes of Springwood, Kingsgrove and Berala, and most recently as a chaplain working amongst those suffering from mental illness and until his death as chaplain of Lithgow Prison.

Synod expresses its condolences to his wife Deb, his children Naomi, Ben and Katie, and his father Frank.

We commit ourselves to pray for them and those who are grieving his loss and look forward to being reunited with him at the resurrection on the last day.

(The Rev Barry Macalister 10/10/2012)

### **20/12 Thanksgiving for the ministry of women**

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to Almighty God for the ministry of women both ordained and lay in the church's life, and
- (b) prays that our gracious God may raise up many more such godly and gifted women to serve the cause of his gospel in Sydney and throughout the world.

(The Rev Philip Bradford 10/10/2012)

**21/12 Use of Distributions from Diocesan Endowment**

Synod requests the Standing Committee consider bringing to Synod in 2013 –

- (a) an Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance that utilises the entire Diocesan Endowment distribution amount to be paid into the Mission Property Fund and applied towards church land acquisition projects, and
- (b) a Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance and associated schedules such that the annual ministry costs and parochial network costs of the Diocese are no longer aided by appropriations or allocations from the Diocesan Endowment in the next budget.

(The Rev Michael Williamson 10/10/2012)

**22/12 Church planting models for greenfields areas**

Synod requests the Mission Board, together with the Mission Property Committee and Evangelism and New Churches and in wide consultation with other interested persons to report to the Synod in 2013 on the proposed ministry model or models – along with possible alternatives – which underlie the proposed land acquisitions and building plans in “Greenfield” areas of the Diocese.

(The Rev Richard Blight 15/10/2012)

**23/12 Problem Gambling in Australia**

Synod once again notes the enormous damage done to thousands of vulnerable Australians and their families and communities, through problem gambling especially via poker machines.

Synod again requests the members of Australia's Federal Parliament to take urgent action to implement a range of effective measures, as recommended by experts independent of the those who profit from gambling (including 'clubs and pubs' industries and state governments), so as to reduce the impact and incidence of problem gambling, for example, by the introduction of a \$1 dollar bet limit on poker machines.

(Canon Sandy Grant 15/10/2012)

**24/12 Freedom of Religion in light of possible government reforms**

Synod notes the hard work and incredible wisdom and public helpfulness of submissions prepared on behalf of our Standing Committee on matters of government relations, including –

- (i) reforms to the charities and not-for-profits sector,
- (ii) the impact on school building funds of a new draft tax ruling,
- (iii) bills to provide for same-sex marriage, and especially,
- (iv) anti-discrimination law reform and freedom of religion.

It thanks God for the work of all who contributed to preparation of these submissions, and especially notes the enormous contribution of the Diocesan Secretary, Robert Wicks.

Synod commends these submissions to the attention of leaders in our Anglican churches and organisations.

Synod urges the members of our Anglican community to vigorously exercise our legitimate freedoms of speech, association and religion, in godly, just and peaceful ways, and also to defend the peaceful and lawful use of such freedoms by others with whom we disagree, seeking in all things to imitate our Lord, Jesus Christ, as we speak the gospel and its implications, live and act as Christians, and respond to the critique of others in the public arena.

(Canon Sandy Grant 15/10/2012)

**25/12 Youthworks' "Growing Faith" website**

Synod welcomes the recent establishment of Youthworks' "Growing Faith" website (*growingfaith.com.au*). Synod welcomes the contribution of the resources, articles, and conferences on the site and commends them to the schools and parishes of the Diocese, to help equip and energize parents and carers in raising vibrant Christian families.

(The Rev Antony Barraclough 15/10/2012)

**26/12 October 2013 Synod Service**

Synod requests the Archbishop to consider holding the 2013 Synod Service in St Andrew's Cathedral at a time prior to the scheduled 2.00 pm Synod meeting commencement time on either Monday 14 or Tuesday 15 October.

(Mr Brian Gaetjens 15/10/2012)

**27/12 Amendments to *Faithfulness in Service***

Synod, noting the report on amendments to *Faithfulness in Service* –

- (a) defers consideration of the amendment to the definition "bullying" until the next ordinary session of the Synod, and
- (b) approves the remaining amendments referred to in the report for the purposes of this Diocese.

(Mr Lachlan Bryant 15/10/2012)

**28/12 Towards 2050**

Synod, noting the terms of resolution 2/10 and the further report of the Standing Committee provided to the Synod in response to its request in resolution 3/11 –

- (a) thanks the Standing Committee for its further report which clearly and helpfully sets out the significant challenges to our Diocesan network of churches and ministries in meeting the growth in population and ethnic mix in Sydney and the Illawarra over the next 40 years,
- (b) requests that resolution 2/10 and the further report of the Standing Committee be referred to the Mission Board and, where appropriate, the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee, for consideration and incorporation into the next phase of the mission of the Diocese, and
- (c) requests that on behalf of the Standing Committee, the Mission Board bring to Synod in 2013 the suggested shape of the next phase of the mission of the Diocese and its response to the recommendations in the Towards 2050 report.

