

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

1st Session of the 48th Synod Business Paper: Tuesday 14 October 2008

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

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

1. Devotions will be led by the Rev Rick Lewers: see attached

2. Minutes of 13 October 2008

3. Answers to questions

3.1 Ms Caroline Bowyer to ask –

With regard to the document entitled “The Diocesan Mission – Midpoint Report: Achievements and Challenges in becoming a Missional Diocese” and in light of the discrepancy between the number of students in training at Moore College and the number of ordination candidates –

- (a) How many women are currently enrolled as students at Moore College?
- (b) What percentage of women training at Moore College are ordination candidates?
- (c) How many ordained women are currently employed in the Diocese?
- (d) How many of these ordained women employed in the Diocese are entitled to take part in the diocesan decision-making processes by being entitled to vote at Synod?
- (e) Over the last ten years how many women who have trained in this Diocese have left to be ordained to the priesthood in another Diocese?

3.2 Mr Tom Mayne to ask –

- (a) What is the final cost – or if the work is not yet completed, the anticipated final cost, of the refurbishment of St Andrew's House?
- (b) From whence did the funds come?

3.3 The Rev Nigel Fortescue to ask –

Does the 20% decrease in bursaries paid to ordination candidates in 2007 (as compared to 2006) reflect –

- (i) a 20% decrease in the number of candidates offering themselves for Anglican ministry, or
- (ii) some other factor,

and approximately what amount will be paid in bursaries in 2008?

3.4 The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

Can the Archbishop please advise –

- (a) How many students currently at Moore College are Sydney candidates?
- (b) How many of these Sydney candidates have student minister positions within 20kms of their current place of residence?

(c) How many Sydney candidates have paid student minister positions?

3.5 The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

Can the Archbishop please advise what funding is appropriated to TAFE ministries from the Diocese, and from Regional Councils, and similarly for University ministries?

3.6 Mr Graeme Marks to ask –

- (a) What is the impact of the global financial crisis on the Diocesan Endowment?
- (b) What is GAB doing to respond to the crisis?
- (c) What are the implications for future distributions from the Diocesan Endowment?

3.7 Ms Lyn Bannerman to ask –

From what source will the Sydney Diocese fund the role and activities of the Archbishop in the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans and what are the annual estimates of the cost of his role and activities including staff support, administration and travel?

3.8 Mr Malcolm Purvis to ask –

Were any Synod funds spent on GAFCON or related activities this year? If so how much and for what purpose?

3.9 The Rev David Clarke to ask –

The report on the Asbestos Inspection Ordinance 2007 makes reference to regional or diocesan assistance when required to fund remedial works. How many parishes have been assisted and what is the total value of that assistance?

3.10 The Rev Barry Macalister to ask –

- (a) How many school councils of Anglican schools require members of such councils to sign a declaration indicating their agreement with the statements of the Christian faith as received in the historic creeds, and how many members have done so?
- (b) How many members currently sitting on the councils of Anglican schools have signed a declaration indicating that they agree with the statement of the Christian faith as received in the historic creeds, either the Apostles or the Nicene Creed?

3.11 The Rev Stuart Milne to ask –

- (a) How many churches currently employ a Ministry Training Strategy (MTS) apprentice?
- (b) How many churches have employed a MTS apprentice over the previous 5 years?
- (c) Does the Diocese or SDS currently “officially” recognise the MTS position? If so, how?
- (d) Does SDS or the Diocese give any advice on salary, super and workers compensation in regards to MTS apprentices?

3.12 The Rev Stephen Semenchuk to ask –

- (a) How many claims for reimbursement of clergy removal costs were processed from 2003 to 2007?
- (b) Approximately how many administration hours does it take to process a typical claim?

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 continued today from 4.30 pm

9.1 Ordination of women

Synod notes that –

- (a) within both the Anglican Church of Australia and the wider Anglican Communion there is a diversity of practice in regard to the ordination of women, and
- (b) Synods of this Diocese have consistently voted not to permit the ordination of women as priests, based on the understanding that whilst scripture encourages the ministry of women, it denies the eldership of women in the congregation.

