

**GENERAL SYNOD**  
**NOVEMBER GROUP OF SESSIONS 2015**  
**CHURCH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER**

**TIMES OF SITTINGS**

<b>Tuesday 24 November</b>	2.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday 25 November</b>	9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

**SERVICES**

**Tuesday 24 November**

10.45 a.m.	Holy Communion in Westminster Abbey (entry is by ticket only)
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in the Assembly Hall

**Wednesday 25 November**

8.15 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
9.30 a.m.	Morning Worship in the Assembly Hall
1.05 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel

## GENERAL NOTES

### NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND QUESTIONS

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:

1. The period of notice of new business has expired, save for urgent or other especially important business included by the direction of the Presidents.
2. 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(2) and 27(2)):
  - Business appointed for the *first day of the group of sessions* (24 November) –  
**5.30 p.m. on 23 November**
  - Business appointed for the *second day of the group of sessions* (25 November):
    - Business appointed for the morning sitting –  
**10.00 a.m. the day before;**
    - Business appointed for the afternoon sitting –  
**4.00 p.m. the day before.**
3. Please note, however, that the Business Committee has determined under the provisions of SO 12(a) that notice of **amendments to item 9** (The Migrant Crisis) must be received by **4.00 p.m. on Tuesday 24 November 2015**.
4. Under Standing Order 10(6) and 27(6), 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 legislative business.)
5. Notice of amendments to legislative business must be given in accordance with the notes accompanying the relevant item in the Agenda.
6. An amendment of which due notice has not been given may only be moved by permission of the Chair (SO 26(4)(a)).
7. Notice of Questions under Standing Orders 112-113 must be delivered **not later than 12 noon on 12 November 2015** (SO 11(3)).
8. 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](mailto:questions@churchofengland.org)

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

[amendments@churchofengland.org](mailto:amendments@churchofengland.org)

in respect of other matters:

[jacqui.philips@churchofengland.org](mailto:jacqui.philips@churchofengland.org)

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

9. 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.

## **MEETING OF THE HOUSE OF LAITY**

10. The House of Laity will meet from 4.45 p.m. (or 15 minutes after the prorogation of the Synod if business is completed earlier) on Wednesday 25 November in the Assembly Hall.

# TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2015

2.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

## WORSHIP

### 1 INTRODUCTIONS, PRAYERS, WELCOMES

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#### PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

2 *The Archbishop of Canterbury* will give a Presidential Address.

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#### REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2006)

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

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

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#### INTRODUCTION TO SYNOD WORSHIP BY THE CHAPLAIN TO THE GENERAL SYNOD

4 Presentation under SO 107.

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#### REFORM AND RENEWAL (GS Misc 1124)

5 Presentation under SO 107.

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Not later than 5.40 p.m.

6 QUESTIONS

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## WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2015

9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

### MORNING WORSHIP

#### LOYAL ADDRESS

*The Archbishop of Canterbury to move:*

- 7 'That a Loyal Address be presented to Her Majesty the Queen.'
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#### GLOBAL WARMING

- 8 *The Archbishop of York will give a presentation under SO 107.*
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#### THE MIGRANT CRISIS

- 9 Details of the motion to be moved under this item will be given in a Notice Paper.
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#### LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

**The following item (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I - see page 4) will be taken:**

- 500 Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 2015 (**GS 2007**)  
- *Order for approval*
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#### PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF JESUS (GS Misc 1126)

- 10 Presentation under SO 107.
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**2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.**

**REPORT OF THE CHURCH BUILDINGS REVIEW GROUP (GS 2008)**

*The Bishop of Worcester to move:*

- 11** 'That this Synod, acknowledging both the blessing and the burden of the Church of England's stewardship for so many historic buildings:
- (a) welcome the report from the Church Buildings Review Group;
  - (b) commend it for discussion in dioceses, deaneries and parishes; and
  - (c) invite the Archbishops' Council, the Church Commissioners and the Church Buildings Council to work together on the detailed implementation of the proposals in the report so as to enable the Business Committee, in the case of those proposals which require legislation, to schedule the start of the relevant legislative process by July 2016.'

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**Not later than 4.00 p.m.**

**12 FAREWELLS**

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**13 PROROGATION**

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**MEETING OF THE HOUSE OF LAITY**

The House of Laity will meet **at 4.45 p.m.** (or 15 minutes after the prorogation of the Synod if business is completed earlier) in the Assembly Hall.

<b>SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS</b>
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**ECCLESIASTICAL JUDGES, LEGAL OFFICERS AND OTHERS (FEES)  
ORDER 2015 (GS 2007)**

**Order made under the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986**

*A member of the Fees Advisory Commission to move:*

**500** 'That the Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 2015 be approved'.

**Notes:**

1. *The Fees Advisory Commission has laid the above Order before the General Synod for approval under section 6 of the 1986 Measure.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 70(1) that the Order be considered on the One Motion Procedure under SO 72.*
3. *Amendments to the Order are permissible. Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment must do so in writing to the Clerk to the Synod **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 23 November 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

### **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

### **DISINVESTMENT FROM FOSSIL FUELS**

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

‘That this Synod:

- (a) call on the national investing bodies to make an explicit commitment to begin disinvestment from companies primarily involved in the extraction of tar sands, oil, coal and gas, as soon as possible;
- (b) request the national investing bodies actively to explore options for alternative investment in clean, renewable energy and other low-carbon technologies; and
- (c) call on Her Majesty’s Government to ensure that binding agreements are reached at the international summit in Paris in November-December 2015.’

March 2015

## SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

### **WELCOMING TRANSGENDER PEOPLE**

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

‘That this Synod, recognising the need for transgender people to be welcomed and affirmed in their parish church, call on the House of Bishops to consider whether some nationally commended liturgical materials might be prepared to mark a person’s gender transition.’

April 2015

### **IMPACT OF SANCTIONS ON BENEFIT CLAIMANTS**

...to move on behalf of Leeds Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) request the Church of England Mission and Public Affairs Council to evaluate, with others as appropriate, the impact of sanctioning upon benefit claimants; and
- (b) call on Her Majesty’s Government to implement the recommendations numbered 58-63 inclusive, made in December 2014 by the All Party Parliamentary Inquiry Report into Hunger in the UK *Feeding Britain* in respect of the use of sanctions upon benefit claimants.’

August 2015

### **PAROCHIAL FEES**

...to move on behalf of Worcester Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod call on the Archbishops’ Council to exercise its powers under s.1 of the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986 so that fees prescribed as payable to parochial church councils in respect of funerals and weddings should include any costs and expenses of providing a verger.’

and

‘That this Synod call on the Archbishops’ Council to exercise its powers under s.1 of the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986 so that fees prescribed as payable to parochial church councils in respect of funerals and weddings should include any costs and expenses of providing heating.’

October 2015

**NOTES**