

First Session of the 53rd Synod
Daily Papers
19 September 2023

Business Paper

Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney

Bible passage: Tuesday 19 September 2023

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Ms Emma Thornett

5 For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. **2** Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, **3** because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. **4** For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. **5** Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. **7** For we live by faith, not by sight. **8** We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. **9** So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. **10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Song: Glorious things of you are spoken
(Franz Joseph Haydn)

Final song: I vow to you my Saviour
(Richard Bewes (after Cecil Spring-Rice), Gustav Holst)

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

First Session of the 53rd Synod Business Paper: Tuesday 19 September 2023

- A notation “B#” refers to Bills and “M#” refers to motions which are provided in the attached schedule: Bills and motions for the consideration of the Synod.
- The Synod Standing Orders are found on page 399 in Book 3: the Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019. See Part 5 of the Synod Standing Orders for ordinance procedures.

1. Prayers are read by the President or a person appointed by him.
2. Bible study is led by the Rev Andrew Rees.
3. Minutes of 18 September 2023
4. Calling of motions (including procedural motions) on the business paper.
5. Procedural motions

5.1 Arrangements for consideration of business from the Order of Business Committee

Synod agrees –

- (a) to reschedule items of business as shown on the Timetable for Synod Business,
- (b) to adopt the expedited time limits at Standing Order 4.19(1)(c) for the remainder of this session, with the exception of the motions at M11, M13, M14, and M15, thereby reducing the time allowed for certain speeches as follows –
 - (i) a mover of a motion (other than procedural motions or amendments) may speak for up to 8 minutes (rather than 10 minutes), and up to 4 minutes in reply (rather than 5 minutes),
 - (ii) a member moving a motion to amend a motion may speak for up to 4 minutes (rather than 5 minutes), and
 - (iii) other members speaking in a debate when Synod is not “in committee”, including the seconder of a motion, may speak for up to 4 minutes (rather than 5 minutes),
- (c) that the arrangements for the consideration of the motion at M11 (Grace City Church), as agreed on Monday 11 September, be unchanged, and
- (d) to suspend Standing Order 4.6(2), relating to the ability to move a procedural motion (without a speech) for the speaker to continue for a nominated number of minutes, for the remainder of the session,

and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Anthony Douglas)

6. Motions for consideration by the Synod

Motions for consideration by the Synod are printed in the Schedule attached to this business paper.

Bills and motions for the consideration of the Synod

- A notation “B#” refers to Bills and “M#” refers to motions. These reference numbers and associated motions will remain consistent throughout this session of Synod.
- *Italicised text under motion headings indicates the arrangements as proposed in the procedural motions on the business paper.*
- *Any amendments to motions listed below, unless otherwise indicated, have not yet been moved. Accordingly, the motion may be put on the callover, and a member must call ‘amendment’ to prevent the motion being passed.*
- Legend –
 - ○ an unscheduled motion, or a scheduled motion which may be taken on the callover
 - ○ cannot be taken on the callover (being a bill for an ordinance, a proposed policy, or a matter which is scheduled for consideration at a particular time)
 - ○ a motion that has been withdrawn.

19 September 2023

I. Motions for ordinances and policies by request of the Standing Committee

There are no proposed ordinances or policies under this heading.

II. Motions for ordinances and policies by request of a Regional Council

There are no proposed ordinances or policies under this heading.

III. Other motions by request of the Standing Committee

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- ○ **M7 Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett**
Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following M31


Synod gives thanks to God for the life and ministry of Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett, who went home to be with the Lord on Friday 4 November 2022.

After graduating from the University of New South Wales (BA and Dip Ed), Narelle started teaching at Sydney Girls High School. There, she was led to Christ by another teacher and began attending St John’s, Darlinghurst. After teaching, Narelle studied at Deaconess House, completing her ThL (Hons) in 1969 and London BD in 1970. She was active in ministry within the Sydney Diocese before she was admitted as a deaconess in 1985 upon her appointment as Principal of Mary Andrews College (formerly Deaconess House). She was ordained Deacon in 1989, among the first cohort of female deacons. As Principal of Mary Andrews College, Narelle had a significant role in training and development of the female students at Moore Theological College, as well as serving as a lecturer in Church History and Pastoral Care and training lay women across the Diocese. In 2002, she was appointed Archdeacon for Women’s Ministry, while continuing as Principal of Mary Andrews College.

