

# Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

## Second Session of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Synod Business Paper: Saturday 14 September 2024

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- 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 369 in Book 3: the Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019. See Part 5 of the Synod Standing Orders for ordinance procedures.

**Following the Synod Service at Rouse Hill Anglican College at 11.00 am, the Synod reassembles at 3.15 pm.**

- 1. The President or a person appointed by him is to pray.**
- 2. The President tables a list of the members of the Synod.**
- 3. Procedural motion to arrange business for Presidential Address**

Synod –

- (a) agrees to treat Saturday 14 September and Monday 16 September 2024 together as the first day of this session for the purposes of the order of business set out in Standing Order 3.2 of the *Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019* (the Standing Orders), noting that –
  - (i) the business paper for day 1 will therefore be used for both 14 September and 16 September 2024, and that it is intended to address the matters in Standing Order 3.2 as follows –
    - (A) paragraphs (a)-(c) on Saturday 14 September, and
    - (B) paragraphs (d)-(s) on Monday 16 September,
  - (ii) as a consequence of these arrangements, minutes for Saturday 14 September and Monday 16 September will be together signed as a correct record (or otherwise dealt with) by the President on Tuesday 17 September, in accordance with Standing Order 3.3(c),
- (b) agrees to treat Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 September 2024 as the second and third days of this session respectively, for the purposes of the order of business set out in Standing Order 3.3, and
- (c) notwithstanding paragraph (a), agrees to commence the order of business for Monday 16 September 2024 with the following two items –
  - (i) The President, or a person appointed by him, is to pray,
  - (ii) The President, or a person appointed by him, is to read a passage from the Bible and apply it, and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

- 4. Presidential Address**

The President will Address the Synod.

- 5. The Synod will adjourn until Monday 16 September 2024.**

*If the procedural motion at item 3 is passed, the following matters will form the order of business for Monday 16 September 2024, commencing at 3.15 pm in the Wesley Theatre.*

6. **The President or a person appointed by him is to pray.**
7. **Bible study is led by the Rev Kevin Kim.**
8. **The President tables a document appointing a commissary.**
9. **Procedural motion**

#### **9.1 Adoption of proposed Synod Standing Orders**

*A copy of the Standing Orders, marked to show changes proposed at this session, is available on the [SDS website](#).*

Synod, noting –

- (i) the Bill for the Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019 Amendment Ordinance 2024 (**the Bill**) proposes to amend the *Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019* (**the Standing Orders**) at this session, and
  - (ii) a number of proposed amendments in the Bill relate to matters which will arise in the course of Synod business before the consideration of the Bill, such as notice of motions (rule 4.3), calling of motions (rule 4.5), and asking of questions (rule 6.3),
    - (a) agrees it is preferable to maintain consistent procedures throughout a session of the Synod, and
    - (b) agrees to adopt the amendments to the Standing Orders proposed in the Bill for the entirety of the present session, irrespective of the passage of the Bill,
- and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

10. **Calling of motions related to certain elections (item 11 on the business paper).**
11. **Elections**

*Subject to casual vacancies, the Officers and Committees of the Synod are elected for a term expiring on the first day of the first ordinary session of the 54<sup>th</sup> Synod. The members currently holding these positions are shown on the [Synod this year](#) page at [www.sds.asn.au](http://www.sds.asn.au).*

#### **11.1 Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney**

Under section 12 of the *Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917*, the Synod declares a vacancy in the offices of members of the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney for the Rev Andrew Robson, Ms Margaret Stuart, Mr Caleb Teh, and Mrs Marianne Yacoel, who have come to the end of their terms of office, noting that Mr Robson, Ms Stuart, Mr Teh, and Mrs Yacoel have each been nominated in anticipation of these vacancies being declared.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

#### **11.2 Committee for the Order of Business**

Synod elects Archdeacon Simon Flinders as an additional member of the Committee for the Order of Business, for the duration of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Synod.

(Dr Robert Tong AM / Archdeacon Anthony Douglas)

12. **Uncontested elections**

A list of the uncontested elections will be laid upon the table, the results of which –

- (a) in the case of the election for the Anglican Church Property Trust, will be declared by the President,
  - (b) in the case of all other elections, are to be declared by the President on 3 September 2024, effective from 14 September 2024,
- pursuant to rule 4.1(b) of the Second Schedule to the *Synod Elections Ordinance 2000*.

**13. The minute book of the Standing Committee is tabled.**

**14. Petitions**

**15. Questions**

The President tables a list of questions asked by members in accordance with Standing Order 6.3(2)(a).

**16. The President invites members to give notice of motions.**

*If the procedural motion at 9.1 is passed, members are to give notice of motions in accordance with proposed new Standing Order 4.3(4).*

**17. Calling of motions (including procedural motions at item 18 and reception of reports at item 19) on the business paper.**

**18. Procedural motions**

**18.1 Arrangements concerning Daily Papers and amendments**

Synod –

- (a) notes that it is proposed to prepare and print Daily Papers (usually including the Business Paper and Schedule of motions with amendments) in a consolidated form and provide them to members in the foyer of the Wesley Theatre from 2.15 pm on each day,
- (b) notes that the Daily Papers will be posted on the SDS website, [www.sds.asn.au](http://www.sds.asn.au) as soon as they are finalised,
- (c) in order to facilitate this process, agrees that amendments for inclusion in the Daily Papers for any day of the session must be received by the Synod Secretary (either on paper or by email sent to [synodbusiness@sydney.anglican.asn.au](mailto:synodbusiness@sydney.anglican.asn.au)) in a substantially complete form by 10.30 am to be included Daily Papers for that day, and
- (d) notes that amendments received by the Synod Secretary after that time or which are not in a substantially complete form may, where feasible, be projected on the overhead screen in the Wesley Theatre (if required to be considered on that day) but will otherwise be included in the Daily Papers for the following day.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

**18.2 Arrangements for the scheduling of business**

Synod notes that the Timetable for Synod Business sets out the anticipated order of business, including the following presentations that have been approved by the Standing Committee –

- (a) on Tuesday 17 September (afternoon session, from 5.25 pm) –
  - (i) a presentation from Anglican Youth and Education Diocese of Sydney (Youthworks), from Canon Craig Roberts, the Rev Mike Dicker, the Rev Steve Carlisle, and Mr Andy Stevenson, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer, and
  - (ii) a presentation from the Parish of Pymble, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer,
- (b) on Tuesday 17 September (evening session, from 7.00 pm), a presentation on the principles and processes used in developing the proposals for the restructure of the central organisational structures of the Diocese, including visuals, of up to 20 minutes,
- (c) on Wednesday 18 September (afternoon session, from 5.25 pm) –
  - (i) a presentation from Moore Theological College, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer, and

