

# **GENERAL SYNOD**

## **JULY 2005 GROUP OF SESSIONS**

### **REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

#### **Dates and Hours of Sitting**

1. The July meeting of the General Synod will take place at the University of York **from 3 pm on Friday 8 July to 1 pm on Tuesday 12 July.**

#### **Introduction and Overview of the Agenda**

2. This is the final Group of Sessions of the quinquennium and there is a considerable amount of business to transact. The Agenda is under particular pressure because of the need to provide:
  - a. a substantial amount of time for the Synod to consider whether to embark on the legislative process necessary for the admission of women to the episcopate;
  - b. sufficient time for the Second Revision Stage and Final Approval of the new Ordinal;
  - c. a mix of business on Saturday evening and much of Sunday which takes account of the unavoidable absence of the Archbishop of Canterbury and some other bishops because of

Sunday services to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

3. There are also two debates on subjects which affect the Church's engagement with the wider community, on the churches' task in a multi Faith society and on the question of assisted suicide and voluntary euthanasia. There is a substantial amount of business of a financial nature, including the future plans of the Church Urban Fund, the follow-up to the Strategic Financial Review, and parochial fees, as well as the Archbishops' Council's budget for 2006. In addition there is an important debate dealing with the Hind follow-up process on the provision of ministerial education, following the adjourned debate in February.
4. There is a fair amount of legislative business and there is also one debate in the area of ecumenical relations (Anglican/Methodist Covenant interim implementation report). The Agenda, therefore, covers a wide range of subjects, with several high profile debates. The Archbishop of Canterbury will be giving a Presidential Address and there will be the customary service of Holy Communion, and the closing ceremonies to mark the end of the Synodical quinquennium.
5. Principal debates at the July Synod (with reference to paragraphs later in this report) are as follows:
  - **Women in the Episcopate**            **para 60-62**
  - **Ordinal**                                **para 32-35 and 63**
  - **The churches' task in a multi Faith society**            **para 50**
  - **Assisted suicide and**

- **voluntary euthanasia**                      **para 44-47**
- **Church Urban Fund**                      **para 54-55**
- **Strategic Spending Review**              **para 57**
- **Anglican/Methodist**
- **Covenant implementation**              **para 66-69**
- **Hind Follow-up**                          **para 41-43**

6. The Business Committee has considered what item of contingency business to list for this Group of Sessions. As regards Private Members Motions, the next item in the list is the Revd Dr Richard Turnbull’s motion on Inter-Diocesan Mutual Support. This subject will be considered in the context of the debate on the follow-up to the Strategic Spending Review, so a separate debate is not required. All the other Private Members’ Motions have received fewer than 100 signatures, which, in the light of Standing Order 6(e), the Business Committee considers is a reasonable threshold for scheduling a Private Member’s Motion for debate.
  
7. Several of the Diocesan Synod Motions concern the introduction of legislation to permit the consecration of women to the episcopate. This is to be the subject of a major debate at this Group of Sessions, on a motion brought forward by the House of Bishops to test the mind of the Synod. The motion on the Episcopal Ministry Act of Synod (Southwark DSM) is related to the eventual outcome in Synod on women in the episcopate.
  
8. Apart from the Oxford DSM on Parochial Fees, which is being debated on Sunday 10 July, there are at present only two other DSMs, both from Southwark, (1) on Carbon Dioxide Emissions and (2) on the Bicentenary

of the Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade. As to the former, the Business Committee will be considering how this motion (which the Southwark Diocese wish to remain in the list) is best taken forward in the light of the General Synod debate on the environment in February 2005; this included debate on an amendment on Carbon Dioxide Emissions, which was unsuccessfully moved by Vasantha Gnanadoss on behalf of the Southwark Diocese. Under Standing Order 24 this subject cannot be re-considered for eleven months (i.e. until February 2006) except by permission of the Business Committee and with the general consent of the Synod.