(Bishop Peter Hayward 15/10/2012)

**29/12 Alternative accommodation for the Archbishop**

Synod requests the Endowment of the See Committee to make arrangements to provide suitable alternative accommodation for the next Archbishop taking into consideration the advice of the Archbishop and Mrs Jensen, and having regard to the matters raised in the explanatory report accompanying the ordinance approving the sale of Bishopscourt.

(Dr Philip Selden 15/10/2012)

**30/12 Thanksgiving for leadership of the Diocesan Mission**

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to Almighty God for our Archbishop and his leadership of our 2002-2012 Diocesan Mission,
- (b) rejoices in God's blessing that he has enabled us to proclaim our Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ in prayerful dependence on the Holy Spirit, in order that people would hear his call to repent, trust

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and serve Christ in love, and be established in the fellowship of his disciples while they await his return,

- (c) thanks God for the increase in the number of people in Bible-based Churches in the Diocese, and
- (d) thanks God for the increase in Bible-based Christian fellowships, congregations and churches, equipping and nurturing their members both in the Diocese and throughout the world.

(Bishop Peter Hayward 15/10/2012)

### 31/12 Review of the Diocesan Mission and the next phase of mission

Synod –

- (a) asks the Standing Committee, through its Mission Board, to survey Synod Members, Parish Councils and other Diocesan Organisations to review and assess what has been achieved and what lessons have been learned in the ten years of our Diocesan Mission,
- (b) asks the Standing Committee, through its Mission Board, to bring to Synod 2013 a detailed report on the work of this review, including specific recommendations as to what policies, structures and implementation strategies should be adopted for the next phase of mission in the Diocese to seek and to save the lost, and
- (c) following feedback from Parishes and Diocesan Organisations, bring to Synod 2014 for its approval the suggested shape of the next phase of mission within the Diocese.

(Bishop Peter Hayward 15/10/2012)

### 32/12 United Mission Campaign in 2014

Synod asks the Standing Committee, through its Mission Board to work with Evangelism and New Churches to coordinate a united mission campaign throughout the Diocese around Easter 2014 so that we can be encouraged and enabled to share Christ with our friends and neighbours.

(The Rev Dominic Steele 15/10/2012)

### 33/12 Actions of the Bishop of Gippsland

Synod –

- (a) notes with grave concern the Bishop of Gippsland's appointment in December 2011 of a clergyman with a male partner to be the minister of a parish in the Diocese of Gippsland,
- (b) welcomes the following protocol unanimously adopted by the Australian Bishops' Conference in March 2012 –
  - As bishops in the Australian Church we accept the weight of 1998 Lambeth Resolution 1.10 and the 2004 General Synod resolutions 33, 59 and 61-64 as expressing the mind of this church on issues of human sexuality.*
  - We undertake to uphold the position of our Church in regard to human sexuality as we ordain, license, authorise or appoint to ministries within our dioceses.*
  - We understand that the issues of sexuality are subject to ongoing conversation within our Church and we undertake to support these conversations, while seeking to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*
- (c) joins with the Standing Committee in expressing its dismay at the Bishop of Gippsland's May 18, 2012 Presidential address to the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland which appears to espouse actions that would constitute –
  - (i) a departure from the teaching of Scripture,
  - (ii) a departure from Lambeth Resolution 1.10 of 1998,
  - (iii) a departure from *Faithfulness in Service* §7.4, and
  - (iv) a breach of the Australian Bishops' Protocol agreed to by all Australian bishops (including the Bishop of Gippsland) in March this year,
- (d) declares that such actions would breach trust and fellowship at a profound level and deeply grieve us, and
- (e) prayerfully and respectfully requests the Australian Bishops to appoint clergy and church workers in line with the expectations of sexual conduct set out for Christians in Scripture, namely that one



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be chaste and not engage in sex outside of marriage (which it defines as heterosexual) and in accordance with –

- (i) Lambeth Resolution 1.10 of 1998,
  - (ii) *Faithfulness in Service* §7.4, and
  - (iii) the Australian Bishops' Protocol, and
- (f) requests the Standing Committee, in light of the Bishop of Gippsland's actions, to look for ways to recognise, encourage and support those faithful Anglicans who are disenfranchised by such actions, and to reach those elements of society denied a faithful presentation of the gospel.

