

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

3rd Session of the 46th Synod Business Paper: Monday 25 October 2004

(Page references are to the Standing Committee's Report - 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 David Mansfield: see attached**
2. **Minutes of 19 October 2004**
3. **Answers to questions**

3.1 Dr Barry Newman to ask -

With reference to the printed text, though not the official text, of the Archbishop's 2004 Presidential Address to Synod, wherein it states that "I have been authoritatively informed that there are many in the Anglican Communion who would see a move to endorse lay administration in any way, as equivalent to the consecration of an active homosexual", firstly what steps have been taken and secondly what steps plan to be taken by the Archbishop or the bishops

- (a) to vigorously deny the view that endorsing lay administration would be equivalent to the consecration of an active homosexual,
- (b) to clearly inform the world wide Anglican Communion, including bishops in Africa and Asia, that the Sydney Synod of the Anglican Church has on a number of occasions, by a clear majority of votes, expressed a view consistent with that view expressed in the Sydney Diocesan Doctrine Commission's statement of 1993, namely that -

"...there are no sound doctrinal objections to, and there are significant doctrinal reasons for, lay presidency" (administration) "at the Lord's Supper. There are also sound reasons based on our received Anglican order for allowing lay presidency" (administration). "In light of this the continued prohibition of lay presidency" (administration) "at the Lord's Supper does not seem justifiable theologically. Since church practice should conform to sound doctrine, practical problems related to the introduction of lay presidency" (administration) "ought to be dealt with, but should not constitute an obstacle to reform motivated by theological truth."?

3.2 The Rev Bill Winthrop to ask -

What progress has Standing Committee made with the production of a booklet on Freemasonry as requested by Synod?

3.3 Mr Simon Godden to ask -

In yesterday's address to the Synod, in relation to the parlous spiritual condition of our young people, you referred to the "spiritual failure of our society and the failure of the churches to communicate the Word which will transform lives and bring healing on its wings".

Given this failure, what strategies are in place and what strategies are planned for the future to ensure that there is a significant increase in the number of Christian teachers so that new and existing Christian schools can continue to employ

Christian teachers and to ensure that our public schools do not become Christian wastelands, largely devoid of a Christian presence on their staffs?

3.4 Ms Caroline Bowyer to ask -

As a new comer to Synod last year, I was surprised to hear, and at a loss to understand, the constant reference to "Bible-based" churches. In his Presidential address yesterday the Archbishop went some way towards explaining the meaning of this term, but I still have difficulty in understanding exactly why it is used. Could the Archbishop, therefore, clarify the matter by answering the following –

- (a) Is the term "Bible-based" used to distinguish some churches in the Diocese from others?
- (b) If so, is the term "Bible-based" used to distinguish churches, which hold to one particular interpretation of Scripture, namely that, which is more prevalent in this Diocese, from those churches, which hold to a different interpretation of Scripture?
- (c) Does the Archbishop believe that there are any churches in the Diocese, which are not "Bible-based"? If so, how many such churches could he identify?

3.5 The Rev Steve Layson to ask -

Given the stated goal of the Diocesan Mission is "to see at least 10% of the population of the region in Bible-based churches in 10 years", what steps, if any have been taken by the Diocese to try to inspire and include other "Bible-based" denominations, so they may too get involved in the Mission?

3.6 The Rev Barry Dudding to ask -

The President mentioned in his address that there may be as many as 67,000 regular attendees at Anglican churches in our Diocese and as many as 127,000 people attending Bible-based churches when we take other denominations into account. Are you aware of much united evangelical activity and fellowship between Anglican and other Bible-based churches and to what extent do the leaders of our Diocese have communication with the leaders of other Bible-based denominations in our city?

3.7 The Rev Craig Roberts to ask -

Has the Diocesan SuperFund ceased its practice of advancing mortgage loans to clergy to allow them to acquire an investment property? If so,

- (a) why, and
- (b) can the SuperFund suggest strategies to clergy which may allow them to afford both a residence in their retirement and an income to live on at that time?

4. Petitions

5. Notices of questions

6. Procedural motions from members

7. The President will invite members to give notice of other motions

8. Calling of motions on the business paper

9. Motions

To be taken today at 3:30 pm

9.1 **Shellharbour City Centre: Reclassification as a Parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Shellharbour City Centre as a parish with effect from 1 January 2005.

(Additional Papers, page AP16)

(The Rev Michael Williamson)

9.2 **Helensburgh with Stanwell Park: Reclassification as a Parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Helensburgh and Stanwell Park as a parish with effect from 1 November 2004.

