

3rd Session of the 52nd Synod
Daily Papers
14 September 2022

Business Paper

Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney

Bible passage: Wednesday 14 September 2022

Psalm 38

- LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger
or discipline me in your wrath.
- ²Your arrows have pierced me,
and your hand has come down on me.
- ³Because of your wrath there is no health in my body;
there is no soundness in my bones because of my sin.
- ⁴My guilt has overwhelmed me
like a burden too heavy to bear.
- ⁵My wounds fester and are loathsome
because of my sinful folly.
- ⁶I am bowed down and brought very low;
all day long I go about mourning.
- ⁷My back is filled with searing pain;
there is no health in my body.
- ⁸I am feeble and utterly crushed;
I groan in anguish of heart.
- ⁹All my longings lie open before you, Lord:
my sighing is not hidden from you.
- ¹⁰My heart pounds, my strength fails me;
even the light has gone from my eyes.
- ¹¹My friends and companions avoid me because of my wounds;
my neighbours stay far away.
- ¹²Those who want to kill me set their traps,
those who would harm me talk of my ruin;
all day long they scheme and lie.
- ¹³I am like the deaf, who cannot hear,
like the mute, who cannot speak;
- ¹⁴I have become like one who does not hear,
whose mouth can offer no reply.
- ¹⁵LORD, I wait for you;
you will answer, Lord my God.
- ¹⁶For I said, 'Do not let them gloat
or exalt themselves over me when my feet slip.'
- ¹⁷For I am about to fall,
and my pain is ever with me.
- ¹⁸I confess my iniquity;
I am troubled by my sin.
- ¹⁹Many have become my enemies without cause;
those who hate me without reason are numerous.
- ²⁰Those who repay my good with evil
lodge accusations against me,
though I seek only to do what is good.
- ²¹LORD, do not forsake me;
do not be far from me, my God.
- ²²Come quickly to help me,
my Lord and my Saviour.

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

Third Session of the 52nd Synod Business Paper: Wednesday 14 September 2022

- 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 303 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 Bishop Jay Behan.
3. Minutes of 13 September 2022
4. Answers to questions

4.1 Parish statistics for 2010 to 2021

The Rev Dr Raj Gupta asked the following question –

For each year, 2010-2021, what is –

- (a) Total parish adjusted net operating receipts
- (b) Total parish offertories
- (c) Total average attendance
- (d) Total number of licenced clergy?

4.2 Office bearers of the Diocese of the Southern Cross

Mrs Paula Turner asked the following question –

Clause 6(1) of the *Synod Membership Ordinance 1995*, states that: Each Parochial Representative, alternate for a Parochial Representative, Nominated Layperson and lay Nominated Indigenous Representative must sign the following declaration prior to notice of his or her election or appointment being given under this Ordinance to the Registrar – “I, the undersigned A.B., do declare that I am a communicant member of the Anglican Church of Australia and not a member of any other Church.”

Noting the requirement to not be a member of any other church, and that a member of the synod must be a member of the Anglican Church of Australia; and that GAFCON Australia, the primate and our Archbishop of Sydney have all acknowledged that the Diocese of the Southern Cross is not part of the Anglican Church of Australia, will the President confirm that any persons who are listed as Directors, Board Members, Secretaries and Employees of the Diocese of the Southern Cross, have been advised that they are ineligible to be a Parochial Representative, alternate for a Parochial Representative, Nominated Layperson and lay Nominated Indigenous Representative in the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney, Anglican Church of Australia? If not, why not?

4.3 Palliative care

Professor Penelope Coombes asked the following question –

Book 2 Page 118.

We have left no stone unturned in broadcasting our opposition to voluntary assisted dying and made it clear to all we are not for turning.

But what for palliative care?

I was delighted to read in Book 2 page 118

“We must be vigilant to maintain an emphasis on palliative care so that people can have quality to the end of their lives.”

But is there a compelling plan and vision for palliative care?

4.4 Timetable for Synod Business

Professor Bernard Stewart asked the following question –

Given my understanding of advice provided, that the ‘Timetable for Synod Business’ is not a summation of the outcome from relevant procedural motions, but replaces the need for such procedural motions, is it appropriate, and in keeping with Standing Orders, that a procedural motion to adopt the Timetable be considered on the first day of business of any Synod session?

In respect of current practice of according priority to certain motions via the Timetable, who determines which motions are so listed and are determinations in relation to particular motions (a) explained and justified, and (b) subject to challenge under current practice?

If the answer to either (a) or (b) is ‘No’, please outline whether a change in current practice could be considered.

4.5 Doctrine Statement on Gender Identity

The Rev Michael Turner asked the following question –

Noting the Synod resolutions of 2017, 2018 and 2019, and the Archbishop’s Advice to Anglican Schools regarding matters concerning Gender Identity:

- (a) How many Anglican schools have not affirmed the Doctrine Statement AND developed publicly accessible policies consistent with the Doctrine Statement?
- (b) Where schools have not affirmed the Doctrine Statement AND not developed policies consistent with the Doctrine Statement, what is being done, and is Synod uninformed on this matter?
- (c) Where a school or schools have developed policies and acted on those policies in direct contravention of the Synod resolutions and/or the Archbishop’s Advice, what is being done, and why is Synod uninformed on this matter?
- (d) Has consideration been given to disbanding Boards where they have made policies in contravention of the Synod resolutions and Archbishop’s advice? If not, why not?

