

# Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

## 1st Session of the 48th Synod Business Paper: Monday 20 October 2008

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*(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 15 October 2008**
- 3. Answers to questions**

3.1 Mr Jody Trouncer to ask –

Recognising the importance of headlines and captions in modern communication, would the Ordinance Reform Group be willing to consider the desirability or otherwise of amending the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 on the following lines, and reporting back to the 2009 Synod –

- “(a) The mover of the motion may stipulate the wording of the caption under which the motion, and any ensuing resolution, will be recorded.
- (b) The caption shall be deemed to be part of the motion.
- (c) In the absence of a caption supplied by the mover, the caption with wording supplied by the Diocesan Secretaries will, unless challenged by the mover at any time before the final vote is taken, be the caption that applies”?

3.2 Mrs Lesley Ramsay to ask –

- (a) What is the cost to the Diocese of the Archbishop and the 5 Regional Bishops attending GAFCON?
- (b) What would have been the cost (as an estimate) to the Diocese of the Archbishop and the 5 Regional Bishops attending Lambeth, had they decided to go?

3.3 The Rev Raj Gupta to ask –

The original estimate for the Connect09 administration costs was \$358,000. This has now been revised upwards by \$500,000. What is the breakdown of both the original and revised estimates?

3.4 The Rev Paul Sampson to ask –

Could questions to Synod be emailed in and their questions and answers then posted on the website thereby reducing the amount of time taken in Synod?

3.5 Ms Caroline Bowyer to ask –

Was the Secretariat responsible for the action of the security guards in removing, from outside the Wesley Centre, Synod representatives and members of MOW, as they were offering MOW cards?

If so, why was this action taken?

3.6 Mr Colin Anderson to ask –

What strategies has the Diocese formulated to provide for effective contact and communication with the 30% of the population which is from Non-English Speaking Background or non-“Anglo”-culture?

What human and material resources have been developed to assist parishes in meeting this missional challenge?

3.7 Canon Sandy Grant to ask –

What progress has Standing Committee made in preparing a booklet examining Freemasonry and explaining where its beliefs and rites differ from biblical Christianity as requested by Synod motion 25/03?

3.8 The Rev Shane Rogerson to ask –

- (a) How many presbyters and deacons licensed within the diocese in the last 10 years have stood down or been asked to stand down from their role as a result of marriage breakdown and/or marital infidelity?
- (b) What policies and processes are in place to help deal with the effects of marriage breakdown and/or infidelity amongst both marriages and the parishes involved?
- (c) Are there any policies and processes in place to encourage healthy marriages amongst clergy licensed for ministry in our diocese?

3.9 The Rev Terry Bowers to ask –

With reference to the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2008, under Policy 1b in 2010 \$575,000 is to be allocated to projects by the Work Outside the Diocese Committee –

- (a) How is the Committee established?
- (b) Who are the present members?
- (c) What criteria will govern the Committee's decisions?

3.10 The Rev Stuart Milne to ask –

- (a) Has the Standing Committee or the SDS ever investigated the possibility of all church workers (including MTS, Youthworkers and student ministers) being covered by the Diocese's workers' compensation insurance, long service leave and superannuation like the ordained clergy are at present?
- (b) If yes, what was the result?
- (c) Were there any savings from the economies of scale?

3.11 The Rev Richard Blight to ask –

Would you provide a list of grants by the Wollongong, Western Sydney and Georges River Regions to parishes and other ministries in a format comparable to that provided by South Sydney and Northern Regions?

Would you consider encouraging all the Regional Councils to include this information in their annual reports to Synod in future in order to improve communication with parishes and Synod and to facilitate research?

3.12 The Rev Mark Layson to ask –

Given that God has blessed us in the situation where the “Jesus all about life” campaign will be on during Connect09, either a large part of their campaign involves the “Jesus all about life V8 ute” driven by Andrew Fisher, a ministry that appeals to many of the so-called lost tribes and deserts in our city. Given the

mighty V8's appeal amongst those groups, and our desire to reach them, have we approached the "Jesus racing" team with financial sponsorship?

- (a) If yes, how big is our logo on the side of his car?
- (b) If no, why not and can serious consideration be given to said sponsorship?

#### **4. Petitions**

#### **5. Procedural motions from members**

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

That the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008 be referred to the Standing Committee for further consideration.

(Mr Neil Cameron)

##### **5.2 Distribution of information about School of Christian Studies' courses**

Synod authorises the distribution to members of information about the courses available from the School of Christian Studies' for equipping lay people for life, for work and for mission.

