

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

Synopsis of Synod Proceedings: 6, 7, 8, and 9 October 2010

The following Acts were passed

Regions of the Diocese (Amendment) Act 2010

Synod Election (Terms of Office) Act 2010

The following motions were passed

1 Sessional Arrangements

- (a) That this Synod meets at:
 - 7:00 pm on Wednesday 6 October 2010 and adjourns not before 10:00 pm and not later than 10:30 pm.
 - 7:00 pm on Thursday 7 October 2010 and adjourns not before 10:00 pm and not later than 10:30 pm.
 - 7:00 pm on Friday 8 October 2010 and adjourns not before 10:00 pm and not later than 10:30 pm.
 - 10:00 am on Saturday 9 October 2010 and adjourns not later than 12:15 pm.
 - 1:15 pm on Saturday 9 October 2010 and adjourns not later than 5:30 pm.
- (b) That unless otherwise specified, Orders of the Day be taken at 7:00 pm on Thursday 7 October 2010, 7:00 pm on Friday 8 October 2010 and at 10:00 am on Saturday 9 October 2010 and take precedence over Notices of Motion until they have been disposed of.
- (c) That at 9:30 pm on Friday 8 October the order of business be suspended to enable consideration of formal motions.

2 Proposed Amendments to Diocesan Budget

That at this session of Synod, a proposed amendment to the motion for the adoption of the Diocesan budget not be received unless:

- (a) the proposed amendment is given in writing to the Chair of Committees before 7pm on Thursday 7 October 2010 together with the names of the proposer and seconder; and
- (b) If the proposed amendment seeks an increase in expenditure for a particular purpose, the proposed amendment indicates the source of the funding for that increase.

3 Chair and Deputy Chairs of Committees

That Synod appoints Dr Ian Gibson as Chair of Committees and Mr Michael Dowling, The Revd Heather Cetrangolo and Ms Isabel Parsons as Deputy Chairs of Committees for the 50th Synod.

4 Minutes Reading Committee

That Synod appoints Dr Ian Gibson, The Revd Heather Cetrangolo and Ms Isabel Parsons as members of the Minutes Reading Committee for the 50th Synod.

5 Synod Election Scrutineers

That Synod appoints Mr Tony Greenwood and Ms Sally Petty as scrutineers for every Synod election conducted under the Regulation of Elections Act 1980 during the 50th Synod.

6 Suspension of Standing Orders

- (a) Dr Muriel Porter moved, and the Reverend Dr David Powys seconded a discussion in response to the Presidential address to Synod for up to 40 minutes as an Order of the Day at 7.30pm on Thursday 7 October, the response to be introduced and moderated by the Chair of Committees.
- (b) Dr Muriel Porter moved, and the Reverend Dr David Powys seconded the Archbishop to present his Vision and Strategic Directions 2011-2013 to Synod for no more than 20 minutes, the presentation to be an Order of the Day for Friday 8 October at 7.30pm, and that leave be given for the distribution on Thursday 7 October of material related to the presentation.
- (c) Mr Ken Spackman moved, and the Reverend Andrew Livingstone seconded that motion 16 to be an order of the day for Friday 8 October immediately following the Vision and Directions presentation by the Archbishop.
- (d) The Reverend Andrew Livingstone moved, and the Venerable Dr Richard Condie seconded that the Reverend Janet Turpie-Johnstone address Synod for not more than 20 minutes in relation to motion 23 and that this item be an Order for the Day on Saturday 9 October 2010, following conclusion of motion 17 and 18 relating to the Diocesan Accounts and the Diocesan Budget.
- (e) The Venerable Di Nicholios moved, and the Venerable Peter MacPherson seconded for a DVD presentation of not more than 10 minutes in relation to Disability inclusive Congregations and that motion 32 be an Order of the Day at the conclusion of that presentation and that leave be given forthwith for the distribution of material related to that presentation.

7 Orders of the Day

That item 17 (Diocesan Accounts), item 18 (the Diocesan Budget) be Order of the Day for Saturday 9 October 2010.

8 New Legislation pertaining to Heads of Anglican Schools to become members of Synod (Motion 14)

That Archbishop in Council bring forward legislation to the next session of this Synod to allow Heads of Anglican Schools who are communicant Anglicans and who wish to do so to become members of Synod.

