

Agenda

February Group of Sessions 2020

GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2020
AT CHURCH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER

TIMES OF SITTINGS

Monday 10 February	2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Tuesday 11 February	10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 12 February	10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Thursday 13 February	9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

SERVICES

Monday 10 February	
12.00 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
2.30 p.m.	Opening Worship in the Assembly Hall
Tuesday 11 February	
9.15 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Assembly Hall
1.00 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in the Assembly Hall
Wednesday 12 February	
9.15 a.m.	Worship and Bible Study in Assembly Hall
1.00 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in Assembly Hall
Thursday 13 February	
9.15 a.m.	Morning Worship in the Assembly Hall
1.00 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel

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 and to proposed amendments to Standing Orders) must be delivered to the Clerk as follows (SOs 10-13 and 27):

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

5.30 p.m. on Friday 7 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* sitting:

4.00 p.m. the day before.

Contingency business

10.00 a.m. on Monday 10 February.

4. Under Standing Orders 10 and 27, 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 or to proposed amendments to Standing Orders.)
5. Notice of amendments to legislative business or to proposed amendments to Standing Orders 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. The email address in respect of amendments and motions arising out of business on the Agenda is: **amendments@churchofengland.org**.

QUESTIONS

8. In exercise of its power under SO 12 the Business Committee had determined that notice of Questions under Standing Orders 112-113 must be delivered **not later than 12 noon on Wednesday 29 January 2020.**

NOTICE

9. Notice must be given to the Clerk to the Synod in writing signed by the member or by e-mail, from an address notified to the Clerk, to the relevant one of the email addresses below. 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.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

10. 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

11. 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:

THE WEALTH GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR (GS 2170A and GS 2170B)

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

‘That this Synod call on Her Majesty’s Government (and all political parties) to adopt an explicit policy of reducing the wealth gap between the rich and the poor and the disadvantages that flow from it.’

June 2018

12. The deadline for amendments to these items of business is **10.00 a.m. on Monday 10 February** (SO 27(5)).

CONTACT

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

clerk@churchofengland.org.

MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2020

2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

OPENING WORSHIP

1 INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOMES

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2151)

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

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

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- 3 *The Archbishop of Canterbury* will give a Presidential Address.
-

THE REPORT OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY'S COMMISSION ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS TO THE WIDER CHURCH OF ENGLAND

- 4 Presentation under SO 107.
-

SPECIAL AGENDA I:

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The following items (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I – see pages 13–16) will be taken:

- 502 Draft Channel Islands Measure (**GS 2152**)
- *First Consideration*
- 505 The Clergy Covenant for Wellbeing Act of Synod 2020 (**GS 2153**)
- *Proclamation as an Act of Synod*
-

Not later than 5.30 p.m.

5 QUESTIONS

Note: *The Business Committee has determined in exercise of its power under SO 12 that notice of any question must be delivered not later than 12 noon on Wednesday 29 January 2020.*

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020

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.

SPECIAL AGENDA I: LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

- 501** Draft Cathedrals Measure (**GS 2136A**)
- *Revision Stage*
-

DEANERY SYNOD TERM LIMITS (GS 2154)

Mr Clive Scowen (London) to move on behalf of the Business Committee:

- 6** 'That this Synod request the Business Committee to introduce a draft Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution at the July 2020 group of sessions to give effect to the recommendations at paragraph 22 of GS 2154.'
-

2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH AND THE PASTORAL ADVISORY GROUP

- 7** Presentation under SO 107.

***Note:** The Business Committee has determined under SO 107(3) that this presentation should include an opportunity for questions.*

SPECIAL AGENDA I: LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Draft Channel Islands Measure (**GS 2152**)
- *Revision Stage*

- 506** Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2020 (**GS 2155**)
- *For approval*
-

SPECIAL AGENDA III

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

WINDRUSH COMMITMENT AND LEGACY (GS 2156A and GS 2156B)

The Revd Andrew Moughtin-Mumby (Southwark) to move:

- 8 'That this Synod, commemorating in 2018 the martyrdom of the Revd Dr Martin Luther King, Jr., noting with joy the 70th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush liner in the United Kingdom in June 1948 bringing nearly 500 Commonwealth citizens, mainly from the Caribbean, to mainland UK; and the eventual arrival of approximately half a million people from the West Indies, who were called to Britain as British subjects to help rebuild the post-war United Kingdom:
- (a) lament, on behalf of Christ's Church, the conscious and unconscious racism experienced by countless Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) Anglicans in 1948 and subsequent years, when seeking to find a spiritual home in their local Church of England parish churches, the memory of which is still painful to committed Anglicans who, in spite of this racism from clergy and others, have remained faithful to the Church of England and their Anglican heritage;
 - (b) express gratitude to God for the indispensable contribution to the mission, ministry, prayer and worship of Christ's Church in this nation made by people of BAME descent in the Church of England;
 - (c) acknowledge and give joyful thanks for the wider contribution of the 'Windrush generation' and their descendants to UK life and culture in every field of human activity, including service across the Armed Forces and other services during and after the Second World War; and
 - (d) resolve to continue, with great effort and urgency, to stamp out all forms of conscious or unconscious racism, and to commit the Church of England to increase the participation and representation of lay and ordained BAME Anglicans throughout Church life;
- to the greater glory of the God in whose image every human being is made.'
-

**56TH REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE
(GS 2157)**

Notes:

1. *The motions for the amendment of the Standing Orders contained in the First Notice Paper will be moved, insofar as they need to be debated.*

2. *The Business Committee has determined under Standing Order 40(5) that the proposed amendments to Standing Orders contained in the First Notice Paper do not need to be debated.*

3. *Under SO 40(5) those amendments will accordingly be deemed to have been approved by the Synod without amendment unless either:*

- *notice is given by not less than 5 members by 5.30 p.m. on **Monday 10 February 2020** that they wish a proposed amendment to be debated; or*
- *notice is given by 5.30 p.m. on **Friday 7 February 2020** of an amendment to any proposed amendment.*

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2020

Morning Worship including Bible Study

10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

SAFEGUARDING: RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS IN IICSA MAY 2019 INVESTIGATION REPORT (GS 2158)

The Bishop of Bath and Wells to move:

- 9** ‘That this Synod endorse the Archbishops’ Council’s response, set out in GS 2158, to the five recommendations made by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse in its investigation report *Anglican Church Case Studies: Chichester/Peter Ball* (May 2019) at pages 206 to 207.’
-

CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND CARBON REDUCTION TARGET (GS 2159)

The Bishop of Salisbury to move:

- 10** ‘That this Synod, recognising that the global climate emergency is a crisis for God’s creation, and a fundamental injustice, and following the call of the Anglican Communion in ACC Resolutions A17.05 and A17.06:
- (a) call upon all parts of the Church of England, including parishes, BMOs, education institutions, dioceses, and the NCIs, to work to achieve year-on-year reductions in emissions to reach net zero emissions by 2045 at the latest;
 - (b) request reports on progress from the Environment Working Group and the NCIs every 3 years beginning in 2022 and;
 - (c) call on each Diocesan Synod to address progress toward net zero emissions every 3 years.’
-

2.30 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.

SPECIAL AGENDA III

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

END TO PAUPERS' FUNERALS (GS 2160A AND GS 2160B)

Mr Sam Margrave (Coventry) to move:

11 'That this Synod noting:

- (a) the substantial rise in the number of 'pauper funerals' in England and the pain and hurt arising from them; and
- (b) the call of the Gospel to meet people as Jesus does, in their time of need, as well as the duty of Christians to the poor as set out in Proverbs 31.8-9 and Deuteronomy 15.7-8;

call upon the Archbishops' Council to establish a Task Force including representatives of the Houses of Bishops, Clergy and Laity to:

- i. undertake the formation of plans at national, diocesan and parish levels to utilise Church resources (whether in the form of finance, volunteers or buildings) to tackle the issues relating to and, where possible, end 'pauper funerals'; and
- ii. work with other stakeholders to find ways, at an affordable price, to deliver a more compassionate send off for the departed and to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of those left behind.'

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY (GS 2161)

Mr Mark Sheard (ex officio) (Archbishops' Council) to move:

12 'That this Synod, recognising the continuing decline in numbers of under 16's engaging with Church:

- (a) encourage dioceses to act urgently and consider practical ways they can support and resource those churches with significant numbers of under 16s;
- (b) encourage dioceses to explore new ways to grow new church communities with young people as a primary missional focus; and
- (c) request an update from the Evangelism and Discipleship team in two years with analysis of progress in these areas.'