(Additional Papers, page AP1)

(Mr Ron Balderston/The Rev Trevor Young)

To be taken today at 4:30 pm

9.3 **Structural Change in Ministry**

Synod requests that the Archbishop, by licence, broaden the range of ministries for which people may be made deacons and that he put in place whatever additional arrangements are necessary to create a permanent diaconate by –

- (a) developing new selection standards for deacons and making it easier for people to resign their orders when they are no longer licensed as a deacon, and
- (b) breaking the nexus between being made a deacon and being ordained a priest by making new requirements for ordination to the presbyterate which reflect the real character of that ministry, as distinct from the diaconate.

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(The Very Rev Phillip Jensen)

9.4 **Parishes (Special Administration) Ordinance 2004**

That the Parishes (Special Administration) Ordinance 2004 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.

(Special Mailing)

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Michael Orpwood QC)

To be taken today at 8:00 pm

9.5 **Child Protection**

Synod -

- (a) notes Child Protection Resolutions Nos. 1 to 4 and the *Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Canon (Amendment) Canon 2004* passed by the 13th General Synod and requests the Professional Standards Board to further development policies for implementing safe ministry practices in parishes and diocesan organisations and report to the first session of the 47th Synod,
- (b) adopts as the diocesan Safe Ministry Policy Statement -
The Anglican Church of Australia is committed to the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare and safety to 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.
- (c) recommends that each parish and diocesan organisation adopts the diocesan Safe Ministry Policy Statement,
- (d) adopts *Faithfulness in Service* as the diocesan code for personal behaviour and the practice of pastoral ministry by clergy and lay church workers,
- (e) recommends that each diocesan organisation adopt *Faithfulness in Service* as the code for personal behaviour and practice of pastoral ministry by clergy and employed and voluntary lay church workers who exercise a pastoral ministry.

(Mr Garth Blake)

9.6 Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care

Synod -

1. Notes that the report of the Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care by the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs tabled in Federal Parliament on 30 August 2004 said in part -

The Committee received hundreds of graphic and disturbing accounts about the treatment and care experienced by children in out-of-home care. Many care leavers showed immense courage in putting intensely personal life stories on the public record. Their stories outlined a litany of emotional, physical and sexual abuse, and often criminal physical and sexual assault. Their stories also told of neglect, humiliation and deprivation of food, education and healthcare. Such abuse and assault was widespread across institutions, across States and across the government, religious and other care providers.

and

But the overwhelming response as to treatment in care, even among those that made positive comments was the lack of love, affection and nurturing that was never provided to young children at critical times during their emotional development.

And therefore recommended

The Committee believes that governments, the Churches and agencies should issue formal statements acknowledging their role in past institutional care policies and practices and the impact this had on the lives of many care leavers. These statements should express sorrow and apologise for the physical, psychological and social harm caused as a result of the care leavers' experiences as children in institutional care. The Committee also considers that these acknowledgments must be accompanied by other positive measures as recommended in the report to ensure that they are not regarded as merely 'empty gestures' by the care leavers and the community generally.

2. Commends the report to the parishes and institutions of the Diocese for study, prayerful reflection and appropriate response, especially to any care leavers they come into contact with.
3. Requests that Anglicare prepare a response to the Report, which addresses its key recommendations.

4. Asks that this response be presented to the Archbishop, Standing Committee and the Board of Anglicare for action and that a report of action taken be prepared for the 2005 session of Synod.
5. Welcomes the development by the Professional Standards Unit and Anglicare of the "Pastoral Care and Assistance Scheme" and requests the parishes and organisations of the Diocese to familiarise themselves with this scheme and to advertise widely its availability.
6. Recognises the important role of Care Leavers Australia Network Inc (CLAN) in providing support and advocacy for those brought up in 'care', and encourages the Diocese, Anglicare, the parishes and organisations of the Diocese as well as individual members to support CLAN and its work.
7. Acknowledges the role of the Anglican Church, Diocese of Sydney through its organisations including Anglican Home Mission Society (Anglicare) and the Church of England Homes, in the administration of institutional care arrangements. Further acknowledging that some of the children who were brought up in 'care' during the last century have been left with the life-long effects of emotional deprivation and neglect and in some cases even worse, physical, sexual and psychological abuse, Synod expresses its deep regret at the harm caused by the failure to provide appropriate care. In particular Synod apologises for the physical, psychological and social harm and suffering experienced by any care leavers as a result of their experiences in any institution run under the auspices of the Anglican Church, Diocese of Sydney. Synod encourages such persons to make themselves known so that support, personal apology and appropriate assistance can be offered.
(The Rev Chris Albany/Archdeacon Geoff Huard)

To be taken on Tuesday 26 October 2004 at 3:30 pm

9.7 Narellan: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Narellan as a parish with effect from 1 January 2005.
(*Additional Papers, page AP10*) (Mr David Nockles/The Rev Michael Blake)

