

GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2015
AT CHURCH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER

TIMES OF SITTINGS

Tuesday 10 February	1.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 11 February	<i>Groupwork 9.15 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.</i> 2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Thursday 12 February	9.15 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

SERVICES

Tuesday 10 February

12.00 noon	Holy Communion in the Chapel
1.00 p.m.	Worship in the Assembly Hall
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in the Assembly Hall

Wednesday 11 February

8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
9.15 a.m.	<i>Morning Worship in Groups</i>
1.05 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in the Assembly Hall

Thursday 12 February

9.15 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Assembly Hall
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GENERAL NOTES

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND QUESTIONS

1. Save where a special note is included in the Agenda, the following rules apply under the Standing Orders of the General Synod to notice of motions and amendments other than procedural motions:

NEW BUSINESS

2. The period of notice of new business **has expired**, save for urgent or other specially important business included by the direction of the Presidents.

MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS ARISING OUT OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

3. Notice of motions and amendments arising out of business on the Agenda (other than amendments to legislative business) must be delivered to the Clerk to the Synod as follows (SOs 10(a), 11 and 26(a)):

Business appointed for the first day of the group of sessions (Tuesday 10 February)

5.30 p.m. on Monday 9 February

Business appointed for the remaining days of the group of sessions

Business appointed for a *morning* sitting:
10.00 a.m. the day before

Business appointed for an *afternoon* or *evening* sitting:
4.00 p.m. the day before

Contingency business

10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 10 February

4. Under Standing Orders 10(a) and 26(a), such notice must be accompanied by evidence of support from two or more members of the Synod in addition to the member giving the notice. (This provision does *not* apply to amendments to (i) legislative business or (ii) proposed amendments to Standing Orders.)
5. As regards amendments to legislative business, the Business Committee has exercised its power under SO 11 to determine that notice of amendments to the draft Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure and draft Amending Canon No. 34 must be given by 5.30 p.m. on **Thursday 5th February** in order to allow the legal staff sufficient time to process them. Notice of amendments to the draft Naming of Dioceses Measure and of amendments to proposed amendments to Standing Orders must be given in accordance with Standing Order 10(c).

6. An amendment of which due notice has not been given may only be moved by permission of the Chair (SO 26(b)(i)).
7. The email address in respect of amendments and motions arising out of business on the Agenda is: **amendments@churchofengland.org**

QUESTIONS

8. Notice of Questions under Standing Orders 105-106 must be delivered **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Thursday 29 January 2015** (SO 10(b)(i)), with an indication of whether an oral or written answer is required (SO 105(c)).
9. **Members are reminded that, unless notice is given that an *oral* answer is required, it will be assumed that a *written* answer is required.**

NOTICE

10. Notice must be in writing signed by the member giving notice and delivered to the Clerk to the Synod either by hand or by post, fax or e-mail. The postal address is Church House, Great Smith St, London SW1P 3AZ. The fax number is 020 7898 1369. The e-mail addresses are:

in respect of questions:

questions@churchofengland.org

in respect of amendments and motions arising out of business on the Agenda:

amendments@churchofengland.org

in respect of submissions to Revision Committees:

revisioncommittee@churchofengland.org

ORDER OF BUSINESS

11. Business set out in the Agenda will be taken on the day and at the times shown. If business set down for a particular day is completed before the next timed business is due to be called, the opportunity will be taken to complete any business already partly considered at this group of sessions.

CONTINGENCY BUSINESS

12. If there is no uncompleted business and a gap appears in the Agenda during this group of sessions, contingency business will be taken as follows:

NATURE AND STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND – NATIONAL DEBATE (GS 1928A and GS 1928C)

Mrs Mary Judkins (Leeds) to move on behalf of the Wakefield Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod ask the House of Bishops to facilitate a theologically informed national debate about the organisational shape of the Church we are called on to be in order to best equip the parishes to serve the people of our land.’

THE CHURCH: TOWARDS A COMMON VISION: REPORT FROM THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (GS 1986)

The Chair of the Council for Christian Unity (the Bishop of Peterborough) to move:

‘That this Synod welcome the convergence text from the World Council of Churches’ Commission on Faith and Order, *The Church: Towards a Common Vision*, and:

- (a) endorse the response from the Council for Christian Unity and the Faith and Order Commission affirming its consonance with the doctrine of the Church of England;
- (b) commend the text for consideration at every level of the Church of England, wherever possible in dialogue with members of other Christian Churches; and
- (c) ask the Council for Christian Unity to work with Churches Together in England (CTE) to discern ways of building mutual understanding and enhancing partnership in the gospel across the growing range of Churches in this country in the light of the responses to the text from the diverse membership of CTE.’