SPECIAL AGENDA I:

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

500 Draft Diocesan Boards of Education Measure (**GS 2131A**)

- *Revision Stage*

GENERAL SYNOD ELECTIONS 2020: ALLOCATION OF SEATS (GS 2162)

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

13 'That:

- (a) the total number of proctors in Convocation to be directly elected from the dioceses in each Province in 2020 is 129 for the Province of Canterbury and 56 for the Province of York with the proportion of directly elected proctors to the number of qualified electors in the dioceses being determined as $129 : 8,885$ in the case of the Province of Canterbury and $55 : 3,129$ in the case of the Province of York, the numbers to be elected for each diocese being those set out at Appendix A of GS 2162; and
- (b) the total number of members of the House of Laity to be directly elected in 2020 is 193, apportioned between the Provinces in the proportion that is as close as possible to 70 to 30, so that 135 members are to be elected in the Province of Canterbury and 58 members elected in the Province of York, the numbers to be elected for each diocese being those set out at Appendix B of GS 2162.'

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2020

9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

MORNING WORSHIP

SPECIAL AGENDA I:

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

503 Draft Channel Islands Measure (**GS 2152A**)

504 - *Final Drafting and Final Approval*

SPECIAL AGENDA IV

DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

THROUGH HIS POVERTY (GS 2149A AND GS 2149B)

The Revd Canon Kathryn Fitzsimons (Leeds) to move:

14 'That this Synod call on the Archbishops' Council to commission a study that explores:

(a) the reasons why, in contrast to Jesus, the Church of England is generally less effective in communicating with, and attracting people from, more disadvantaged communities; and

(b) ways of addressing and reversing this situation.'

SPECIAL AGENDA III

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

LEGAL AID REFORM (GS 2163A AND GS 2163B)

Mr Carl Fender (Lincoln) to move:

15 'That this Synod, mindful that a justice system should be open and free from barriers of any kind, and also provide easy access to enable the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in our society to seek professional help in bringing their claims before our courts and tribunals;

(a) recognise our legal aid system as an essential public service and fully endorse its preservation for the benefit of the nation;

(b) welcome the reports by Amnesty International and the Bach Commission about the impact of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 and note both their findings about its impact on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in our society and their recommendations for reform of the current system; and

(c) call on Her Majesty's Government to respond positively to these reports and explore ways of alleviating the impact that the 2012 Act has had on these groups.'

Not later than 12.30 p.m.

16 FAREWELLS

Not later than 1.00 p.m.

17 PROROGATION

DRAFT DIOCESAN BOARDS OF EDUCATION MEASURE (GS 2131A)

Draft Measure for Revision

(First Consideration at the July 2019 group of sessions)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 2131Y)

The Chair of the Revision Committee (Mr Clive Scowen) (London) to move:

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

Notes:

1. *In the debate on item 500 it will not be in order to debate any matter which is the subject of an amendment to the draft Measure which appears on a Notice Paper for this group of sessions (SO 57(6)).*
2. *When the debate is concluded on item 500, the Synod will proceed to consider the draft Measure clause by clause, first considering any amendments of which due notice has been given (SO 58(1) and (2)).*
3. *Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment under SO 59(1) must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Thursday 6th February 2020.***

DRAFT CATHEDRALS MEASURE (GS 2136A)

Draft Measure for Revision

(First Consideration at the July 2019 group of sessions)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 2136Y)

The Chair of the Revision Committee (the Dean of Southwark) to move:

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

Notes:

1. *In the debate on item 501 it will not be in order to debate any matter which is the subject of an amendment to the draft Measure which appears on a Notice Paper for this group of sessions (SO 57(6)).*
2. *When the debate is concluded on item 501, the Synod will proceed to consider the draft Measure clause by clause, first considering any amendments of which due notice has been given (SO 58(1) and (2)).*
3. *Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment under SO 59(1) must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday 5th February 2020.***

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT CHANNEL ISLANDS MEASURE (GS 2152)

Draft Measure for First Consideration

Draft Measure for Revision in Full Synod

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval

First Consideration Stage

The Chair of the Steering Committee (The Rt Revd Tim Thornton) (Bishop to the Armed Forces) to move:

- 502** 'That the Measure entitled "Channel Islands Measure" be considered for revision in Full Synod.'