9 Ordinance and protocols relating to Episcopal Standards (Motion 15)

That Synod requests the Archbishop in Council to work with the other Dioceses of the Province to develop a model ordinance and protocols relating to Episcopal Standards that could be enacted by the Synod of each Diocese and requests Provincial Council to consider the same at its November 2010 meeting.

10 Review of certain Acts (Motion 19)

That Synod,

- (a) noting the importance of clear and consistent legislative frameworks within which the work of the diocese can be done; and
- (b) noting the significant time which has passed since the legislation governing the operations of the church was reviewed,

requests Archbishop in Council to conduct a review of the *Appointments Act*, *Parishes Act*, *Regions of the Diocese Act* and other Acts which may affect the proper functioning of parishes, appointments, and regions within the diocese and to bring recommendations for legislative change to the next meeting of the Synod with a view to any necessary legislative changes being introduced in the third year of this Synod.

11 Committee to Review Theological Education, Ministerial Formation, and Continuing Professional Development (Motion 20)

That Synod asks the Secretary of Synod to convene a committee comprising Emeritus Professor David Aspin, the Revd Dr John Capper, Mr Jamie Miller, the Revd Professor Chris Mostert, Ms Denise Nichols, the Revd Canon Dr Colleen O'Reilly, Ms Dianne Shay, the Revd Gavin Ward and two people to be nominated by the Archbishop, with Dr Paula Gooder (Birmingham, UK) as external consultant, to undertake a comprehensive review of theological education, ministerial formation, and continuing professional development for clergy in the Diocese of Melbourne, the committee to examine:

- (a) the cost in money and in kind of theological education for ordained ministry in the Diocese and who currently bears these costs;
- (b) the minimum requirements for theological education for ordination in the Diocese of Melbourne, their outworking and appropriateness;
- (c) current patterns of continuing education and professional development for clergy in this Diocese;
- (d) best practice in theological education and ministerial formation;

and to report progress to Synod in 2011 with any recommendations.

12 Vision and Strategic Directions 2011-2013 (Motion 10b)

The Archbishop presented his Vision and Strategic Directions 2011-2013 to Synod:

Melbourne is a Diocese that is large, influential and diverse. The Archbishop articulated six strategic directions and invited Synod to endorse the following:

1. **Strive to make the word of God known:**
2. **Form institution to foster the development of effective congregations and ministries throughout the Diocese.**
3. **Establish Pilot Program to encourage growth in mission within 25 selected parishes over the next 3 years.**
4. **Stewardship of Assets**
5. **Steward Wealth**
6. **Reporting**

The Archbishop concluded with a prayer to adopt this mission together.

13 Response to Archbishop's Vision and Strategic Directions 2011-2013 (Resolution 10c)

That Synod thanks the Archbishop for his Vision and Strategic Directions 2011-2013, endorses the Vision and Strategic Directions 2011-2013, assures him of Synod's commitment to work with him in the delivery of the program he has presented, and calls on all members of the Diocese to embrace this vision.

14 Appointment of Committee for Property Strategy (Motion 22)

That Synod asks the Secretary of Synod to convene a committee comprising Assoc Prof Vic Jennings, Ms Delle Matthews, the Venerable Andrew Oddy, the Reverend Ron Peterson, the Reverend Dr David Powys, the Reverend Stuart Soley, Bishop Paul White and an expert on property development to be appointed by the committee, to

- (a) examine Greater Melbourne and Geelong population projections for the next 20-30 years;

- (b) review recent diocesan and NCLS data regarding participation rates in the parishes of the Diocese and the findings and recommendations of the November 2007 Strategic Ministry (MacroPlan) Report;
- (c) prepare an account of our stewardship of the proceeds from the sale of parish properties sold in the last 30 years;
- (d) review the operations of the Church Extension and Development Fund and investigate options for church participation in future urban development; and
- (e) bring recommendations for a diocesan policy regarding our future stewardship of parish property resources which are consistent with the strategic objectives and vision of the Diocese to Synod at the earliest opportunity for endorsement and for commendation by Synod to Archbishop in Council for implementation.