(Dr Grant Maple)

##### **5.3 Motion concerning the Freedom of Religion project**

Synod –

- (a) agrees to the motion at 7.18 on today's business paper concerning the Freedom of Religion project being moved in a form which omits the matter "5.00 pm to 7.00 pm" and inserts instead "5.30 pm to 6.30 pm", and
- (b) suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

##### **5.4 Motion concerning Alcohol-fuelled crime**

Synod –

- (a) agrees to the motion at 7.20 on today's business paper concerning Alcohol-fuelled crime being moved in a form which omits the matter "young" in paragraph (v), and
- (b) suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(The Rev Zac Veron)

##### **5.5 Distribution of information about Lausanne Conference**

Synod authorise the distribution during the dinner break of a leaflet concerning the 2010 Lausanne Conference in Cape Town.

(Bishop Glenn Davies)

#### **6. Calling of motions on the business paper**

## 7. Motions

### *To be taken today from 4.30 pm*

#### 7.1 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)

#### 7.2 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 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the 47<sup>th</sup> 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)

#### 7.3 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 today from 8.00 pm*

#### 7.4 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)

## 7.5 **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)

## 7.6 **Parish Administration Ordinance 2008**

That the Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the text of the Parish Administration Ordinance 2008.

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(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Robert Wicks)

## 7.7 **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)

## 7.8 **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)

***To be taken on Tuesday 21 October 2008 from 4.30 pm***

## 7.9 **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)

## 7.10 **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)

## 7.11 **Cost Recoveries (Framework) Ordinance 2008**

That the Cost Recoveries (Framework) Ordinance 2008 be approved in principle.

(Supplementary Report page 12)

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr John Pascoe)

## ***Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration***

### **7.12 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)

### **7.13 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)~~(c) 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)

### **7.14 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)

### **7.15 Abortion**

Noting recent renewed debate about abortion around Australia, this Synod affirms –

- (a) pregnancy and childbirth are part of God's good plan for humankind,
- (b) pregnancy is the privilege and responsibility of both the mother and the father of the unborn person,
- (c) the sanctity of life, even of the unborn child, ~~and~~
- (d) supports legislative and social changes which would reduce the number of abortions in Australia, and

- (e) encourages and applauds health professionals who, for reasons of conscience, do not promote, aid or assist in ending the life of the unborn, except where the mother's life is gravely at risk,
- (f) recognises the need of those who have knowingly participated in ending the life of the unborn, especially women who have had abortions, to hear the wonderful news of forgiveness in the death and resurrection of Christ,
- (g) encourages all Christians equally to make known Jesus' love for all unborn human life and judgement of those who end it, and his offer of forgiveness for those who have done so.

Synod requests that the content of this motion be forwarded to the following persons – the Prime Minister, the Federal Opposition Leader, Senator Guy Barnett of Tasmania, the NSW Premier and Leader of the Opposition and the bishops of each of the Anglican dioceses of Australia.

(Dr Michelle Gajus Read)

#### **7.16 Discipleship training**

Synod –

- (a) noting the necessity to “make disciples” (Matthew 28:19) and the particular urgency for discipleship for the ongoing fruitfulness of our churches in regard of our Mission goal, and
- (b) noting the growing need for mature Christian workers to be available and ready as “lay” part time or as candidates for full time training, and
- (c) noting that as a result of a survey, by email, of 50 churches in our Diocese, only 3 responded positively to the question of whether there was a discipleship training facility in their church,

calls for discipleship training to be available and promoted to all church members and other interested persons, at all levels of spiritual maturity and age and including persons who are “transfers” and new converts.

(Mr Ian Mottram)

#### **7.17 Review of building or buying new residences for full time paid ministry workers**

Synod requests the Standing Committee to conduct a review of the current policies and procedures for parishes undertaking building or buying residences for full-time paid ministry staff and make appropriate recommendations for any changes.

The review to include but not to be limited to –

- (a) the role of the architectural panels, and
- (b) the changes in ministry needs when the residence is located away from a church site, and
- (c) the needs of ministry staff who are not incumbents.

(Mr Graeme Marks)

#### **7.18 Freedom of Religion Project**

Synod welcomes the Freedom of Religion project and urges interested people to attend the public meeting convened by the Rev Dr Andrew Cameron on 30 October in the Chapter House from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

(Bishop Robert Forsyth)

### 7.19 Mr Riley Warren AM

Synod acknowledges the work of and gives praise to the Lord for the faithful service of Mr Riley Warren AM following his recent retirement from Standing Committee and Synod as well as his approaching retirement in December after 20 years as Headmaster of Macarthur Anglican School. In particular, Synod thanks God for Mr Warren's commitment to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through –

- (a) his service to the Sydney Diocese as a member of the Synod and Standing Committee since 1989,
- (b) his membership of General Synod and Provincial Synod at various times, and
- (c) his leadership and pastoral oversight of the staff and students as Headmaster of Macarthur Anglican School since 1989.

