

# Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

## 1st Session of the 46th Synod **Business Paper: Tuesday 15 October 2002**

*(Unless otherwise stated, 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 Canon John Chapman: see attached**

**2. Minutes of 14 October 2002**

**3. Questions**

(1) The Rev Bill Winthrop to ask -

- (a) Since 1988 have there been any Freemasonry Lodges associated with any Anglican Schools?
- (b) What are they?
- (c) When were they established?
- (d) What Diocesan approvals were given for their establishment?

(2) Mr Graeme Marks to ask -

In the last 6 years, how many times has the Synod agreed to a motion, with or without notice, to reduce the time limit of speeches in committee?

(3) Ms Jennifer Flower to ask -

In light of the Archbishop's mission statement and the challenge given therein, is it possible in the year book for 2003 and subsequent year books for stipendiary lay workers who are children's ministers or workers to either be separately listed or to have some form of indication by their names to facilitate contact between such workers and the sharing of ideas and resources?

(4) Mr Malcolm Purvis to ask -

- (a) How many staff are funded through the Parish Cost Recoveries payments to the Professional Standards Unit?
- (b) How many cases has the Unit dealt with in the last year?
- (c) How many of those cases were for incidents that allegedly occurred in the last 10 years?

(5) Mr Greg Holmes to ask -

In the light of Synod resolution 33/94 in relation to low-fee schools, what consultations have taken place between the Sydney Anglican School's Corporation and other "Anglicans in each area who are already involved in the management of low-fee paying Christian Schools" and what protocol is in place to ensure that such discussion takes place with appropriate schools and groups of schools?

**4. Petitions**

**5. Notices of questions**

**6. Procedural motions from members**

**(1) Time limits for speeches during the meetings of the Synod in committee**

Synod resolves that the time limit for speeches in Committee during this Synod session be reduced from 5 minutes to 3 minutes, subject to extension and suspends so much of business rule 4.6 as would prevent this change.

(Mr Mark Payne)

**7. The President will invite members to give written notice of other motions to a Secretary of the Synod**

**8. Calling of motions on the business paper**

**9. Motions about proposed ordinances**

***Proposed to be taken from 7:00 pm on Tuesday 15 October***

**(1) Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2002: approval in principle**

That the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2002 be approved in principle.

*(Page 13 of the Further Materials)*

(Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

**(2) Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2002: approval in principle**

That the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2002 be approved in principle.

*(Page 1 of the Further Materials)*

(Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

***Proposed to be taken from 4:15 on Wednesday 16 October***

**(3) Church Discipline Ordinance 2002: introduction**

Synod permits the introduction of the Church Discipline Ordinance 2002.

*(Materials circulated to members on Tuesday 15 October 2002)*

(Mr Garth Blake)

***Proposed to be taken from 8:00 pm on Monday 21 October after motion 10(7)***

**(4) Administrator Ordinance 2002: introduction**

Synod permits the introduction of the Administrator Ordinance 2002.

*(Page 111)*

(Mr Mark Payne)

**(5) Conduct of the Business of Synod Amendment Ordinance 2002: introduction**

Synod permits the introduction of the Conduct of the Business of Synod Amendment Ordinance 2002

*(Page 133)*

(Mr Mark Payne)

**(6) Synod Elections Amendment Ordinance 2002: introduction**

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Elections Amendment Ordinance 2002

*(Page 68 and 196)*

(Mr Mark Payne)

***Proposed to be taken from 4:30 pm on Tuesday 22 October***

**(7) General Synod - Long Service Leave (Amendment) Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: introduction**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Long Service Leave (Amendment) Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002

*(Page 168)*

(Mr Mark Payne)

- (8) **General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Special Tribunal) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Special Tribunal) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002  
(Page 143) (Mr Philip Gerber)
- (9) **General Synod - Special Tribunal Procedure Amendment and Repeal Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Special Tribunal Procedure Amendment and Repeal Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002  
(Page 177) (Mr Philip Gerber)
- (10) **General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Suspension from Duties) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Suspension from Duties) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002  
(Page 148) (Mr Neil Cameron)
- (11) **General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Tribunals) Amendment Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Tribunals) Amendment Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002  
(Page 154) (Mr Neil Cameron)