- (ii) a presentation from the Parish of Woollahra, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer,
  - (d) on Tuesday 24 September (afternoon session, following the formal matters), a presentation from the Synod in the Greenfields organising committee, including visuals, of up to five minutes including prayer,
- and notes that the Standing Committee has approved the following being presented at a time determined at the discretion of the President –
- (e) a presentation from the Endowment of the See Corporation, including visuals, of up to five minutes including prayer,
  - (f) a presentation regarding the HOPE25 Mission, including visuals, of up to five minutes including prayer, and
  - (g) a presentation from Anglicare, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer,
- and agrees –
- (h) to deal with its business in accordance with the Timetable for Synod Business, subject to the ultimate discretion of the President,
  - (i) that the mover and seconder of the motion at M3 (Sadleir: Classification as a Parish) may combine for a joint presentation with visuals for up to 15 minutes including prayer, on Monday 16 September (evening session, from 7.00 pm),
  - (j) that the mover and seconder of the motion at M4 (Sussex Inlet: Classification as a Parish) may combine for a joint presentation with visuals for up to 15 minutes including prayer, on Monday 23 September (afternoon session, immediately prior to the dinner break),
  - (k) that Dr Emma Penzo, a member of the Central Diocesan Structures Review Committee who is not a member of the Synod, may attend and speak to any motion moved at the session in connection with the review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese, if called on to do so, but not vote on any such motion,
  - (l) to a one-page flyer, in connection with the presentation mentioned in paragraph (f), being made available in the foyer of the Synod venue following the presentation for collection by members, and
  - (m) to reserve the evening of Wednesday 18 September for the conclusion of debate on any matters commenced but not yet concluded earlier in the session,
- and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

### **18.3 Arrangements for consideration of Diocesan Governance Policy**

Synod agrees to –

- (a) consider the form of the statement in Appendix 3 of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy prior to consideration of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy as a whole, without the necessity for the Diocesan Governance Policy to be approved in principle first,
- (b) schedule consideration of the motions regarding Appendix 3 (M11 - M13) for Monday 16 September (afternoon session, following formal matters) with the following arrangements –
  - (i) each motion will be moved together without a seconder's speech, with the mover speaking for up to 10 minutes in total to provide background information to the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy and the context for the Governance Policy Review Committee bringing the motions to Synod,
  - (ii) following the speech of the mover, a 'set piece debate' will be held in the order shown, with speeches up to the duration shown –
    - (A) M11 The Rev Dr Mark Thompson (in favour) – 10 minutes,
    - (B) M11 The Rev Dr Andrew Katay (against) – 10 minutes,
    - (C) Debate to proceed on M11 – 5 minutes per speech,
    - (D) the speakers at (A) and (B) each be given the right of reply on M11 – 5 minutes each,
    - (E) M11 will be put to a secret ballot by houses,

- (F) M12 Dean Sandy Grant (in favour) – 10 minutes,
- (G) M12 The Rev Dr Michael Jensen (against) – 10 minutes,
- (H) Debate to proceed on M12 – 5 minutes per speech,
- (I) the speakers at (F) and (G) each be given the right of reply on M12 – 3 minutes each,
- (J) M12 will be put to a secret ballot by houses,
- (K) M13 Dr Laurie Scandrett (in favour) – 10 minutes,
- (L) M13 The Rev Tim Bowden (against) – 10 minutes,
- (M) Debate to proceed on M13 – 5 minutes per speech,
- (N) the speakers at (K) and (L) each be given the right of reply on M13 – 3 minutes each, and
- (O) M13 will be put to a secret ballot by houses,
- (iii) a secret ballot by houses will be taken on each of the motions, with each vote taken at the end of the debate on the corresponding motion,
- (iv) debate on the subsequent motions may nonetheless proceed before the result of the ballot on the prior motion is known, and
- (v) if the President announces that M11 has not been carried, Synod grants the mover leave to withdraw M12 and M13 immediately,
- (c) schedule consideration of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy for a subsequent day of the session,
- (d) begin such consideration with a motion, without a seconder's speech, that the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy in a form which reflects the decisions made by the Synod regarding Appendix 3 be approved in principle,
- (e) request the Diocesan Secretary to prepare and circulate electronically to the Synod a revised form of the Diocesan Governance Policy reflecting the outcome of Synod's consideration of motions M11 - M13, and
- (f) consider the motion at M14 immediately following the passing of the Policy, and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

#### 18.4 Newmarch House 2020 COVID-19 Outbreak

Synod, noting that –

- (a) the Report of the coronial inquest into the Newmarch House 2020 COVID-19 outbreak has not yet been released,
- (b) a class action has been commenced and continues against Anglican Community Services (**Anglicare Sydney**) and others in relation to the Newmarch House 2020 COVID-19 outbreak, and
- (c) by resolution 3/23, the Synod requested a report be provided to the Standing Committee on this matter when all inquiries and legal matters are resolved,

agrees not to consider any motion on the topic of the Newmarch House 2020 COVID-19 outbreak and Anglicare Sydney's response at this session and suspends all Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Simon Miller / Bishop Gary Koo)

#### 18.5 Arrangements for consideration of Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese motion and Bill

Synod agrees to –

- (a) allow a five-minute video from the Indigenous churches in the Diocese, to be shown immediately prior to the motion at M10 (Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese), in lieu of a seconder's speech on the motion, and

- (b) consider the Bill at B4 (Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese Amendment Ordinance 2024) immediately following the motion at M10 (Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese).

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue / The Rev Michael Duckett)

#### **18.6 Arrangements for the consideration of M24 40th anniversary of the establishment of Sports & Leisure Ministries**

Synod agrees to schedule consideration of the motion at M24 (40th anniversary of the establishment of Sports & Leisure Ministries) in the 30 minutes before the dinner break on Wednesday 18 September 2024.