9. As to the latter motion, on the Abolition of the Slave Trade, the Business Committee and the Diocese of Southwark consider that this would be more suitable as a substantive item for the new Synod. In addition, a request has been received from the Guildford Diocese for a debate on the Human Genome, and discussions are taking place with Guildford Diocese as to the best way of taking this forward.
10. The Business Committee does not, therefore, consider that any subject is suitable to be listed as contingency business. If an unexpected gap opens in the Synod's agenda, the Business Committee has agreed to seek a variation of the order of business to advance one or other of the more administrative items on the agenda (for example, the Standing Orders Committee report and the reports from the Archbishops' Council and the Audit Committee).

11. At the July Synod it is customary to include either an exposition of Scripture or group work, based on Bible study or other study material. This year there will be group work on the Saturday morning, on the subject of Christian stewardship.
12. A financial comment has been prepared by the Finance Division on items of Synod business which have significant financial implications. This will be circulated on a Notice Paper.
13. The forecast of business annexed to this report provides a forward look to the Inaugural Group of Sessions in November 2005, and the Groups of Sessions in February and July 2006. There are always considerable uncertainties when looking ahead in this way, so this should not be read as more than a broad indication of the business expected to come to the Synod at the beginning of the next quinquennium.

#### **Correspondence received following the February 2005 Synod**

14. Some of the correspondence following the February Group of Sessions focussed on aspects of the chairing of debates, and in particular the choice of speakers and this correspondence has been referred to the Panel of Chairmen. Some correspondents also expressed concern at a perceived proliferation of amendments and the way these could reduce the time for debate on a main motion; the need to put in place a mechanism for managing this was urged.

15. Other letters expressed dissatisfaction at the outcome of the debate on the Durham Diocesan Synod Motion on Election Addresses, and concern at remarks made by the Revd David Banting in the debate on Women in the Episcopate. The Business Committee wishes to remind all Synod members of the need to ensure care, respect, moderation and generosity of language when debating strongly held opinions. Other correspondence suggested that the 9 am start was too early, and that a full week was needed to do justice to the important matters being debated rather than being crowded into four days.

### **The July Synod: explanatory information**

16. The times of the July Group of Sessions are set out on the front of the Agenda (GS 1571). The notes to be circulated in the second Synod mailing - on transport, accommodation, etc, supplied to members who are coming to York - include a timetable, which also shows the times of services and meals.

### **Anglican and Ecumenical Representatives**

17. The Synod will have the opportunity to welcome as observers:

The Rt Revd Brian Smith (Scottish Episcopal Church)

Pasteur Jean Roetman (French Lutheran/Reformed Churches)

The Revd Dr Randar Tasmuth (Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church)

## **Synod Worship**

18. There will be a clear strand of worship throughout the Synod. It will reflect some of the themes of business before the Synod. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 7.30 am on Saturday and on Monday in the Central Hall; evening worship will take place daily in the Central Hall at 6.20 pm. There will also be a short act of worship in the Central Hall, immediately before the morning sessions on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday. Service leaflets will be distributed to members at York.
19. On Sunday 10 July, the Synod will attend a service of Holy Communion in York Minster. On this occasion, the Archbishop of Canterbury will not be present for the service as he has to attend the national service in London to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War. He has therefore invited the Dean to make the necessary arrangements for the celebrant and preacher for this service from within the Chapter.
20. Arrangements for transport to the Minster on the Sunday will be announced in a separate notice to be circulated later. A special coach service will be provided, tickets for which will be on sale from the information desk in the concourse of the Central Hall. As there will not be enough places for everyone on the coaches, it is hoped that some members will walk or use their car and take passengers. There is usually plenty of vacant space on Sunday mornings in the car

parks near the city centre (for which a fee may be charged).

21. The Archbishop of Canterbury will preside at a service of Holy Communion in the Central Hall on Tuesday 12 July at the close of business, to mark the end of the Synodical quinquennium, immediately before the closing ceremonies.

### **Voting Procedures**

22. Members are reminded that particular voting procedures on a division apply at York. The Business Committee has decided to alternate (in successive years) the practice at York of ascending and descending the stairs in order to vote. Therefore, this year clergy and laity wishing to vote 'Yes' will vote by descending the stairways and leave the Hall through the exits to the concourse; those wishing to vote 'No' will vote by ascending the stairs and leave the Hall via the doors to the balcony. Members who have difficulty in ascending or descending the steps in order to vote are reminded that they may remain in their seats and have their vote taken by a member of the staff who will pass it on to the registrar.