4.6 Fit-out of St Andrew’s House

The Rev James Warren asked the following question –

Question about the St Andrew’s House fit-out progress report:

- (a) What are the major changes?
- (b) What are the benefits to the diocese?
- (c) When is the fit out expected to be finished?
- (d) How do the new arrangements effect members of parishes interacting with this ‘new hub’?

4.7 Comparative statistics on parishes

Mr James Flavin asked the following question –

- (a) For the most recent year where this data is available, and for a year around 2000 where this data is similarly available –
 - (i) How many people hold a license from the Archbishop for parochial ministry within our Diocese?

- (ii) How many people attend Sydney Anglican Churches?
- (iii) The sum of net receipts of parochial units across the Diocese?
- (b) For the two years selected, is there any factor that would make the data atypical, such as the Pandemic?

4.8 Ministry Standards Ordinance

The Rev Mike Doyle asked the following question –

- (a) When was the Ministry Standards Ordinance introduced, and how many times, and when, has it been reviewed?
- (b) Who was the chair, and who were the committee members who served on each of these occasions?

4.9 Preparation for ordination

The Rev Mike Doyle asked the following question –

What is the estimated typical financial cost born by the diocese and the candidate to prepare someone for ordination? Please include the opportunity cost in lost wages.

4.10 People in Holy Orders

The Rev Mike Doyle asked the following question –

- (a) How many people have left Holy Orders in the last 5 years?
- (b) Of those, how many have been deposed from the exercise of their Holy Orders?
 - (i) Of those deposed, how many were deposed following allegations of sexual misconduct involving a minor?
 - (ii) Of those deposed, how many were deposed following allegations of sexual misconduct not involving a minor?
 - (iii) Of those deposed, how many were deposed following allegations of bullying or similar behaviour?

4.11 Parochial Team Ministry heading

The Rev Mike Doyle asked the following question –

Over the last 5 years, after hearing allegations of sexual misconduct not involving a minor or bullying (or similar) by ordained clergy –

- (a) Has any Bishop suggested or encouraged the subject of the complaint to resign from their position?
- (b) If so, how many times has this occurred?
- (c) How many clergy members have resigned following such an encouragement?
- (d) Where the clergy member resigned, were they removed from Holy Orders? If not, why not?
- (e) If the clergy member resigned, was the matter reported to the PSU?
- (f) If the matter was not reported to the PSU, why not?

4.12 Stipend Continuance plan for Assistant Ministers

The Rev Mike Doyle asked the following question –

In the Report of the Standing Committee (item 3.14), the Standing Committee has reduced Stipend Continuance plan for assistant ministers to only 5 years of coverage, whilst continuing to cover Senior Ministers until they are 65–

- (a) Other than financial, what other things were considered in making this decision?
- (b) How many Assistant Ministers have made claims on this insurance over the last 5 years?
- (c) How many Senior Ministers have made claims on this insurance over the last 5 years?
- (d) Are Assistant Ministers less likely to suffer a workplace injury than Senior Ministers?

- (e) Other than financial, on what basis was it decided that Assistant Ministers need less coverage than Senior Ministers?

4.13 Survey regarding ACPT

Canon Alistair Seabrook asked the following question –

- (a) When did the SDS or Standing Committee last conduct a survey of parishes and organisations regarding their experience of working with ACPT?
- (b) Where are the results of that survey available for members of Synod to view?
- (c) Are there any plans to conduct such a survey in the near future?

4.14 Anglican Church Property Trust

Canon Alistair Seabrook asked the following question –

In the past two years how many parishes and organisations have raised concerns with the Archbishop, bishops or archdeacons regarding the work of the ACPT?

4.15 Synod questions

Mr Chris Pettett asked the following question –

My question concerns the purpose and intent of Synod members asking questions as per standing order 6.3.

Can the Archbishop please issue a memorandum to diocesan organisations to assist them around the purpose, intent, responsibilities, and procedures Synod members have in asking questions through the Synod of these organisations, especially in light of his encouraging remarks around questions asked by members of Synod?

4.16 The King's School

Mr Chris Pettett asked the following question –

My question relates to the circumstances surrounding the Department of Education's (both Commonwealth and NSW) recent correspondence to The King's School about their concerns of recurrent use of government funding under the Education Act and it is in a number of parts:

- (a) When did the Commonwealth Department of Education communicate to the School regarding the Department's concerns of recurrent use of government funding under the Education Act? What was the date?
- (b) When did the NSW Department of Education communicate to the School regarding similar concerns? What was the date?
- (c) Could the School please disclose to the Synod the contents of the letter sent by the Commonwealth Department of Education?
- (d) Could the School please disclose to the Synod the contents of the letter sent by the NSW Department of Education?
- (e) Are these correspondences referred to previously either privileged or confidential?
- (f) What has been the lessons learnt for the School and the School's Council in responding to this matter that could benefit and edify the Synod and other Diocesan organisations?
- (g) Was there anything reported publicly, whether through the media or other channels, that the School wish to correct the record on regarding this and related matters?
- (h) Does the Headmaster retain the confidence of the School's Council?
- (i) Does the School's Council retain the confidence of the Archbishop?
- (j) What could members of Synod pray for the Kings School with regard to its ministry?