Revision Stage

- 1. If item 502 is carried, the Revision Stage, **without a prior Revision Committee Stage**, will take place during the afternoon sitting on Tuesday 11th February.*
- 2. On the Revision Stage in Full Synod, the Measure is subject to the same general procedure as a Measure on a Revision Stage following a Revision Committee stage – i.e. consideration of the Measure clause by clause, together with any amendments of which due notice has been given.*
- 3. Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment under SO 59(1) must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday 5th February 2020.***

Final Drafting Stage

The Chair of the Steering Committee (The Rt Revd Tim Thornton) (Bishop to the Armed Forces) to move:

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

Note:

- 1. In the event that the Steering Committee considers that it is unnecessary to consider the Measure in respect of its final drafting, it will inform the Synod on a Notice Paper and item 503 will not be moved.*
- 2. If item 503 is carried, any special amendments will be moved (SO 61(8)).*

Final Approval Stage

The Chair of the Steering Committee (The Rt Revd Tim Thornton) (Bishop to the Armed Forces) to move:

- 504** 'That the Measure entitled "Channel Islands Measure" be finally approved.'

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

CLERGY COVENANT FOR WELLBEING ACT OF SYNOD 2020 (GS 2153)

Proclamation as an Act of Synod

One of the Presidents to move:

- 505** 'That the Clergy Covenant for Wellbeing (set out at paragraph 20 of GS 2133) be solemnly affirmed and proclaimed an Act of Synod.'

CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULES (AMENDMENT) RESOLUTION 2020 (GS 2155)

Resolution of the General Synod under section 7 of the Synodical Government Measure 1969

A member of the Business Committee to move:

- 506** 'That the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Measure 2020 be approved.'

Notes:

1. *The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 70(1) that the Resolution be considered on the One Motion Procedure under SO 72.*
2. *Amendments to the Resolution are permissible. Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Friday 7th February 2020.***
3. *To be passed, the Resolution requires a majority in each House of not less than two-thirds of those present and voting.*

HOUSE OF LAITY ELECTION RULES 2020 (GS 2164)

CLERGY ELECTION RULES 2020 (GS 2165)

CONVOCATIONS (ELECTIONS TO UPPER HOUSE) RULES 2020 (GS 2166)

SINGLE TRANSFERABLE VOTE RULES 2020 (GS 2167)

Rules for approval

Notes:

1. *The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 71(2) that it would be appropriate for these Rules to be deemed to have been approved under the procedure in that Standing Order (Procedure for Deeming).*

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

2. *Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate any of these Rules must give notice in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 10th February 2020.***
3. *Amendments to the Rules are permissible. Under SO 71(5), any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 10th February 2020.***

CARE OF CATHEDRALS (AMENDMENT) RULES (GS 2168)

Rules made under section 83 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018

Notes:

1. *The Rule Committee has laid the Rules (GS 2168) before the General Synod for approval under section 83 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined (as provided by that section) that the Rules do not need to be debated.*
3. *Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate the Rules must give notice in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 10th February 2020.***
4. *Amendments to the Care of Cathedrals (Amendment) Rules 2020 are permissible. Under SO 71(5), any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 10th February 2020.***

DRAFT SCHEME AMENDING THE DIOCESE IN EUROPE CONSTITUTION (GS 2169)

Draft Scheme laid before the Synod

Notes:

1. *The Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe has laid the draft Scheme before the General Synod under paragraph 48 of the Constitution of the Diocese in Europe.*
2. *If a member of the General Synod gives notice that the member wishes the Scheme to be debated, the Scheme cannot come into operation unless it is approved by the General Synod.*
3. *Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate the Scheme must give notice in accordance with SO 13 **by not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 10th February 2020.***

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

Note: This is the current order which includes signatures received by 27 November 2019.

BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING OF MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS

Mr Edward Shaw (Bristol) to move:

‘That this Synod,

convinced that all people without exception are loved by God and made in His image and are invited to fullness of life through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, affirm:

- (a) its rejection of the fear or dislike of anyone on the basis of their sexual orientation.
- (b) the radically inclusive nature of Jesus's ministry and message to all people: "The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"
- (c) that marriage, as defined by Jesus, is the lifelong sexual union of a man and a woman.
- (d) that both those who marry and those who are single, as Jesus Himself was, can enjoy Christ-like relationships and the fullness of life which He offers all.
- (e) that all Christians should repent of any sexual activity outside marriage, in the assurance of God's loving forgiveness in Christ.
- (f) that all God's holy people are called to live out this calling, for their own good and for the life of the world they are called to serve.’