***Proposed ordinances for which no specific time has been proposed***

- (12) **Relinquishment of Holy Orders Amendment Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the Relinquishment of Holy Orders Amendment Ordinance 2002  
(Page 188) (Mr Philip Gerber)
- (13) **Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2002: approval in principle**
- That the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2002 be approved in principle.  
(Page 199) (Bishop Glenn Davies)
- (14) **Synod and Standing Committee (Membership) Amendment Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the Synod and Standing Committee (Membership) Amendment Ordinance 2002  
(Page 192) (Mr Robert Tong)
- (15) **General Synod - Chancellors Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Chancellors Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002.  
(Page 138) (The Rev Chris Moroney)
- (16) **General Synod - Holy Communion Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: introduction**
- Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Holy Communion Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002.  
(Page 162) (Bishop Glenn Davies)

**(17) Church Administration (Heritage Property) Amendment Ordinance 2002: introduction**

Synod permits the introduction of the Church Administration (Heritage Property) Amendment Ordinance 2002.

(Page 116)

(Mr Mark Payne)

**(18) General Synod - Constitution of A Diocese Alteration Canon 1995 Adopting Ordinance 2002: approval in principle**

That the General Synod - Constitution of A Diocese Alteration Canon 1995 Adopting Ordinance 2002 be approved in principle.

(Page 159)

(Mr Robert Tong)

**10. Other motions**

***Proposed to be continued after formal matters have been completed on Tuesday 15 October***

*Motions 10(1) and 10(2) were moved together on Monday 14 October. A report about the progress of debate on these motions will be circulated separately.*

**(1) Diocesan Mission Strategy**

Synod adopts the Mission Strategy for the Diocese of Sydney with its Mission Statement, Goal, Fundamental Aim and Fourfold Policy as set out in the Draft Mission Strategy Document and explained by the Archbishop in his Presidential Address.

(Bishop Reg Piper

Bishop Peter Tasker - Mission Statement

Bishop Glenn Davies - Goal

Bishop Brian King - Fundamental Aim

Bishop Robert Forsyth - Fourfold Policy)

**(2) Commitment to the Diocesan Mission**

Synod, having responded to the commitment and call to the Diocesan Mission, joins in the commitment and the invitation by adding thereto the words "the Synod" and the word "together" at the relevant point so that the commitment reads -

"In submission to the word of the Lord Jesus, the Archbishop and Bishops of the Diocese have committed themselves in unity of heart and spirit to give example, energy and leadership to this Mission. They are doing so in fellowship with the Archdeacons, the Synod, the Standing Committee and its Mission Taskforce, and together they invite the whole Anglican community in Sydney (with all other believers) to join them by taking the initiative to see that Christ is proclaimed to all people."

(Bishop Reg Piper)

***Proposed to be taken on Tuesday 15 October after motions 10(1) and 10(2)***

**(3) Diocesan Mission initiatives**

Synod, having adopted the Diocesan Mission -

(1) commends to regional councils, area deaneries, parishes, organisations and individuals the Mission, Goal, Fundamental Aim and Fourfold Policy, and

(2) urges them to undertake the following initiatives, where relevant, and to develop their own further strategies in their situation -

- (a) In the light of the policy -

“To call upon God for such outpouring of his Spirit that his people will be assured of his love through his word, seek to please the Saviour in all things, manifest the godly life and be filled with prayerful and sacrificial compassion for the lost in all the world.”

Synod requests that -

- (i) in the normal program of every level of diocesan life serious attention be given to pray for the mission and the appropriate study of God’s word, and
- (ii) each level of the diocese also have such special conferences, prayer days or nights, conventions, rallies and seminars to promote prayerful dependence upon God and attention to the teaching of his word, and
- (iii) Lent in 2003 be specially marked in church gatherings as a season of corporate and urgent prayerfulness and specific preaching in line with this mission policy, and
- (iv) special prayer groups within parishes be organised to persist in the prayerful support of the mission, and
- (v) clergy commit regular time to pray with their colleagues in other parishes, and
- (vi) Christian publishers produce Bible study and discussion group material to equip adult, children and youth groups to study God’s word and promote prayer, and
- (vii) Anglican Media produce materials through *Southern Cross* and the Web site to stimulate and assist those praying for the mission, and
- (viii) the Archbishop, regional bishops, archdeacons and clergy exercise continued leadership in prayerful dependence upon God in all meetings, conferences and committees in which they are engaged, as well as in public preaching and teaching of God’s word, and
- (ix) a small task force be set up to promote prayerfulness for the mission.
- (x) .....

