

**3<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session of the 51<sup>st</sup> Synod**

**Daily Papers**

**14 October 2019**

Amendments to the Business Paper  
Proposed Amendments: 14 October 2019

Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney



# Amendments to the business paper for Monday 14 October 2019

## 1. Item 13.2

Amend the motion at 13.2 by inserting the following matter at item (15), after 'Implementation of recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse (43/18)' –

‘, subject to substituting the text in subparagraph 21(a) of the report with: “there being matters that were not within the scope of the review that are relevant to the recommendation”’.

Amend the motion at 13.2 by inserting the following matter in numerical order –

(8A) Doctrine Statement on Gender Identity  
(13A) Governance arrangements for Diocesan Organisations’

## 2. Motion at B2 in the Schedule

Delete '(Bishop Chris Edwards)' and insert –

‘(Bishop Chris Edwards / Ms Yvette McDonald)’

## 3. Motion at B4 in the Schedule

Delete '(Mr Doug Marr)' and insert –

‘(Mr Doug Marr / Archdeacon Kara Hartley)’

## 4. Motion at B10 in the Schedule

Delete '(Bishop Chris Edwards)' and insert –

‘(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mr Fred Chilton)’

## 5. Motion at M18 in the Schedule

Delete '(The Rev Phillip Colgan)' and insert –

‘(Canon Phillip Colgan / The Rev Simon Roberts)’

## 6. Motion at M22 in the Schedule

Amend –

(a) the title, by inserting “Responses to” following “Institutional”, and

(b) the listing of mover and seconder, by deleting '(Ms Michelle England)' and inserting –

‘(Ms Michelle England / The Rev Dr Andrew Ford)’

## 7. Motion at M24 in the Schedule

Delete '(Bishop Michael Stead)' and insert –

‘(Bishop Michael Stead / The Rev Dr Andrew Ford)’

## 8. Motion at M25 in the Schedule

Delete '(Bishop Michael Stead)' and insert –

‘(Bishop Michael Stead / Dr Laurie Scandrett)’

**9. Motion at M26 in the Schedule**

Delete '(Bishop Michael Stead)' and insert –

'(Bishop Michael Stead / Mr Robert Wicks)'

**10. Motion at M27 in the Schedule**

Delete '(Bishop Michael Stead / Dean Kanishka Raffel)' and insert –

'(Dean Kanishka Raffel / Bishop Michael Stead)'

**11. Motion at M29 in the Schedule**

Delete '(Dr Robert Tong AM)' and insert –

'(Dr Robert Tong AM / Dean Kanishka Raffel)'

**12. Motion at M31 in the Schedule**

Delete '(Bishop Michael Stead)' and insert –

'(Bishop Michael Stead / Mr Robert Wicks)'

**13. Motion at M46 in the Schedule**

Delete '(Canon Sandy Grant)' and insert –

'(Canon Sandy Grant / The Rev Stephen Cook)'

# Proposed Amendments: Monday 14 October 2019

## (Supplementary to the Business paper)

Listed below are all motions that have proposed amendments, or are being moved in an amended form (designated by changes to the motion shown in tracked form). The business paper for days 2 and following will incorporate any proposed amendments into the Schedule of Bills, proposed polices and motions in a similar format.

### **B1 Archbishop Election Amendment Ordinance 2019**

*Monday 14 October, from 7:00 pm.*

Synod permits the introduction of the Archbishop Election Amendment Ordinance 2019.

(Page 203)

(Dr Robert Tong AM / Dr Laurie Scandrett)

#### ***Proposed amendments to the text of the ordinance in committee***

- (1) In subclause 2(2)(f), omit the matter 'delete subclauses 11(1)(f) and (g) (and renumber the existing clauses (h) – (l) as (f) – (j))' and insert instead –  
'delete subclause 11(1)(g) (and renumber the existing clauses (h) – (l) as (g) – (k))'.

(Page 212, line 1)

(Professor Chris Bellenger)

- (2) In subclause 2(2)(k), insert the words, 'as the colour to be used by the', prior to the words 'members of each order'.