15 Review of Theological Education and Ministerial Formation (Motion 21)

That this Synod requests the Colleges (Trinity Theological School and Ridley Melbourne) through the Board for Ministry to:

- (a) inform the Diocese of any work undertaken to develop programs and vocational pathways for specialist ministries. (ie: Church planting, health chaplaincy, evangelism, prison chaplaincy, workplace chaplaincy, children's, youth, young adult and other life stage ministries, sports chaplaincy)
- (b) further develop such programs and advise on vocational pathways to ensure appropriate education and training is in place for those called to specialist ministries. These pathways would be in addition to the already established parish and chaplaincy pathways.

16 Trial of Independent Examinations of Parish Financial Accounts (Motion 24)

That this Synod authorises the trial of independent examinations of parish financial accounts, in addition to the requirement of a parish audit, by suitably qualified persons in a manner approved by the Registrar and that the results of such a trial might inform a review of the *Parishes Act 1987*.

17 Social Responsibilities Committee (Motion 27)

That this Synod noting with concern that

- almost half of the Australian population will experience a mental health disorder at some point in their lifetime (Source: Mental Health Council of Australia National Survey 2007)
- depression and anxiety are the most prevalent mental health disorders experienced by Australians (Source: The Global Burden of Disease: A comprehensive Assessment of Mortality and Disability, Injuries and Risk Factors 1009 and projected 2020. World Bank. Harvard Business School of Public Health, 1996. Mental Health in Australia National Survey 2007)
- depression accounts for six million lost work days per year, which has major implications for families, congregations and the economy (Source: Mental Health in Australia National Survey 2007)
- suicide rates are rising, and (Source: Impact Report – Converge International 2010)
- ministers often become involved in support and referral (Source: Mental Health Issue among Clergy and other Religious Professionals: A review of Research- Koenig H.G. et al. Journal of Pastoral care and Counselling, Winter 2002, Vol.56, No.4)

requests the Social Responsibilities Committee to prepare or recommend resources to assist ministers in responding to this need.

18 Affirmation of Clergy (Motion 30)

That this Synod, while affirming the many dedicated clergy serving in a diversity of ministries within this Diocese,

- (a) commends the ministry of being vicar of a parish to its active clergy
- (b) acknowledges the special opportunities in ministry enjoyed by married vicars with young children, but also
- (c) affirms the ministry of vicars who are single or who do not have the care of young dependent children; and
- (d) recognises the particular contribution able to be made by clergy in their third, fourth or later incumbencies; and finally
- (e) commits to do all it can to foster and sustain a sufficiency of vocations to parish ministry in every district of the Diocese of Melbourne through the selection, formation and training of new clergy and the encouragement and affirmation of those already ordained

19 Centenary Year - Ministry of Ridley Melbourne Ministry and Mission College (Motion 35)

That this Synod gives thanks to God for the Ministry of Ridley Melbourne Ministry and Mission College on the occasion of its centenary year in 2010, acknowledging in particular;

- (a) Ridley Melbourne's contribution to our church in training significant numbers of able leaders for our Gospel work: missionaries and local clergy, laity and bishops, archbishops and bishops in Australia and bishops and archdeacons overseas.
- (b) Ridley Melbourne's continuing ministry in training Gospel workers to service in Australia and beyond, especially:
 - children's, youth, university student, and cross-cultural workers – including candidates for the Church Missionary Society, the Bush Church Aid Society and the Church Army; and
 - clergy and licensed lay ministers to serve all the dioceses of Australia.

20 AnglicCORD (Motion 38)

That this Synod congratulates AnglicCORD on having last week received a \$7.7 million grant from the Australian Government to work on mother and child health in Kenya and Ethiopia, and commends this as a valuable contribution to the mission of the Anglican Church.

21 General Synod held in September (Motion 39)

That this Synod gives thanks for the meeting of General Synod held in Melbourne in September, and recognises the immense amount of work undertaken by:

- (a) The organising committee, the Right Reverend John Noble, the Reverend Canon Dr Colleen O'Reilly, Dr Muriel Porter, Mr John McKenzie and Mr Rob Till.
- (b) The event manager, Mr Rob Till.
- (c) The volunteer managers, Mrs Marlene Newell and Mrs Sally Petty.
- (d) The 54 volunteers representing 39 parishes.