(The Rev Richard Wenden / Dr Karin Sowada)

#### **18.7 Publication of presentation material**

Synod agrees that any video presentation or presentation material may be published by the Secretary of the Synod, with the agreement of the presenter of the material, on the Synod webpage.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

### **19. Tabling and reception of accounts and reports etc**

#### **19.1 Annual reports submitted under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* for organisations with a financial year ending 31 December**

*The 2023 financial reports of the diocesan organisations marked with an asterisk (\*) below are available on the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission's website ([www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au)).*

Synod notes that the following annual reports, submitted under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* for the Financial Year ending 31 December 2023, have been tabled and receives them –

- (1) Abbotsleigh (The Council of)
- (2) Anglican Church Growth Corporation
- (3) Anglican Church Growth Corporation as trustee for the Ministry Infrastructure Development Fund
- (4) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney as trustee for the Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney Grants Administration Fund \*
- (5) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney
- (6) Anglican Media Council
- (7) Anglican Schools Corporation
- (8) Anglican Youth and Education Diocese of Sydney (Youthworks) \*
- (9) Archbishop of Sydney's Discretionary Trust
- (10) Arden Anglican School Council (The)
- (11) Arundel House Council
- (12) Barker College (The Council of)
- (13) Campbelltown Anglican Schools Council \*
- (14) Endowment of the See Corporation as trustee of the Endowment of the See Property Fund
- (15) Evangelism and New Churches (The Board of)
- (16) Glebe Administration Board as trustee of the Diocesan Cash Investment Fund
- (17) Glebe Administration Board as trustee of the Diocesan Endowment
- (18) Glebe Administration Board as trustee for the Long Term Pooling Fund
- (19) Illawarra Grammar School (The Council of The) \*
- (20) King's School (The Council of The)

- (21) Macarthur Anglican Church School Council (The)
- (22) Ministry Training and Development (The Council of)
- (23) Moore Theological College Council \*
- (24) Northern Regional Council
- (25) St Andrew's Cathedral School (The Council of)
- (26) St Andrew's House Corporation as trustee of the St Andrew's House Trust
- (27) St Catherine's School Waverley (The Council of)
- (28) South Sydney Regional Council
- (29) South Western Regional Council
- (30) Sydney Anglican Loans Board
- (31) Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee
- (32) Sydney Church of England Grammar School Council (Shore)
- (33) Sydney Diocesan Services
- (34) Tara Anglican School for Girls (The Council of)
- (35) Trinity Grammar School (The Council of)
- (36) Western Sydney Regional Council
- (37) William Clarke College Council \*
- (38) Wollongong Regional Council

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

**19.2 Annual reports required under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* but not yet submitted**

Synod notes that the following organisations have not submitted an annual report and a copy of their audited accounts for the most recently concluded financial year, and requests that the organisations lodge those documents as soon as possible –

Living Faith Council

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

**19.3 Annual reports submitted under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* for organisations with a financial year ending 30 June**

Synod notes that the following annual reports, submitted under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2023, have been tabled and receives them –

Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid (The) \*

Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid (The), as trustee of the Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Ministry Fund \*

Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid (The), as trustee of the Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief and Aid Fund \*

Anglican Community Services\*

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

**19.4 Other annual reports**

Synod notes that the following annual report for the Financial Year ending 31 December 2023 has been tabled and receives it –

Mission to Seafarers (The), Sydney

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

## 19.5 Standing Committee and other special reports

Synod receives the following reports and notes that they have been printed at the direction of the Standing Committee –

- (1) 2024 Report of the Standing Committee
- (2) Synod Funds Amalgamated Annual Financial Report for 2023
- (3) Parish Funds Amalgamated Annual Financial Report for 2023
- (4) Synod – St Andrew’s House Fund Annual Financial Report for 2023
- (5) Sadleir: Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish to a parish
- (6) Sussex Inlet: Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish to a parish
- (7) Attendance Patterns and Mission in the Diocese (64/23)
- (8) Doctrine Commission Report: The Anglican Communion and the Anglican Church of Australia
- (9) Doctrine Commission Report: The Relationship of Church and State and Religious Freedom (38/22)
- (10) Implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (12/23)
- (11) Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese (10/23)
- (12) Ordinances passed by the Standing Committee (since August 2023)
- (13) Partnership with Anglican Schools (56/23)
- (14) Professional Development for Ministry Workers (54/22)
- (15) Property priorities to progress Indigenous ministry (22/22)
- (16) Review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese
- (17) Shaping Parish Structures for Mission
- (18) Stipends, Allowances and Benefits for 2025 (2/05)
- (19) Toward the development of a Diocesan Property Strategy (15/22)
- (20) Use of Non-Disclosure Agreements in the Diocese (48/23)
- (21) Ministry Spouse Support Fund Report Annual Report for 2023
- (22) Reporting on the National Redress Scheme (Annual Report) (42/18)
- (23) Regional Councils’ Annual Reports for 2023
- (24) Safe Ministry Board and the Office of the Director of Safe Ministry Annual Report 2023-2024
- (25) Work Outside the Diocese
- (26) Review of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations (33/23)
- (27) Parish Governance Policy
- (28) Explanatory statements and reports on Bills

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

## 20. 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).

### 16 September 2024

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

- ○ **B1 Archbishop of Sydney Election Ordinance 1982 Amendment Ordinance 2024**
- Synod will be asked to consider the Archbishop of Sydney Election Ordinance 1982 Amendment Ordinance 2024.
- (Bk 1 p.281) (Archdeacon Anthony Douglas / Dr Claire Smith)
- ○ **B2 Consecration of the Archbishop of Sydney Ordinance 2021 Amendment Ordinance 2024**
- Synod will be asked to consider the Consecration of the Archbishop of Sydney Ordinance 2021 Amendment Ordinance 2024.
- (Bk 1 p.281) (Archdeacon Anthony Douglas / Dr Claire Smith)
- ○ **B3 Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney (Delegation of Powers and Quorum) Amendment Ordinance 2024**  
*Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> (evening session), following M6*
- Synod will be asked to consider the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney (Delegation of Powers and Quorum) Amendment Ordinance 2024.
- (Bk 1 p.278) (Mr Robert Wicks / Mrs Melinda West)
- ○ **B4 Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese Amendment Ordinance 2024**  
*To be considered immediately following M10*
- Synod will be asked to consider the Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese Amendment Ordinance 2024 in a form incorporating the following amendment –
- ‘Omit all the matter at paragraph 3 and insert instead the following matter –
- “3. Amendment to the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995**
- The *Synod Membership Ordinance 1995* is amended as follows –

- (a) insert the matter ‘, 8A’ after the number ‘6’ in clauses 33(b), 35(e), 43(b) and 46(2)(d), and
- (b) insert the following matter at the end of clause 50A before the full-stop –
  - ‘
  - or the person is the Director of Indigenous Ministry’, and
- (c) insert a new clause 50BA as follows –
  - ‘50BA. Additional Nominated Indigenous Representative**
  - (1) The Director of Indigenous Ministry is an additional Nominated Indigenous Representative, ex officio and must be summoned to each session of Synod convened while they hold that office.
  - (2) If a person is summoned to a session of Synod under subclause 50BA(1), and before the first day of that session the person ceases to hold office as the Director of Indigenous Ministry, the summons is void.
  - (3) Divisions 2 and 3 of this Part 8A do not apply to a person who is a member of Synod under subclause 50BA(1).’, and
- (d) in the Dictionary substitute the definition of ‘Indigenous Person’ with the following –
  - “‘Indigenous Person’ means a person who –
    - (a) is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, and
    - (b) identifies as an Aboriginal Person or Torres Strait Islander, and
    - (c) is accepted as such by the community in which they live or formerly lived.””

