

GENERAL SYNOD

**EXTENDED AUTHORIZATION FOR
THE ORDINAL IN THE ALTERNATIVE SERVICE BOOK 1980
AS AMENDED IN 2000**

REPORT BY THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS

1. In July 1999 the General Synod extended the period of authorization for the Ordinal in *The Alternative Service Book 1980* until 31 December 2005 with a view to the production of a Common Worship replacement during the present quinquennium. In February 2000 a number of minor amendments to the ASB Ordinal received Final Approval. Accordingly, the Church of England's current modern-language ordination services are those contained in the ASB Ordinal as amended in 2000.
2. The Liturgical Commission worked on draft Common Worship ordination services between 2001 and the end of 2003, in discussion with the House of Bishops, and the resulting draft text was introduced into the Synod on behalf of the House in February 2004. The House intends to present a revised version of that text for Final Approval at the July 2005 Group of Sessions.
3. If the Common Worship Ordination Services do not receive Final Approval in July, an extension of the period of authorization for the ASB Ordinal as amended in 2000 until 31 December 2010 will be moved on behalf of the House. Otherwise, with effect from 1 January 2006 the Church of England would have no modern-language ordination services.
4. In accordance with Standing Order 80, First Consideration would be followed by a reference to the House of Bishops and then Final Approval at the November Group of Sessions. The procedure for extension of authorization does not give any scope for further amendment of the text of the Ordinal; it simply concerns the question of the length of time for which it should continue to be authorized.

5. The text of the ASB Ordinal as amended in 2000, together with a list of the amendments made in 2000, may be found under 'Texts – Other Authorized Liturgy' in the Common Worship area of the Church of England web site. Printed copies may be obtained from the Clerk to the Synod.

On behalf of the House

✠ ROWAN CANTUAR:

25 May 2005

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