22 Thanks to the ABM (Motion 40)

That this Synod gives thanks for:

- (a) The Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) as it celebrates 160 years of service in God's mission and encourages all parishes and members of the Diocese to continue their prayerful and ongoing support.
- (b) The ABM Auxiliary celebrating 100 years of prayer and faithful service.
- (c) Our Overseas and Australian Partner Churches as they witness the gospel.

That this Synod also commends ABM for:

- (a) Its continuing commitment to holistic mission – as expressed in the 5 marks of mission as laid down by the Anglican Consultative Council;
 1. Witness to Christ's saving, forgiving and reconciling love for all people
 2. Build welcoming, transforming communities of faith
 3. Stand in solidarity with the poor and needy
 4. Challenge injustice and oppression
 5. Protect, care for and renew life on our planet
- (b) Focusing and helping to educate the Church about the Millennium Development Goals;
- (c) Its ability to provide a rapid response to emergencies around the globe; and
- (d) The expansion of new programmes into China and Africa (including Ethiopia, Sudan, Zambia and Kenya).

23 Diocesan Accounts (Motion 17)

That the Diocesan Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2009 be received.

24 Diocesan Budget 2011 (Motion 18)

That the Diocesan Budget for 2011 be adopted.

25 Revd Janet Turpie-Johnstone to address Synod (Resolution 10d)

The Revd Janet Turpie-Johnstone addressed the Synod in relation to indigenous peoples.

26 Practical Restitution for Indigenous Peoples (Motion 23)

That this Synod, acknowledging the impact on Indigenous peoples of this region, the traditional owners, arising from the loss of their land and undermining of their culture, the breakup of their society, and the damage caused by successive government policies, often well-intentioned but in ignorance of the profound issues involved, and the church's frequent complicity with those actions and policies, desires to continue to engage in a process of practical restitution which,

- (a) acknowledges the debt we owe to the Aborigines in terms of restitution, respect, and Gospel partnership;
- (b) requests the Archbishop in Council to work with the Diocesan Indigenous Policy Steering Committee to initiate a process of listening, learning, thinking and prayer in order to discern appropriate responses which may include engagement in the national Reconciliation process and forms of restitution; and to develop a comprehensive and practicable plan of action for the Diocese, to be brought to the 2011 Synod.

27 Thanks to the Environment Committee (Motion 25)

That this Synod thanks the Environment Committee on behalf of the Diocese for its work since its inception in 2002 and most recently for the preparation of an Environmental Action Strategy that, when adopted, will provide approved procedures and processes for use throughout the Diocese and its agencies to minimise their contribution to adverse environmental impacts, including any rise in the mean global surface temperature, through acting in an environmentally sustainable manner.

That when the Environmental Action Strategy is adopted by the Archbishop in Council, the Environment Committee is requested by this Synod to report to its next meeting, the implementation of those measures as might be approved by the Archbishop in Council so as to ensure that the Diocese and its agencies have acted in an environmentally sustainable manner, thus giving effect to the General Synod Canon for the Protection of the Environment.

28 Reaffirmation of the Resolution of the General Synod of Australia (1995) concerning Euthanasia (Motion 26)

That this Synod reaffirms the resolution of the General Synod of Australia (1995) concerning Euthanasia, namely:

- We affirm that life is a gift from God not to be taken, and is therefore not subject to matters such as freedom of individual choice
- We cast doubt on whether a practice of voluntary euthanasia can be prevented from sliding into a practice of involuntary euthanasia
- We affirm the right of patients to decline treatment but not to expect the active intervention by medical staff to end their lives

and call upon;

- (a) members of the Victorian State legislature to vote against legislation to legalise euthanasia when such matters come before our Parliament; and
- (b) governments to further improve access to high quality palliative care to ensure that all people will be able to die with dignity.

29 Isolated Communities (Motion 28)

That Synod, recognising the extreme difficulties confronting Christian ministry in isolated communities in poorly-resourced outback dioceses,

- (a) thanks God for the faithful service of bishops, priests and people in these communities;
- (b) encourages all parishes to contribute a minimum of \$100 a year to the Anglican Outback Fund (the National Home Mission Fund); and

encourages individual parishioners to contribute to the Fund, and to pray for and partner with rural Anglicans.