9.8 Petersham: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Petersham as a parish with effect from 1 January 2005.
(*Supp Report, page 9*) (The Rev Antony Barraclough/Archdeacon Deryck Howell)

9.9 Ashbury: Creation of a provisional parish

Synod assents to the creation of the provisional parish of Ashbury effect from 1 January 2005.
(*Supp Report, page 5*) (Archdeacon Deryck Howell/The Rev Trevor Oakley)

To be taken on Tuesday 26 October 2004 at 7:00 pm

9.10 Synod Appropriations and Allocations for 2006-2008

Synod, noting the report "Synod Appropriations and Allocations for 2006-2008" -

- (a) notes the intention to appropriate the funds shown in the schedule to the report (from the Diocesan Endowment Ordinance, the other specific trust ordinances and the general provision for distribution held by the Glebe Administration Board) in each of the years 2006-2008, and
- (b) notes the intention to make a special allocation of funds to the capital of the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Fund in each of the years 2006-2008, and

- (c) notes the intention to allocate the percentage of Total Funds Available shown in the schedule to the report to each of the policy areas for the years 2006-2008.

(Additional Papers, page AP19)

(Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration

9.11 Recognised Churches Amendment Ordinance 2004

Synod permits the introduction of the Recognised Churches Amendment Ordinance 2004.

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(Bishop Robert Forsyth)

9.12 Regions (Transitional Provisions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Amending Ordinance 2004

Synod permits the introduction of the Regions (Transitional Provisions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Amending Ordinance 2004.

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(Bishop Ivan Lee)

9.13 Synod Membership (Election of Parochial Representatives) Amendment Ordinance 2004

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Membership (Election of Parochial Representatives) Amendment Ordinance 2004.

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(Mr Michael Orpwood QC)

9.14 Associated Churches

Synod requests that the Standing Committee –

- (a) consider the means by which non-Anglican churches might be recognised as associated churches of the Diocese and the benefits which may arise for both the Diocese and those churches by reason of such association, and
- (b) prepare and, if thought appropriate, pass such ordinances as it thinks necessary to provide for such association.

(Dean Phillip Jensen)

9.15 Abortion

Synod grieves the loss of up to 100,000 Australian lives each year through abortion, and calls upon this church, the federal government, state governments and the Australian community to -

- (a) identify and reduce the stresses causing so many women to terminate pregnancies, and
- (b) discern how more children might be welcomed into loving adoptive families rather than aborted.

(Mrs Lesley Ramsay/Mrs Claire Smith)

9.16 Use of the word "Priest"

Synod -

- (a) reaffirms the decision of motion 20/97,

Synod considers -

- (a) *that the good reason for our reformers retaining the word "priest" in the Book of Common Prayer is its derivation from the Greek "presbuteros", (which means a senior person, and "elder", or a mature leader); and*

Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Monday 25 October 2004.

Monday 25 October 2004	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 9.1 Shellharbour City Centre: Reclassification as a Parish 9.2 Helensburgh with Stanwell Park: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	9.3 Structural Change in Ministry 9.4 Parishes (Special Administration) Ordinance 2004 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 - 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm +	9.5 Child Protection 9.6 Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

Tuesday 26 October 2004	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 9.7 Narellan: Reclassification as a Parish 9.8 Petersham: Reclassification as a Parish 9.9 Ashbury: Creation of a Provisional Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	Ordinances which remain to be considered Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Presentation on the New Capital Project 9.10 Synod Appropriations and Allocations for 2006-2008 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

Wednesday 27 October 2004	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	Ordinances Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Business as per the business paper

3rd Session of the 46th Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney

Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: 25 October 2004

Bible Reading: Luke 15:11-32

Bible Reader: The Rev Antony Barraclough

Bible Study Leader: The Rev David Mansfield

The Parable of the Lost Son

¹¹Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

¹³Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' ²⁰So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²²But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

²⁵Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

²⁸The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

³¹" 'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' "

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version

Hymn: Rock of ages

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
hide me now, my refuge be;
let the water and the blood,
from your wounded side which flowed,
be for sin the double cure,
cleanse me from its guilt and power.
2. Not the labours of my hands
can fulfil your law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears for ever flow,
all for sin could not atone:
you must save and you alone.
3. Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to your cross I cling;
naked, come to you for dress;
helpless, look to you for grace;
stained by sin, to you I cry:
"Wash me, Saviour, or I die!"
4. When I draw this fleeting breath,
when my eyelids close in death,
when I soar through realms unknown,
bow before the judgement throne:
hide me then, my refuge be,
Rock of ages, cleft for me.

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Pianist: The Rev Bob Cameron

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.