#### **Accepted by the mover**

(Page 212, line 17)

(The Rev Anthony Douglas)

- (3) Insert a new subclause 2(2)(o) with consequential relettering as follows –  
'(o) in subclause 22(1) –  
(a) after the matter, "one or more of them is to be excluded", insert the words "and one or more of them is to remain upon the Final List",  
(b) omit the matter, "only 1 of those nominees, being the nominee whose name", and insert instead –  
"the number of those nominees not to be excluded, being the nominee (or nominees) whose name (or names)", and  
(c) omit the final sentence.'

#### **Accepted by the mover**

(Page 212, line 22)

(The Rev Anthony Douglas)

- (4) Insert a new subclause 2(2)(p) with consequential relettering as follows –
- ‘(p) delete the word “analysis” in subclause 30(1) and insert instead the word “result”,’.

**Accepted by the mover**

(Page 212, line 25)

(The Rev Anthony Douglas)

- (5) Insert a new subclause 2(2)(u) in the Bill (with consequential relettering) as follows –

- ‘(u) insert a new clause 42 immediately after the existing clause 41 (with consequential renumbering of clauses 42 and 43) as follows –

**“42. Term of Office**

(1) A person who has been elected Archbishop in accordance with this Ordinance holds office as Archbishop until the earlier of –

- (a) the 12th anniversary of the date the person was last declared to be elected Archbishop in accordance with clause 40, and
- (b) the date on which a vacancy in the See of Sydney arises for any other reason.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, a person is not prevented from being nominated for the office of the Archbishop again by virtue of having ceased to hold office under subclause 42(1)(a).”

(Page 213, line 43)

(The Rev Dominic Steele, Canon Sandy Grant)

- (6) In the Second Schedule, in the words in italics under the heading, insert the word ‘amended’ prior to the word ‘extract’.

**Accepted by the mover**

(Page 216, line 32)

(Professor Chris Bellenger)

- (7) In the Second Schedule, paragraph 1, omit the words ‘this history’ and insert instead ‘history’.

**Accepted by the mover**

(Page 216, line 34)

(Professor Chris Bellenger)

- (8) In the Second Schedule, paragraph 2, omit the words ‘biblical gospel’ and insert instead ‘Bible’.

**Accepted by the mover**

(Page 216, line 51)

(Professor Chris Bellenger)

- (9) In the Second Schedule, paragraph 3, omit the words ‘health and gospel-mindedness’ and insert instead ‘spiritual health and mission’.

**Accepted by the mover**

(Page 217, line 6)

(Professor Chris Bellenger)

- (10) In the Second Schedule –
- (a) In paragraph 3, omit the words ‘A second priority of the’ and insert instead ‘The’,
  - (b) In paragraph 4, omit the words ‘A third priority’ and insert instead ‘The Archbishop’,
  - (c) In paragraph 5, omit the words ‘A fourth priority’ and insert instead ‘The Archbishop’, and
  - (d) In paragraph 6, omit the words ‘A fifth priority is’ and insert instead ‘The Archbishop is to order’.

**Accepted by the mover**

(Page 217)

(Professor Chris Bellenger)

 **B8 Doctrine Statement on Gender Identity ~~Gender Identity~~ – Principles of Engagement**  
*Monday 21 October, from 8:00 pm*

~~Synod, noting the report Gender Identity – Principles of Engagement, adopts as a policy the accompanying Gender Identity – Principles of Engagement for the Anglican Diocese of Sydney (churches, schools and organisations).~~

Synod, noting the report, “Doctrine Statement on Gender Identity” –

- (a) affirms and adopts the accompanying Doctrine Statement on Gender Identity (Doctrine Statement) as a principal statement of the doctrines, tenets, beliefs and teachings propagated by the Anglican Church, Diocese of Sydney with respect to Gender Identity.
- (b) agrees that the “Pastoral Guidelines for Churches, Schools and Organisations” (Pastoral Guidelines) inform pastoral care concerning Gender Identity issues.