However, Synod also notes that there is another understanding of scripture held by a small but significant minority within the diocese. This understanding holds that scripture supports and endorses women being involved in all aspects of the life and ministry of God's people including eldership of the congregation and so in Anglican Polity being ordained as priests and Bishops. Synod therefore asks the Archbishop to explore ways in which these different views can be creatively lived out in the life and practice of the diocese.

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(The Rev Chris Albany)

To be taken immediately after the motion at item 9.1 if that motion fails to pass.

9.2 Ordination of women

Synod acknowledges and give thanks to God for the creative and God-honouring ministry of women in the Diocese of Sydney at this time and over many years, including lay women in parishes, licensed lay workers, pastoral workers and ordained deacons.

Synod also gives thanks for the numbers of women training and preparing for ministry through Moore College with the support of the Anglican Deaconess Institution Sydney Limited (ADISL) as well as Mary Andrews College, Youthworks College and the Department of Ministry Training and Development.

Synod further requests parish leaders to encourage many other mature and gifted women members to undertake theological and ministry training to enhance their contribution to the ministry of the Gospel throughout the Diocese and beyond.

(Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

9.3 **Connect09**

Synod gives thanks to God for –

- (a) the vision, drive and commitment of the Archbishop in leading the Connect09 campaign and in encouraging our ministers, leaders and people across the Diocese to pray and persevere in turning the vision for Connect09 into action;
- (b) the commitment of our Diocesan leaders, ministers and people who are working hard at turning the resources of the Diocese toward this great campaign and who are implementing strategies for Connect09 at the local level; and
- (c) the energy and commitment of the Connect09 team members, volunteers, Connect09 Ambassadors and Parish Co-ordinators who are helping to turn the vision of Connect09 into a reality;

and calls on all ministers, leaders, parishes, fellowships, congregations, Anglican schools and Diocesan organisations to remain committed –

- (d) to praying for the people of Sydney, the Blue Mountains and the Illawarra;
- (e) to reaching out and genuinely connecting with their communities as they share their lives and the Word of God;
- (f) to developing innovative and generous partnerships with parishes and organisations as together we expect lives to be transformed by the Word of God; and
- (g) to driving the Connect09 campaign at the local level.

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(Canon Jim Ramsay)

To be taken today from 7.00pm

9.4 **Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2008.

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(Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

9.5 **Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008.

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(Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

9.6 **Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008.

(Supplementary Report page 12)

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr John Pascoe)

To be taken on Wednesday 15 October 2008 from 4.30 pm

9.7 **Parish Administration Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Administration Ordinance 2008.

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(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Robert Wicks)

9.8 Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008.

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(Mr Robert Wicks/Bishop Robert Forsyth)

To be taken on Wednesday 15 October 2008 from 7.00 pm

9.9 Theology of Christian Assembly

Synod welcomes the report of the Doctrine Commission, "Theology of Christian Assembly", endorses its recommendations and requests that –

- (a) ministers, ministry teams and other leaders in the churches of the Diocese give careful attention to the report and take steps to implement its recommendations, as appropriate; and
- (b) the Liturgical group prepare a new range of "templates for Christian assembly" suitable for the contemporary church, taking account of the Doctrine Commission's report.

(Supplementary Report page 26)

(Canon John Woodhouse/The Rev Dr Mark Thompson)

To be taken on Wednesday 15 October 2008 toward the end of the discussion on achievements and challenges in becoming a missional diocese commencing at 8.00 pm

9.10 Strategic plan for the Mission

Synod –

- (a) endorses generally the matters raised in the report "The Diocesan Mission – Midpoint Report: Achievements and Challenges in Becoming a Missional Diocese", and
- (b) invites members to make further comments to the Diocesan Secretary by 27 October 2008 about the matters raised in the report, and
- (c) notes that, in accordance with the Synod Estimates Ordinance 1998, a strategic plan will be prepared for Synod's consideration next year which takes into account the comments of members and which reflects the challenges and objectives referred to in the report.