Synod wishes Riley and his wife Pam God's richest blessings as they embrace retirement and their future life together.

(Ms Alicia Watson)

### 7.20 Alcohol-fuelled crime

Synod notes the right of adult persons to enjoy alcohol in moderation, and the legitimate enterprise of making and supplying alcohol to responsible adults.

Synod however regrets –

- (i) the increasing practice of binge drinking in society, particularly among young persons,
- (ii) the scourge on society of alcohol-fuelled violence and property damage,
- (iii) the high levels of injuries suffered by police officers while attempting to quell late night pub brawls,
- (iv) the knock-on effects of alcohol abuse which are felt by our hospitals,
- (v) the carnage on our roads often caused by young speeding drunk drivers,
- (vi) the alcohol-led physical assaults on many women in their own homes, and
- (vii) the practice of specifically targeting teenagers in some advertising within alcohol campaigns, which is directly contributing to the establishment of a binge drinking culture among young people.

Synod applauds the recently-reported plans for the NSW Cabinet to consider a range of drinking laws designed to address the problems brought on by alcohol abuse, and encourages our law makers to consider research which highlights the relationship between crime and extended liquor trading hours, when determining their response to community calls for an immediate cutback in licensing hours in NSW. Synod also encourages our politicians to examine other initiatives to limit the curse on society brought on by alcohol abuse.

Synod further requests the Archbishop to write to the Premier, Leader of the Opposition and Police Commissioner to encourage them to pursue this matter vigorously and to assure them of our support as they do so.

(The Rev Zac Veron)

### 7.21 Binge drinking and other forms of alcohol abuse

Synod notes recent concern about binge drinking and other forms of alcohol abuse in our society, along with the violence and other related forms of anti-social behaviour flowing from such abuse.

In light of this, Synod recalls the biblical teaching –

- (a) that “everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving” (1 Timothy 4:4, cf John 2:1-11, Psalm 104:15);
- (b) that drunkenness is always to be avoided (1 Cor 6:10, Eph 5:18),
- (c) that civil rulers and church leaders must take special care in any consumption of alcohol (Prov 31:4-5, 1 Tim 3:3),
- (d) that Christians should avoid causing others to stumble by what they drink (Rom 14:21).

Synod also notes section 6 of our code of conduct *Faithfulness in Service* and particularly items 6.5, 6.6 and 6.16 which relate to the consumption of alcohol.

Synod therefore encourages Christian pastors and other leaders and teachers to proclaim scriptural truths concerning the use of alcohol and to set a godly example in regards to any personal use of alcohol.

Synod further encourages the NSW Parliament to give strong consideration to the recent suggestion of the NSW Police Commissioner, Andrew Scipione, which called for earlier closure of pubs and clubs that currently serve alcohol into the early hours of the morning of even 24 hours a day.

(Mr Lachlan Bryant)

#### **7.22 Bullying and grievance procedures**

Synod –

- (a) notes that the Code of Conduct for personal behaviour and the practice of pastoral ministry by clergy and church workers *Faithfulness in Service* (FIS) has been adopted by the Diocese and is applicable to all clergy and church workers,
- (b) notes that the Discipline Ordinance 2006 provides specific procedures and possible sanctions only for the FIS child abuse and sexual misconduct standards and for habitual drunkenness and failure to pay just debts,
- (c) notes that Standing Committee is considering a report on “Bullying in Parishes” (SC Report para 5.5) and is awaiting a report from the Safe Ministry Board on the adequacy of grievance procedures in the area of pastoral relationships and personal behaviour (SC Report 5.14),
- (d) requests Standing Committee to report to the 2009 Synod (with proposed draft ordinances if thought necessary) on the outcome of these two reports and the possibility of providing specific procedures and sanctions in relation to all the other standards enunciated in FIS, and
- (e) asks the Standing Committee to consider all possible procedures and sanctions including alternative non-legal mediatory and conflict solving processes.

(Mr Paul Bennett)

#### **7.23 Recommittal of vote on women’s ordination motion**

That the motion headed “Ordination of women” standing at item 9.1 of the Business Paper for Tuesday 14 October be recommitted for voting without any further debate and that so much of the standing orders be suspended as would otherwise prevent this from happening.

(The Rev Chris Albany)

#### **7.24 Parish cost recoveries for churches without property**

Synod requests Standing Committee to bring to the next session of the Synod a Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance which applies a Variable Charge component

to Recognised Churches, Provisional Recognised Churches and Provisional Parishes that takes into consideration whether or not they have church trust property.