### **Order of Business**

23. The business of the Synod has, as usual, been arranged by days. The business each day will follow the order set out in the daily list given in the Agenda, except where it is necessary to modify this. Every effort will be made to give the Synod the longest possible notice of any variations which it is proposed to make in the



timetable and to keep such changes to a minimum. Members are, however, reminded that if at any time within the Group of Sessions an unexpected gap opens in the Synod's agenda, business earlier in the agenda which has not been reached or completed within the period allotted can be called by the Chairman, unless other provision has already been made for it.

### **Private Members' Motions**

24. Notice of Private Members' Motions received is contained in Special Agenda III. Any future notices of Private Members' Motions will be published in notice papers and will be available for signature at the July Group of Sessions only if they are received **no later than 5.30 pm on Friday 8 July**. Please note, however, that Private Members' Motions not taken by the end of the July Group of Sessions will lapse at the end of the Synodical quinquennium. Whilst they can be tabled again when the new Synod assembles in November, signatures previously obtained in support will not be carried forward, so the signature process will need to start again.

### **Content of Business**

#### **Introductions (Friday, 8 July)**

25. There will be the customary introduction of new members and the welcoming of Anglican and ecumenical representatives.

## **Report by the Business Committee**

26. This will provide the usual opportunity for members to raise points about the Agenda for this Group of Sessions or about the Synod's business generally. Following the take-note debate on the Business Committee's Report, the Synod will be asked to pass a motion relating to two detailed constitutional matters.

## **Constitutions Report**

27. Following the debate on the report of the Business Committee (GS 1572), a motion will be moved on the term of office of members of the Liturgical Commission and a second motion will be moved on the term of office of the directly elected members of the Archbishops' Council.
28. The constitution of the Liturgical Commission has previously been included in the quinquennial review of bodies answerable to the General Synod through the Archbishops' Council. At the time of the last review in February 2000, the term of office of members of the Liturgical Commission was set at 31 March 2006.
29. In the most recent quinquennial review of constitutions of bodies answerable to the Synod through the Archbishops' Council (GS 1566), the Liturgical Commission was deemed, as a body answerable to the Synod, to fall outside the scope of the review. It is therefore necessary for the Synod to set a new term of office for the Liturgical Commission. The Synod is asked to approve a term of office for members of the

Liturgical Commission ending on 31 March following the dissolution of the Synod.

30. The National Institutions Measure 1998 provides for six members of the Archbishops' Council to be elected by the three Houses of the Synod, two from each House. The Measure requires that the term of office for these members should be determined by the General Synod and should be of a duration not less than three and no more than five years. The Synod voted in July 2000 that the term of office of those members so elected should end on 10 December 2005. The motion before the Synod seeks approval of a five-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2005 and ending on 31 December 2010.

31. An accompanying paper (GS Misc 780) provides information on the constitutional position of all the bodies which are answerable directly to the Synod.

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### **Ordinal: Second Revision Stage**

32. The Revision Committee for the Common Worship Ordination Services has considered further the points which were re-committed to it at the February Group of Sessions. On Friday afternoon the Synod will be invited to take note of the Revision Committee's further report (GS 1532). At the ensuing Further Revision Stage it will be in order for members to move amendments to the text of the Ordination Services which relate to matters contained in the Report (for details, see Standing Order 79).

33. After the Further Revision Stage is completed, the text will be considered by the House of Bishops under Article 7 of the Constitution. If a reference to either or both of the Convocations or the House of Laity under Article 7 is claimed in the light of any changes made by the House, separate meetings of the body concerned will be held after the close of business on Sunday 10 July.
34. If the Ordination Services are approved by the House of Bishops (and, if referred to them, by the Convocations and the House of Laity), they will be considered for Final Approval on the evening of Monday, 11 July.
35. Should the Common Worship Ordination Services not receive Final Approval, it would be necessary for the authorisation of the ASB Ordinal as amended in 2000 (which will otherwise lapse on 31 December 2005) to be extended. As the process for this involves two General Synod debates (First Consideration and Final Approval), if the new Ordination Services do not receive Final Approval at this Group of Sessions, the First Consideration of extension of the ASB Ordinal as amended would need to be moved at this Group of Sessions.