In 2008 she became Archdeacon full time and held this position until her retirement in 2012. Narelle also served on various boards such as the Council of Ministry Training & Development, the Mission

Task Force, the Standing Committee and Synod of the Sydney Diocese as well as General Synod. She was active in the governance of the Archbishop's Overseas Mission Fund and Anglican Deaconess Ministries. She also served as an Honorary Minister at South Coogee. Synod gives thanks to God for Narelle's valuable contribution to the life of our Diocese, her passion for advancing the ministries of women and her commitment to biblical truth and making Christ known.

(Archdeacon Kara Hartley / Mrs Amanda Garlato)


 **M11 Grace City Church**

Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), from 5.00pm

On Monday 11 September, the Synod agreed that the mover and seconder of the motion at M11 may combine for a joint presentation with visuals for up to 10 minutes, including prayer.

Synod notes that Grace City Church, Waterloo, has been declared to be a recognised church by the South Sydney Regional Council from 1 January 2021 under clause 8 of the *Recognised Churches Ordinance 2000*. Grace City began as an initiative of Evangelism and New Churches, and held its first public service in May 2015. Synod thanks God that from small beginnings, Grace City has grown both numerically and spiritually, and joins in praising God as it celebrates its 8th year of ministry.

(The Rev Tim Clemens / Bishop Michael Stead)

 **M13 Partnership with Anglican Schools**


Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following M72

The Rev Dr Michael Jensen will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

- 'Synod, noting the report 'Recommendations from the Education Committee' –
- (a) acknowledges and thanks Anglican Schools for their work as partners in the mission and ministry of the Diocese,
 - (b) requests the draft statement on Reformed Anglican Education be presented to School Principals and ordained chaplains for their consideration and comment, particularly with reference to the nature and purposes of Anglican Schools within the larger context of Reformed Anglican Education,
 - (c) requests the Standing Committee to form a suitably qualified committee, including current Anglican School principals and ordained chaplain(s), to ~~finalise the~~ prepare a draft statement for adoption by the Synod in due course, and
 - (d) encourages participation by Anglican School staff in mentoring, professional development and networking through diocesan associations and professional bodies.'

(Bk 2 p.259)

(The Rev Dr Michael Jensen / Bishop Chris Edwards)

 **M14 Archbishop's Education Advisor**

Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following M13

Bishop Chris Edwards will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

- 'Synod requests –
- (a) the Archbishop, in consultation with Anglican School principals, to consider the role and possible appointment of ~~appointing~~ a suitably qualified education advisor to support advocacy on behalf of Anglican Schools and to assist the Synod and schools to form an effective partnership towards their shared ministry goals, and

(b) the Standing Committee to consider ways to fund such a role.’

(Bk 2 p.259)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Canon Craig Roberts)

Proposed amendments

(1) In paragraph (b), omit all the text, and insert instead the matter ‘the Archbishop to consult with the Anglican Schools in order to determine how such a role might be funded’.

(The Rev Andrew Bruce / Mr John Pascoe)

M15 Training opportunities for Anglican educators

Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following M14

The Rev Dr Gavin Perkins will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

‘Synod recommends that the Standing Committee –

(a) request SDS to include instructional training that provides contextual information about the Diocese and its structures in conjunction with SDS supported AICD governance courses, and to offer this training or an alternate version to diocesan school staff (possibly using a similar online platform as is currently operating for safe ministry training),

(b) request the education advisor (or, in the absence of an education advisor, the Archbishop’s delegate) to report to the Standing Committee on the creation of tertiary training programs for school chaplains, assistant chaplains, and Christian Studies teachers, including the development of a sample K-12 Christian Studies curriculum,

~~(b)~~(c) request the education advisor (or, in the absence of an education advisor, the Archbishop’s delegate) to develop partnerships with university Christian fellowships in order to promote training opportunities and access to tertiary courses with cross-institutional credit which train teacher education students in distinctively Christian teaching,

~~(c)~~(d) as one contribution alongside other suitable options for the resourcing of diocesan schools, request Youthworks to develop training units to support the teaching of the Bible in primary schools, and distinctive Christian teaching, and

~~(d)~~(e) consider ways to fund such requests.’

