
*Sydney Church Ordinance (Women as Churchwardens)
Amendment Ordinance 1978*

No. 38, 1978

AN ORDINANCE to enable women to be the Churchwardens of a church.

WHEREAS the Synod by resolution No. 11 of 1977 noted "the resolution of the recent General Synod urging that diocesan Synods examine their legislation so as to enable the expression of spiritual gifts of every member of the Body, men and women alike, and that women be encouraged to accept positions of responsibility" AND WHEREAS the Sydney Church Ordinance 1912-1975 (hereinafter called the "Principal Ordinance") provides that only certain male parishioners are qualified to be elected or appointed as Churchwardens AND WHEREAS it is desirable to enable the office of Churchwarden of a church to be held by a woman NOW the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney HEREBY ORDAINS DECLARES DIRECTS AND RULES as follows:—

1. (1) This Ordinance may be cited as the "Sydney Church Ordinance (Women as Churchwardens) Amendment Ordinance 1978".
- (2) The Principal Ordinance as amended by this Ordinance may be cited as the "Sydney Church Ordinance 1912-1978" and in any reprint of that Ordinance section 1 shall be amended accordingly.
2. The Principal Ordinance is amended:—
 - (a) by inserting after section 3(11) the following sub-section:—
"(12) In relation to lay persons, words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender";
 - (b) by omitting from section 38 the words "Any male" and by inserting instead the words "(1) Except as provided by sub-sections (2), (3) and (4), any"; and
 - (c) by inserting at the end of section 38 the following sub-section:—
"(2) The wife of a clergyman licensed to the parish is not qualified to be elected or appointed as a Churchwarden.
 - (3) At any one time, a husband and wife may not both be Churchwardens of a Church."

I certify that the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as reported.

N. M. CAMERON,
Deputy Chairman of Committees.

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We certify that this Ordinance was passed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney this tenth day of October 1978.

R. J. BOMFORD,
W. G. S. GOTLEY,
Secretaries of Synod.

I assent to this Ordinance.

M. L. LOANE,
Archbishop of Sydney.

10/10/1978.