***Proposed to be taken at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 16 October***

- (b) In the light of the policy -

“To enable parish churches to expand numerically, nurture their members, and become the mother-churches of as many fellowships and congregations as possible; and also to take further initiatives to create fellowships by penetrating structures of society beyond the reach of the parish church with the gospel.”

Synod requests that -

- (i) each parish council consider how they can best contribute to this mission policy, and
- (ii) regional councils evaluate how to encourage parishes in their region to fulfill this policy, and
- (iii) incumbents re-evaluate their timetable and parish responsibilities to free up time (at least one day a fortnight) to develop new initiatives in the parish, and
- (iv) incumbents take time to rethink parish ministry and retrain in congregational planting, and
- (v) where possible, regional councils invest their resources to seed fund parish initiatives and deploy church planting evangelists, and
- (vi) any church which is not of sufficient strength to reach their parish mission field restructure their ministry and/or gain outside help for the task of the mission, and
- (vii) large churches take the initiative in planting new congregations, and
- (viii) a network of evangelists be seed funded to plant new work among specialised groups within society, especially non-Anglo Saxon migrant groups and the indigenous communities, and

- (ix) parishes try to plant at least as many congregations as there are primary schools in their parish, and
- (x) the level of sacrificial giving be raised to pay for increased activity at the parish level, and to contribute more to world mission, and
- (xi) churches in richer/older and poorer/newer parishes be twinned to directly share resources and giving directly from parish to parish, and
- (xii) a best practice code be developed for parishes with a peer group advisory service to help parishes meet the opportunities for mission, and
- (xiii) each parish have a children's and youth ministry and, where possible, both Sunday morning and evening services, and
- (xiv) research be undertaken on -
  - (1) the effectiveness of combining parishes,
  - (2) models of church planting,
  - (3) the financial development of parishes,
  - (4) the base numbers and goal numbers of the mission,
  - (5) the areas (geographical and sociological) where we are not reaching the community, and
  - (6) where we have the most effective outreach, and
- (xv) new churches be developed with church organisations e.g. schools, hospitals, retirement villages, and
- (xvi) a strategy be developed for acquiring property for church planting, and
- (xvii) new architectural and building models be developed for multipurpose buildings.
- (xviii) .....

***Proposed to be taken at 4:00 pm on Monday 21 October***

- (c) In the light of the policy -

"To multiply the number of well-trained persons (ordained, lay, full time, part time, voluntary) dedicated to the creation and development of such parishes, congregations and fellowships by proclaiming the gospel."

Synod requests that -

- (i) 1,000 full-time pastoral workers and 10,000 lay pastoral workers be trained and deployed in the next 10 years, and
- (ii) Moore College be resourced to exercise the theological leadership in training our diocesan personnel for the mission, and
- (iii) training programs for lay pastoral ministry be created and published, and
- (iv) parishes recruit their most gifted members into the evangelistic task of the mission and,
- (v) people be recruited and trained for cross cultural, evangelistic and church planting ministries, and
- (vi) each parish employ at least one more catechist in 2003 than in 2002, and
- (vii) regional councils give priority to supporting seed funding to assist increasing parish staff.
- (viii) .....

***Proposed to be taken at 7:00 pm on Tuesday 22 October***

- (d) In the light of the policy -

"To reform the life of the Diocese (including its culture, ordinances, customs, use of resources, and deployment of ministry) to encourage and enable the fulfilment of the fundamental aim."

Synod requests that -

- (i) the Archbishop reform the pattern and licensing of ministers to reflect better the current diversity of full-time and part-time ministry employees, and to consider creating a role of "pastor" for congregations, and
- (ii) the regional bishops and archdeacons, while retaining their pastoral role, become missionary bishops and archdeacons developing and assisting new work in their regions, and
- (iii) the business of Synod be reorganised to focus upon matters of principle rather than details of committee work, and
- (iv) policy task forces be created to help co-ordinate the various agencies involved in the delivery of ministries funded by the Synod, and
- (v) a ministry portfolio be established to oversee the work of recruiting, training, retraining and deploying ministers, and
- (vi) the parish system, parish boundaries and parochial status be reviewed, and
- (vii) the creation of a church membership and partnership in the mission be considered, and
- (viii) an evaluation be undertaken of the effectiveness of current programmes or organisations and their contribution to the mission, and how those programs or organisations might be made more effective, and
- (ix) the Archbishop invite the heads of other churches to join in the mission.
- (x) .....

