

General Synod - Reception Canon 1981 Adopting Ordinance 1985

Long Title

An Ordinance to adopt General Synod Canon No 1, 1985.

Preamble

Whereas

A. The Reception Canon 1981 (hereinafter called the "Canon") was made by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia in 1985.

B. The Canon, when a Provisional Canon, was assented to by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney in 1982 but on the understanding that the form of service in the Schedule to the Provisional Canon was not seen to be the only means by which a person could be accepted into the Anglican Church of Australia.

C. A copy of the Canon is contained in the Schedule hereto.

D. It is expedient that the Canon be adopted by the Synod of this Diocese.

Now the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney Hereby Ordains, Declares, Directs and Rules as follows -

Adoption of Canon

1. The Canon is hereby adopted.

Additional Means for Reception

2. The form of service in the Schedule to the Canon is an additional means by which a person can be accepted into the Anglican Church of Australia.

Citation

3. This Ordinance may be cited as the "General Synod - Reception Canon 1981 Adopting Ordinance 1985".

Schedule

A Canon to authorise the use of a Service for the Reception into Communicant Membership of this Church of Baptised Persons who were formerly Communicant Members of other Churches.

The General Synod prescribes as follows -

1. This canon may be cited as the "Reception Canon 1981".

2. When a person who has been baptised and who is or was a communicant member of another Church which holds the apostolic faith but which is not in full communion with this Church desires to become a communicant member of this Church, the priest, being assured that such is his desire, shall after due preparation present that person to the bishop at the time of confirmation or some other time. The bishop may receive and welcome him into communicant membership of this Church, laying hands on him with prayer for the strengthening of the Holy Spirit, using the form of service set out in the Schedule to this canon, or in some other form of service authorised for use in this church by canon, in accordance with the rubrics incorporated therein.

3. A person received into communicant membership in accordance with this canon shall have the same status in this Church as a person who has been confirmed in accordance with the rites of this Church.

4. The reception of a person into communicant membership in accordance with this canon shall be recorded in the registers of this Church.

5. This canon effects the order and good government of the Church within a diocese and shall not come into force in any diocese unless and until the diocese by ordinance adopts the canon.

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Schedule

Reception into Communicant Membership of the Anglican Church of Australia of Baptised and Communicant Members of other Churches.

Notes

1. When a person who has been a communicant member of another Church which holds the apostolic faith desires to become a communicant member of this Church, the priest, being assured that such is his desire, shall present that person to the bishop at the time of confirmation or at some other time. At a confirmation from An Australian Prayer Book, this service should follow #7 on page 514 or #13 on page 538. Alternatively, it may occur before the intercessions at Morning and Evening Prayer or at the Holy Communion.

2. The bishop may receive and welcome him into communicant membership of this Church, laying hands on him with prayer for the strengthening of the Holy Spirit, using this form of service. A person so received into communicant membership shall have the same status in this Church as a person who has been confirmed in accordance with the rites of this Church.

3. Such Reception shall be recorded in the registers of the church.

1. The priest presents the one to be received to the bishop saying N., has already been baptised and has formerly been a communicant member of the Church. He now asks to be received into communicant membership of the Anglican Church of Australia and seeks our prayers in the fellowship of this parish.

2. The bishop says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of wisdom and love,

source of all good,

by your Holy Spirit strengthen your servant and guide him in your way of peace and love.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever **Amen**

3. Then the Psalm 133 may be said or sung.

4. Ephesians 4:1-13 may be read.

5. The bishop says to the candidate

Do you stand by the Christian confession and commitment made at your baptism?

I do.

Do you desire to be admitted into communicant membership of the Anglican Church of Australia and accept her doctrine and order?

I do.

6. The bishop welcomes the person in these words, taking *him* by the hand.

We recognise you as a baptised and communicant member of the Christian Church.

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We receive and welcome you into the communion of the Anglican Church.

He then kneels and the bishop lays hands on *his* head, saying

N., May the Holy Spirit direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom in the fellowship of this Church.

Table of Amendments

Schedule - Clause 2 Amended By Canon No 14, 1995 which was adopted by Ordinance No 36, 1996.

ROBERT WICKS
Legal Officer

MARK PAYNE
Diocesan Secretary

29 September 1999