### **Questions**

36. Under SO 105, members may address Questions to the Secretary General, the Clerk to the Synod, the Chairman of the Archbishops' Council, the Chairman of any body answerable to the Synod through the Archbishops' Council (including Boards and Councils), the Chairman of any Church of England body on which the Synod is represented, the Chairman of each of the

three Houses of Synod, and the Church Estates Commissioners. Anyone wishing to ask a question must give notice of it to reach the Clerk to the Synod by **5.30 pm on Tuesday 28 June**. The Questions notice paper will be distributed at the beginning of the Group of Sessions.

37. Members are reminded that ‘omnibus’ questions are not in order. If a member wishes to query several points, each should be the subject of a separate question, and members may ask up to two questions. Detailed information, tables of figures, etc are better dealt with in a written answer and members are urged to be selective in matters which they raise orally at Question Time, including in any supplementaries, which must be framed as a question and should be kept brief. Members should indicate clearly when submitting a Question whether it is for oral or written answer.

#### **Legislative Business (Saturday, 9 July)**

38. The major items of legislative business at this Group of Sessions form part of the process of implementing the new disciplinary processes under the Clergy Discipline Measure 2003, which will be brought into force at the end of the year. To that end, the Synod will be asked to approve two items of business: the Code of Practice under the Measure, made by the Clergy Discipline Commission and approved by the Dean of the Arches, which will give general guidance for the purposes of the Measure; and the Clergy Discipline Rules, made by the Rules Committee, which will lay down detailed procedural rules. Both the Code and the Rules have

been the subject of extensive consultation before being finalised.

39. Additionally, the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure returns to the Synod for Final Drafting and Final Approval. Approval will also be sought for the usual Fees Orders.
40. Finally, the Synod will be asked to confirm the proposed change in the name of the See of Southwell, to that of 'Southwell and Nottingham'.

### **Formation for Ministry in a Learning Church: Hind Follow-up**

41. The debate on the financing of CME and Research costs was the subject of a successful motion for adjournment at the February 2005 Group of Sessions, which did not specify a time for the resumption of the debate. The debate will accordingly only be resumed if the Business Committee so directs. The Committee does not propose to do so. Instead, since it became clear in February that members of the Synod wanted an opportunity to have a wider debate on the implementation of *Formation for Ministry within a Learning Church*, the Bishops' Committee for Ministry proposes a new debate, on a motion in wider terms, this July.
42. The paper supporting this debate (GS 1574) summarises the state of play in ministerial education (including the reduction of numbers in theological colleges in the past two years) and reviews the process of implementing the report which Synod endorsed, with

some amendments in 2003. The Synod will be asked to reaffirm the vision of *Formation for Ministry within a Learning Church*.

43. It will be invited to commend the promotion of greater partnership between dioceses and training institutions, while recognising that there is scope for variety and flexibility over how this is best secured within regions. It will also be invited to welcome conclusions reached by the House of Bishops in relation to agreed learning outcomes and the House, and the Archbishops' Council in relation to the funding proposals set out in GS 1569, which was the subject of debate in Synod in February.

### **Assisted Suicide and Voluntary Euthanasia**

44. The issue of assisted suicide and voluntary euthanasia is of increasing parliamentary and public debate. In April this year, a House of Lords Select Committee (of which the Bishop of St Albans was a member), published its report on the Private Member's Bill introduced by Lord Joffe, which sought to enable a person in certain circumstances to request and receive medical assistance to die.
45. In September 2004, the House of Bishops and the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales made a Joint Submission to this Committee, in which it was argued that it was "clearly misguided to propose a law by which it would be legal for terminally ill people to be killed or assisted in suicide by those caring for them, even if there are safeguards to ensure it is only the terminally ill who would qualify". The issue

is likely to be debated in Parliament in the current session.