(The Rev Gavin Poole)

#### **7.25 Administrative burden on parishes**

Synod requests, in light of Policy 4 of the Diocesan Mission that the Diocesan Registry and SDS provide a report to the Standing Committee with concrete recommendations about how they, or other organisations, can alleviate some of the administrative burden from parishes. These reports should include, but not be limited to, the areas of accounting, staff employment or appointment, safe ministry requirements, property and insurance matters. Synod further requests that Standing Committee seriously considers these recommendations and the resources and/or funding necessary for their implementation in the allocation made for the next triennium under the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009.

(The Rev Raj Gupta)

#### **7.26 Youthworks Advisor for TAFE**

Synod requests that the Synod Appropriations and Allocations for the triennium years 2010-12 include an appropriation, from Policy 2 funds, of \$70,000 each year to fund the stipend of the Youthworks Advisor for TAFE.

(The Rev Ian Millican)

#### **7.27 Relieving bishops for missional and pastoral work**

Synod respectfully requests Standing Committee to consider ways of freeing up our bishops for missional and pastoral work, by relieving them of some of the burden of serving on financial and administrative committees and sub-committees, through the appointment of suitably qualified lay people to those committees and sub-committees, and to report progress to the next session of Synod.

(The Rev Ian Millican)

#### **7.28 Electronic distribution of Synod materials**

Synod requests the Standing Committee and Diocesan Secretariat to consider –

- (a) whether Synod materials may be distributed electronically to minimise cost and wastage and maximise efficiency in an increasingly electronic age, and assist those who are visually impaired in any way, and
- (b) whether executive summaries of longer documents may be produced to aid those who are preparing for the Synod.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue)

#### **7.29 Anglican Education Commission**

Synod congratulates the Anglican Education Commission for initiatives taken during the last year, noting in particular –

- (a) disseminating and implementing the Diocesan Education policy;
- (b) the employment of a mentor to encourage teachers of Christian Studies in Anglican Schools;
- (b) the partnership with the University of Sydney to deliver post graduate programs for teachers;

- (c) stimulation for doctoral research in educational philosophy and practice and theology; and
- (d) the continued recruitment of students to take up teaching as a vocation.

Synod invites all teachers and those involved in education to avail themselves of the resources available through the Anglican Education Commission.

(Mr Robert Tong)

### 7.30 **Review of General Synod legislation**

Synod notes that the Standing Committee is undertaking a review of all General Synod legislation currently in force in the Diocese. The Synod requests a report on the review at its next session.

(Mr Neil Cameron)

### 7.31 **Business managers for churches**

To accelerate the quality and quantity of interchange regarding solving the complexity of administration in our parishes, Synod requests that the Ordinance Reform Group and the Secretariat –

- (a) investigate any business manager employment arrangements that presently exist within the Diocese with the aim of preparing guidelines of suitable qualifications and work practices for use by other parishes considering such employees, and
- (b) to consider a pilot program of appointing, training, monitoring and supporting a church (or churches) to pioneer the task of employment of a business manager with the aim of establishing guidelines of suitable qualifications and work practices for use by all parishes in the future and to allocate sufficient Synod funds to accomplish this purpose.

(The Rev Michael Williamson)

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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 Monday 20 October 2008.*

<b>Monday 20 October 2008</b>	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	7.1 General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008 7.2 Lay and diaconal administration 7.3 Affiliated Churches Thereafter, other business as per business paper
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm +	7.4 Statement on the Global Anglican Future and Jerusalem Declaration 7.5 GAFCON 7.6 Parish Administration Ordinance 2008 7.7 Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008 7.8 General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008 Thereafter, other business as per business paper

<b>Tuesday 21 October 2008</b>	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	7.9 Human rights framework for Australia Announcement concerning the Freedom of Religion Project 7.10 Clergy Removals Fund Ordinance 2003 Amendment Ordinance 2008 7.11 Cost Recoveries (Framework) Ordinance 2008 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Business as per the business paper

1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 48th Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney

## Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: 20 October 2008

**Bible Reading: Romans 5:1-11**

**Bible Reader: Mrs Amanda Garlato**

**Bible Study Leader: The Rev Rick Lewers**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

<sup>6</sup>You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>9</sup>Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup>For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup>Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

### **Talk 3 Outline: The Christ who does not disappoint**

Humanity has always been good at invading God's space with ourselves

Blessing After Blessing

Assurance After Assurance

Eternal Outcomes

Connection for Connect09 – God has got all life covered

## Hymn: In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My Comforter, my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
'Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Words: Stuart Townend  
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## **Prayer: Dr Philip Selden**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.