30 Faithfulness in Service and the Code of Good Practice for Clergy (Motion 29)

That this Synod:

- (a) commends and supports the decision of Archbishop in Council to formally adopt Faithfulness in Service and the Code of Good Practice for Clergy as aspects of the framework for ministerial standards and behaviour.
- (b) urges all parishes to continue to be involved in an ongoing listening process on issues of human sexuality.
- (c) welcomes the commitment during the recent election campaign of the Federal Government to not alter the current law to the effect that marriage is the union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life.

31 People with Disabilities (Motion 32)

That in believing that all people are made in the image of God, this Synod:

- (a) recognises that for people with disabilities, their families and carers, daily life can be practically, financially, socially and emotionally more difficult than it is for most people;
- (b) notes that there are many obstacles for people with disabilities, their families and carers, which prevent them from sharing in Christian fellowship;
- (c) requests that all parishes and organisations in the Diocese of Melbourne consider the resources available to aid ministries to people with disabilities and develop a plan to remove those obstacles that currently prevent people affected by disability from sharing in congregational life, including ensuring that all Melbourne Diocese facilities comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (which makes it unlawful to discriminate on the grounds of disability in providing access to, or use of, premises that the public can enter or use) by removing those obstacles that currently prevent people affected by disability from sharing in congregational life, and that the Registrar report their progress of this plan and its actions to the 2011 Synod.
- (d) requests Melbourne Anglicans and the Diocese in particular to advocate for Government policy that promotes the wellbeing and interests of people with disabilities and their families and carers.

32 Lenten Fasting (Motion 33)

That this Synod:

- (a) Encourages fasting, prayer and penitence during Lent as a means of purifying our hearts and minds, as we reflect on the extraordinary sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross;
- (b) asks parishes and other agencies to encourage their parishioners and members to abstain from the consumption of alcohol during the Lenten season, as together we acknowledge and deeply reflect on the harm being inflicted on individuals and our society through alcohol abuse.

33 Legal Discrimination or Coercion (Motion 34)

That this Synod upholds the right of everyone to change his or her religion or belief (Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights), and calls upon governments and religious leaders throughout the world to reject religious teachings which prescribe any form of legal discrimination or coercion, including the death penalty, or enforced confinement, for those who change their religion or belief.

34 Report of the Christianity and Atheism Committee (Motion 37)

That Synod receives the report of the Christianity and Atheism Committee, set up in response to the 2009 Synod resolution calling for resources to equip Anglicans to respond to atheistic attacks; and, Synod authorises the distribution of the brochure entitled: Christians answering atheists? Prepared by the committee, and commends the use of the brochure and proposed website for equipping Anglicans and others to understand and respond to arguments put forward by atheists.¹

35 The Multi-cultural Anglican Church (Motion 41)

That this Synod recognises the increasing multi-cultural nature of the Anglican church in this diocese and throughout Australia; and acknowledging that people of all nations and cultures are created in God's image, that the gospel of Jesus Christ points to the value of all, and that the church of the age to come, will gather in worship for those from every tribe and language and people and nation (Revelation 3)

That this Synod:

- (a) Expresses its gratitude to the parishes which have embraced newly arrived Anglican communities;
- (b) Encourages all parishes and ministries to consider how they may reach out to all who are found in their community; and
- (c) Recommends serious consideration to an increase in the 2012 budget to enable employment of a full-time ministry person for the support and development of Multi-cultural Ministry in the Diocese of Melbourne.
- (d) Further encourages exploration of funding available in 2011, to appoint a part time ministry person for support and development of Multicultural Ministry on the Diocese of Melbourne.

36 Provincial Ecumenical Affairs Committee - 2009-2010 Report of the (Motion 42)

That this Synod receives the 2009-2010 report of the Provincial Ecumenical Affairs Committee (Page 83 of the Reports) and welcomes the Reverend Dennis Webster as the Committee's new chair.