(Bk 2 p.259)

(The Rev Dr Gavin Perkins / Bishop Chris Edwards)

Proposed amendments

The following amendments were submitted in relation to a prior form of principal motion (i.e. before the insertion of new paragraph (c)) and have been editorially amended accordingly, in marked form.

(1) In paragraph ~~(e)~~(d), omit all the text, and insert instead the matter ‘consult with the Anglican Schools in order to determine how such initiatives might be funded’.

(The Rev Andrew Bruce / Mr John Pascoe)


(2) Amend the motion as follows –

(a) in paragraph (b), following the matter ‘Archbishop’s delegate’, omit all the text and insert instead the matter ‘to consult and work collaboratively with suitably qualified chaplains and heads of Christian Studies to determine time- and cost-effective models and

pathways for inter-school Christian Professional Development for Christian teachers, including proposals for suitable tertiary institutional engagement (if any),', and

- (b) in paragraph (d)(e), omit all the text, and insert instead the matter 'request the education advisor (or, in the absence of an education advisor, the Archbishop's delegate) to report to the Standing Committee the findings at (b) for review and presentation to Synod, and'.


(The Rev Emma Newling / The Rev Kylie Wilson)

 **M31 Box Hill**

Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following M11

Synod praises God for the acquisition of the property at 158 Boundary Rd, Oakville for the establishment of a new church in the Box Hill area. We thank God for the partnership of the parishes of Pitt Town and Rouse Hill, the Anglican Church Growth Corporation and Evangelism and New Churches, and for the appointment of the Reverend Chris Mann as the church planter.

(Bishop Gary Koo / The Rev Philip Wheeler)

 **M37 Conversion Practices Legislation**

Synod –

- (a) reaffirms Synod Resolution 31 of 2018, in particular that –
 - (i) “the Anglican Church in the Diocese of Sydney does not practise, recommend or endorse ‘gay conversion therapy’”, defined as practices that “seek to re-orient sexual attraction to heterosexuality”, and that
 - (ii) Synod “values prayer for same-sex attracted Christians who wish to live celibate lives, noting that prayer is not a form of ‘gay conversion therapy’”,
- (b) notes that the *Conversion Practices Prohibition Bill 2023* (NSW), introduced by Mr Alex Greenwich, has been closely modelled on the Victorian *Change or Suppression (Conversion) Practices Prohibition Act 2021*, and adopts its expansive redefinition of Conversion Practices by including the broad and vague concept of suppression, according to which the following are illegal –
 - (i) a religious leader meeting one-on-one with a member of their congregation to encourage them not to act on same-sex attraction by practising celibacy,
 - (ii) religious teaching that someone is “broken” because of their sexual orientation or gender identity,
 - (iii) the provision of support through group prayer to a young person to help them fight a desire to act on their feelings of same-sex attraction,
 - (iv) a religious leader telling a member of their congregation that they will be excommunicated if they continue their same-sex relationship,
 - (v) parents declining to support their child’s request for puberty blockers if a health professional recommends it, or otherwise restricting their child access to any health care services that would affirm their child’s gender identity, and
 - (vi) a teacher telling a student that God does not accept them unless they keep the sex they were assigned at birth and dress accordingly
(All examples from <https://www.humanrights.vic.gov.au/change-or-suppression-practices/have-you-experienced-a-change-or-suppression-practice/>),
- (c) notes the pre-election commitments of the Premier and other members of the ALP that its legislation would prohibit ‘dangerous and damaging’ conversion practices, but that it would not ban a consenting individual seeking prayer or other advice and assistance, nor would it ban the expression of religious belief through religious teaching,
- (d) notes that the government’s Consultation Paper on Banning Conversion Practices has proposed an approach that is very similar to the Victorian legislation and the Bill introduced by Mr Greenwich, which is inconsistent with the ALP’s pre-election commitments,