(Special report)

(Mr Peter Kell/Mr Steve McKerihan)

To be taken on Monday 20 October 2008 from 4.30 pm

9.11 General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008.

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(Mr Neil Cameron/Mr Philip Gerber)

9.12 Lay and diaconal administration

Synod –

- (a) accepts the report concerning legal barriers to lay and diaconal administration of the Lord's Supper which was submitted to the 3rd session of the 47th Synod, and
- (b) affirms again its conviction that lay and diaconal administration of the Lord's Supper is consistent with the teaching of Scripture, and
- (c) affirms that the Lord's Supper in this diocese may be administered by persons other than presbyters,

and requests the Diocesan Secretary to send a copy of *The Lord's Supper in Human Hands* to all bishops who attended the GAFCON.

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(Bishop Glenn Davies/Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett)

9.13 **Affiliated Churches**

Synod warmly welcomes, as an expression of our partnership in the gospel, the formal affiliation between this Diocese and the following churches –

Northern Lakes Evangelical Church

Albury Bible Fellowship

The Point Community Church

The Lakes Evangelical Church

Maitland Evangelical Church

Stanthorpe Evangelical Community Church

and requests the Standing Committee to consult with each of our affiliates about the ways in which our partnership in the gospel can be strengthened and to report back to Synod next year about any action taken for this purpose.

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(Bishop Al Stewart/Dr Philip Selden)

To be taken on Monday 20 October 2008 from 8.00 pm

9.14 **Statement on the Global Anglican Future and Jerusalem Declaration**

Synod endorses the Jerusalem Declaration as exemplifying the tenets of orthodoxy which underpin our Anglican identity and invites all Anglicans in Australia to endorse the Declaration.

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(Bishop Glenn Davies/Dr Karin Sowada)

To be taken on Tuesday 21 October 2008 from 4.30 pm

9.15 **Human rights framework for Australia**

Synod –

- (a) welcomes the proposed Federal Government consultation process on the protection of human rights in Australia, and
- (b) thanks the Social Issues Executive for the work they have undertaken in the area of human rights to date and requests that they maintain a watching brief on developments in this area, and
- (c) requests the Diocesan Doctrine Commission, in consultation with the Social Issues Executive, to prepare for the Standing Committee as a matter of priority a paper clarifying our theological understanding of human rights, and
- (d) requests the Standing Committee to engage with the Federal Government consultation process and report progress to the next session of the Synod.

(Supplementary Report page 34)

(Justice Peter Young/Mr Robert Tong)

Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration

9.16 **General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008.

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(Mr Neil Cameron)

9.17 Clergy Removals Fund Ordinance 2003 Amendment Ordinance 2008

Synod permits the introduction of the Clergy Removals Fund Ordinance 2003 Amendment Ordinance 2008.

(Supplementary Report page 5)

(Mr James Flavin/Mr John Pascoe)

9.18 Voting on clergy remuneration

Synod considers that, in order to avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest, members of the Standing Committee whose remuneration is set by reference to the minimum stipends and allowances determined from time to time by the Standing Committee should not vote on any motion before the Standing Committee concerning the remuneration or any other entitlement pertaining to the office of minister, assistant minister or lay minister.

(Mr Bruce York)

9.19 GAFCON

Synod congratulates our Archbishop and Assistant Bishops on their attendance at GAFCON and their move to continue our development as a truly Bible-based Anglican Church.

(Mr Brian Flower)

9.20 School of Christian Studies

Synod, noting that the School of Christian Studies at Robert Menzies College has been providing theological training to equip laypersons for their life, work and ministry for the past 25 years, congratulates SOCS on its recent recognition by the General Synod Standing Committee as an Anglican Theological College and encourages clergy and parish councils to consider how SOCS courses can assist their parish's ministry and outreach.

(The Rev Greg Burke/Mr Ian Miller)

9.21 Climate change response in parishes

Synod congratulates the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney (ACPT) and the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat (SDS) on their initiatives and achievements, as outlined in the report from Standing Committee '17/07 Climate Change' in response to Resolution 17/07 of the 2007 Synod, and requests the SDS to coordinate the development of a tool kit that will assist parishes in responding to climate change at the local level, including information about –

- (a) an environmental policy statement template as a basis for discussion and adoption by parishes,
- (b) implementation of practical energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, recycling, and other environmental sustainability initiatives for parish facilities, arising from the ACPT's Parish Pilot Group Environmental Assessments, and other appropriate sources,
- (c) implementation of practical energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, recycling, and other environmental sustainability initiatives for church members' households, and
- (d) suitable worship and teaching resources that express the sovereignty of God over his creation and our role in stewardship and care.