(Bk 1 p.298)

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue / Bishop Michael Stead)



**B5 Diocesan Governance Policy**

*Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following formal matters*

That the Diocesan Governance Policy be approved in principle.

(Bk 1 p.185)

(Mr Greg Hammond OAM / Bishop Chris Edwards)



**B6 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2024**

*Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> (evening session), following Mission Hour*

Synod will be asked to consider the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2024.

(Bk 1 p.250)

(Canon Phillip Colgan / Mr John Pascoe)



**B7 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2024**

*Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> (evening session), following B6*

Synod will be asked to consider the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2024.

(Bk 1 p.232)

(Canon Phillip Colgan / Mr John Pascoe)

●○ **B8 Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2024**

Synod will be asked to consider the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2024.

(Bk 1 p.300)

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Mrs Catherine Rich)

●○ **B9 Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019 Amendment Ordinance 2024**

Synod will be asked to consider the Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019 Amendment Ordinance 2024 in a form incorporating the following amendment –

‘In paragraph 2 –

(a) insert a new subparagraph (e), with consequential re-lettering, as follows –

“(e) insert a new subclause 4.3(4) as follows –

‘(4) On the days provided for giving notice of motions, a member called on by the President to do so is to make a brief statement informing the Synod of the subject matter of the motion and provide the full text of the motion to the Secretary of the Synod to be printed in the business paper for the next day of the session.’, and

(b) in the re-lettered subparagraph (j), insert a new subparagraph (i), with consequential re-lettering, as follows –

“(i) in subclause (2)(c), delete the matter ‘hand’, and insert instead the matter ‘provide’,”.

(Bk 1 p.307)

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

●○ **B10 Parish Governance Policy**

*Not to be considered before B5*

That the Parish Governance Policy be approved in principle.

(Bk 2 p.345)

(Mr Greg Hammond OAM / Bishop Chris Edwards)

## 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

●○ **M1 Use of Non-Disclosure Agreements in the Diocese**

*Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> (afternoon session), following formal matters*

Synod, noting the report ‘Use of Non-Disclosure Agreements in the Diocese’ –

(a) endorses the principles articulated by the Report,

(b) endorses the recommendations made at paragraphs 36, 37, and 38 of the Report,

(c) encourages all parishes, diocesan organisations, and schools to:

(i) adopt a policy in relation to the use of Non-Disclosure Agreements (**NDAs**) which reflects the principles of the Report and the recommendations made at paragraphs 36, 37, and 38, or

(ii) make a public “pledge” in relation to the use of NDAs which reflects the principles of the Report and the recommendations made at paragraphs 36, 37, and 38,

- (d) encourages all parishes, diocesan organisations, and schools to consider whether they have used NDAs in the past which contravene the principles and recommendations of the Report, and, if they have done so, to welcome approaches from those who may have been subject to such NDAs with a view to considering the offer of an apology for the use of such NDAs, and, the offer of a formal (written) release from the terms of the NDA, and
- (e) agrees to consider a motion at the next session of Synod by which the Synod will apologise to all those who have, historically, been subject to NDAs which contravene the principles and recommendations of the Report.

(Bk 1 p.177)

(Archdeacon Simon Flinders / Mrs Stacey Chapman)

## ○ ○ **M2 Professional Development for Ministry Workers**

Synod, noting the report 'Professional Development for Ministry Workers' –

- (a) invites members of the Synod to provide feedback to the Diocesan Secretary by 31 December 2024 on the proposed arrangements for all ministry workers in the Diocese to undertake mandatory, regular professional development as contemplated in the report, and
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to implement arrangements for professional development for all ministry workers having given regard to any feedback received.

(Bk 1 p.126)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Dr Kirsty Bucknell)

## ● ○ **M3 Sadleir: Classification as a Parish** *Monday 16<sup>th</sup> (evening session), from 7.00pm*

Synod assents to the classification of Sadleir as a parish with effect from 1 November 2024.

(Bk 1 p.67)

(The Rev David Morgan / Bishop Peter Lin)

## ● ○ **M4 Sussex Inlet: Classification as a Parish** *Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> (afternoon session), immediately prior to the dinner break*

Synod assents to the classification of Sussex Inlet as a parish with effect from 1 January 2025.

(Bk 1 p.67)

(The Rev Martyn Davis / Bishop Peter Hayward)

## ● ○ **M5 Sydney Anglican Property** *Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> (evening session)*

Synod, noting –

- (i) the initial steps taken by the Standing Committee outlined in the report 'Review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese' to form Sydney Anglican Property (**SAP**) with effect from 1 January 2024 through the appointment of a common transitional board membership for –
    - (A) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney,
    - (B) Anglican Church Growth Corporation,
    - (C) New Church for New Communities, and
    - (D) St Andrew's House Corporation, and
  - (ii) the metrics approved by the Standing Committee outlined in the report by which progress in consolidating the central property undertaking of the Diocese will be measured,
- (a) endorses the initial steps taken by the Standing Committee in forming SAP,
  - (b) approves in principle the reduction in the number of bodies corporate operating in the SAP structure,
  - (c) encourages the Standing Committee to consider and, as appropriate, to take this and such further steps it considers necessary or desirable to realise the full benefit of the consolidation, and

- (d) requests the Standing Committee to report progress to the next ordinary session of the Synod in 2025.

(Bk 1 p.136)

(Canon Phillip Colgan / Dr Laurie Scandrett)



**M6 Acknowledgement of former ACPT, SAHC, and ACGC members**

*Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> (evening session), following M5, unless taken on the callover*

Synod noting that, as a consequence of the formation of the transitional Sydney Anglican Property (**SAP**) Board on 1 January 2024, the following 14 former members of the Anglican Church Property Trust, St Andrew's House Corporation, and Anglican Church Growth Corporation did not continue as members of the SAP Board –

Canon Christopher Allan	Mr Richard Neal
Mr Howard Bellchambers	Mr David Nelson
Mr Andrew Buckley	Mr Trevor Ratcliff
Mr Marcin Firek	Mr Peter Rusbourne
Mr Robert Freeman	The Rev James Sneddon
The Rev Dr Raj Gupta	Dr Robert Tong AM
Mr Peter Janssen OAM	The Rev Philip Wheeler,

- (a) acknowledges the collective 133 years of service represented by those 14 former members, and
- (b) thanks each of them for their contribution to the wise stewardship of these organisations over many years.