37 Participation Rates at Other Synods (Motion 43)

That this first session of the 50th Synod of the Diocese of Melbourne, noting

- (a) the President's reflection in his charge that 'Synod is our opportunity to "walk together" as we seek God's will for his Church in this diocese'; and
- (b) that on average only 77% of eligible members attended the four sessions of the forty-ninth Synod with only 71% attending in 2009;

requests the Secretary of Synod to ascertain the participation rates at other synods of the Anglican Church of Australia and asks Archbishop in Council and the Synod Arrangements Committee to consider his findings and report to the next session of this Synod.

38 Condolence Motion (Motion 36)

That this Synod gives thanks to Almighty God for the lives and ministries of the following:

Clergy: The Revd Burne Whittaker Brooker, 5 September 2010.

The Venerable Gordon Allan Brown, 10 August 2010.

The Revd John Daniel Potter, 24 April 2010.

The Revd Peter Ashley Thomson AM, 16 January 2010.

The Revd John David White, 6 November 2009

Lay: Hedley Beare, September 2010 (St George's, Ivanhoe)

Anne Bray-Goodwin, 2010 (wife of the Reverend Dr Colin Goodwin)

Jean Closter, 5 Oct 2010 (Represented St Michael's Carlton North)

John Coughlin, 4 April 2010 (Represented St Luke's Vermont)

¹ (For material on Christianity and Atheism please email: estregionbishop@melbourne.anglican.com.au)

Arthur Halnon, 2010 (Williamstown)
Len Lacock, 22 May 2010 (Represented Glenroy, Hadfield, and Merlynston Parish)
Derek Langshaw, August 2010 (St John's, Wandong)
Lesley Oliver, 24 May 2010 (wife of the Reverend Rodney Oliver)
Christine Sheppard, 1 September 2009 (Member of the Eastern Region Council)

39 Vote of thanks to Archbishop

That Synod place on record grateful thanks and appreciation of the Most Reverend Dr Philip Freier.

40 Vote of thanks to Synod Staff

The Most Reverend Dr Philip Freier on behalf of the Synod extended warm thanks and appreciation for all those who had enabled the Synod to carry out its business so efficiently and effectively. He particularly thanked: The Dean and staff of the Cathedral; the Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor; the Advocate; the Chair and Deputy Chair of Committees; the General Manager – Ken Spackman; the Registry staff and volunteers, particularly: Melanie Kelly, Maureen Cronin, Rob Till and Sally Petty; staff of the Archbishop's Office; staff from within the Anglican Centre and across the Diocese who have given their time; Ben and Mark from Harry the Hirer for their role; Breadwell Catering for the catering; the Reverend Scott Holmes (Thursday), the Reverend Dennis Webster (Friday) and the Reverend James Connor (Saturday) for leading our worship in music; The Flower Guild of St Paul's Cathedral for the beautiful flower arrangements; the Right Reverend Mark Burton, the Reverend Patricia Byrne, the Reverend James Duff and the Reverend Kim Wellard for leading our worship over the last 4 days; and a thank you to all the volunteers who have donated their time for the Synod. He thanked them all for making this Synod possible.

Answers to questions asked

1 Mrs Meredith Bartlett of St Philip's, Mount Waverley asked (Wednesday):

Question: Why this Synod has never to this date encouraged the attendance of Deaf people (who use Auslan and are part of a severely disadvantaged linguistic minority who face constant discrimination) at Synod services and Opening Ceremonies by the use of an Auslan Interpreter.

Answer: Mrs Bartlett has brought to the Synod's attention the important area of access for Deaf people that is worthy of consideration every time we arrange public worship. According to the Auslan website, 'recent research suggests that there are about 6,500 severely and profoundly deaf users of Auslan' in Australia.

I am unaware how often worship services in the Diocese of Melbourne are available with Auslan translation. A helpful website for any parish wanting to meet this need is the North Rocks Anglican Church in the Diocese of Sydney, www.northrocksanglican.org.au

Your question brings to the Synod's attention the risk of different ability rendering some people invisible. I was recently a visitor to the General Synod of the Church of England and observed the incorporation of the group Deaf Anglicans Together as a special constituency of the General Synod and watched a team of people signing for the three Deaf participants in the Synod and the Synod services of worship. I judged that to be a very effective arrangement for the inclusion of the Deaf participants.