(The Rev Phillip Jensen  
The Rev Dr John Woodhouse - para (a)  
The Rev Stephen Semenchuk - para (b)  
The Rev Narelle Jarrett - para (c)  
Dr Kim Hawtrey - para (d))

***Proposed to be taken from 4:00 pm on Wednesday 16 October***

**(4) Reclassification of Crestwood as a parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Crestwood as a parish with effect from 1 January 2003.

*(Page 29 of the Supplementary Materials)* (The Rev Chris Jones/Mr Andrew Robertson)

**(5) Reclassification of Gerringong as a parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Gerringong as a parish with effect from 1 January 2003.

*(Page 108)* (Mr Bruce Parker/Mr Geoff Kyngdon)

**(6) Reclassification of Kingswood as a parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Kingswood as a parish with effect from 1 January 2003.

*(Page 104)* (The Rev Steve Gooch)

***Proposed to be taken at 8:00 pm on Monday 21 October***

**(7) Merger of Anglican SuperFund-Sydney and Anglican Superannuation Australia**

Synod -

- (a) consents to the merger of Anglican SuperFund-Sydney and Anglican Superannuation Australia, and
- (b) notes the proposal that the funds will be managed initially by a board of 12 from Anglican SuperFund-Sydney and 8 from Anglican Superannuation Australia, and
- (c) requests that Standing Committee consider such ordinances and resolutions as are necessary to put into effect the first and second stages of the merger, and

- (d) requests that progress reports be provided to each ordinary session of the Synod until the merger is completed.

*(Page 43 of the Supplementary Materials)*

(Mr James Flavin/Canon Terry Dein)

***Motions for which no time has been specified***

**(8) Support for churches and parishes without a minister**

Synod respectfully requests that the Archbishop set up a committee to review the effectiveness of the Diocese in supporting parishes and churches during times when they are without a minister taking into account the following principles -

- (a) The committee should review, amongst other things, the experiences of churches and ministers who have recently been involved in this process.
- (b) Matters to be investigated should include
- The opportunity for parishes and churches to consider options for new directions for ministry, growth and change.
  - The timing of presentation board process, especially when long service leave is taken after a minister finishes.
  - The accuracy of advice from Diocesan Presentation board members to parish nominators.
  - The accuracy of advice from parishes to prospective ministers.
  - Tenure of other parish staff and the effect this can have in the parish.
  - The availability and level of episcopal support for churches without a minister.
  - Processes to deal with and resolve problems in churches and parishes.
  - The availability and level of parish administration support.
- (c) The committee should comprise both laity and clergy but exclude those that are (or have been recently) diocesan presentation board representatives.
- (d) The committee should provide a report to the next session of the Synod outlining the problems and making recommendations as to any changes that would improve our processes and support our church people at a time when they may most need it.

(Mr Ross Mitchell)

**(9) Open meetings of the Standing Committee**

Synod requests that the Standing Committee -

- (a) open its meetings to members of the Synod as observers subject to the Standing Committee's right in the case of a matter which is commercially or personally sensitive or otherwise affects the interests of the Diocese to restrict access while that matter is dealt with, and
- (b) make its agenda and supporting papers for its meetings available to members of the Synod upon request, except in relation to any matter which the Diocesan Secretary considers is likely to be regarded by the Standing Committee as being commercially or personally sensitive or as otherwise affecting the interests of the Diocese.

*(Amended form - text printed incorrectly on 14 October 2002)*

(Ms Kath White)

**(10) Funding for indigenous peoples' ministry**

Synod recommends to the Standing Committee that 5% of income from all sales of the Property Trust per annum be added to the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Trust Fund for Indigenous ministry within the Diocese.