(The Rev Dominic Steele 15/10/2012)

### **34/12 Consideration of Synod resolutions 19/11 and 29/11**

Synod notes the comments in the Standing Committee Report paragraphs 8.14 and 8.18 and asks Standing Committee to give due consideration to Synod motions 19/11 and 29/11.

(Mr Doug Marr 16/10/2012)

### **35/12 Listening to Scripture and the experience of homosexual persons**

Synod encourages members to carefully read the Bible's teaching on godly sexual expression and in that light to listen to the experience of all people with same-gender attraction (as called for in the 1998 Lambeth Resolution 1.10), encouraging those who are seeking to lead godly and chaste lives with a view to our churches being better able to care for and encourage all people to submit to the Lordship of Christ.

(The Rev Chris Albany 16/10/2012)

### **36/12 Department of Evangelism and New Churches**

Synod, in light of the *38/11 Review of the Department of Evangelism and New Churches* report –

- (a) requests the ENC to consult widely with the parish council, minister, mission area leader, regional council and bishop of the area in which any new fellowship is proposed to be planted, and
- (b) requests Standing Committee to bring to the next ordinary session of Synod a redrafted amendment to the *Department of Evangelism and New Churches Ordinance 2010* that would increase effective consultation while maintaining simplicity of process and harmony of relationships between all affected parties.

(The Rev Fergus Semler 16/10/2012)

### **37/12 Shoalhaven Heads: Reclassification as a Parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Shoalhaven Heads as a parish with effect from 1 January 2013.

(The Rev Anthony Douglas 16/10/2012)

### **38/12 Minchinbury: Reclassification as a Parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Minchinbury as a parish with effect from 1 January 2013.

(The Rev David Mears 16/10/2012)

### **39/12 Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission**

Synod –

- (i) noting the report about the reforms to the charities and not-for-profits sector, and
- (ii) noting also that the legislation for the Australia Charities and Not-for-profits Commission ("ACNC legislation") did not commence on 1 October 2012 as expected due to its failure to pass the Senate by that time, and

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- (iii) noting further that the Senate is due to recommence its consideration of the ACNC legislation during its current period of sittings which conclude on 29 November 2012,

encourages –

- (a) all parishes and other diocesan bodies to inform themselves about their likely obligations under the ACNC legislation and to stand ready to comply with such obligations should they become law, and
- (b) the Standing Committee to continue making representations to the Government about achieving reforms which add genuine value to both the sector and the broader community.

(Mr Robert Wicks 16/10/2012)

### **40/12 Common Prayer: Resources for Gospel-Shaped Gatherings**

Synod –

- (a) declares its opinion that the services in the revised form of *Common Prayer: Resources for Gospel-Shaped Gatherings* conform to the doctrine of the Anglican Church of Australia and encourages the churches of the Diocese to use such services in accordance with the *General Synod – Canon Concerning Services 1992 Adopting Ordinance 1998*, and
- (b) requests that before the book is published the Archbishop's Liturgical Panel further develop –
- (i) the Marriage Service form 2 to reflect more explicitly the distinct duties of husband and wife according to the teaching of the scriptures and the Book of Common Prayer, and
- (ii) the four services of the Lord's Supper to accommodate the contemporary practice of using multiple cups and common words of distribution by the minister.

(Bishop Robert Forsyth 16/10/2012)

### **41/12 Mission Area initiatives**

Synod gives thanks to God for the progress so far of the Mission Areas initiatives as a means of turning our hearts and minds outward towards the millions who do not know Christ in our Diocese, and of increasing gospel partnership between our churches, as well as between our churches and organisations.

Synod also recognises the great challenge of working together to reach the lost and assures our Mission Area Leaders of our prayers and support, and thanks them for their commitment to the many ministries and churches in their areas.

(Bishop Ivan Lee 16/10/2012)

### **42/12 Archbishop Peter Jensen**

This Synod notes that this is the last session of Synod before the retirement of our President Archbishop Peter Jensen in July 2013.

Synod takes this opportunity to express its admiration for the way in which Dr Jensen has presided over this and preceding Synods during the 12 years of his term of office. The Archbishop's inspirational Presidential Addresses and the skill and patience with which he has guided debates will long be remembered by those who have sat under his Presidency.

Synod gives thanks to Almighty God for the life and work of the President, his evangelical faith, his sharp mind, his wise counsel, his leadership of us in reaching the lost of Sydney and Wollongong through the Diocesan Mission, his representation of the Christian gospel to the secular world and the huge increase in the number of gospel workers who have been raised up during his episcopacy.

His leadership of this Diocese and the national and global Anglican Church has been of incalculable value, and Synod acknowledges its debt to him.

Synod gratefully wishes Dr and Mrs Jensen every happiness and prosperity in the years to come.

(Canon Rick Smith 16/10/2012)