I would welcome and encourage such arrangements for our Synod Service and Opening Ceremony. If any Synod member has knowledge of how that might be arranged or is in a position to make this happen for next year I would be grateful to you for making that offer known to the secretary of Synod. It may be that your question has not just highlighted the issue ahead of our 2011 gathering but has more generally encouraged us all to consider the involvement of all persons of different abilities in the active life of our church.

2 The Reverend Dr David Powys of St John's, Cranbourne asked (Wednesday):

Question With Answers::

On 30th September this year,
how many licensed clergy were there in the Diocese of Melbourne (not including
clergy with Permission to Officiate)?

On 30th September,
how many licensed clergy were there in the Diocese of Melbourne in priest's

347

orders (not including priests with Permission to Officiate)?	325
How many of these were licensed primarily as an educational chaplain?	32
How many of these were licensed primarily as a health or welfare chaplain?	10
How many of these were licensed primarily as an incumbent?	124
How many of these were licensed primarily as a priest-in-charge?	50
How many of these were licensed primarily as an assistant priest in a parish?	31
How many of these were licensed primarily as an assistant curate in a parish?	51
How many of these were licensed primarily for other ministries?	27
How many people were ordained priest in this Diocese from 1997 to 2007 inclusive?133	133
On 30th September this year, how many of these were licensed in this Diocese primarily as an educational chaplain?7	7
How many of these were licensed in this Diocese primarily as a health or welfare chaplain?3	3
How many of these were licensed in this Diocese primarily as an incumbent?	22
How many of these were licensed in this Diocese primarily as a priest-in-charge?	22
How many of these were licensed in this Diocese primarily as an assistant priest in a parish?11	11
How many of these were licensed in this Diocese primarily as an assistant curate in a parish?13	13
How many of these were licensed in this Diocese primarily for other ministries?	7
How many of these no longer had active licences within this Diocese?	48
On 30th September this year, how many parishes were there in the Diocese of Melbourne?	203
What percentage of these had an incumbent?	63%
What percentage of these had a priest-in-charge	25%
What percentage of these were under locum, intentional interim or other interim ministry arrangements?	12%
What percentage of parishes located more that 15 km from the former GPO were under locum, intentional interim or other interim ministry arrangements?	56%
What percentage of parishes in the Southern Region were under locum, Intentional Interim or other interim ministry arrangements?	13%
What percentage of parishes in the Eastern Region were under locum, Intentional Interim or other interim ministry arrangements?	11%
What percentage of parishes in the North/West Region were under locum, Intentional Interim or other interim ministry arrangements?	13%

3 Mr Simon Jackson of St Mary’s North Melbourne asked the following questions relating to organisations which report to Synod, loosely referred to as “NACHOS” – the nearly autonomous church organisations:

Question: (Answer still to be provided)

1. Of the organisations which report to Synod, especially the Anglican societies, agencies and associated organisations listed on the second page of the index of our business paper and Synod annual reports document, which are separate legal entities?
2. Does the Diocese have guidelines and policies in relation to how organisations which are not separate legal entities can become separate legal entities?
3. If transfer of assets is envisaged as part of such a separation, would the separation and/or transfer of assets be documented?
4. Under what circumstances would such documentation not be required?
5. Under what circumstances would such documentation not need a resolution of the Archbishop in Council and assent by the Archbishop?
6. Which of the organisations listed as a result of part 1 became separate legal entities by direct and documented assent of Archbishop in Council and which did not?
7. For each organisation for which assent of separation has been given, what was the date on which Archbishop in Council agreed to the separation?
8. Do any of the organisations which did not become separate legal entities by assent of Archbishop in Council lay claim to assets currently controlled by the Melbourne Anglican Trust Corporation or any other Diocesan trust or instrument?

9. Where such claims exist, do the organisations wish the Diocese to transfer unencumbered title of claimed assets to the organisation?
10. What is the Diocesan valuation of the assets listed in part 9?
11. Has the Diocese proposed continuing to hold the assets listed in part 9 in trust, and provide the income from these to the organisations as long as they continue to exist and operate according to their original charter and/or constitution?