and as a consequence –

- (i) recommends that the relevant governing body of each diocesan school and organisation formally adopt and implement the Doctrine Statement as a statement of the doctrines, tenets, beliefs and teachings on Gender Identity and implement a policy to ensure that the activities of the school or organisation are conducted in accordance with the Doctrine Statement.
- (ii) recommends that the relevant governing body of each diocesan school and organisation also formally adopt and implement the Pastoral Guidelines.
- (iii) recommends that the relevant governing body of each diocesan school and organisation compose a publicly accessible policy on Gender Identity, which reflects the Doctrine Statement and Pastoral Guidelines.
- (iv) requests the Archbishop-in-Council to provide advice to diocesan schools and organisations on implementation of the Doctrine Statement and Pastoral Guidelines, and
- (v) amends the Property Use Policy of the Synod by –
  - (A) replacing the third bullet point in paragraph 9 with the following – “Doctrine Statement on Gender Identity, Pastoral Guidelines for Churches, Schools and Organisations, and Practical Guidelines for Churches”, and

(B) inserting a new subparagraph 17(i) as follows – “Events for the purpose of advocacy for expressions of gender identity contrary to our doctrine that gender manifests biological sex”.

(Page 443)

(Bishop Peter Hayward / Mr Michael Meek SC)

●○ **B9 Gender Identity – Practical Guidelines for Churches**

*Monday 21 October, following B8 (evening session)*

~~Synod, noting the report Gender Identity – Principles of Engagement, adopts as a policy the accompanying Gender Identity – Guidelines for Churches.~~

Synod, noting the report “Doctrine Statement on Gender Identity”, adopts as a policy the accompanying “Gender Identity – Practical Guidelines for Churches”, and commends the Guidelines to parishes for implementation.

(Page 443)

(Bishop Peter Hayward / Mr Michael Meek SC)

○○ **B10 Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2019**

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2019.

(Page 355)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mr Fred Chilton)

***Proposed amendments to the text of the ordinance in committee***

(1) Omit paragraph 2(a) (with consequential relettering).

(Page 357, line 5)

(Canon Sandy Grant)

(2) Insert a new paragraph 2(b) as follows –

‘(b) renumber the text of clause 7 as subclause 7(1) and insert a new subclause 7(2) and 7(3) as follows –

“(2) At the discretion of the Archbishop, a Locum appointed as Parochial Minister may be summoned to a session of Synod if –

- (a) the Locum appointment in question has been operational for a period of at least 6 months as of the first day of the relevant session of Synod;
- (b) the current Parochial Minister, being unavailable as under clause 8A of this Ordinance, endorses the proposal that the current Locum be summoned, subject to - This provision to be of no effect if the position of Parochial Minister not being is vacant both either 3 months before and or as of the first day of the relevant session of Synod;
- (c) the parish council requests that the current Locum be so summoned; and
- (d) the Locum proposed to be summoned indicates a willingness to accept.



(3) Information concerning compliance with subclause (2) to be provided to the Registrar at least 3 months prior to the relevant session of Synod.”

(Page 357, line 39)

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

(3) Insert a new paragraph 2(b) as follows –

‘(b) Amend the ordinance as follows –

(i) in subclause 8A(1), omit the words “an Associate Minister licenced to the same Parochial Unit”, and insert instead the words –

“a minister holding a licence from the Archbishop”,

(ii) in subclause 8B(1), omit the words “an Associate Minister”, and insert instead the words –

“an alternate”,

(iii) in clause 8C, omit the words “The appointment of an Associate Minister as the alternate for”, and insert instead –

“The appointment of an alternate for”, and

(iv) in paragraph 8C(b), omit the words “an Associate Minister licensed to the Parochial Unit to which the person was licensed at the time the appointment was made”, and insert instead –

“licensed by the Archbishop”.’

(Page 357, line 39)

(Mr Doug Marr)

(4) Insert a new paragraph 2(b) as follows –

‘(b) In each of subclauses 8A(2), 8A(3)(b), 22A(2) and 22A(3), omit the matter “14 days” and insert instead –

“7 days, or such lesser period as the Registrar may determine,”.’

(Page 357, line 39)

(Mr Doug Marr)

(5) Omit paragraphs 2(c) and (e) (with consequential relettering).

(Page 358, line 1)

(The Rev Zac Veron, The Rev Nigel Fortescue)

(6) Insert a new paragraph 2(c) (with consequential relettering) as follows –

‘(c) in clause 32(2) –

(i) after the phrase “which is equal to 10%”, insert the matter “(rounded to the nearest whole number)”, and

- (ii) replace the second instance of the word “Ministers” with the word “Units”.