4.17 Lessons from the New Capital Project

The Rev David Clarke asked the following question –

As we seek to identify surplus ministry assets to fund the purchase of new ministry sites in South West Sydney –

- (a) Which committees, task forces or other bodies have reviewed the failures of the New Capital Project undertaken 2004-2006 which according to synod reports cost \$833,576 but raised negligible funds for new sites?
- (b) What lessons have been learnt so we do not repeat these mistakes?

4.18 Average church attendance

The Rev Zac Veron asked the following question –

- (a) How many people in total attended a Sydney Anglican church on any one Sunday, as an average expressed over a calendar year of attendance, and excluding periods of lock-down of society, in 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, and 2005?
- (b) If any figure for any one of these years is unknown, why is that so?

4.19 Translation of Safe Ministry material

The Rev Dr Brian Tung asked the following question –

- (a) What steps have been taken to translate the safe ministry essential and safe ministry refresher online material into languages other than English?
- (b) If the material has not been translated, what are the plans to translate the material and to support Anglican congregations and ministries that use languages other than English?

5. The President invites members to give notice of questions

6. The President invites members to give notice of motions

7. Calling of motions (including procedural motions) on the business paper

8. Procedural motions

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

Synod agrees to schedule the following matters for consideration on Tuesday 20 September 2022 as shown on the timetable, unless passed previously during the calling of motions –

- (a) M40: Review of governance principles in diocesan schools,
 - (b) M41: Support and encouragement for the Heads of schools,
 - (c) M42: Diocesan support for the development of missional leaders and excellent educators in Anglican Schools,
 - (d) M48: Request to appoint a diocesan educational representative,
 - (e) M49: Establishment of an Education Committee, and
- and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Daniel Glynn / Bishop Chris Edwards)

9. 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 either a bill for an ordinance or a matter which is scheduled for consideration at a particular time).

14 September 2022

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

○ ○ M4 Review of Diocesan Investment Strategy

Monday 19th at 4.30 pm

Synod, noting the report ‘Review of Diocesan Investment Strategy’, requests the Standing Committee to establish the Glebe Administration Board as the centralised investment vehicle for the Diocese, including responsibility for the assets of the Diocesan Endowment, the Diocesan Cash Investment Fund and the Long Term Pooling Fund.

(Bk 2 p.77)

(Dr Laurie Scandrett / Ms Nicola Warwick-Mayo)

● ○ M6 Withdrawal from fellowship in national or provincial contexts

Wednesday 14th (afternoon session) following formal matters

The Synod of the Diocese of Sydney notes with godly grief the deep breach of fellowship in our church exposed at the eighteenth session of General Synod on matters of doctrine and human sexuality, and –

- recognises that as a consequence the Archbishop of Sydney, along with the assistant bishops, may choose to withdraw from fellowship in particular national or provincial church contexts, and

- (b) recommends that the Archbishop, with the assistant bishops, engage other orthodox bishops and convene a meeting with a view to how they may act in concert with one another in response to the broken fellowship.

(The Rev Dr Mark Earngey / Dr Robert Tong AM)

Proposed amendments

- (1) Amend the motion as follows –
- (a) in the opening stanza –
- (i) omit the words “breach of fellowship” and insert instead the words “theological differences”, and
- (ii) omit the words “our church” and insert instead the words “the Anglican Church of Australia”,
- (b) in paragraph (a) –
- (i) omit the words “recognises that as a consequence” and insert instead “encourages”,
- (ii) omit “may choose to withdraw from fellowship in” and insert instead “to continue in godly conversations and engagements that reveal the costly and sacrificial love of our Lord as they continue to raise deep theological concerns in”, and
- (c) in paragraph (b) –
- (i) insert “of the Anglican Church of Australia” after “orthodox Bishops”, and
- (ii) omit “in response to the broken fellowship”.

(The Rev Michael Armstrong / The Rev Dr Max Wood)



M7 Approach to meetings of, and financial contributions to, the General Synod

Wednesday 14th (afternoon session) following M6

The Synod of the Diocese of Sydney notes with godly grief the deep breach of fellowship in our church exposed at the eighteenth session of General Synod on matters of doctrine and human sexuality, and –

- (a) gives thanks to God for the clear majority of General Synod members who voted for Biblical marriage at the eighteenth session of the General Synod,
- (b) notes with thankfulness; our Archbishop’s leadership in publicly expressing our ongoing commitment as a diocese to contending for the Reformed Evangelical Faith from within the Anglican Church of Australia; while also extending the hand of fellowship to the Diocese of the Southern Cross,
- (c) commits to praying for the repentance of those Bishops who voted against Biblical marriage at the eighteenth session of the General Synod,
- (d) commits to prayerfully support orthodox Anglicans both within the Anglican Church of Australia and within the new Diocese of the Southern Cross,
- (e) requests the Standing Committee to consider our future approach as a Diocese to meetings of the General Synod, and report on the outcomes of this consideration prior to the nineteenth session of General Synod, and
- (f) requests the Standing Committee to consider how our financial contributions to the national church may be directed more effectively towards faithful and orthodox gospel ministry, and report on the outcomes of these considerations to the Synod prior to the nineteenth session of General Synod.

(Dr Laurie Scandrett / Mr James Flavin)

Proposed amendments

- (1) Omit paragraph (f).