- (e) calls on the Minns Labor Government to uphold its commitments regarding LGBTQ conversion therapy by introducing legislation that –
 - (i) bans dangerous and damaging practices that seek or promise to *change sexual orientation*, but does not use the broad and vague concept of “suppression”,
 - (ii) does not prohibit a consenting individual from seeking the support and assistance that they consider appropriate for themselves,
 - (iii) does not prohibit religious instruction and guidance that encourages church members to live in conformity with the ethical teaching of the Scriptures by not acting on desires that are contrary to this teaching,
 - (iv) does not expose parents to prosecution for failing to affirm and support their child’s sexual orientation or gender identity, and
 - (v) does not introduce a bias towards gender-affirming treatment and the threat of prosecution for health professionals who recommend a different treatment approach, and
- (f) encourages Sydney Anglicans to meet with, or write to, their local MP to express their concerns and requests, and notes that Freedom for Faith has developed resources to assist in organising meetings and writing letters (<https://contactyourmp.org.au>).

(Bishop Michael Stead / Mr Michael Southon)

Proposed amendments

- (1) Omit paragraph (a).

(The Rev Andrew Barry / Mr Craig Stevens)

- (2) Amend the motion as follows –
 - (a) in subparagraph (e)(i), omit the matter ‘but does not use the broad and vague concept of “suppression”,’,
 - (b) insert a new subparagraph (e)(ii) as follows, with consequential re-lettering –
 - ‘(ii) clarifies that prayer for same-sex attracted Christians who wish to live celibate lives, if offered in a genuinely non-coercive and ethically acceptable manner, would not constitute a change or suppression practice within the scope of the legislation’,
 - (c) in re-lettered subparagraph (e)(iii), following the matter ‘appropriate for themselves’, insert the matter ‘but includes a requirement that religious organisations and leaders in religious communities are not to withhold from such an individual access to broader sources of support and full information as to the documented long-term risks and harms associated with change and suppression practices’, and
 - (d) in re-lettered subparagraph (e)(vi), omit all the text, and insert instead the matter ‘takes account of relevant health professionals’ ethical guidelines and codes of conduct, and’.

(Ms Elise Christian / Professor Bernard Stewart AM)



M39 Archdeacon Neil Atwood


Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following M7

Synod, noting that Archdeacon Neil Atwood begins leave on the 23 September 2023 and will officially retire in March 2024, gives thanks to God for Neil and his wife Robyn’s service of the gospel for over 45 years. Having served in the parishes of Dapto, Normanhurst, Willoughby, Tregear, Mt Druitt, Toongabbie and Springwood before taking up his current role in the

Western Region from 2011 first as the Assistant to the Bishop and most recently as Archdeacon, Neil has demonstrated a great love for the for the people of the Western Region with its great number of communities, cultures and churches. We are also thankful to God for the additional responsibilities he assumed in support of Bishop Ivan Lee, Bishop of Western Sydney, during his sustained illness. Further, we note that since 2014 Neil has combined his regional role with that of ODSM Parish Consultant, leading the production of online Safe Ministry Training, and supporting parish Safe Ministry Representatives.

As Neil and Robyn retire, Synod prays that the Lord would continue to use them to his honour and glory.

(The Rev Roger Cunningham / Bishop Gary Koo)

 **M47 Doctrine Commission Report: The Doctrine of Concupiscence and its Relevance to the Experience of Same-Sex Attraction**

Synod, having received the Doctrine Commission Report: The Doctrine of Concupiscence and its Relevance to the Experience of Same-sex Attraction, in the context of provision for 'Tabling and reception of accounts and reports etc' is aware that such procedure does not provide any opportunity for Synod members to be aware of why any particular publication was sought, be informed of its content, or alerted to its availability as a resource in particular circumstances.