(Mr Tom Mayne/The Rev John McIntyre)

**(11) Assistance to other dioceses**

Considering the difficult and even parlous states of some of the dioceses of the Anglican Church of Australia and especially in the Province of New South Wales, Synod agrees to set up a Commission under the leadership of the Archbishop which would report to the Mission Taskforce to investigate ways by which this Diocese can bring help to another Diocese that may request it. Such help could include the possibility of sending clergy and

other pastoral workers along with pastoral “tools” to that Diocese for the specific furtherance of Gospel ministry and outreach.

And

That such Commission be empowered to contact selected diocesan bishops to discuss this proposal and/or possibilities of sending help.

The Commission is to consist of the Archbishop (ex officio as President/Chairman), Mr Warwick Olson, the Rev John Cornford and Bishop Glenn Davies, the Chief Executive Officer of Anglican Youthworks, Deaconess Margaret Rodgers and the mover, with power to co-opt.

(The Rev Neil Flower/Canon John Cornford)

**(12) Home Mission Society**

Synod requests that the Standing Committee set up a committee to investigate the present ways in which our Diocese is fulfilling the original and ongoing intentions of the Home Mission Society, and to report back to Synod.

(The Rev Dr Robert Doyle)

**(13) Embryonic stem cell research**

Synod calls on members of the Australian Senate to say no to research on human embryos and to do all it can to prevent -

- (a) the creation of human embryos specifically for experimentation, and
- (b) the use of IVF embryos created after April 5th 2002.

(Dr Karin Sowada/Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

**(14) War against Iraq**

This Synod,

While recognising the complexity of issues involved in consideration of any possible war against Iraq; that there is usually sensitive and confidential information known only to political leadership and unreported in the public media; that the regime of Saddam Hussein is cruel and oppressive to the people of Iraq` and that Saddam Hussein has consistently defied UN Security Council resolutions`

Nonetheless calls upon the Prime Minister and Federal Government -

- (a) to ensure that Australia’s peacekeeping obligations in the Asia Pacific region are unaffected by any commitment of military assistance to the Middle East, and
- (b) to continue to support diplomatic and UN activities, especially through comprehensive and unimpeded investigations of UN Weapons Inspectors, with a view to restraining the stockpiling of chemical and biological weaponry in Iraq, and its acquisition of nuclear weapons, and also in seeking a just and peaceful solution to any threat of warfare in the Middle East,
- (c) not to deploy Australian troops in combat against Iraq unless all possible diplomatic strategies aimed at a just and peaceful solution have been exhausted, and

Also calls upon all Christians to pray to Almighty God, the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace -

- (i) to give our political leaders wisdom humbly to weigh these complex matters with care for the good of all, and
- (ii) to grant the end of suffering and strife for the Iraqi people, and
- (ii) graciously to bring real and lasting peace to the Middle East and to the world.

(Deaconess Margaret Rodgers/Mr Darren Mitchell)

**(15) Use of the word “priest”**

Synod reaffirms the decision of resolution 20/97 Liturgical Revision - The use of the word “Priest”.

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, an “elder”, or a mature leader), and
- (b) that much of this meaning has been lost, because modern English has come to use “priest” to mean a person who mediates between man and God, and therefore encourages all involved in liturgical revision, in place of the word “priest”, to use words like “elder”, “president”, “presbyter” or “minister”.

Synod now considers that our current convention, of using the word “priest” in legislation and formularies describing New Testament ministers, is unhelpful, confusing and dangerous.

Synod asks that the Standing Committee bring to the next session a report, on the action needed to replace the word “priest” with “presbyter” in all our legislation and formularies and, if possible, legislation to this effect.

(The Rev Chris Clerke/ The Rev Joseph Thiem)

**(16) Archbishop of Canterbury**

Synod -

- (a) expresses its appreciation and gives thanks to God for the ministry of George Carey as Archbishop of Canterbury and wishes him well in his retirement, and
- (b) congratulates Rowan Williams on his election as Archbishop of Canterbury and assures him of our continuing prayers as he prepares to take up this ministry, and
- (c) asks the President to write, conveying these messages on our behalf to Archbishop Carey and Archbishop Williams.