(Mr Bruce Cooke/Dr Karin Sowada)

9.22 Current economic crisis

Synod, in light of the current economic crisis (as it has been termed) calls on –

- (a) Christian people throughout Australia to pray that governments, the private sector and individuals would enact wise and prudent solutions to this situation, and
- (b) Christian people, where practicable, to care for any persons adversely affected by the crisis, and
- (c) the Sydney Diocesan Superannuation Fund Board to consider what advice and assistance may be given to those persons who are members of the Diocesan fund and about to draw down their superannuation and who may find themselves adversely affected by this current crisis, and
- (d) Christian people everywhere to remind one another of, and proclaim to our world, the enduring value of knowing Christ and the promise he has made that we have an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue)

9.23 First female bishops in Australia

Synod notes the appointment of Kaye Goldsworthy and Barbara Darling as the first female bishops in Australia and we pray that God will give them wisdom, courage and humility.

(Mrs Pamela Shaw/The Rev Philip Bradford)

9.24 Anglican chaplains

Synod requests the Standing Committee to investigate and report to Synod in 2009 on the best way to promote and support the work of the Anglican chaplains including the possibility of establishing a new diocesan body to oversee the ministry of Anglican chaplains on tertiary campuses including TAFEs, universities and private colleges with a view to further integrating the work of the Anglican chaplains within the Diocesan Mission and with a view to complementing the continuing work of Connect09.

(Mr Andrew Frank/The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

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Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Tuesday 14 October 2008.

Tuesday 14 October 2008	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	9.1 Ordination of women 9.3 Connect09 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 – 8:00 pm	9.4 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2008 9.5 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008 9.6 Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
8:00 pm +	Discussion on achievements and challenges in becoming a missional diocese Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

Wednesday 15 October 2008	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	9.7 Parish Administration Ordinance 2008 9.8 Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 – 8:00 pm	9.9 Theology of Christian assembly Thereafter, other business as per business paper
8:00 pm +	Discussion on achievements and challenges in becoming a missional diocese 9.10 Strategic plan for the Mission Thereafter, other business as per business paper

Monday 20 October 2008	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	9.11 General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008 9.12 Lay and diaconal administration 9.13 Affiliated Churches Thereafter, other business as per business paper
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm +	9.14 Statement on the Global Anglican Future and Jerusalem Declaration Thereafter, other business as per business paper

Tuesday 21 October 2008	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	9.15 Human rights framework for Australia Announcement concerning the Freedom of Religion Project Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Business as per the business paper

1st Session of the 48th Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney

Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: 14 October 2008

Bible Reading: Romans 10: 1-17

Bible Reader: Mr Andrew Frank

Bible Study Leader: The Rev Rick Lewers

Romans 9: 1-4

¹I speak the truth in Christ – I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit – ²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, ⁴the people of Israel.

Romans 10: 1-17

¹Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. ²For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. ³Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. ⁴Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

⁵Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or "Who will descend into the deep?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, "that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: ⁹That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. ¹¹As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." ¹²For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, ¹³for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

¹⁶But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" ¹⁷Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version

Talk 1 Outline: Saving People from the world of disappointment

What would possess someone to accept willingly God's curse

Why would anyone need to accept such a curse

Access to an awesome God

The availability of an awesome God

The Apostles "logic of Evangelism"

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Connection for Connect09

Think Christian, think privilege, think blessed. But as you do, think the Saviour cursed for us and the lost standing on the bridge, waiting in the dark.

Hymn: Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

Over...

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, Amazing grace

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, Amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, Who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

J. Newton
Additional Lyrics Chris Tomlin

Prayer: Dr Philip Selden

The Mission Prayer

Almighty God

We call upon you for such an outpouring of your Holy Spirit upon us, that we as your people may be assured of your love through your 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.

In the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.