4 Colin Reilly of Christ Church, Brunswick asked the following questions at last year's Synod (2009):

Question with Answers:

My question is directed to the Secretary of the Synod:

For each session of the forty-ninth Synod of the Diocese of Melbourne, what is the number of clerical members and what is the number of lay members:

1. who were summoned to attend the session of Synod?
Clerical: 2007: N/A; 2008: 358; 2009: 363
Lay: 2007: N/A 2008: 490; 2009: 486
2. who signed the register of attendance?
Clerical: 2007: 261; 2008: 274; 2009: 268
Lay: 2007: 396; 2008: 355; 2009: 332
3. who voted in person at any elections held during the session?
Clerical: 2007: 186; 2008: 217; 2009: 188
Lay: 2007: 337; 2008: 280; 2009: 254
4. who applied for a postal ballot for any elections held during the session?
Clerical and Lay: 2007: 28; 2008: 26; 2009: 4
5. who sought leave to be absent from the session?
Data not available

Answer to 3: The Archbishop advised that the question without notice from Mr Simon Jackson (Thursday) was of a complexity and scope as to make a response to the gathered Synod impractical. The Archbishop therefore proposed to answer this question under the provision of Standing Order 69A which provides that written answers might be circulated to members of the Synod. This would not only assist in compilation of a response but also in the understanding of members to the answer given. The Archbishop advised his understanding that publication on the Synod website will be sufficient to meet the requirements of Standing Orders.

5 The Reverend Alan Colyer, Vicar of Moonee Ponds and Ascot Vale asked the following question regarding the Business Papers (Thursday):

Question: My question comes from the last four pages on the Business Paper, re Assessments. Contained in these pages are a number of Parishes numbering 13 in all showing 'no information supplied'.

What actions are being put in place by the Archbishop, the General Manager/Registrar and Archbishop in Council to address/redress those Parishes with over 150 members who have not paid their full assessment over the past five years?

In the opinion of the Archbishop, the General Manager/Registrar and the Chair of the Legal Committee what legislation needs to come before this Synod so that this information can be obtained / supplied and Parish Assessments paid for the mission of this Church?

Answer: Parish Assessments are an important aspect in the overall operation of the Diocese as will be demonstrated in the Budget Motion coming before us tomorrow. The Archbishop in Council, the Finance Committee and management both Episcopate and Business Services are concerned to ensure that there is proper and fair application of legislation and policy across the Diocese.

Care must be taken in interpreting the information referred to as our processes allow for the receipt of Assessment even where complete information may not have been supplied. This of course creates another issue regarding the accuracy of the Assessment collected. Regular reporting comes before Council as to the level of Assessment compliance as any disparity unfairly increases the burden on others. Much effort has been made to assist parishes where information is incomplete or returns have not been submitted. It is Archbishop in Council's expectation that Churchwardens should expect their treasurers and

parish administrators to be fully accountable to this Synod for the proper and correct discharge of their responsibilities.

It is possible that the review of the various Acts encompassed within Motion 19, which the Synod approved last night, may provide a better means of ensuring that the responsibility for a contribution to the funding of essential Diocesan activity is equitably shared by all. In the bringing of this motion before the Synod, Archbishop in Council was concerned to ensure that matters such as those raised might be addressed.

6 Mr Peter Mason, Christ Church South Yarra, asked the following question relating to the Yearbook of the Diocese of Melbourne 2011 (Friday):

Question: As Diocesan Support Services are requesting changes to the 2010 Yearbook in writing before 31 December 2010, can we expect the Yearbook of the Diocese of Melbourne 2011 to be published early in 2011, and specifically when?

Answer: The processes that underlie the production of the Yearbook are complex, bringing together data from financial returns and parochial statistics as well as name, address and historic data. I congratulate the Diocesan Staff on the professionalism of the recent production.

As with all information, the earlier it is received the better. The Yearbook process is complicated by the use of aging technology and in 2011 this will be replaced through projects currently underway. This will increase the flexibility of our use of data, the methods of presentation of information and timeliness of the publication of things such as the Year book. As Diocesan Services and Support is both producing the yearbook and transitioning to the new system in 2011 it is difficult to provide a date on which the Yearbook will be available. Current estimates are that it will be available by the end of April 2011.