(The Rev Chris Albany)

**(17) Terrorism**

Synod -

- (a) Acknowledges the horror of the terrorist attacks in Bali on 12/10/2002 and the USA on 11/09/2001, deplores the loss of innocent lives from many nationalities and supports efforts to bring the perpetrators of such attacks to justice.
- (b) Affirms that God’s people are called to be peacemakers. Synod further affirms that retaliation and revenge have no part in a Christian response to acts of violence and terror, rather a Christian response needs to focus on establishing and doing justice as well as calling people individually and collectively to repentance and restored right relationship with God and each other.
- (c) Calls on the Australian Government to -
  - (i) encourage and support International efforts to address the root causes of terrorism, particularly through appropriate overseas aid and restructuring of the world’s economic system, and
  - (ii) use its influence to dissuade the US Government from the use of pre-emptive military action in Iraq, and
  - (iii) refrain from all support of such action, and
  - (iv) commit itself to work at all times through the United Nations in any endeavours focussed on building a secure basis for world peace, and
  - (v) to work through the United Nations to ensure that all countries possessing nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction submit to regular International inspection and audit so stockpiles are further reduced and eliminated, and.

(d) Asks the Secretary of Synod to inform the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Leader of the Opposition, the leader of the Democrats and the Leader of the Greens, and the Shadow Minister of Foreign Affairs of this resolution.

(e) Calls on members of the Diocese to work and pray for peace in every aspect of their lives, modelling for the world the Gospel alternative to violence and terror.

(The Rev Chris Albany)

**(18) List of names of persons licensed**

Synod requests that the Registrar make available in down loadable form from the internet, an up to date list of the names of persons licensed in the Diocese together with other relevant data that is available in the year book to assist parish nominators and clergy in their task of recruitment.

(Mr Graeme Marks)

**(19) Drought relief**

Synod, noting the current devastation being caused by drought throughout much of NSW and the rest of Australia, particularly the level of human suffering being caused by the drought -

(a) calls on the parishes and congregations of the Diocese to participate in a day of prayer for people suffering from the effects of drought in rural areas, on a date to be fixed by the Archbishop as Metropolitan of NSW, in consultation with the bishops of our dioceses in NSW, and

(b) encourages parishes to support any appeal commenced by the Archbishop, as Metropolitan, aimed at allowing ministry to be maintained in regions of NSW severely affected by drought, and

(c) calls upon all Christians to join in prayer for those who are suffering, and asking God to graciously send rain to drought-affected areas, and

(d) assures churches throughout rural Australia of our concern, support and ongoing prayers as they seek to meet both the spiritual and physical needs of their communities at this time, and encourages them to continue in their mission to share the gospel of Jesus Christ at every opportunity.

(Mr Geoff Robson)

**(20) Drought in New South Wales**

In view of the continued drought, especially in north western New South Wales, Synod -

(a) asks for continuing prayer by all parishes for God's mercy on the State of New South Wales in sending refreshing rain, and

(b) respectfully requests that the Archbishop consider launching an appeal for finances to maintain ministry in the Diocese of Armidale.

(Dr Rod James)

**(21) Anglican sports ministries**

Synod encourages its members -

(a) to thank God for the widely esteemed evangelistic ministry of the former "Archbishop's Olympic Games Taskforce", and

(b) to thank God for its recent re-naming by the Standing Committee to "Anglican Sports Ministries" in order to continue and facilitate evangelism through sport by connecting Diocesan churches with a major part of Australian culture, and

(c) to pray for effectiveness in ASM's "Rugby World Cup Taskforce" in seeking to reach locals, players and tourists in October/November 2003 with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and

(d) to pray for wide support following the Archbishop's recent endorsement of this new development.

(Bishop Brian King/The Rev G Boughton)

(22) **Freemasonry**

Synod -

- (a) affirms its support of the 1988 Synod Report on Freemasonry, and
- (b) affirms that Freemasonry and Christianity are incompatible, and
- (c) affirms that Freemasonry teaches a system of false religious beliefs that are contrary to biblical Christianity.

Synod encourages all Christians who are members of a Masonic Lodge to demonstrate their undivided loyalty to Jesus Christ by withdrawing from the Lodge.