(Page 358, line 1) (Bishop Michael Stead, Dr Laurie Scandrett)

- (7) In paragraph 2(c), omit the words, “The persons” and insert instead –  
“If the number of Nominated Laypersons pursuant to clause 41 is greater than 15, the persons”.

(Page 358, line 3) (Mr Doug Marr)

- (8) Insert a new paragraph 2(f) as follows –

‘(f) insert the following new definition in the Dictionary –

“‘Locum’ means a Qualified Minister who is authorised by the Archbishop to act as a Parochial Minister in a Parish for a specified time in circumstances where the position of Parochial Minister is vacant or the Parochial Minister is on an authorised recognised category of leave.”

(Page 358, line 15) (Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

## ○○ M19 Gender representation on Diocesan boards and committees

Synod, noting the report 27/17 Gender representation on Diocesan boards and committees (Revised 2019) –

- (a) requests the Standing Committee to ask the members of the 2019 Committee to oversee the implementation of the following initiatives –
  - (i) a survey of Synod members to determine logistical arrangements (such as times and locations) that should be considered by boards and committees,
  - (ii) analyse the responses to the survey, and convey relevant information to the boards and committees of the Diocese including –
    - (A) an outline of the value of increasing women’s participation, and presenting the case for reconsideration of the skills matrix, if appropriate, to include broader competencies and life experiences in addition to traditional professional competencies,
    - (B) a suggestion that they give fresh consideration to their meeting logistics (such as times and locations) to ensure that any possible obstacles to serving are removed,
    - (C) encouragement to foster a culture of mentoring by appointing existing members as mentors for new members (or those considering membership),
    - (D) encouragement to develop a one-page overview of the work of their board or committee, to be made available to potential new members,
    - (E) a request that when vacancies need to be filled, to include information on gender composition along with any recommendations regarding skills desired in a person to fill a vacancy,
  - (iii) seek publication of articles in print and online media to stimulate interest in serving on boards and committees, and
- (b) encourages its members who are experienced as board or committee members to consider a ministry of mentoring women newly appointed to, or considering a position on, boards and committees in the Diocese,
- (c) requests SDS to –
  - (i) produce a short guide to participating on boards and committees in the Diocese,

- (ii) provide annual statistics of gender composition on boards and committees to the Standing Committee,
- (d) encourages the Standing Committee in its existing practice of considering gender composition when filling casual vacancies.

(Page 116)

(Archdeacon Kara Hartley / Mr John Driver)

***Proposed amendments***

- (1) Insert a new paragraph (e) as follows –
  - ‘(e) requests the 2019 Committee to report to the Synod in 2020 on models for gender targets, that will enable women to comprise a minimum of one third of members on a board or committee as appropriate by a given future date, recognising the need for gender balance as per Clause F(a)(i) of Appendix 1: Governance Standards of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations.’

(Dr Karin Sowada)

○○ **M21 Steps to encourage ordination**

Synod, noting the report 11/18 Steps to encourage ordination –

- (a) encourages rectors to –
  - (i) see a key part of their role is to raise up the next generation of full time gospel ministry workers, including those ordained in this Diocese,
  - (ii) promote a culture of gospel generosity in training and sending people beyond their parish into this Diocese and beyond the Diocese,
  - (iii) develop an apprenticeship training model that helps people discern their giftedness for ministry and prepares them for more formal education and ministry training,
  - (iv) promote Moore Theological College (MTC) as the first choice College for theological training and Youthworks College (YWC) for specialist youth and children’s ministry training, and
  - (v) challenge appropriately gifted and trained assistant ministers to be prepared to seek ordination as a presbyter to lead churches and intentionally train them for this responsibility,
- (b) encourages assistant ministers to see Christian leadership is marked by sacrificial service and if suitably gifted, be prepared to seek ordination to serve as rectors,
- (c) encourages MTC and YWC to keep equipping men and women for the work of the gospel and address the cost of theological education,
- (d) encourages Ministry Training & Development (MT&D) and MTC to –
  - (i) identify gifted men and women students to consider ordination for Anglican ministry in the Diocese, and
  - (ii) help rectors to build a training and recruiting culture and actively promote MTC, YWC and ordination, and
- (e) encourages congregations to –
  - (i) see themselves as training and sending churches, and
  - (ii) seeing the urgency of gospel proclamation, pray that the Lord will raise up workers for the harvest out of their congregation.