46. The Bishop of St Albans has led for the Church of England on this subject, and the St Albans Diocesan Synod has passed a motion calling on the Synod “to stimulate an informed debate in the wider church and in the nation, which will draw on the theological, moral and philosophical resources of our faith, and on the expertise of those in palliative medicine and pastoral care”.
47. In bringing the debate to the Synod, the Mission and Public Affairs Council is seeking both to raise awareness of the issues and to endorse the joint submission as a basis for engagement, advocacy and development in the public debate. The debate is supported by a short background report (GS 1575), which includes the Bishops’ Joint Submission to which the motion refers. It will be introduced by the Bishop of St Albans.

#### **Communion before Confirmation**

48. The House of Bishops’ Guidelines on the Admission of Baptised Persons to Holy Communion before Confirmation (GS Misc 488) were issued in March 1997. The General Synod in November 2000 requested the House to monitor the implementation in the dioceses of the guidelines and to report back by 2005 on whether a change in canon law was required. The Bishops’ Meeting in June 2004 received a report on implementation. The updated report on implementation is now to be presented to the Synod (GS 1576).



49. The House of Bishops has received the legal advice that the position should be normalised through regulations made under Canon B 15A (Of admission to Holy Communion), which envisages in paragraph 1(c) the admission to Holy Communion of “any other baptised persons authorized to be admitted under regulations of the General Synod”. Draft regulations are accordingly set out in GS 1576. It is intended that they should receive First Consideration by the new General Synod in November and, as Article 7 business, be brought back for Final Approval in February 2006 if they have the formal consent of the House of Bishops.

**Presence and Engagement: the churches’ task in a multi Faith society**

50. Issues of inter-faith relations are now mainstream concerns for the Government and society. This debate focuses particularly on the churches’ task in a multi Faith society, and is being brought to the Synod by the Mission and Public Affairs Council with the support of the Archbishops’ Council. It is based on research carried out in the MPA’s *Presence and Engagement* project, which has provided a thorough-going investigation of the role of the Church of England in parishes with significant other faith communities. The Synod debate, supported by the report GS 1577, aims to highlight and re-affirm the significant commitment that the Church of England has to ministry in multi-faith areas, to encourage dioceses to review their long-term strategies for equipping and supporting clergy, and to encourage reflection on the theological basis for engagement in multi-faith areas.

### **Parochial Fees (Oxford Diocesan Synod Motion)**

51. Most of the fees that the Church of England can charge in respect of marriages and funerals are set out annually in a draft Parochial Fees Order. The draft Order is agreed by the Archbishops' Council and laid before the General Synod for its approval before the Council makes the formal Order. The Oxford Diocese would like the Council to set fees at a significantly higher level 'so as to reflect the real cost of the ministry to which they relate'. To support this debate the Diocese has prepared a background paper (GS Misc 771A). The Ministry Division, which through its Deployment, Remuneration and Conditions of Service Committee advises the Council on levels of fees, has also provided a background paper (GS Misc 771B). The latter draws attention to the consultation on parochial fees that is currently taking place. This consultation includes a question on the general level at which fees are set.
52. If the Parochial Fees Order (listed in the Agenda for deemed approval) is to be debated, it will be debated immediately before the debate on the Oxford Diocesan Synod Motion.

### **Standing Orders Committee Report**

53. The Standing Orders Committee's 39th report (GS 1578) deals mainly with those matters which the Synod asked it to consider in July 2004, i.e. proposals in relation to amendments and speech limits. The report also deals with a new representation in the Synod for members of the Deaf Church Conference (in a

similar manner to the representation of the Church of England Youth Council), and includes a provision for the annual report of the Audit Committee to be debated on request in the same manner as the report of the Archbishops' Council.