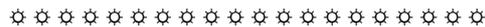
Synod requests that the Standing Committee undertake the preparation and production of a clear and unambiguous pamphlet suitable for wide distribution, examining the beliefs of Freemasonry and explaining why they differ from Biblical Christianity, and explaining why it is wrong for a Christian to belong to the Lodge.

(The Rev Bill Winthrop)

(23) **Bishop Daniel Al-Antouny**

Synod sends Christian greetings to the first Sydney Bishop of the Coptic Christian Orthodox Church, the Right Rev Daniel Al-Antouny who was consecrated on 12 October 2002 at St Mary and St Minna's Coptic Orthodox Church, Bexley.

(Mrs Beryl Digby)



# Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

*References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Tuesday 15 October 2002.*

<b>Tuesday 15 October 2002</b>	
3:00 - 5:45 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Continuation of debate on Motions 10(1) and 10(2)
4:00 - 5:45 pm	Diocesan Mission Initiatives: Motion 10(3) introduction and consideration of paragraph 2(a) of motion 10(3)
7:00 pm	Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(1) Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(2)

<b>Wednesday 16 October 2002</b>	
3:00 - 4:00 pm	Bible study/prayer Formal matters Thereafter, motions for which no time has been specified (from Motion 10(8) onwards)
4:00 - 4:15 pm	Reclassification of Crestwood as a parish: Motion 10(4) Reclassification of Gerringong as a parish: Motion 10(5) Reclassification of Kingswood as a parish: Motion 10(6)
4:15 - 5:45 pm	Church Discipline Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(3)
7:00 pm	Diocesan Mission Initiatives: Paragraph 2(b) of Motion 10(3)

<b>Monday 21 October 2002</b>	
3:00 - 4:00 pm	Bible study/prayer Formal matters Thereafter, motions for which no time has been specified (from Motion 10(8) onwards)
4:00 - 5:45 pm	Diocesan Mission Initiatives: Paragraph 2(c) of Motion 10(3)
7:00 - 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm	Merger of Anglican SuperFund-Sydney and Anglican Superannuation Australia: Motion 9(4) Any unfinished business listed in this Timetable from earlier in the session. Administrator Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(4) Conduct of the Business of Synod Amendment Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(5) Synod Elections Amendment Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(6)

<b>Tuesday 22 October 2002</b>	
3:00 pm	Bible study/prayer Formal matters Thereafter, motions for which no time has been specified (from Motion 10(8) onwards)
4:30 - 5:45 pm	General Synod - Long Service Leave (Amendment) Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(7) General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Special Tribunal) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(8) General Synod - Special Tribunal Procedure Amendment and Repeal Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(9) General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Suspension from Duties) Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(10) General Synod - Constitution Alteration (Tribunals) Amendment Canon 2001 Assenting Ordinance 2002: Motion 9(11)
7:00 pm	Diocesan Mission Initiatives: Paragraph 2(d) of Motion 10(3)

## **Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: Tuesday 15 October 2002**

### **Bible Readings:**

#### *Genesis 1:26-28*

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

#### *2 Corinthians 4:4*

<sup>4</sup> The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

#### *Revelation 7:9-17*

<sup>9</sup> After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>And they cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God,  
who sits on the throne,  
and to the Lamb."

<sup>11</sup>All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, <sup>12</sup>saying:

"Amen!  
Praise and glory  
and wisdom and thanks and honour  
and power and strength  
be to our God for ever and ever.  
Amen!"

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes--who are they, and where did they come from?"

<sup>14</sup>I answered, "Sir, you know."

<sup>15</sup>And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore,

"they are before the throne of God  
and serve him day and night in his temple;  
and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

<sup>16</sup>Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat.

<sup>17</sup>For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

*Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version*

## **Hymn: You Servants of God**

1. You servants of God, your master proclaim,  
and publish abroad his wonderful name;  
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol,  
his kingdom is glorious, and rules over all.
2. God rules in the height, almighty to save -  
though hid from our sight, his presence we have;  
the great congregation his triumph shall sing,  
ascribing salvation to Jesus our king.
3. "Salvation to God who sits on the throne!"  
let all cry aloud, and honour the Son;  
the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,  
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.
4. Then let us adore and give him his right:  
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,  
all honour and blessing - with angels above -  
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.

Charles Wesley 1707-88

Tune: Laudate Dominum 10 10.11 11

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Pianist: Mr Bob Cameron