(Page 151)

(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson / Bishop Chris Edwards)

***Proposed amendments***

- (1) Insert a new paragraph (f) as follows –

- (f) acknowledges that resolution by the Diocese of Sydney to preclude ordination of women to the presbyterate and consecration of women as bishops may negatively impact on recruitment of women acknowledging a call to leadership by comparison with the scope of women's ministry in most other Anglican Dioceses in Australia.'

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

○ ○ **M22 Implementation of recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse**

Synod noting the report 43/18 Implementation of Recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse –

- (a) endorses implementation of the Royal Commission's Child Safe Standards by all institutions of the Diocese of Sydney that have contact with children in conducting their operations,
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to provide a report to the next session of the Synod in relation to implementation of the actions set out in the report, and
- (c) pending Standing Committee's report to Synod in 2020 (and except as otherwise addressed at the 2019 session of Synod) –
- (i) refers questions of draft ordinances or policies required to facilitate their implementation to Standing Committee, and
- (ii) requests the Standing Committee to bring recommendations on funding to enable implementation of the actions set out in the report for approval by Synod.

(Page 133)

(Ms Michelle England / The Rev Dr Andrew Ford)

○ ○ **M25 Amendment to the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations**

*Following this matter, M46 (Amendment to the Statement of Personal Faith in the Governance Policy) is to be considered as next unscheduled item of business (see item 10.5).*

*(Note: Subsequent to the publication of Synod Book 2, the Standing Committee requested the following motion be moved in place of the recommended motion published at paragraph 4 on p.377.)*

Synod agrees to amend its Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations by omitting paragraph 37 in the Policy Guidelines in Appendix 2 and inserting instead the following –

'37. The diocesan organisation should comply with all applicable ordinances and policies of the Synod (as amended from time to time) including, as applicable –

- (a) the *Investment of Church Trust Property Ordinance 1990*,
- (b) the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995*,
- (c) the *Anglican Schools Ministry Ordinance 2016*, ~~and~~
- (d) the *Sydney Anglican Use of Property Ordinance 2018*, ~~and~~
- ~~(e)~~(e) the *Safe Ministry to Children Ordinance 2018*.'

(Page 376)

(Bishop Michael Stead / Dr Laurie Scandrett)

● ○ **M27 Doctrine of Marriage**

*Wednesday 16 October, from 7:00 pm*

*(Note: the General Synod Doctrine Commission essays on Marriage, Same-sex Marriage and the Anglican Church of Australia, are available on the [Synod this year](#) page of SDS's website.)*

This Synod –

- (a) affirms that the doctrine of the Anglican Church of Australia is that marriage is a union between one man and one woman,

- (b) affirms that this doctrine of marriage is the “doctrine” of Christ (Matthew 19:3-12), is part of the “rule and standard of faith” established by the Scriptures, and is therefore the unalterable doctrine of this Church (in accordance with Section 66 of the Constitution),
- (c) notes that this doctrine of marriage is also a “principle of doctrine” of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and that Section 4 of the Constitution prohibits that which would “contravene any principle of doctrine or worship laid down” in BCP,
- (d) declares that a blessing of a civil same-sex marriage is both inconsistent with the doctrine of Christ and the teaching of the Scriptures and also a contravention of the principles of doctrine established by the Order for the Solemnization of Holy Matrimony in the BCP,
- (e) declares that the blessing or other affirmation of a same-sex marriage is contrary to the Scripture’s teaching about human sexuality which calls for faithfulness in marriage between a man and woman and chastity in singleness in all other circumstances,
- (f) notes that the blessing of same-sex marriages in Anglican jurisdictions overseas was a key catalyst for the “tear in the fabric of the Anglican Communion” that has widened over the past two decades,
- (g) declares that the Diocese of Sydney is in a state of impaired fellowship with any diocese that, or bishop or other minister who, has allowed or participated in the blessing or solemnisation of a marriage that is contrary to the doctrine of marriage of Christ and this Church, and with any bishop who fails to take disciplinary action against a minister holding a licence in that bishop’s diocese, in regards to blessing same-sex marriages solemnised by non-Anglican celebrants, or for entering a same-sex marriage via a non-Anglican celebrant,
- (h) respectfully asks the Archbishop to decline any request to exercise ministry in the Diocese of Sydney from any bishop or other minister who has allowed or participated in a blessing or purported solemnisation of a marriage, which is contrary to the doctrine of Christ and of this Church,
- (i) asks the Standing Committee to consider not providing financial support, whether directly or indirectly, to any Anglican diocese or body which has acted, or has allowed others to act, in a way that is contrary to the Church’s doctrine of marriage, and
- (j) requests the Diocesan Secretary to send this motion to the meeting of the General Synod Standing Committee in November 2019.