13. The deadline for motions or amendments arising out of these items of business is **10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 10 February** (SO 26(a)(ii)).

CONTACT

14. Please address queries or other matters not covered in these notes to the Clerk to the Synod as follows:

jacqui.philips@churchofengland.org

TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2015

1.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

WORSHIP

1 INTRODUCTIONS

ADDRESS BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF THE CHALDEAN DIOCESE OF ERBIL, IRAQ

- 2 Archbishop Bashar M Warda (Archbishop of the Chaldean Diocese of Erbil, Iraq) will address the Synod at the invitation of the Presidents under SO 112.
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3 PROGRESS OF MEASURES AND STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 1974)

The Chair of the Business Committee (the Revd Canon Sue Booy (Oxford)) to move:

- 4 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'
-

GENERAL SYNOD ELECTIONS 2015: SEAT ALLOCATION (GS 1975)

The Chair of the Business Committee (the Revd Canon Sue Booy (Oxford)) to move:

- 5 'That this Synod approve the recommendations set out in paragraphs (i) and (ii) on page 4 of **GS 1975**.'
-

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- 6 The Archbishop of Canterbury will give a Presidential Address.
-

REPORT ON IMMERSION EXPERIENCE IN INDIA

- 7 Presentation under SO 97.
-

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The following items of business (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I – see pages 7- 8) will be taken:

- 500** Amending Canon No. 32 (**GS 1902D**)
– *Canon for Enactment*

Draft Naming of Dioceses Measure (**GS 1935A**)
– *Draft Measure for Revision*

- 501-2** Draft Amending Canon No. 35
– *Draft Amending Canon for Final Approval (GS 1964B)*
-

Not later than 4.15 p.m.

8 QUESTIONS

Not later than 5.40 p.m.

- 9 INTRODUCTION TO WEDNESDAY'S GROUP WORK AND DEBATES**
Presentation under SO 97 on (**GS 1976 – GS 1982**)
-

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2015

9.15 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.
Discussion in small groups

11.20 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
Discussion in larger groups

2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

DISCIPLESHIP (GS 1977)

The Bishop of Sheffield to move:

- 10** 'That this Synod, mindful that the Church of Jesus Christ is called to be a community of missionary disciples:
- (a) commend the Ten Marks for Developing Discipleship for further study and reflection with a view to the development in each diocese of an action plan for implementation at diocesan, deanery and parochial level; and
 - (b) invite the House of Bishops:
 - (i) to prepare a new Revised Catechism with a view to its approval by the General Synod under Canon B 2; and
 - (ii) to identify and commission other resources to help the whole Church to live out our common discipleship.'

RESOURCING THE FUTURE (GS 1978) AND RESOURCING MINISTERIAL EDUCATION (GS 1979)

Canon John Spence (ex officio) to move:

- 11** 'That this Synod,
- welcoming the objective set out in paragraph 4 of **GS 1978** of investment focused on dioceses' strategic plans for growth, and with a strong bias to the poor; and
 - the vision set out in paragraph 8 of **GS 1979**,
- invite the Archbishops' Council and the House of Bishops to reach early decisions on the specific recommendations in the two reports once the current consultation period with dioceses, theological training institutions and others is concluded.'
-

SIMPLIFICATION (GS 1980)

The Bishop of Willesden (Southern Suffragans) to move:

- 12** 'That this Synod, welcoming the proposals in **GS 1980** and noting the support that the Archbishops' Council, the Church Commissioners and the House of Bishops have given them, invite the Archbishops' Council and the Business Committee, in the light of any comments from dioceses and others, to bring the necessary amending legislation to the Synod for more detailed scrutiny.'
-

CHURCH COMMISSIONERS' FUNDS AND INTER-GENERATIONAL EQUITY (GS 1981)

The First Church Estates Commissioner (ex officio) to move:

- 13** 'That this Synod,
welcoming **GS 1981**; and
noting that the funds of the Church Commissioners are a permanent endowment, held in perpetuity to support the Church of England as it seeks to proclaim the faith afresh in each generation,
support the Commissioners, in consultation with the House of Bishops and the Archbishops' Council, giving consideration to the basis on which they might, for a limited period, release additional funds in order to support changes that will equip the Church of England more effectively for sustainable mission and ministry over the coming generations.'
-

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

THURSDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2015

A service of Holy Communion will be celebrated in the Assembly Hall at 9.15 a.m.