In respect of the Doctrine Commission report in question, Synod acknowledges misgivings of some members concerning specific matters including –


At 1.2, when identifying 'one of the most contentious issues facing the Christian churches at this moment', the report does not provide contextual information to the effect that even within the Anglican Church of Australia, bible-believing Christians contend with God-given diversity as to whether a legally-affirmed life-long exclusive and voluntary commitment between two adults of the same gender is inherently and necessarily sin in every instance and indicate that this report is premised of one interpretation of scripture in relation to this matter.

At 3.7, Jesus' statement at Mat 5:28 addressing adultery should be specified in scripture as immediately following Christ's teaching about murder (Mat 5 5:21-22), and other sins, as introduced by the words 'You have heard that it was said...'. The report might acknowledge that the primary teaching from this scripture involves the futility of relying on compliance with the law as a means of achieving salvation any other consideration is secondary.

At 4.4, where concupiscence is recognized as an 'infection of nature' and much more than sexual lust, the report should warn that a sense of desire is inherent in all sin involving gratification including the sin about which Jesus explicitly warned most, namely the self-focused accrual of personal financial wealth.

At 6.5, although the report specifies that actual sin only occurs when we fail to resist temptation and allow ourselves to be enticed - an interpretation re-affirmed at 6.6, such a determination is not consistent with Mat 5:29 and the specification at 4.4 that concupiscence is not only on sin, and inclines to sin, but is sin itself.

(Prof Bernard Stewart AM / The Rev Dr James Collins OAM)

 **M56 General Synod Long Service Leave Fund**

Mr James Flavin will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

'Synod –

- (a) notes the General Synod Long Service Leave Fund was established by a General Synod canon more than 60 years ago when the forms of paid ministry were very different to the various ministries which exist now, and ~~notes there are organisations which are currently not able to include their theologically trained ministers as participants of the fund because some General Synod authorities do not regard them as having an association~~

- ~~with the Anglican Church of Australia, even those who have a licence or authority from the Archbishop of Sydney or another Australian Bishop, and~~
- (b) asks the Standing Committee –
- (i) to consider whether the circumstances have changed so much over the last 60 years that it may be wise to establish a Sydney Long Service Leave Fund which could have the flexibility to reflect modern ministry arrangements,
 - (ii) to consult with the Board of the General Synod Long Service Leave Fund, former members of the Board and others as appropriate, and take whatever action it considers to be in the best interests of the ongoing ministry both in the Diocese of Sydney and the wider Australian church.'

(Mr James Flavin / Dr Robert Tong AM)

M59 Temporary arrangements for diocesan schools

Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following M15 (if not passed on the callover)

Bishop Michael Stead will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

'Synod, noting –

- (i) that it has endorsed the approach of requiring governors and leaders to be of Christian faith and character, as outlined in the Exposure Draft of the revised Diocesan Governance Policy, to be further considered at the Synod next year, and
- (ii) that the Synod has not yet made a decision whether the new Diocesan Governance Policy will require a signed Statement of Personal Faith,

encourages the Standing Committee to –

- (a) consider approving appropriate temporary arrangements for Diocesan schools based on the proposed "Christian faith and character" model, provided that the temporary arrangements also require a signed Statement of Personal Faith in the form currently required by ordinance from the majority of Diocesan schools, and
- (b) report progress to each future session of Synod until these arrangements are no longer required.'

(Bishop Michael Stead / The Rev Marcelo Morbelli)

M60 Bishop Rick Lewers

Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following M39

Synod notes that Bishop Rick Lewers is due to retire in October 2023 after 35 years of ordained ministry, and has served at Liverpool (1988-1992), Wanniassa in Canberra (1992-2002), the Department of Evangelism (2002-2005), Engadine (2005-2012), as Bishop of Armidale (2012-2021), and finally at Shoalhaven Heads (2021-2023).

Synod gives thanks to God for Rick, a sinner saved by grace, who is a lover of the Lord Jesus Christ, wonderfully partnered with Janene, persistent evangelist, shepherd of the flock, valiant for truth, pastorally caring, encourager of others in faithfulness, and always a 'straight shooter', and prays for God's continued blessing on Rick and Janene in their life and ministry together.