(Mrs Melinda West / Mr Peter Hicks)



**M7 Sydney Anglican Services**

*Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> (evening session), following M6 (or M5, if M6 is taken on the callover)*

Synod, noting the proposal to form Sydney Anglican Services (**SAS**) outlined in the report 'Review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese' approves –

- (a) the formation of SAS from 1 January 2025 with the purpose, functions, structure and membership in or to the effect of those outlined in the report,
- (b) the Glebe Administration Board continuing as a separate specialist board but as part of the broader SAS structure with its membership appointed by SAS, and
- (c) the loans function currently administered by the Sydney Anglican Loans Board being administered by SAS with appropriate input from clergy at board level,

and requests the Standing Committee to –

- (i) implement these outcomes and take such other associated action it considers necessary or desirable to realise, as far as possible, the full benefit of SAS's formation as the corporate body through which the Synod supports and regulates the central governance and administration of the affairs of the Diocese under the oversight of the Standing Committee, and
- (ii) report progress, with any further recommendations, to the next ordinary session of the Synod in 2025.

(Bk 1 p.136)

(Dr Laurie Scandrett / Bishop Michael Stead)



**M8 Evangelism & Ministry Partnerships**

*Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> (evening session), following M7*

Synod, noting the proposal to form Evangelism and Ministry Partnerships (**EMP**) outlined in the report 'Review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese' –

- (a) approves in principle the formation of EMP with the purpose, functions, structure and membership as or to the effect of those outlined in the report,

- (b) requests the Standing Committee to continue to consult with the boards of Evangelism and New Churches (**ENC**), Ministry Training & Development (**MT&D**), the Anglican Media Council (**AMC**) and the other bodies involved in this proposal to determine the optimal structure and transition timing for this new entity, and to consult with specialists in organisational design and change management as necessary, and
- (c) requests the Standing Committee to take such other steps it considers necessary or desirable to achieve this outcome and report progress to the next ordinary session of the Synod in 2025.

(Bk 1 p.136)

(Bishop Michael Stead / Canon Phillip Colgan)

## ○○ **M9 Partnership with Anglican Schools**

Synod, noting the report '56/23 Partnership with Anglican Schools' –

- (a) notes that the draft statement on Reformed Anglican Education has been presented to heads and chaplains as requested by the Synod, and thanks heads and chaplains for their thoughtful engagement with the statement and for their detailed feedback,
- (b) reaffirms Synod's acknowledgement of, and thanks for, Anglican Schools, as partners in the mission and ministry of the Diocese,
- (c) requests the Standing Committee to form a suitably qualified committee to review the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education, to report back to the next ordinary session of the Synod in 2025, and provide the committee with all the feedback received on the draft statement on Reformed Anglican Education,
- (d) requests that the revision of the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education address (among other things) the specific areas raised in the report,
- (e) requests that the revised Diocesan Policy Statement on Education incorporate key insights and principles contained in the draft statement on Reformed Anglican Education, and
- (f) requests the Diocesan Secretary communicate the substance of this resolution to heads and chaplains of Diocesan schools, including a copy of the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education, and expressing Synod's commitment to continuing dialogue with schools regarding these matters.

(Bk 1 p.122)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Dr Laurie Scandrett)

## ●○ **M10 Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese**

*Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> (afternoon session), following M1*

Synod, noting the report 'Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese' –

- (a) agrees to the creation of a position known as the Director of Indigenous Ministry, to be appointed by the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee with the concurrence of the Archbishop,
- (b) agrees that the role of the Director of Indigenous Ministry should be funded through an increase from 1% to 1.5% in the amount of the total available income for Synod that is applied to the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Trust Fund,
- (c) agrees that the Director of Indigenous Ministry should be an ex officio member of the Synod as an additional Nominated Indigenous Representative, and an ex officio member of the Standing Committee, and
- (d) requests the Standing Committee amend the *Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Ordinance 2002* as required to give effect to the creation of the Director of Indigenous Ministry.

(Bk 1 p.298)

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue / Dr Karin Sowada)

●○ **M11 Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – addition of Statement of Personal Faith paragraphs**

*Monday 16<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following formal matters*

*If M11 is carried, M12 and M13 will be considered. If M11 is not carried, M12 and M13 lapse and will be withdrawn.*

Synod, noting the report ‘33/23 Review of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations’, agrees that the following two paragraphs be inserted in the form of Appendix 3 of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy as new paragraphs 1 and 2 (with consequential re-numbering) –

- ‘1. I believe –
  - (a) that all the canonical scriptures of the books of the Old and New Testaments are the ultimate rule and standard of faith given by inspiration of God and contain all things necessary to salvation,
  - (b) in the Christian faith as professed by the church of Christ from primitive times, and in particular as set forth in the creeds known as the Nicene Creed and the Apostles’ Creed, and
  - (c) that there is only one way to be reconciled to God which is through his Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and was raised for our justification, and that we are justified before God by faith only.
2. I also believe that all the canonical scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct and am personally committed to living in obedience to the commands of Christ.’

(Bk 1 p.185)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mr Greg Hammond OAM)

●○ **M12 Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – addition of further Statement of Personal Faith paragraph**

*Monday 16<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following M11*

*If M11 is carried, M12 and M13 will be considered. If M11 is not carried, M12 and M13 lapse and will be withdrawn.*

Synod agrees that the following paragraph be inserted in the form of Appendix 3 of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy as a new paragraph 3 (with consequential re-numbering) –

- ‘3. I also believe 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.’

(Bk 1 p.185)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mr Greg Hammond OAM)

●○ **M13 Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – requirements for members elected or appointed by Non-Diocesan Appointors**

*Monday 16<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following M12*

*If M11 is carried, M12 and M13 will be considered. If M11 is not carried, M12 and M13 lapse and will be withdrawn.*

Synod, noting that the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy will require, for a Level C or D entity –

- (i) members of the governing body elected or appointed by Non-Diocesan Appointors to sign the form of Appendix 3 as shown in Synod Book 1,
- (ii) members elected or appointed by Diocesan Appointors, and chief executive officers, to sign the form of Appendix 3 as shown in Synod Book 1 including any new paragraphs inserted by resolution of the Synod,

agrees that members elected or appointed by Non-Diocesan Appointors must likewise sign the form of Appendix 3 including any new paragraphs inserted.