10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The following items of business (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I – see pages 7-8) will be taken:

- 503** Draft Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure (**GS 1952A**) and draft Amending Canon No.34 (**GS 1953A**)
– *Draft Measure and draft Amending Canon for Revision*

If a debate is required on the petition to change the names of the suffragan sees of Knaresborough and Pontefract (**GS 1983**) it will be taken at this point.

50TH REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (GS 1984)

The Chair of the Standing Orders Committee (*Mr Geoffrey Tattersall (Manchester)*) to move:

- 14** ‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’

Notes:

1. *If the motion that the Synod do take note of the report is carried, the motions for amendments to the Standing Orders contained in the First Notice Paper will be moved.*
 2. *Under SO 39(b), with the permission of the Chair, motions may be taken en bloc where no notice of amendments has been given and where no member indicates that he or she wishes to speak against the motion.*
-

SPECIAL AGENDA III PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

CANON B 38 (GS 1972A AND GS 1972B)

The Revd Canon Dr Michael Parsons (Gloucester) to move:

- 15** ‘That this Synod call on the Business Committee to introduce legislation to amend Canon B 38 so as to allow those who have taken their own life, whatever the circumstances, to be buried in accordance with the rites of the Church of England.’
-

2.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

LITURGICAL BUSINESS

The following items (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda II – see page 9) will be taken:

- 600** Alternative Baptism Texts (**GS 1958A**)
– *Report of the Revision Committee (GS 1958Y)*
-

**MISSION AND GROWTH IN RURAL MULTI-PARISH BENEFICES:
REPORT FROM THE MISSION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL (GS
1985)**

The Chair of the Rural Affairs Group (the Bishop of Knaresborough (Northern Suffragans)) to move:

- 16** 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'
-

Not later than 4.45 p.m.

- 17** **FAREWELLS**
-

- 18** **PROROGATION**
-
-

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

AMENDING CANON No. 32 (GS 1902D)

Canon for Enactment

(Finally approved at the July 2014 group of sessions)

One of the Archbishops to move:

- 500** 'That the Canon entitled "Amending Canon No. 32" be made, promulgated and executed.'

DRAFT NAMING OF DIOCESES MEASURE (GS 1935A)

Draft Measure for Revision

(First Consideration at the February 2014 group of sessions)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 1935Y)

***Note:** The Revision Committee Stage for the draft Measure having been completed at the November 2014 group of sessions, the Synod will proceed to consider the draft Measure clause by clause, first considering any amendments of which due notice has been given (SO 55(a)).*

DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO.35 (GS 1964B)

Draft Amending Canon for Final Approval

(Revised at the November 2014 group of sessions)

Article 7 business

The Chair of the Steering Committee (the Bishop of Sodor and Man) (the Rt Revd Robert Paterson) to move:

- 501** 'That the Canon entitled "Amending Canon No. 35" be finally approved.'
- 502** 'That the petition for Her Majesty's Royal Assent and Licence (**GS 1964C**) be adopted.'

DRAFT SAFEGUARDING AND CLERGY DISCIPLINE MEASURE (GS 1952A)

DRAFT AMENDING CANON No. 34 (GS 1953A)

Draft Measure and draft Amending Canon for Revision

(First Consideration at the July 2014 group of sessions)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 1952-3Y)

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The Chair of the Revision Committee (Mr Geoffrey Tattersall) (Manchester) to move:

503 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'

Notes:

- 1. In the debate on item 503 it will not be in order to debate any matter which is the subject of an amendment to the draft Measure or the draft Amending Canon which appears on a Notice Paper for this group of sessions (SO 54(c)).*
- 2. When the debate is concluded on item 503, the Synod will proceed to consider the draft Measure and draft Amending Canon clause by clause, first considering any amendments of which due notice has been given (SO 55(a)).*
- 3. The Business Committee has determined in accordance with SO 11 that any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment under SO 56(a) to either the draft Measure or the draft Amending Canon must do so in writing to the Clerk to the Synod **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Thursday 5th February 2015.***

PETITION TO CHANGE THE NAMES OF THE SUFFRAGAN SEES OF KNARESBOROUGH AND PONTEFRACT (GS 1983)

Petition for approval under the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007

Notes:

- 1. The Bishop of Leeds has laid the above petition before the General Synod for approval under section 11 of the 2007 Measure.*
- 2. The Business Committee has determined (as provided by the 2007 Measure) that the petition does not need to be debated.*
- 3. Any member who wishes to debate the petition must give notice in writing to the Clerk to the Synod **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday 10 February 2015.***