104 signatures

March 2017

REVIEW OF THE ‘FIVE GUIDING PRINCIPLES’

Mr David Lamming (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich) to move:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) share the sadness and regret of the Rt Revd Philip North in his decision, announced on 9 March 2017, to withdraw acceptance of his nomination to the See of Sheffield;
- (b) note the substantial support for Bishop North's nomination from many women and men, lay and ordained, in the dioceses of both Sheffield and Blackburn, and in the wider Church of England;
- (c) express its full support for Bishop North in his future ministry, whether in the Blackburn diocese or elsewhere;
- (d) note, with concern, the implications of Bishop North's decision, and the public debate that preceded it, for the 'mutual flourishing' of the Church of England; and

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

(e) request the House of Bishops urgently to review the 'Five Guiding Principles' and to consider whether they need to be amended or amplified in order to ensure that there is an equal place at all levels in the Church for men and women of different theological convictions on the issue of women's ordination, and to report to the Synod by February 2018.'

99 signatures*

March 2017

**Given the terms of SO 6, once a PMM has achieved 100 or more signatures, it will remain on Special Agenda III until it is debated or until the Synod is dissolved at the end of the quinquennium. This motion previously reached a total of 101 signatures and will therefore remain on Special Agenda III on that basis.*

LITURGIES FOR SAME SEX COUPLES

Ms Christina Baron (Bath & Wells) to move:

'That this Synod, request the House of Bishops to commend an Order of Prayer and Dedication after the registration of a civil partnership or a same sex marriage for use by ministers in exercise of their discretion under Canon B5, being a form of service neither contrary to, nor indicative of any departure from, the doctrine of the Church of England in any essential matter, together with guidance that no parish should be obliged to host, nor minister conduct, such a service.'

104 signatures

March 2018

END TO PAUPERS’ FUNERALS

Mr Sam Margrave (Coventry) to move:

'That this Synod, noting:

- (a) the substantial rise in the number of 'pauper funerals' in England and the pain and hurt arising from them; and
- (b) the call of the Gospel to meet people as Jesus does, in their time of need, as well as the duty of Christians to the poor as set out in Proverbs 31.8-9 and Deuteronomy 15.7-8;

call upon the Archbishops' Council to establish a Task Force including representatives of the Houses of Bishops, Clergy and Laity to:

- (i) undertake the formation of plans at national, diocesan and parish levels to utilise Church resources (whether in the form of finance, volunteers or buildings) to tackle the issues relating to and, where possible, end 'pauper funerals'; and
- (ii) work with other stakeholders to find ways, at an affordable price, to deliver a more compassionate send off for the departed and to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of those left behind.'

136 signatures

July 2018

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

WINDRUSH COMMITMENT AND LEGACY

The Revd Andrew Moughtin-Mumby (Southwark) to move:

‘That this Synod, commemorating in 2018 the martyrdom of the Revd Dr Martin Luther King, Jr., noting with joy the 70th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush liner in the United Kingdom in June 1948 bringing nearly 500 Commonwealth citizens, mainly from the Caribbean, to mainland UK; and the eventual arrival of approximately half a million people from the West Indies, who were called to Britain as British subjects to help rebuild the post-war United Kingdom:

- (a) lament, on behalf of Christ's Church, the conscious and unconscious racism experienced by countless Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) Anglicans in 1948 and subsequent years, when seeking to find a spiritual home in their local Church of England parish churches, the memory of which is still painful to committed Anglicans who in spite of this racism from clergy and others, have remained faithful to the Church of England and their Anglican heritage;
- (b) express gratitude to God for the indispensable contribution to the mission, ministry, prayer and worship of Christ's Church in this nation made by people of BAME descent in the Church of England;
- (c) acknowledge and give joyful thanks for the wider contribution of the 'Windrush generation' and their descendants to UK life and culture in every field of human activity, including service across the Armed Forces and other services during and after the Second World War; and
- (d) resolve to continue, with great effort and urgency, to stamp out all forms of conscious or unconscious racism, and to commit the Church of England to increase the participation and representation of lay and ordained BAME Anglicans throughout Church life;

to the greater glory of the God in whose image every human being is made.’