(Dean Kanishka Raffel / Bishop Michael Stead)

### ***Proposed amendments***

- (1) At the beginning of the motion, omit the words ‘This Synod’, and insert instead the following –

‘Recognising that our Lord, together with the prophets and apostles, are not recorded in scripture as directly addressing the status or ramifications of a committed relationship between two adult people of the same sex, and that all doctrine on this matter involves some degree of extrapolation and interpretation, this Synod’

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

- (2) In clause (f), after ‘....two decades’, insert the matter –

‘as a steadily increasing number of national Anglican churches, relying on the scripture, BCP and comparable relevant authorities as specified in this motion, provide for blessing or other affirmation of a same sex marriage’

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

- (3) Insert a new paragraph (j), with consequential re-lettering, as follows –

‘asks the Standing Committee to bring a report to the Synod in 2020 giving recommendations of further appropriate changes in our Diocese’s relationship with the national church, and any Anglican diocese, body, bishop or minister who has allowed or participated in a blessing or purported solemnisation of a marriage, which is contrary to the doctrine of Christ and of this Church (noting the Apostle’s teaching in 1 Corinthians 5).’

(The Rev Dominic Steele)



### **M30 Deferral of General Synod Assessments**

*Wednesday 16 October, following M29 (evening session)*

Synod, noting –

- (a) that in his recent Presidential Address to the Synod of the Diocese of Wangaratta on 30 August Bishop John Parkes stated in regard to the blessing of same-sex marriages that ‘... the Church is hopelessly split, indeed paralysed’, and
- (b) that at the same Synod the Diocese of Wangaratta adopted Regulations pursuant to Section 5(2) of the *Canon Concerning Services 1992* that purportedly authorises ‘A Service of Blessing for persons who have been married according to the *Marriage Act 1961*’, and
- (c) that the Primate has referred these Regulations and associated matters to the Appellate Tribunal, and
- (d) that the Primate has written to both Bishop John Parkes (the Bishop of Wangaratta) and Archdeacon Clarence Bester (the Vicar General), asking that the service of blessing not be used while the Appellate Tribunal reference is under consideration, and
- (e) that while Bishop Parkes has responded by stating publicly that he won’t proceed with the blessing if the Appellate Tribunal finds it violates church law, he has also said –  
‘Although, we won’t wait forever. My advice is that this is legitimate and lawful, and unless the Appellate Tribunal finds that it isn’t, then what we have at the moment is a delay rather than a backtrack.’, and
- (f) in conjunction with the Special Session of General Synod to be held in May next year there is to be a conference involving some or all General Synod members and possibly others to consider the range of issues this Church is facing in relation to human sexuality, same-sex relationships and marriage, and possible ways forward for this Church,

requests Standing Committee at its December meeting to decide whether to defer payment of any General Synod ~~general-statutory~~ assessment levies not yet paid in 2019 and any levied in 2020 until this matter is revisited at the 1st Ordinary Session of the 52nd Synod in October 2020, and asks the Standing Committee to ensure that until this matter is resolved the relevant expenses of Sydney representatives attending any sessions of General Synod are suitably provisioned from the funds which would otherwise be used to pay General Synod Assessments.

