



Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney

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8 November 2012

Circular to members of the Synod

1/12 Review of School Chapels and Chaplains Ordinance 1975

5/12 Reduced number of days for Synod in 2013

13/12 Electronic distribution of Synod materials

16/12 Prayer for the 2013 Special Session of Synod

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

As you may be aware, at its recent session, the Synod passed a number of resolutions which warrant the particular attention of Synod members.

The resolutions are as follows –

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.

5/12 Reduced number of days for Synod in 2013

Synod supports the 3rd Ordinary Session of the 49th 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.

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.

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;

- (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.

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.

If you have received this circular as an email attachment, you will note a suitable link has been provided in the resolution 1/12 to the report concerning the review of the School Chapels and Chaplains Ordinance 1975 about which your comments are sought. Otherwise the report can be found at www.sds.asn.au (For Synod & Standing Committee).

Please feel free to send me comments by email at rjw@sydney.anglican.asn.au or by post to –

Diocesan Secretary
PO Box Q190
QVB POST OFFICE NSW 1230

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Wicks', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

ROBERT WICKS
Diocesan Secretary