126 signatures

July 2018

LEGAL AID REFORM

Mr Carl Fender (Lincoln) to move:

‘That this Synod, mindful that a justice system should be open and free from barriers of any kind, and also provide easy access to enable the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in our society to seek professional help in bringing their claims before our courts and tribunals:

- (a) recognise our legal aid system as an essential public service and fully endorse its preservation for the benefit of the nation;

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

- (b) welcome the reports by Amnesty International and the Bach Commission about the impact of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 and note both their findings about its impact on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in our society and their recommendations for reform of the current system; and
- (c) call on Her Majesty's Government to respond positively to these reports and explore ways of alleviating the impact that the 2012 Act has had on these groups.'

116 signatures

July 2018

THE FURTHER USE OF CHURCHYARDS

The Revd Andrew Dotchin (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich) to move:

'That this Synod call on the Archbishops' Council to:

- (a) consider the position in relation to further burials in churchyards which have been closed by Order in Council; and
- (b) make representations to Her Majesty's Government on the matter with a view to primary legislation being brought forward (whether by way of Measure or Act of Parliament) to facilitate such burials in appropriate cases.'

September 2019

SAFEGUARDING & TENDERING FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The Revd Canon Simon Butler (Southwark) to move:

'That this Synod, recognising that the use of tendering for professional services is widely regarded as good practice in the charitable and commercial sectors, and noting the need for high levels confidence that must exist regarding commercial relationships between the Church and its service providers in the field of safeguarding:

invite the Archbishops' Council to bring forward legislation and associated guidance which require the use of regular tendering processes in the provision of legal, financial and insurance services by parishes, dioceses and the National Church Institutions.'

November 2019

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

NB: Bath & Wells, Chelmsford, Lincoln, London, Oxford and St Albans Diocesan Synods have now withdrawn their DSM on the Anglican Communion

... to move on behalf of the Manchester 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 Newcastle, and Worcester Diocesan Synods passed motions requesting General Synod to debate motions 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

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

- (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

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

LITURGIES FOR SAME SEX COUPLES

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

‘That this Synod:

request the House of Bishops to commend an Order of Prayer and Dedication after the registration of a civil partnership or a same sex marriage for use by ministers in exercise of their discretion under Canon B5, being a form of service neither contrary to, nor indicative of any departure from, the doctrine of the Church of England in any essential matter, together with guidance that no parish should be obliged to host, nor minister conduct, such a service.’

March 2018

(following an amendment to the Diocesan Synod Motion submitted in November 2017)

DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

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

‘That this Synod, call on the Archbishops’ Council to commission a study that explores:

- (a) the reasons why, in contrast to Jesus, the Church of England is generally less effective in communicating with, and attracting people from, more disadvantaged communities; and
- (b) ways of addressing and reversing this situation.’

June 2018

THE WEALTH GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR

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

‘That this Synod call on Her Majesty’s Government (and all political parties) to adopt an explicit policy of reducing the wealth gap between the rich and the poor and the disadvantages that flow from it.’

June 2018

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

REVIEW OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR PCC MEMBERSHIP AND ENTRY ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

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

‘That this Synod invite the Archbishops’ Council:

- (a) to conduct a review of:
 - (i) the qualifications for membership of parochial church councils, in the light of the existence of bishops’ mission initiatives; and
 - (ii) the qualifications for enrolment on a church electoral roll, and the form of application for enrolment, in the light of the experience of parishes in the diocese that those who attend church regularly do not necessarily understand them; and
- (b) to report to the Synod on the conclusions of the review.’

July 2018

CHALLENGING SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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

‘That this Synod:

- (a) acknowledge the leading role that Her Majesty’s Government has played internationally in challenging slavery; and
- (b) ask Her Majesty’s Government to introduce legislation to ensure proper provision for the ongoing support and protection of trafficked minors is enshrined in law.’

July 2018

PERSECUTED CHURCH

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

‘That this Synod request that:

- (a) the Church of England not only pray for the persecuted church, but that its dioceses offer support to link dioceses where the church is facing persecution, and
- (b) the next Lambeth Conference address the issue of the persecution of Christians.’

July 2019

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