(Dr Laurie Scandrett / Mr James Flavin)

#### ***Proposed amendments***

- (1) Delete all words from the phrase ‘requests Standing Committee...’ onwards, inserting instead a new subclause (g) and new rider as follows –
  - ‘(g) that despite sharp differences of opinion – including between members of the General Synod Doctrine Commission – publication of *Marriage, Same-sex marriage and the Anglican Church of Australia; Essays from the Doctrine Commission*, which includes multiple contributions from Sydney Anglicans Bishop Michael Stead, The Rev Dr Mark Thompson and Dr Claire Smith, identifies the path of respectful dialogue, and

also noting the challenge in the Introduction to these essays:

“Given that we all pray to the same God, read the same Bible, recite the same Creeds and belong to the same church—given that it is the same Lord Jesus Christ who encounters each of us— then how is it that we come to such differing views on what Christ wants for us and his Church?”,

requests the Archbishop, in collaboration with the Assistant Bishops, Principal of Moore College and those recognised to exercise theological leadership within the Diocese, to continue to engage with corresponding leaders from other Anglican Dioceses, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit through faith in Christ to resolve the present disagreement. Relying on that same faith, Synod requests Standing Committee to accord low priority to initiatives calculated to financially disadvantage General Synod as a means of exerting pressure in the present context.’

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

### ○○ M33 Abortion Law Reform Act 2019 (NSW)

Synod, in view of the NSW Parliament passing the Abortion Law Reform Act 2019 –

- (a) affirms a biblical view of the sanctity of life acknowledging that all people are created by God in his image,
- (b) thanks all of those Anglicans who wrote to their local members, provided submissions, signed petitions or attended public rallies as expressions of opposition to these proposed reforms,
- (c) notes with regret that amendments were rejected which would have –
  - (i) required counselling for the mother (or her legally authorised representative) when her pregnancy is less than 22 weeks,
  - (ii) required the informed consent of the mother (or her legally authorised representative) about her disabled unborn child,
  - (iii) required an expert panel to assess the appropriateness of a late-term abortion given the health of the woman and her unborn child,
  - (iv) ensured that sex-selection is unlawful,
  - (v) acknowledged that it is a ‘woman’, not merely a ‘person’, who bears the pregnancy,
  - (vi) exempted any medical practitioner or health professional from any participation in a termination on the basis of a conscientious objection to abortion,
  - (vii) required a medical practitioner to act to save a child born after a failed abortion,
  - (viii) lowered the threshold for a late-term abortion to 20 weeks,
  - (ix) required analgesia to be administered to the unborn child so as not to experience pain during the abortion,
  - (x) prohibited the sale or supply of foetal tissue,
- (d) notes with thankfulness the amendments passed by the Legislative Council which –
  - (i) changes the name of the Bill to honestly reflect what it is: the ‘Abortion Law Reform Act 2019’,
  - (ii) provides that nothing in the Bill prevents a medical practitioner from exercising any duty to provide medical care to a child born after a failed termination,
  - (iii) requires informed consent for mothers (or her legally authorised representative) for pregnancies over 22 weeks,

- (iv) requires information about access to counselling to be provided to mothers (or her legally authorised representative) for pregnancies over 22 weeks,
- (v) provides a partial concession for a medical practitioner or health professional with a conscientious objection to abortion from participating in a termination by requiring them only to refer patients to a general government service directory,
- (vi) makes it a criminal offence to use intimidation to coerce a person into having an abortion,
- (vii) requires medical practitioners, after performing an abortion, to notify the Secretary of the Minister of Health with information about the termination, and
- (viii) requires a review on whether abortions are being performed for the purpose of sex-selection and a report on how to prevent terminations for the purpose of sex-selection,
- (e) calls on Christians to stand alongside women who wish to pursue options not to abort a child, with genuine care and encouragement and to love and support those women who have had an abortion, and
- (f) calls on Christians and Christian institutions to continue advocating for better protections for unborn children, mothers, and medical practitioners or health professionals with a conscientious objection to abortion.

(Archdeacon Kara Hartley / Mrs Emma Penzo)

***Proposed amendments***

- (1) Insert a new paragraph (a), with consequential re-lettering, as follows –
  - ‘(a) acknowledges that restrictions and other legislative controls concerning abortion should not be primarily addressed by sanctions under The Crimes Act 1900 (NSW) or any comparable legislation, the situation in NSW prior to 2019 legislation therefore warranting reform,’.