(The Rev David Morgan / Miss Norma Esler)

- (2) Amend the motion as follows –

- (a) in the opening stanza
- (i) omit the words “breach of fellowship” and insert instead the words “theological differences”, and
 - (ii) remove the words “our church” and to insert the words “the Anglican Church of Australia”,
- (b) in paragraph (c), omit “the repentance of those Bishops who voted against Biblical marriage at the eighteenth session of the General Synod,” and insert instead, “all Bishops of the Anglican Church of Australia, particularly at their upcoming meeting in October,”, and
- (c) omit paragraph (f).

(The Rev Michael Armstrong / The Rev Dr Max Wood)

 **M8 Obedience to Jesus’ Great Commission**
Wednesday 14th (afternoon session) following M7

The Synod of the Diocese of Sydney notes the broken state of our national church and, humbly acknowledging and repenting of our own sins, resolves to invest wisely, in faithful obedience to Jesus’ Great Commission, all across the country, in –

- (a) the raising up of Christian leaders who can proclaim the gospel clearly and are prepared to go out in mission, and
- (b) establishing and supporting churches that faithfully proclaim the gospel and defend the truth of God’s word.

(Bishop Rick Lewers / Dean Sandy Grant)

Proposed amendments

- (1) Amend the motion as follows –

- (a) in the opening paragraph –
- (i) omit the matter “notes the broken state of our national church and,”,
 - (ii) after the words “invest wisely” insert the words “and lawfully within the scope of the ordinances and resolutions of this Synod”,
- (b) in paragraph (b), omit the words “establishing and” and insert instead the word, “prayerfully”.

(The Rev Michael Armstrong / The Rev Dr Max Wood)

 **M12 Review of the Nomination Ordinance 2006**

Synod, noting the report ‘Review of the *Nomination Ordinance 2006*’, requests that the Standing Committee implement the changes to the *Nomination Ordinance 2006* and nomination process generally suggested in the report.

(Bk 2 p.105)

(Canon Craig Roberts / Mrs Kirsty Bucknell)

Proposed amendments

- (1) Omit all the matter following ‘Standing Committee’ and insert instead the matter, ‘bring a Bill for an Ordinance entitled “Nomination Ordinance 2006 Amendment Ordinance 2023” to the next ordinary session of Synod as scheduled for that year.’

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

○○ **M17 Holding surplus ministry assets in trust for the purposes of the Diocese**

On 12 September, Bishop Michael Stead moved the following motion and debate ensued, including consideration of an amendment moved by Mr Malcolm Purvis. Mr Purvis and Bishop Stead have now arrived at an agreed form of words for the principal motion, which Bishop Stead will ask the Synod to consider, and Mr Purvis’ previously advised amendment at (2) below has been withdrawn.

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

‘Synod, noting the report “Holding surplus ministry assets in trust for the purposes of the Diocese”, endorses the Standing Committee policy on Variations of Trusts after Parish Amalgamation, subject to paragraph 3 of the draft policy being changed to read –

“For all proposed amalgamations, parishes should prepare a ‘ministry and evangelism plan’ (MEP). The MEP should articulate how the church / residences / other property of the combined parish will be used to support the ministry of the parish. In addition, where the ministry activity in one or more of the ministry sites had declined such that the local offertories are below the Net Operating Receipts threshold for ongoing viability, the ministry and evangelism plan must include measures which have the potential to revitalise ministry, including a weekly service, at the site/in the former parish, unless scenario 4 below is considered the appropriate path forward. The ACGC should also prepare a report considering the reasonable property needs of the area weighed against the reasonable property needs elsewhere in the Diocese. The Regional Council should not proceed with an amalgamation unless the MEP is approved by the Regional Bishop.”.’

(Bk 5 p.519)

(Moved by Bishop Michael Stead / The Rev Graeme Howells)

Proposed amendments

~~(2) — Immediately prior to the final full stop, insert the following —~~

~~‘subject to paragraph 3 of the draft policy being changed to read —~~

~~“For all proposed amalgamations, parishes should prepare a “ministry and evangelism plan” (MEP). The MEP should articulate how the church / residences / other property of the combined parish will be used to support the ministry of the parish. In addition, where the ministry activity in one or more of the ministry sites had declined such that the local offertories are below the Net Operating Receipts threshold for ongoing viability, the ministry and evangelism plan must include measures which have the potential to revitalise ministry, including a weekly service, at the site/in the former parish, unless scenario 4 below is considered the appropriate path forward. The regional bishop and ACGC should also prepare a report considering the reasonable property needs of the area weighed~~

~~against the reasonable property needs elsewhere in the Diocese. The Regional Council should not proceed with an amalgamation unless the ministry and evangelism plan is approved by the Regional Bishop.”’~~

(Withdrawn by Mr Malcolm Purvis / The Rev Mike Doyle)

M18 Financial support for the Diocese of Bathurst

Wednesday 14th (evening session) following the presentation regarding the Diocese of Bathurst

Synod agrees in principle to provide financial support of \$250,000 per year towards the costs of a Bishop and his registrar for the Anglican Diocese of Bathurst for a period of six years from 2025, subject to the Bishop of Bathurst during that time having the written support of the Archbishop of Sydney.