(Dean Sandy Grant / Archdeacon Anthony Douglas)

M61 Closure of Anglicare's Mary Andrews Village Retirement Living Centre at South Hurstville

Mr James Mayfield will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

'Synod –

- (a) notes the planned closure of Anglicare's Mary Andrews Village Retirement Living Village at South Hurstville, including requiring residents of the Village to vacate their homes, and the plan to offer residents of the Village alternate accommodation at Woollooware Shores, Donald Robinson Village or another Anglicare village,
- (b) recognises the profound impact that being asked to relocate from their home can have on the elderly and vulnerable residents within a retirement living Village,
- (c) understands the importance of a financially sustainable business model for Anglicare's retirement living services in the provision of high-quality, sustainable housing for its many residents,
- (d) notes that Anglicare's rationale in closing a Village is to ensure residents are living in safe, fit for purpose communities,
- (e) notes that in these complex situations there can be a disconnect between what may be best for individual residents and what may be best for Anglicare, and

therefore –

- (f) requests the Board of Anglican Community Services (Anglicare) to investigate–review the circumstances of the planned closure, including inviting the perspectives of impacted residents and their families who wish to engage, and to ensure the long term wellbeing of the current residents of the Mary Andrews Village.'

(Mr James Mayfield / The Rev Stephen Cook)



M63 Diocesan Ministry Strategy for 2025-2040

Tuesday 19th (evening session), from 7.00pm

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to the Lord for –
 - (i) the faithful Anglican ministry efforts of both laity and clergy since 1788,
 - (ii) the crucial work of Moore Theological College, Anglicare, Youthworks, diocesan schools and other ministry organisations, in supporting the ministry of the Diocese' churches,
 - (iii) the visionary and theological leadership of archbishops, past and present, and
 - (iv) the property and financial resources which facilitate the ministry of the Word, which have all contributed to almost 40% of the national Anglican Church's weekly attendance being within the geographical boundaries of the Diocese of Sydney,
- (b) recognises, according to the statistics revealed to Synod on 12 September 2023, that –
 - (i) average attendance per week in the Diocese, in this current generation, peaked in 2015, and then began a steady downward trend, and
 - (ii) average attendance per week in the Diocese was approximately 18.5% lower in 2022 compared to 2015,
- (c) therefore encourages all Sydney Anglicans to pray for the lost, so that the Lord would open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Christ (Acts 26:18),
- (d) notes –
 - (i) the baby boomer generation, which constitutes a large percentage of the average attendance per week, has begun its progression to glory,
 - (ii) infant baptisms across the Diocese, according to the most recently available statistics revealed to Synod on 12 September 2023, were on a downward trajectory,
 - (iii) the population within the boundaries of the diocese is booming and is projected to include an additional one million people by 2041,

- (iv) the majority of that net population growth is expected to reside within the brownfield areas of Sydney, and
- (v) the challenges of ministering with ageing and often inadequate infrastructure within those brownfield areas,
- (e) further notes the external, forthcoming government-imposed challenges to overcome, that may adversely affect the impact of our ministries, including Voluntary Assisted Dying legislation, and the proposed speech suppression, misinformation and disinformation legislation, at both a state and national level, and
- (f) requests the Standing Committee to initiate a broad review of recent and current Diocesan ministry strategies and foci, together with an analysis of average attendance trends, and an assessment of the likely impact of social changes upon average attendance, with a view to recommending a fresh, comprehensive and integrated Diocesan ministry strategy for 2025-2040, and report back to Synod in 2024.

(The Rev Zac Veron / The Rev Geoff Bates)


Proposed amendments

- (1) In paragraph (e), omit the matter 'including Voluntary Assisted Dying legislation, and the proposed speech suppression, misinformation and disinformation legislation, at both a state and national level,'.

(The Rev Dominic Steele / Mrs Fiona Taylor)

- (2) Amend the motion as follows –
 - (a) omit paragraph (b), with consequential re-lettering,
 - (b) omit subparagraph (d)(ii), with consequential re-lettering,
 - (c) in paragraph (f), omit the matter 'a broad review of recent and current Diocesan ministry strategies and foci, together with',
 - (d) in paragraph (f), omit the matter 'with a view to recommending a fresh, comprehensive and integrated Diocesan ministry strategy for 2025-2040,'.