(Bk 1 p.185)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mr Greg Hammond OAM)



#### **M14 Diocesan Governance Policy – implementation**

*Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following B5*

Synod, noting the *Accounts Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* includes an obligation for diocesan organisations to report to the Synod every three years on their conformity to the Diocesan Governance Policy and explain any areas of non-conformance –

- (a) repeals the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations made by the Synod on 20 October 2014, as amended from time to time,
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to amend the *Interpretations Ordinance 1985* to provide that –
  - (i) any reference in an ordinance to the ‘Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations made by the Synod on 20 October 2014, as amended from time to time’, be taken to be a reference to the Diocesan Governance Policy, as adopted by the Synod at this session,
  - (ii) any reference in an ordinance to the ‘Statement of Personal Faith set out in the Synod Governance Policy’ or a similar expression, be taken to be a reference to Appendix 3 of the Diocesan Governance Policy as adopted by the Synod at this session, and
  - (iii) prior to July 2026 a person may sign a statement in the form of Appendix 3 to the Diocesan Governance Policy rather than a ‘Statement of Personal Faith’ annexed to an ordinance constituting an organisation to which the person is to be elected or appointed as a member of the governing body,
- (c) requests the Standing Committee make arrangements for an outline of, and references to, the doctrine of the Anglican Church of Australia in the Diocese of Sydney to be made available on the Sydney Anglicans website,
- (d) requests each Diocesan organisation to promote amendments to its constituting ordinance by July 2026 to achieve conformity with the Diocesan Governance Policy noting that where appropriate, provisions of the Diocesan Governance Policy may be included in a charter (or similar document),
- (e) requests the Standing Committee to –
  - (i) review the *Accounts, Audits, and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995*, the *Synod Elections Ordinance 2000*, and other relevant ordinances with a view to amending them to ensure conformity with the Diocesan Governance Policy, noting that it may not be appropriate for a particular ordinance to conform to the Diocesan Governance Policy in all respects,
  - (ii) consult with each Diocesan organisation before any amendments are made to the ordinance by which the Diocesan organisation is constituted, and
  - (iii) report progress to the next session of the Synod,
- (f) authorises the Standing Committee to make amendments to the Diocesan Governance Policy, with the exception of Appendix 3, unless before such amendment is made, any 3 members of the Standing Committee request in writing that the amendment be referred to the Synod, and provided any amendment made by the Standing Committee is reported to the next ordinary session of the Synod.

(Bk 1 p.185)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mr Greg Hammond OAM)



#### **M15 Diocesan Governance Policy – acknowledgements and thanks**

*Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following M14*

Synod –

- (a) acknowledges and gives thanks for the persons responsible for the financial and property affairs of parishes, and the persons responsible for governing Diocesan organisations, who give generously of their time, energy and skills to exercise the responsibilities with which they have been entrusted,
- (b) encourages the persons responsible for the financial and property affairs of parishes, and the persons responsible for governing Diocesan organisations, to work in partnership with the Synod in seeking standards of governance appropriate to their context. Such standards are to be underpinned by prayer, sacrificial service, a dependence upon God for wisdom and a proper regard to best practice so that decisions made will enhance the effectiveness



of each parish or Diocesan organisation in proclaiming and commending Jesus Christ as Lord and pursuing their purposes,

- (c) commits to having due regard to the principles set out in the Diocesan Governance Policy in formulating rules and policies for the conduct of its own affairs and business, and
- (d) commits to working in partnership with parishes and Diocesan organisations, seeking to be informed of both their purposes and contexts to communicate and collaborate with them in the pursuit of their purposes and the furtherance of the purposes and priorities of the Diocese.

(Bk 1 p.185)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mr Greg Hammond OAM)

●○ **M16 Attendance Patterns and Mission in the Diocese**  
*Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> (evening session)*

Synod, noting the report '64/23 Attendance Patterns and Mission in the Diocese', asks the Standing Committee to consider the recommendations of the report (paragraphs 111-129), to take appropriate steps to enact those recommendations it chooses to prioritise, and to bring a report to the next session of the Synod with an update on progress.

(Bk 1 p.70)

(The Rev Geoff Bates / The Rev Dominic Steele)

○○ **M17 Shaping Parish Structures for Mission**

Synod, noting the report 'Shaping Parish Structures for Mission' –

- (a) invites members of the Synod to provide feedback to the Diocesan Secretary by 30 November 2024 on the proposed changes as contemplated in the report, and
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to implement the proposed changes in light of feedback received.

(Bk 1 p.168)

(Archdeacon Anthony Douglas / Mrs Catherine Rich)

●○ **M18 Parish Governance Policy – implementation**  
*To be considered immediately following B10*

Synod –

- (a) requests the Standing Committee to review the *Parish Administration Ordinance 2008*, other ordinances relating to the financial and property affairs of parishes, and other ordinances (as applicable) with a view to amending them to achieve conformity with the Parish Governance Policy by or at the next session of the Synod,
- (b) authorises the Standing Committee to make amendments to the Parish Governance Policy, unless before such amendment is made, any 3 members of the Standing Committee request in writing that the amendment be referred to the Synod, and provided any amendment made by the Standing Committee is reported to the next ordinary session of the Synod,
- (c) acknowledges and gives thanks for the persons responsible for the financial and property affairs of parishes who give generously of their time, energy and skills to exercise the responsibilities with which they have been entrusted.

(Bk 2 p.345)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mr Greg Hammond OAM)

○○ **M19 Governance Policy Review Committee**

Synod thanks the members of the Governance Policy Review Committee for their work in bringing the Diocesan Governance Policy and Parish Governance Policy to the Synod.

(Bk 2 p.345)

(Dr David Nockles / Dr Claire Smith)

○○ **M20 Doctrine Commission Report: The Relationship of Church and State and Religious Freedom**

Synod, noting the report 'The Relationship of Church and State and Religious Freedom' –

- (a) endorses the report, and
- (b) approves its publication on the Commission's website.

(Bk 1 p.97)

(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson / Bishop Michael Stead)

○○ **M21 Implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse**

Synod, noting the report '12/23 Implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse', requests the Standing Committee to provide a further update to the next session of the Synod in relation to implementation of the actions set out in the table to the report.

(Bk 2 p.329)

(Ms Nicola Warwick-Mayo / Archdeacon Anthony Douglas)

○○ **M22 Mr Greg Hammond OAM**

Synod, noting that on 31 July 2024, Mr Greg Hammond OAM retired as Chairman of Anglican Community Services (Anglicare Sydney) after eight years of faithful service –

- (a) gives thanks to God for His work through Anglicare Sydney during Mr Hammond's chairmanship of the organisation including –
  - (i) the successful formation of Anglicare Sydney with the merger of Anglican Retirement Villages and the Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society in 2016,
  - (ii) the increased alignment of Anglicare Sydney with the Diocesan Mission and the firm commitment of the organisation to partnerships with parishes to further the Gospel of Christ,
  - (iii) successfully managing the succession of the Chief Executive Officer of the organisation in 2021-2022,
  - (iv) the expansion of Anglicare Sydney's footprint to include the Armidale and Bathurst Dioceses and the growth of services to older Australians, and families and people in marginalised communities,
  - (v) leaving Anglicare Sydney in a robust financial position after the uncertainty and challenges following the Royal Commission into Aged Care, and
  - (vi) representing Anglicare Sydney on the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Sydney and Anglicare Australia as Chair of the Anglicare Australia Chairs Network, and
- (b) thanks God for Mr Greg Hammond's leadership and Mrs Beth Hammond's support, and prays for their ongoing commitment to the Gospel and contribution to the Diocese and beyond through service on the Standing Committee, the Governance Policy Review Committee and the Board of the Australian College of Theology.