(Bk 5 p.507)

(Bishop Michael Stead / Dr Karin Sowada)

Proposed amendments

~~(1) Insert the following matter immediately prior to the full stop at the end of the motion—~~

~~‘, and provision, to each ordinary session of our Synod, of a full acquittal for the use of the funds being provided by our Diocese.’~~

(Withdrawn by Ms Lyn Bannerman)

M20 Diocese of the Southern Cross

Wednesday 14th (afternoon session) following M8

Synod welcomes the establishment of the Diocese of The Southern Cross as an Anglican extra-provincial Diocese under the auspices of the Gafcon Primates’ Council and encourages the Standing Committee to foster, nurture and strengthen the bonds of fellowship with the Diocese of The Southern Cross in the common goal of proclaiming Christ to Australia.

(Dr Robert Tong AM / Dr Laurie Scandrett)

Proposed amendments

(1) Amend the motion as follows –

- (a) omit the word ‘welcomes’ and insert instead the words ‘recognises with godly grief’, and
- (b) after the words ‘fellowship with the Diocese of The Southern Cross’, insert the matter, ‘while at the same time, striving in accordance with our Lord’s commandment concerning those of the household of faith, to contribute to resolution of differences between dioceses that have prompted formation of Diocese of the South Cross’.

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM / Ms Lyn Bannerman)

(2) Amend the motion as follows –

- (a) omit the word ‘welcomes’ and insert instead the word ‘notes’,
- (b) omit the words ‘as an Anglican extra-provincial Diocese’, and
- (c) after the words ‘strengthen the’ insert the word ‘ecumenical’.

(The Rev Dr Max Wood / The Rev Michael Armstrong)



M21 Religious Freedom

Not to be considered until after the callover on Monday 19th

Synod –

- (a) expresses its disappointment that there is still no NSW or Commonwealth legislation prohibiting religious discrimination, and therefore that it continues to be lawful to discriminate against people on the basis of their religious belief or religious activity in New South Wales,
- (b) calls on the NSW Government and the Commonwealth Government to reaffirm their commitment to religious freedom as set out in international law including Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and to take all practical steps necessary to ensure that the following six freedoms are protected in Australia within the constraints of the civil and criminal law generally applicable and consistent with Australia's obligations under international law –
 - (i) freedom to manifest a religion through religious observance and practice,
 - (ii) freedom to preference the employment of persons of faith to organisations run by faith communities,
 - (iii) freedom to teach and uphold moral standards within faith communities and organisations run by faith communities,
 - (iv) freedom of conscience to differentiate between right and wrong,
 - (v) freedom to teach and propagate religion, and
 - (vi) freedom of a person to change their religion,
- (c) notes that Australia's obligations under Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to uphold freedom of religion is, in part, acquitted by means of legislative exemption clauses for religious bodies, and that that these exemption clauses only apply where "an act or practice conforms to the doctrines[, tenets, beliefs or teachings] of that religion" or words to that effect,
- (d) notes the 2020 Majority Opinion of the Appellate Tribunal in both the Wangaratta and Newcastle references sought to distinguish between "doctrine" in the technical sense in which that word is used in the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia (limited to those matters that which are required of necessity to be believed for salvation) and "doctrine" in the broader sense generally used in the Church,
- (e) recognises that, for the avoidance of doubt, it is expedient to affirm that past statements of this Synod about our Church's "doctrine" of marriage use the word in the generally accepted broader sense, and therefore that these statements continue to describe the "doctrines" of our Church,
- (f) in particular, this synod continues to affirm that our doctrine of marriage is determined by the teaching of Christ that, "from the beginning the Creator made them male and female", and in marriage, "a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh" (Matt 19:4-5), and that it would not conform to the doctrine, tenets, beliefs or teachings of our Church for clergy to solemnise or bless a marriage between two people of the same sex,
- (g) affirms that when a Sydney Anglican Diocesan School seeks to teach and uphold the doctrine of Christ on marriage and human sexuality it does not thereby discriminate against students, parents and others in the school community who do not hold to these teachings; further, Synod laments the harm caused both among our school communities and the wider community by the propagation of suggestions to the contrary and supports the ongoing commitment of Anglican Schools to the inclusion, pastoral care and support of all members of their school communities,

and therefore calls upon both the NSW Government and the Commonwealth Government to give priority to the passage of legislation that respects the six freedoms listed above, and to do this in such a way that does not further polarise the community on these issues; and requests the Diocesan Secretary to communicate this resolution to NSW and Federal Attorneys-General and shadow Attorneys-General.

(Bishop Michael Stead / Mr Gavin Jones)

●○ **M23 Gospel Foundation Fund of the Diocese of North West Australia**

The movers have provided notice (in accordance with Standing Order 4.1(d) and (e)) that they intend to make a joint presentation, with visuals.

Synod commends to the attention of members the Gospel Foundation Fund of the Diocese of North West Australia (<https://www.anglicandnwa.org/>) and requests that Standing Committee consider making budgetary provision for support of this fund in the Synod budget for the next funding triennium.

(Dr Laurie Scandrett / Dr Robert Tong AM)

Proposed amendments

(1) Insert a new sentence at the end of the motion as follows –

‘Synod further requests that a report be provided to each ordinary session of Synod identifying the projects and organisations funded under the Gospel Foundation Fund by the Diocese of North West Australia, how much each project/organisation received, and for what specific purpose(s).’