### **Church Urban Fund**

54. The Church Urban Fund (CUF) is one of the main practical responses by the Church of England to the 1985 *Faith in the City* report. The Synod received a review of its work in 2000, and in a further debate in July 2002 it asked for proposals for a fund-raising campaign to secure the Fund's longer-term future and for a report to the Synod.
55. This debate focuses on CUF's renewed vision and plans for a re-launch in the new year. The plans have been extensively discussed with the House of Bishops and the Archbishops' Council, who have warmly endorsed them. The debate is supported by a short background paper from the Mission and Public Affairs Council and the report from CUF (GS 1579). The Bishop of Willesden, a CUF trustee, will lead the debate.

### **Presidential Address (Monday, 11 July)**

56. A presidential address will be given by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

### **Strategic Spending Review**

57. The debate on the strategic spending review of the use of the Commissioners' funds was adjourned in

February 2004 and further work subsequently commissioned by the Archbishops' Council, the Church Commissioners and the House of Bishops. The Synod will have before it a short report from a Steering Committee, chaired by the Bishop of Chelmsford (GS 1580), together with reports from the Group on Transparency and Accountability, chaired by the Bishop of Liverpool (GS 1580A) and the Resourcing Mission Group, chaired by the Bishop of Bath and Wells (GS 1580B). The Synod will be invited to consider the way forward in the light of these reports.

### **Financial Business: Archbishops' Council's Budget for 2006**

58. The 2006 Budget (GS 1581) provides for an overall increase of 2.7% across the five votes. This reflects a tight budgeting round for the Council's own administrative costs, lower ordinand numbers in Theological Colleges, and stability in the costs of providing residential housing for retired clergy. In addition, around half a million pounds is being returned to the dioceses from a surplus on the ordination training budget.
59. The Table of Apportionment sets out the amount each diocese would be called upon to contribute and reflects the welcome news that the Armed Forces Synodical Council has agreed to contribute to the Apportionment. (The actual amounts are also modestly affected by a limited review of the Allocations and Apportionment Formulae, which has been carried out during the last year and the report of which is circulated as GS Misc 779).

## **Women in the Episcopate**

60. Following the take-note debate in February on *Women Bishops in the Church of England?* (GS 1557), the Synod welcomed the House of Bishops' report on the forward process (GS 1568). It invited the Business Committee to find time in July for a further debate to give the Synod an opportunity to determine whether it wishes to embark on the process of removing the legal obstacles to the ordination of women to the episcopate. The motion before the Synod will be moved by the Bishop of Southwark, and it is intended that the Bishop of Chichester should be called immediately afterwards, to speak against the motion.
61. Before a Measure could be introduced, the Synod would need to have decided which of the various possible approaches it favoured and established a drafting group. The House of Bishops has already initiated exploratory work on possible approaches so that it would be in a position to report back to the Synod in time for a further debate in February 2006.
62. Given the importance of the subject it is proposed to allow the whole of Monday afternoon for this debate. There will be no further paper from the House but Synod members may wish to refer to GS 1557 and GS 1568 circulated for the February Group of Sessions.

## **Ordinal: Final Approval**

63. See paragraphs 32-35.

### **Audit Committee's Report**

64. From time to time, and at least once in every three years, the Audit Committee brings to the Synod its annual report (GS 1583), with the opportunity for a short debate on matters relating to the Committee's audit function.

### **Archbishops' Council Report (deemed approval)**

65. The Archbishops' Council's Annual Report for 2004 (GS 1582) reflects the wide range of work undertaken by and on behalf of the Council within the overall context of the Council's themes and fundamentals. 2004 was a very challenging year in terms of major pieces of work being undertaken. The Report itself is slightly different in format from previous years and includes a much extended section on the governance of the Archbishops' Council.