(Ms Evelyn Horton / Mr Simon Miller)

○○ **M23 Retirement of the Rev Eric Percival**

Synod gives thanks for the ministry of Eric and Christine Percival. After nineteen years of ministry to the Parish of Greenwich, Eric will retire from full-time ministry later this year. The Parish have expressed their thanks for Eric's emphasis on small groups as a means of helping spiritual growth and providing pastoral support. They have valued his wise and insightful preaching and are especially thankful for how he brought the congregation through Covid and we all pray God's blessings on them as they retire.

(Bishop Chris Edwards)

#### **IV. Motions by request of a Regional Council**

*There are no motions under this heading.*

#### **V. Motions deferred by the previous ordinary session of Synod**

*There are no motions under this heading.*

#### **VI. Motions received by the Secretary of the Synod**

##### ○○ **M24 40th anniversary of the establishment of Sports & Leisure Ministries**

Synod thanks God for –

- (a) the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Sports & Leisure Ministries,
  - (b) for the tenacity of clergymen from several denominations, including Sydney's the Rev David Tyndall, in the establishment and development of this ministry,
  - (c) the sports chaplaincy organisations that grew from this root, including Sports Chaplaincy Australia, Australian Racing Christian Chaplaincy, Life Saving Chaplaincy Australia and Motor Racing Chaplaincy, and
  - (d) the over 500 people involved in sports chaplaincy across Australia who continue to show the love of Jesus in the sporting arena of our land,
- and commits to pray for this vital ministry.

(The Rev Dr Richard Wenden / Dr Karin Sowada)

##### ○○ **M25 Giving thanks to God for the ministry of Cursillo**

Synod gives thanks to Almighty God for the ministry of Cursillo, Diocese of Sydney, noting that –

- (a) over the past 30 years, this lay led ministry has been used by God to grow disciples and to lead women and men into a clear and vital relationship with our Lord Jesus,
- (b) many hundreds of people have shared in the program and we are grateful to them for their service and dedication,
- (c) after extensive consultation, prayer, and dialogue with the Archbishop, the Cursillo Secretariat wound up the ministry and formally concluded activities with a public celebration on 3 August 2024.

(The Rev Robert Happer / The Rev Trevor Young)

##### ○○ **M26 National Online Gambling Reform**

Synod, noting that –

- (a) it has been over a year since the parliamentary report “You Win Some, You Lose More”, from the committee chaired by the late Peta Murphy, was tabled with 31 recommendations to minimise the growing harm occurring in Australia from sports betting and other online gambling,
- (b) online gambling rates are increasing rapidly and a recent ANU survey found that 1.2 million adults were personally affected by someone else’s gambling in the past 12 months, and
- (c) regretfully, the federal Government has still not announced its response to this urgent matter of public health and welfare,

again requests the Archbishop, along with all concerned Anglican church members, to write to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, calling on them to lead bipartisan legislative

action to enact the Murphy Committee's unanimous cross-party recommendations, especially the phased but rapid removal of all sports bet advertising from TV in Australia.

(Dean Sandy Grant / The Rev David Yung)

## ○○ M27 NSW Poker Machine Reform

Synod, noting that –

- (a) the NSW Budget 2024-25 expects “increased gaming machine activity” and has revised gambling tax revenue estimates much higher over the forward estimates, with taxation revenue on hotel gaming devices, principally poker machines, expected to grow fastest of all at 8% p.a., while gambling tax revenue is already expected to be \$3.5 billion in 2023-24 alone, and
- (b) a recent survey from Wesley Mission found 30% of respondents know someone who has experienced harm through poker machine use. Such research and forward estimates indicate that recent modest harm minimisation steps by the Government have made negligible difference to the deleterious impact of poker machine gambling on public health and welfare in NSW,

requests the Archbishop, along with all concerned Anglican church members, to write to the Premier of NSW calling for prompt implementation of a universal cashless gaming card with mandatory harm reduction measures, taking account of the learnings from of the trial currently underway.

(The Rev David Yung / Dean Sandy Grant)

## ○○ M28 SRE and the Office of the Children’s Guardian

Synod –

- (a) thanks God for the privilege of Special Religious Education (**SRE**) in New South Wales public schools that empowers parents with the dignity of choice in the faith education of their child/ren,
- (b) notes that SRE teachers and helpers comprise Australia’s largest weekly volunteer labour force and contribute to the spiritual and psychological wellbeing of students, strengthen the multicultural fabric of local school communities, and deliver other societal benefits,
- (c) notes –
  - (i) that the New South Wales Education Department requires each parish SRE Coordinator to declare in writing that they will immediately notify the Department of Education if they receive advice from the Office of the Children's Guardian (**OCG**) that one of our SRE teachers’ or helpers’ Working With Children Check (**WWCC**) clearance expires, has been closed or becomes barred from working with children, and
  - (ii) there is a reasonable expectation that the OCG will communicate information about the WWCC clearance status of any SRE teach or helper via the two Contacts supplied by the parish to the OCG, which may or may not include the parish SRE Coordinator, and
- (d) requests the Youthworks SRE Office to ensure that each Rector makes a written commitment when appointing his parish SRE Coordinator that he will ensure that –
  - (i) all persons who answer the parish phone during business hours can recognise names of SRE teachers and helpers, and
  - (ii) as and when any communication from the OCG is received by the parish concerning the WWCC clearance status of any SRE teacher or helper, he (or, in his absence, any person answering the parish phone) will immediately –
    - (A) notify all schools at which that SRE teacher or helper is authorised, on behalf of the SRE Coordinator, and
    - (B) confirm to the SRE Coordinator that such notification has been made.

(Ms Polly Seidler / Canon Craig Roberts)

## ○○ M29 Archbishop of Melbourne

Synod –

- (a) notes that the current Archbishop of Melbourne, the Most Rev Dr Philip Leslie Freier, will retire next year, and
- (b) prays for Melbourne's Board of Nominators and election Synod, that God would give them wisdom and guide them as they nominate and elect a new Archbishop.