(Bishop Michael Stead / Bishop Gary Koo)

 **M70 Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church of South Africa (REACH-SA)**

Synod, noting –

- (i) the long partnership between the Diocese of Sydney and the Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church of South Africa (REACH-SA), and
- (ii) that the Synod of that Church met from 11 to 13 September 2023,
- (a) gives thanks to God for –
 - (i) the election of the Rev Dr Siegfried Ngubane as the eighth Presiding Bishop of the REACH-SA,
 - (ii) the faithful service of the current Presiding Bishop, the Rt Rev Glenn Lyons who will hand over leadership at a date to be announced, and
 - (iii) the election of three new Area Bishops for the largest regions (dioceses) in REACH-SA, and
- (b) requests that the Archbishop's office write to Dr Siegfried and Mrs Maureen Ngubane and to Bishop Glenn and Mrs Sandra Lyons assuring them of the prayers of our people, expressing the congratulations of this Synod and the commitment of this Diocese to continued gospel partnership.

(Bishop Malcolm Richards / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)



M71 Bishop Ross and Mrs Jenny Nicholson

Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following M60

Bishop Chris Edwards will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

‘Synod records its appreciation for the ministry of ~~the Rt Rev~~ Bishop Ross and Mrs Jenny Nicholson and gives thanks to God for –

- (a) their faithful parish ministry in this Diocese,
- (b) their involvement in numerous diocesan organisations and pastoral ministry groups,
- (c) Ross’ work as both a parish minister and as Bishop in Launceston, Tasmania, and
- (d) their zeal and passion for the cause of Christ,

and prays God would lead them and bless them and use them more and more in the next phase of their life together.’

(Bishop Chris Edwards / The Rev Dr Raj Gupta)



M72 Leadership of Bible studies

Tuesday 19th (afternoon session), following formal matters

Synod records its appreciation for the preaching of the Rev Andrew Rees at the Synod Service and for his encouraging Bible Studies during this session.

(Archdeacon Simon Flinders / Bishop Chris Edwards)



M73 Committees and Officers of the Synod

To be taken at a time determined by the President

Synod records its appreciation for –

- (a) the President and his chairmanship,
- (b) the Chair and Deputy Chairs of Committee and their work in the consideration of the text of ordinances,
- (c) the members who helped during the session by giving advice and serving the Synod, especially the Chancellor and Deputy Chancellors, Registrar, Archdeacon to the Archbishop, Chair of Committee, the Synod Secretary, as well as the Order of Business and Minute Reading Committees, and
- (d) the services given by the staff of SDS and the Archbishop’s Office, Anglican Media, the music team, Bible readers, Wesley staff, and all those who have helped facilitate this session of Synod.

(Archdeacon Kara Hartley / Bishop Peter Lin)



M74 Minutes of 19 September 2023

To be taken at a time determined by the President

Synod authorises the President to sign the minutes of 19 September 2023 upon the production to the Standing Committee of the certificate of any 2 members of the Minute Reading Committee.

(Archdeacon Simon Flinders / Mrs Briony Bounds)

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Timetable for Synod Business

A notation "B#" refers to Bills and "M#" refers to motions per the attached schedule.

Tuesday 19 September 2023	
3.15 – 5.00 pm	Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters M72: Leadership of Bible studies M13: Partnership with Anglican Schools M14: Archbishop's Education Advisor M15: Training opportunities for Anglican educators M59: Temporary arrangements for diocesan schools (<i>if not called over</i>) <i>Thereafter, other business as per the Business Paper</i>
5.00 pm +	M11: Grace City Church M31: Box Hill M7: Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett M39: Archdeacon Neil Atwood M60: Bishop Rick Lewers M71: Bishop Ross Nicholson
7.00 +	M63: Diocesan Ministry Strategy for 2025-2040 <i>Thereafter, other business as per the Business Paper</i> <i>Closure motions and hymn</i>