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

○○ **M34 The nature of marriage**

Synod welcomes the Doctrine Commission’s report *The Implications of Domestic Abuse for Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage* and commends it to ministers and parishes for their careful consideration.

(Page 61)

(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson / Bishop Michael Stead)

***Proposed amendments***

- (1) Amend the motion as follows –
  - (a) insert after the words ‘and Remarriage’ the following matter –
    - ‘and the Archbishop’s letter to Synod members dated 29 July 2019 regarding Domestic Abuse and Remarriage, ’, and
  - (b) replace the word, ‘it’ with the word, ‘them’.

(Mrs Lyn Bannerman)

○○ **M36 Ministry of Women**

Synod affirms the contribution to a wide range of ministries made by women, lay and ordained, in this Diocese, noting that there is no prohibition against female Deacons preaching to mixed congregations in either the relevant authorising Canon (the *General Synod – Ordination of*



*Women to the Office of Deacon Canon 1985 Adopting Ordinance 1987)* or in the form of words used at the service of Ordination to the Diaconate. In view of this, Synod –

- ~~(a) encourages all Presbyters-Rectors to embrace the ministry of ordained women in this way, and~~
- ~~(b) urges the Archbishop of Sydney to invite a suitably qualified female minister to deliver the Bible studies at Synod in the near future.~~

(Ms Lyn Bannerman / Mrs Paula Turner)

#### ***Proposed amendments***

- (1) Amend the motion as follows –
  - (a) omit the word, 'affirms' and insert instead the following matter –  
' , noting', and
  - (b) omit all the matter after 'this Diocese,', and insert instead the following –
    - 'encourages all Rectors to –
    - (a) study carefully the biblical teaching on the roles of men and women in the life of the church,
    - (b) read the various reports of this Synod in regard to the ministry of men and women in the church, and
    - (c) provide in increasing measure appropriate ministry opportunities for women in their parishes.'

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue / Mrs Sarah Manning)

#### **○○ M40 Increasing the Newstart allowance warranted**

Synod respectfully requests the Archbishop to write to the Prime Minister, greeting a fellow Christian in our Lord's name.

The Prime Minister to be then advised that Sydney Synod, made up of the representatives of several hundred Anglican parishes across Sydney, Wollongong and the Blue Mountains had resolved that compassion for those disadvantaged in Australian society necessitated that the Commonwealth government accord priority to immediately increasing the Newstart allowance.

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM / Ms Lyn Bannerman)

#### ***Proposed amendments***

- (1) Amend the motion as follows –
  - (a) omit the words, 'several hundred' and insert instead, '270',
  - (b) omit the word, 'necessitated' and insert instead, 'necessitates', and
  - (c) omit all the matter after 'accord priority to' and insert instead the following –
    - 'ensuring that support for these vulnerable bearers of God's image is adequate for them to live dignified, peaceful and quiet lives, with specific reference to the –
    - (a) Newstart Allowance,
    - (b) Age Pension and associated deeming rates,
    - (c) Carer Allowance and Payment,
    - (d) Disability Support Pension,

- (e) Essential Medical Equipment Payment,
- (f) Double Orphan Pension, and
- (g) Parenting Payment.'

(The Rev Craig Roberts / The Rev Gary Koo)

- (2) Omit the word 'immediately'.

(Canon Sandy Grant)

○ ○ **M46 Amendment to the Statement of Personal Faith in the Governance Policy**

Synod agrees to amend the Statement of Personal Faith set out in Appendix 3 of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations by amending paragraph 2 of that statement by addition of the following ~~subparagraph~~ rider as follows –

- '~~(d) that God created humanity with two complementary sexes – male and female – both equally made in God's image; that there are only two expressions of faithful sexuality: marriage between a man and a woman or abstinence in singleness; and that all human life is to be valued and protected from conception until death; yet that this faith produces obedience in accordance with God's word, including sexual faithfulness in marriage between a man and a woman, and abstinence in all other circumstances.~~'

(Page 433)

(Canon Sandy Grant / The Rev Stephen Cook)