(Mr Samuel Doherty / The Rev Michael Crichton)

## ○○ M30 Spirit-led evolution of the pathway to ordination of women

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to God for healing across the worldwide Anglican Communion, and specifically across the Anglican Church of Australia as passionately-held differences on biblical interpretation held in the 1980s have transitioned to the recognition of 'God-given diversity' as described in the Jerusalem Declaration,
- (b) recognises that national Anglican churches within GAFCON ordain women as priests, in common with many national Anglican churches identified as aligned with the See of Canterbury,
- (c) acknowledges that, forty years or more ago, difference in biblical interpretation between certain Australia Dioceses were marked, with Sydney Synod receiving multiple assessments by the Doctrine Commission including (8/87; 1988) 'a woman may not take the responsibility for the teaching of the faith in the family congregation',
- (d) notes that, where once there was declared impaired fellowship with one Diocese which pursued women's ordination in the absence of national consensus,
- (e) now, as the Archbishop has advised Synod (2023), such impaired fellowship with any Diocese is no longer recognised,
- (f) affirms the view (Bishop Glenn Davies, 2016) that each member's assessment of women's ordination to the presbyterate is the only basis for any further decision making, with diversity of opinion also recognised, and
- (g) in considering such ordination, gives thanks to God for the ministry of women variously appointed bishops, priests and deacons across the Anglican Church of Australia and prays for continuing outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all women who are ordained.

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM / Mr Tony Brownlow)

## ○○ M31 Pastoral care of women called to the priesthood

Synod –

- (a) acknowledges that since the 1980's, some individual women from within this Diocese experiencing a call to the priesthood have sought to test whether such a call is through the Holy Spirit by praying and consulting with clergy from other Anglican dioceses in Australia,
- (b) likewise acknowledges that exclusion of women from teaching and from exercising authority over men was seen early on to epitomize submission to biblical authority and thus contribute to the character of the Diocese. In Synod the role of secular feminism in motivating women toward ordination was described,
- (c) is now able to advise women experiencing a call to ordination that the principles and practice in this Diocese concerning women as priests is transitioning from comprehensive prohibitions once in practice, as shown by recognition of the authority that women priests and bishops variously exercise in General Synod and the Archbishop of Perth being authorized to preach in Sydney in 2023,
- (d) gives thanks to God concerning women clergy in this Diocese, for the wide teaching ministries exercised through publication and discharge parochial responsibilities in a manner indistinguishable from that of rector,
- (e) likewise gives thanks for wives and mothers of Sydney clergy who have been ordained as priests in other Dioceses, and

- (f) therefore urges women from our Diocese who experience a call to priesthood to consider their future here rather than elsewhere and to discuss their situation with, among others, their rector and their regional bishop, knowing that through the same Spirit, circumstances in this Diocese are in transition.

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM / Ms Linda Davies)

 **M32 Attendance patterns response taskforce**

*To be considered immediately following M16*

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to the Lord for the faithful Anglican ministry efforts of both laity and clergy in the Diocese of Sydney since 1788, the crucial work of Moore Theological College, Anglicare, Youthworks, diocesan schools and other ministry organisations in supporting the ministry of the Diocese's churches, the visionary and theological leadership of Archbishops and other leaders, past and present, and the property and financial resources which facilitate the ministry of the Word,
- (b) laments the decline in attendance throughout the Diocese as a whole over the last decade, and
- (c) therefore requests the Standing Committee to establish a taskforce which is to report to the 2025 session of Synod to answer and address these matters –
- (i) What will be the probable operational, clergy recruitment and training, property and financial consequences of fellowshipping and connecting as a Diocese of approximately 270 parishes, if the rate of church attendance decline, identified in the Attendance Patterns Review Committee's report, continues for another decade?
- (ii) recommended contingency plans, to address the probable operational consequences identified in paragraph (a), and
- (iii) recommended strategic reallocation of Diocesan financial, property and human resources so that ministry to youth receives a disproportionately greater allocation, compared to other ministries than is currently the case, even if that necessarily requires a reduced allocation to other important ministries.

(The Rev Zac Veron)



# Timetable for Synod Business

A notation “B#” refers to Bills and “M#” refers to motions per the attached schedule. A ‘suite’ refers to a series of Bills and/or Motions which are intended to be considered sequentially.

<b>Saturday 14 September 2024</b>	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Prayer and Formal matters (items 1-3) Presidential Address
<b>Monday 16 September 2024</b>	
3.15 – 5.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters (items 6-18) <u>Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 suite (M11, M12, M13)</u> M11: Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – addition of Statement of Personal Faith paragraphs M12: Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – addition of further Statement of Personal Faith paragraph M13: Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – requirements for members elected or appointed by Non-Diocesan Appointors
5.30 – 7.00 pm	<i>Dinner break</i>
7.00 – 7.15 pm	M3: Sadleir: Classification as a Parish
7.15 pm +	<i>Resumption of Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 suite</i> <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>
<b>Tuesday 17 September 2024</b>	
3.15 – 5.25 pm	Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>
5.25 – 5.45 pm	Presentation: Anglican Youth and Education Diocese of Sydney (Youthworks) Presentation: Parish of Pymble
5.45 – 7.00 pm	<i>Dinner break</i>
7.00 pm +	Presentation: Review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese <u>Review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese suite (M5, M6, B3, M7, M8)</u> M5: Sydney Anglican Property M6: Acknowledgement of former ACPT, SAHC, and ACGC members B3: Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney (Delegation of Powers and Quorum) Amendment Ordinance 2024 M7: Sydney Anglican Services M8: Evangelism & Ministry Partnerships <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>

<b>Wednesday 18 September 2024</b>	
3.15 – 5.25 pm	Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters <u>Diocesan Governance Policy suite (B5, M14, M15)</u> B5: Diocesan Governance Policy M14: Diocesan Governance Policy – implementation M15: Diocesan Governance Policy – acknowledgements and thanks <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>
5.25 – 5.45 pm	Presentation: Moore Theological College Presentation: Parish of Woollahra
5.45 – 7.00 pm	<i>Dinner break</i>
7.00 pm +	<i>(If required) Resumption of Diocesan Governance Policy suite</i> <i>(If required) Resumption of Review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese suite</i> M16: Attendance Patterns and Mission in the Diocese <i>Thereafter, reserved for business commenced but not yet completed</i>

<b>Monday 23 September 2024</b>	
3.15 – 5.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters M1: Use of Non-Disclosure Agreements in the Diocese M10: Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese B4: Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese Amendment Ordinance 2024 <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>
5.30 – 5.45 pm	M4: Sussex Inlet: Classification as a Parish
5.45 – 7.00 pm	<i>Dinner break</i>
7.00 – 8.00 pm	<i>Mission hour</i>
8.00 pm +	B6: Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2024 B7: Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2024 <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>

<b>Tuesday 24 September 2024</b>	
3.15 – 5.45 pm	Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters Presentation: Synod in the Greenfields <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>
5.45 – 7.00 pm	<i>Dinner break</i>
7.00 pm +	<i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>