(Ms Lyn Bannerman)

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

○○ **M24 The practice and understanding of baptism**

Synod –

- (a) sincerely thanks the Doctrine Commission for its very thoughtful and detailed report, received by the Synod at its 1st ordinary session in May 2021, “A Theology of Baptism”,
- (b) recognises that “baptising in the name of Jesus Christ” or “baptising in the name of the Lord Jesus”, rather than “baptising in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” better reflects the practice revealed in the Acts of the Apostles, and
- (c) recognises, though this is not a conclusion of the report, that it is possible, upon a careful exegesis of Matthew 28:19, 20b, that, “baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” could be understood metaphorically to refer to something like, “immersing them in that which pertains to the person of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”.

(Dr Barry Newman / The Rev Nathan Walter)

Proposed amendments

(1) Delete paragraphs (b) and (c), with consequential re-lettering.

(Archdeacon Anthony Douglas / Mrs Stacey Chapman)

VI. Motions received by the Secretary of the Synod within the notice period

M28 Ministry Wellbeing and Development

Not to be considered prior to 5.00 pm on any day of the session

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

'Synod –

(a) notes –

- (i) recommendations 16.5, 16.44 and 16.45 for national mandatory standards for professional development, professional/pastoral supervision and performance appraisals of bishops, clergy, and lay personnel of the Anglican Church of Australia in any form of ministry of pastoral care or service in the final report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse,
- (ii) the resolution of the General Synod on 9 May 2022 encouraging dioceses to fully implement the Ministry Wellbeing and Development policy, guidelines and resources document to enhance the wellbeing and professional development of clergy and some paid church workers,
- (iii) the Pastoral Consultation (Professional Supervision) Recommendation dated 27 July 2022 tabled at this session of the Synod (the Recommendation), and
- (iv) the lifelong ministry resources developed by Ministry Training & Development,

(b) affirms the importance of implementing a mandatory system for the professional development, professional/pastoral supervision and performance appraisals of clergy and lay church workers providing pastoral care or service to enhance their ministry wellbeing and development,

(c) ~~requests notes~~ the subcommittees of the Standing Committee referred to in paragraphs 8 and 139 of the Recommendation – ~~(i) to develop~~ are developing proposals for a system of mandatory professional/pastoral supervision and performance appraisals for licensed and stipendiary or paid clergy, and stipendiary or paid lay church workers providing pastoral care or service including any proposed legislation and policies, and ~~(ii) to report~~ requests a report be provided to the 1st ordinary session of the 53rd Synod, and

(d) requests the Standing Committee to establish a committee with a gender balance and appropriate expertise –

- (i) to develop proposals for a system of mandatory professional development for licensed and stipendiary or paid clergy, and stipendiary or paid lay church workers providing pastoral care or service including any proposed legislation and policies, and
- (ii) to report to the 1st ordinary session of the 53rd Synod.'

(Mr Garth Blake AM SC / Mr Chris Lock)

M29 Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Following consideration of this motion, the Archbishop will lead the Synod in prayer.

Synod gives thanks to God for the life and work of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, acknowledging in particular his declaration of the Gospel basis for his repudiation of apartheid and his commitment to the welfare of the poor in South Africa.

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM / The Rev John Stanley)

Proposed amendments

- (1) After the phrase “Synod gives thanks to God for the life and work of Archbishop Desmond Tutu”, delete “, acknowledging in particular” and replace with the phrase “. While noting that Archbishop Tutu’s theology significantly differs ~~to~~from the theology espoused by this Diocese, we acknowledge”.

(The Rev Christopher Braga / The Rev Joseph Wiltshire)

M31 Gaming Machine Reform for NSW Parliament

Synod notes that –

- (i) Australia has the world’s worst rate of gambling losses per capita, with gaming machines (“the pokies”) causing the significant majority of those losses, being home to less than half a percent of the world’s population but with 20 percent of its pokies,
- (ii) gaming machines alone cause half the losses of all forms of gambling in Australia,
- (iii) the Productivity Commission reported over a decade ago that about 40% of all losses on gaming machines come from problem gamblers,
- (iv) recent research sponsored by federal, state and territory governments reported that the prevalence of problem gambling has doubled over the last decade,
- (v) NSW has almost double (or worse) the rate per capita of gaming machine losses compared to every other state and territory,
- (vi) the worst gaming machines losses are concentrated in the poorest LGAs in Sydney, and
- (vii) NSW Treasury budget papers project gambling taxes on gaming devices alone in clubs and hotels to grow to over \$2 billion in the next financial year, with an average annual growth rate of 12.55% over the next four years, while gambling taxation also increases as a share of NSW Government revenue.

So Synod laments that NSW and its government has the biggest and most destructive gambling addiction in the world and a growing reliance on a regressive form of taxation.

Synod also notes that the Bible says “Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honours God” (Proverbs 14:31), and it also reminds rulers to “Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy” (Proverbs 31:9).

Therefore in light of the enormous losses on gaming machines, Synod urges the NSW State Parliament to consider urgently –

- (a) implementation of \$1 bet limits on all poker machines (recommended by Productivity Commission),
- (b) implementation of a cashless gaming smart card system (commended by the Bergin Inquiry),
- (c) more extensive compulsory shut down periods for all poker machines, for example between midnight and 10am,
- (d) limiting the maximum number of gaming machines in clubs,
- (e) giving local councils the right to limit the number of gaming machines in their LGA, and
- (f) as an immediate initial step, mandating that all future electronic gaming device technology (including the gaming devices themselves and any gambling card technology) be capable of implementing such measures.