SPECIAL AGENDA II – LITURGICAL BUSINESS

ALTERNATIVE BAPTISM TEXTS (GS 1958A)

Article 7 Business

Consideration of a Report by the Revision Committee (GS 1958Y)

The Chair of the Revision Committee (the Bishop of Truro) to move:

600 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'

Notes:

1. *Notice of motions for re-committal under the provisions of Standing Order 77(a) must be given in writing to the Clerk to the Synod by **not later than 5.30 pm on Tuesday 10 February 2015** (Standing Order 10(c)). Any such motions will appear on a Notice Paper.*
2. *If no such motion is carried, the liturgical business will automatically stand committed to the House of Bishops under Standing Order 77(f).*

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

Note: This is the current order which includes signatures received by 26 November 2014.

PUBLIC DOCTRINE OF CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

Mrs Andrea Minichiello Williams (Chichester) to move:

‘That this Synod affirm the public doctrine of Christian marriage, between a man and a woman, as set out in the Book of Common Prayer, as the only basis for engagement with public policy on marriage and family life.’

144 signatures

February 2012

REGISTRATION OF CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Mr John Ward (London) to move:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) give its general consent, pursuant to regulation 2D of the Marriages and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005, to any application made in respect of a church or chapel of the Church of England for approval as a place at which two people may register as civil partners of each other; and
- (b) require the Clerk to the Synod forthwith to publish evidence of this consent in writing.’

138 signatures

February 2012

CANON B 38

The Revd Canon Dr Michael Parsons (Gloucester) to move:

‘That this Synod call on the Business Committee to introduce legislation to amend Canon B 38 so as to allow those who have taken their own life, whatever the circumstances, to be buried in accordance with the rites of the Church of England.’

113 signatures

February 2014

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

PAROCHIAL FEES

The Revd Paul Cartwright (Leeds) to move:

'That this Synod request the Archbishops' Council to introduce legislation to provide, on grounds of subsidiarity, for the level of parochial fees to be determined by diocesan synods within a range approved by the General Synod, reflecting the fact that diocesan synods are responsible for both setting the level of clergy stipends within their dioceses and paying those stipends from fee income, parish share, glebe and investment income and grants.'

24 signatures

November 2014

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Mr Samuel Margrave (Coventry) to move:

'That this Synod believe that Nuclear Weapons, by nature of being indiscriminate, are an affront to the nature of God.'

0 signatures

December 2014

REMUNERATION OF CHURCH WORKERS

Mr Samuel Margrave (Coventry) to move:

'That this Synod call on all those in the Church of England responsible for appointing lay and clerical staff as office holders or employees to remunerate them at a level equivalent to the clergy stipend and the value of a housing allowance, etc. so that the total remuneration package for anyone holding a Church office or employment does not exceed £45,000 after pension contributions.'

0 signatures

January 2015

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

... to move on behalf of the Chelmsford Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason;
- (b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and
- (c) call on the House of Bishops:
 - (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England’s involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks (especially the continuing Indaba process);
 - (ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and
 - (iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference. ’

March 2012

[The Bath and Wells, Lincoln, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford St Albans and Worcester Diocesan Synods passed a motion in identical terms.]

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

... to move on behalf of the Southwark Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason, all as set out in Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the draft Anglican Communion Covenant;
- (b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and
- (c) call on the House of Bishops:

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

- (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England's involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks (especially the continuing Indaba process);
- (ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and
- (iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference.'

March 2012

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

... to move on behalf of the Guildford Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod:

- (a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason;
- (b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and
- (c) call on the House of Bishops:
 - (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England's involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks;
 - (ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and
 - (iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference. '

April 2012

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

NATURE AND STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND – NATIONAL DEBATE

Mrs Mary Judkins (Wakefield) to move on behalf of the Wakefield Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod ask the House of Bishops to facilitate a theologically informed national debate about the organisational shape of the Church we are called on to be in order to best equip the parishes to serve the people of our land.’

July 2012

FOSSIL FUELS DISINVESTMENT

...to move on behalf of the Oxford Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) urge the national investing bodies to disinvest from all coal companies (except those investing in carbon capture) and tar sand companies at the earliest opportunity;
- (b) urge the national investing bodies to examine the possibility of disinvestment from oil companies but not before three years from now;
- (c) urge the national investing bodies to examine the possibility of disinvestment from natural gas companies but not before five years from now; and
- (d) call on parishes and individual Christians to take steps to encourage Her Majesty’s Government and political parties to act quickly on climate change.’

December 2014