### **Anglican/Methodist Covenant: Interim Report from the Joint Implementation Commission (Tuesday, 12 July)**

66. The General Synod and the Methodist Conference approved the Anglican/Methodist Covenant for England in the Summer of 2003 by large majorities. At the same time, the Conference and the General Synod set up a Joint Implementation Commission (JIC) to monitor and promote the implementation of the Covenant. The JIC was given an initial life of five years

- and was mandated to make its first report to the Conference and the General Synod after two years.
67. The present initial report, brought forward by the Council for Christian Unity, commends particular developments under the Covenant, in various areas of the life of our two Churches, and provides some resources for reflection about the issues that continue to divide our two churches at this stage. It is a statement of work in progress.
  68. The report begins with biblical and theological reflections on the meaning of Covenant, intended to deepen the spirituality of covenant. Then it highlights some of the ways in which the Covenant is being put into practice in various areas of church life. The second half of the report concentrates on three areas of theological difference between the Methodist Church and the Church of England: the eucharistic elements and the method of their disposal, presidency at the Eucharist, and the interchangeability of ordained ministries.
  69. The Synod is not being asked to resolve these sensitive matters at this stage. In each of these areas the report draws out the issues at stake for Anglicans and Methodists and, where appropriate, points to the steps that would help our Churches to draw closer together. This faith and order material is offered for study, discussion and feedback during this first phase of the Covenant. The Synod is invited to commend it for study in the Church of England.

### **Holy Communion**

70. The Archbishop of Canterbury will preside at a service of Holy Communion in the Central Hall.

### **Concluding Business**

71. Following the customary closing ceremonies and farewells to mark the conclusion of the quinquennium 2000-2005, the Synod will be dissolved, no later than 1 pm. The closing ceremonies will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

On behalf of the Committee

Richard Turnbull

May 2005



## **Members of the Business Committee**

The Revd Dr Richard Turnbull (Winchester) - Chairman

*Elected by the House of Bishops*

The Rt Revd George Cassidy, Bishop of Southwell

*Elected by the House of Clergy*

The Ven Alan Hawker, Archdeacon of Malmesbury

The Revd Prebendary Sam Philpott (Exeter)

The Revd Simon Pothen (London)

*Elected by the House of Laity*

Mrs Sue Johns (Norwich)

Mr Frank Knaggs (Newcastle)

Mrs Maryon Jägers (Europe)

*Two members of the Archbishops' Council*

Mr Brian McHenry (Southwark)

Professor Peter Toyne (Appointed)

The Secretary to the Committee is David Williams  
and the Assistant Secretary is Malcolm Taylor

## General Synod

### Provisional Forward Look

There will be one or more Private Members' Motions and Diocesan Synod Motions in each Group of Sessions

#### November 2005

##### *Inauguration of the Synod*

*Legislation*    Review of Dioceses and Pastoral Measures:  
                    Draft Measure:    First Consideration  
                    Amending Canon No 24 [Clergy  
                    Discipline]:    Promulgation  
                    Admission of Baptised Children to  
                    Communion Regulations:    First  
                    Consideration  
                    Churches Conservation Trust Funding Order  
                    Clergy Discipline Appeal Rules  
                    ?Care of Cathedrals Rules  
                    ? Church Accounting (Amendment)  
                    Regulations

*Reports*        Anglican/Baptist Conversations  
                    Rural Issues  
                    Ethical Investment Report  
                    ?Trade Justice  
                    ?Issues relating to the Clergy Freehold  
                    (ownership of church and parsonage  
                    house)

#### February 2006

*Legislation* Admission of Baptised Children to  
Communion Regulations: Final  
Approval  
? Parsonages Measures Rules (Amendment)  
Rules

*Reports* Commission on Urban Life and Faith report  
Christian Attitudes to Wealth and Money  
(Prosperity with a Purpose)  
Hospital and Health Care Chaplaincy  
Church Colleges/Universities and the  
Church  
Women in the Episcopate (dependent on  
outcome of Synod debate in July  
2005)

July 2006

Presidential Address  
Budget  
Archbishops' Council Annual Report

*Legislation* Review of Dioceses and Pastoral Measures:  
Draft Measure: Revision Stage  
? Clergy Terms of Service: Draft Measure:  
First Consideration (and report on  
human resources developments)  
? Marriage legislation  
? Women Bishops (dependent on the  
outcome of the Synod debates in  
July 2005 and February 2006)

*Reports* Senior Church Appointments report  
(or interim report)  
Hind and the provision of ministerial

education  
Called to Act Justly (Stephen Lawrence  
follow-up)  
Further Education issues  
? A Just War  
?The Renewed Diaconate  
?Church Music Report