Synod requests the Diocesan Secretary to advise all members of the NSW Parliament of the terms of this resolution.

Synod further requests the Dean of Sydney to communicate the terms of this resolution directly to the Premier and Opposition Leader of NSW and to urge a bipartisan approach towards reforms that ensure more effective harm minimisation from problem gambling on gaming machines.

(Dean Sandy Grant / Mr Jim Wackett)

Proposed amendments

- (1) In paragraph (vi) –
- (a) omit the word, 'are', and insert instead the words, 'tend to be', and
 - (b) omit the words, 'in Sydney'.

(Canon Mark Smith / Mrs Stacey Chapman)

VI. Motions received by the Synod

○○ M33 Charity between Anglicans

Professor Stewart will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

~~As Anglicans in Australia struggle to find correct teaching and biblically-based understanding of same sex relationships, Synod encourages avoidance of statements of the type attributed to certain clergy by Sydney Morning Herald 17 & 18 August 2022, namely 'This will send shivers down the spines of some bishops in the Anglican Church of Australia' and 'Perhaps this was to be expected, given the rigid self-righteous and patronising rhetoric toward those who disagree with them~~
continue to be tragically divided over the biblical teaching on marriage, gender, and sexuality, Synod calls on all Sydney Anglicans to seek to at all times to strive to speak the truth in love (Eph 4:15) in all contexts, especially in the present circumstances within the Anglican Church of Australia'.

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

○○ M39 National School Chaplaincy Program

Mr Matthew Robson will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

Synod notes –

- (a) ~~notes~~ its thankfulness to successive Australian Governments for the National School Chaplaincy Program over the last 15 years,
- (b) that school chaplains are qualified to support the social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing of both public and independent school communities across Australia and that for many schools, having Christian pastoral care has proven invaluable over this season of droughts, floods, bushfires and COVID,
- (c) that over 322 public schools take part in the program in NSW, including the Rev Neil Scott, rector of Park Rail Anglican Church, who serves as a chaplain at his local school, and
- (d) ~~notes~~ that the program is currently being evaluated, with an online questionnaire open until midnight Tuesday 13th September and available here:
https://dandolopartners.syd1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5pyqFknmzew89tY,
and

Synod continues to pray for our school communities, our chaplains who serve in them, and all those in their care.

(Mr Matthew Robson / Mr James Flavin)

○○ **M40 Review of governance principles in diocesan schools**

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

~~This Synod, noting the serious ethical and procedural questions being raised in the Diocese about the recent departure Dr Timothy Petterson as the Headmaster of the Sydney Church of England Grammar School (Shore), requests the Standing Committee review the matter with a view to affirming the governance principles desired in all Sydney Diocesan Anglican schools, and to report back to the next session of Synod gives thanks for the Archbishop's confidence in the SHORE School Council, the Council's governance review, and commends the ongoing work of the Governance Policy Review Committee.~~

(The Rev Roger Fitzhardinge / Mr Gavin Jones)

○○ **M41 Support and encouragement for the Heads of schools**

In light of the weighty responsibility of the Principals of our Anglican Schools to honour Christ and His mission while –

- (i) providing an excellent education in a place that is safe and dedicated to the well-being of students, and
- (ii) ensuring excellence and development of all teachers and staff who work in our schools,

and because we honour them and long for their well-being – spiritually, emotionally and physically, this Synod –

- (a) expresses its thanks to all Principals of our Anglican Schools,
- (b) acknowledges the enormity and complexity of their role, the personal sacrifices made in the arenas of family and church life,
- (c) recognises the pressure from many stakeholders – students, parents, teachers, communities, governors, the Synod, NESAs and media outlets, and
- (d) encourages all Principals to have a spiritual mentor or coach, outside their spheres of influence (primarily school and family), who is committed to their well-being and growth in the Christian faith.

(Mrs Nicola Fortescue / The Rev David Mears)

○○ **M42 Diocesan support for the development of missional leaders and excellent educators in Anglican Schools**

Acknowledging the enormous missional task before us, the increasing population of our Diocese, and the need for even more schools in the coming generations, Synod requests the Standing Committee to prepare a report for the next Synod, outlining ways the Diocese can support the recruitment and development of outstanding Christian missional leaders who are excellent educators.

(Mrs Nicola Fortescue / The Rev David Mears)

○○ **M43 Online determination of motions**

Synod requests Standing Committee to draft a bill for an Amending Ordinance to the *Standing Orders Ordinance 2019* to provide for online voting by Synod members of any motion so notified by (a) ten members of Standing Committee or (b) one hundred members of Synod, at any time out of session but with reasonable caveats concerning time before the next scheduled session of Synod and with all other provisions concerning the determination of motions remaining operable where relevant.

(Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

●○ **M44 Motion to congratulate The Rev Darrell Parker on election as the Bishop of North West Australia**

To be considered immediately following M23

Synod congratulates the Rev Darrell Parker on his election as the next Bishop of the Diocese of North West Australia. Mr Parker is a graduate of Moore Theological College and is currently Senior Minister at St Paul's, West Tamworth. Darrell and his wife Elizabeth have spent 25 years serving God in the Armidale Diocese. Synod notes that Darrell will be consecrated in St Andrew's Cathedral on Friday 3 February 2023 and commits to pray for Darrell and Elizabeth as they embark on this strategic gospel ministry.

(Dr Robert Tong AM / Dr Laurie Scandrett)

○○ **M45 Synod in the Greenfields of the Northwest of Sydney**

Mrs Jackson will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

Given the great success of the Greenfields visit on the first day of Synod 2022 in moving us to see what is happening in the Southwest, ~~I move Synod requests that~~ we duplicate this visit next year for the Greenfields of the Northwest of Sydney.

(Mrs Patricia Jackson / The Rev Geoff Bates)

○○ **M46 Livestream of meetings of the Synod**

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

~~That Synod requests that~~ arrangements be made to livestream meetings of Synod for the benefit of members who are unable to attend.

(The Rev Richard Blight / The Rev Tim Mildenhall)

○○ **M47 The Rev Craig and Mrs Annie Segært**

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

Synod gives thanks to God for the life and work of Rev Craig and Annie Segært at ~~Coogee~~ St Nicolas' church Church, Coogee, as they retire at the end of this year; and in particular for ~~For~~ their patient, loving stewardship establishing a Christian Preschool from next to nothing, fostering the Intergenerational Study as seen on the ABC program "Old People's Home For 4 Year Olds", indigenous scholarships to the preschool, and many other community ministries.

(Mr Chris Hamam / Bishop Michael Stead)

○○ **M48 Request to appoint a diocesan educational advisor**

This Synod requests the Standing Committee to take whatever steps may be necessary to ensure the appointment of a ~~diocesan representative~~ suitable person who is qualified in –

- (a) educational philosophy,
- (b) educational practice, and
- (c) educational leadership,

to advise and represent the Diocese in matters relating to education and for this representative to provide annual reports to the Synod on the status of Anglican Education in the Diocese.

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mr Peter Fowler)

○○ **M49 Establishment of an Education Committee**

In light of the termination of EdComm and in the absence of any diocesan body to undertake the important work of resourcing and advocacy for and oversight of education in the Diocese, this Synod requests the Standing Committee to establish a suitably qualified committee to bring to the next Synod –

- (a) a clear diocesan statement on what Reformed Anglican Education,
- (b) a report on what initial and ongoing training in the fundamentals of Anglican Education is currently available for school governors,
- (c) recommendations for a specific program for school chaplains and Religious Education teachers, and
- (d) recommendations for ongoing in-service programs on the application of Christian principles to education as a requisite for practicing teachers (which may form part of teacher registration).

(The Rev Peter Tong / Mr Peter Fowler)

○○ **M50 First Nations Voice**

On 13 September, Synod was given notice of this motion during consideration of M2 (Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese of Sydney).

Ms Minniecon will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

Synod of the Diocese of Sydney –

- (i) perceiving the opportunity for all Australians to contribute to a matter of national importance,
- (ii) recognising it to be an essential step in reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples,
- (iii) perceiving it to relate to the social, spiritual, and economic wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and
- (iv) believing it will empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to create a better future for their communities to flourish –
- (a) ~~affirms the call for the establishment of~~ welcomes the conversation regarding the call to establish a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution ~~and the need for Makarrata,~~
- (b) commits to learning more, and educating all Anglicans, about the Voice ‘From the Heart’, and
- (c) encourages church members to give generous consideration to the case to vote ‘Yes’ to the referendum question of whether the Constitution should establish a First Nations Voice, once the details have been made clear.

(Ms Larissa Minniecon / The Rev John Stanley)

Proposed amendments

The following amendment was provided based on a prior form of motion and may not now be pursued.

- (1) Omit all the matter from paragraph (iv) and insert instead the matter –
 - (iv) respectfully requests the Sydney Anglican Indigenous People’s Ministry Committee, in dialogue with the Social Issues Committee, to
 - (a) discuss as a matter of urgency the question of a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament and the establishment of a Makarrata Commission, and

(b) report back their reflections and recommendations to Synod members in the first half of 2023, prior to the Federal Government's referendum,

and requests the Synod Secretary to facilitate the distribution of this material in a timely manner.'

(The Rev David Clarke)



Timetable for Synod Business

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

* Motions with asterisk on the business paper may be passed on the calling of motions, in which case the scheduling of that motion will lapse.

Wednesday 14 September 2022	
3.15 – 5.45 pm	Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters M6: Withdrawal from fellowship in national or provincial context M7: Approach to meetings of, and financial contributions to, the General Synod M8: Obedience to Jesus' Great Commission M20: Diocese of the Southern Cross <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>
7.00 pm +	<i>Mission hour</i> Presentation: Diocese of Bathurst (Bishop Mark Calder) M18: Financial support for the Diocese of Bathurst <i>Thereafter, reserved for business commenced but not yet completed</i>

Monday 19 September 2022	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>
4.30 – 5.40 pm	M4: Review of Diocesan Investment Strategy <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>
5.40 – 5:45 pm	Presentation: Anglican Super
<i>Note: there is no evening session on Monday 19 September.</i>	

Tuesday 20 September 2022	
3.15 – 5.45 pm	Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters * M41: Support and encouragement for the Heads of schools * M42: Diocesan support for the development of missional leaders and excellent educators in Anglican Schools * M48: Request to appoint a diocesan educational representative * M49: Establishment of an Education Committee * M40: Review of governance principles in diocesan schools <i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>
7.00 pm +	<i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>