

Agenda

February Group of Sessions 2022

**GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2022
AT CHURCH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER**

TIMES OF SITTINGS

Tuesday 8 February	1.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 9 February	9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. 1.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Thursday 10 February	9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

SERVICES

Tuesday 8 February	
1.05 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
1.45 p.m.	Opening Worship in the Assembly Hall
7.00 p.m.	Closing Worship in the Assembly Hall
Wednesday 9 February	
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Assembly Hall
1.05 p.m.	Midday Prayer in the Chapel
7.00 p.m.	Closing Worship in the Assembly Hall
Thursday 10 February	
9.00 a.m.	Opening Worship in the Assembly Hall
1.05 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel (BCP)

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 (Tuesday 8 February)

5.30 p.m. on Monday 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.

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 Thursday 27 January 2022**.

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:

REVIEW OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR PCC MEMBERSHIP AND ENTRY ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL (GS 2254A and GS 2254B)

... 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.

The deadline for amendments to this item of business is **10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 8 February** (SO 27(5)).

CONTACT

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

clerk@churchofengland.org.

MEETING OF THE HOUSE OF LAITY

13. The House of Laity will meet from 4.40 p.m. on Thursday 10 February in the Assembly Hall.

TUESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2022

1.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

STANDING ORDERS UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE GENERAL SYNOD (REMOTE MEETINGS) (TEMPORARY STANDING ORDERS) MEASURE 2020 (GS 2177)

Motion for revival under section 3(6) of the Measure

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall QC (Manchester) to move:

- 1 'That the Standing Orders made on 9th November 2020 under section 1 of the General Synod (Remote Meetings) (Temporary Standing Orders) Measure 2020 (GS 2177) be revived and in operation until 7th August 2022'

2 INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOMES

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

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

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2241)

Canon Robert Hammond (Chelmsford) (Chair of the Business Committee) to move:

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

PATTERN OF MEETINGS 2024 – 2026 (GS 2242)

Canon Robert Hammond (Chelmsford) (Chair of the Business Committee) to move:

- 5 'That this Synod meet within the following dates in 2024 – 2026:

2024

Monday 19 February – Tuesday 27 February

Friday 5 July – Tuesday 9 July

Monday 18 November – Wednesday 20 November (if required)

2025

Monday 10 February – Tuesday 18 February

Friday 11 July – Tuesday 15 July

Monday 17 November – Wednesday 19 November (if required)

2026

Monday 9 February – Tuesday 17 February

Friday 10 July – Tuesday 14 July

Monday 16 November – Wednesday 18 November (if required)'

RACIAL JUSTICE: INTRODUCTION TO THE ARCHBISHOPS' RACIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION, AND UPDATE TO SYNOD ON RACIAL JUSTICE WORK (GS 2243)

6 Presentation under SO 107

Archbishop of York to move:

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

Not later than 5.30 p.m.

8 **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 Thursday 27 January 2022.***

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2022

9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

A service of Holy Communion will be celebrated in the Assembly Hall at 9.00 am

SAFEGUARDING (GS 2244)

- 9** 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

The following item (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I – see page 10) will be taken:

- 500** The Faculty Jurisdiction (Amendment) Rules 2022 (**GS 2245**)
- *For Approval*
-

WEDNESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2022

1.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

SPECIAL AGENDA IV

DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

CHALLENGING SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING (GS 2246A AND GS 2246B)

Mr Alistair Bianchi (Durham) to move that

- 10 '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.'

REPORT OF THE REVIEW OF CLERGY REMUNERATION (GS 2247)

The Bishop of Hereford to move:

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

GOD'S PEOPLE SET FREE: LIVING AS MISSIONARY DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST IN THE WHOLE OF LIFE TO BRING TRANSFORMATION TO THE CHURCH AND WORLD (GS 2248)

- 12 Presentation under SO 107

Dr Jamie Harrison (Durham) to move:

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

ADJOURNMENT

Group work

Vision and Strategy: being a church of missionary disciples in the whole of life (GS Misc 1307): 5.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Details of the logistics of these will be available on a Notice Paper

Not later than 6.00 p.m.

- 14 **QUESTIONS**

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

THURSDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2022

9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

OPENING WORSHIP

Group work

Diversity, difference and disagreement: resources for effecting culture change (GS Misc 1308): 9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m

Details of the logistics of these will be available on a Notice Paper.

Not later than 10.30 a.m.

REPORT BY THE GOVERNANCE REVIEW GROUP (GS 2249)

The Bishop of Leeds to move:

- 15 'That this Synod:
- (a) welcome the Report of the Governance Review Group (GS 2239);
 - (b) invite the Archbishops' Council and the Church Commissioners to engage with stakeholders in the Church and State on the Report's recommendations; and
 - (c) invite the Archbishops' Council, in the light of the outcome of that engagement, to introduce legislation for consideration by this Synod to give effect to proposals that involve legislative change.'
-

APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE (GS 2250)

One of the Presidents to move:

- 16 'That the appointment of the Venerable Pete Spiers as Chair of the Appointments Committee be approved.'
-

APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE DIOCESES COMMISSION (GS 2251)

One of the Presidents to move:

- 17 'That the appointment of Dame Caroline Spelman as Chair of the Dioceses Commission be approved.'
-

THURSDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2022

2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

SPECIAL AGENDA IV

DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

PERSECUTED CHURCH IN THE WORLD (GS 2252A AND GS 2252B)

Mrs Penny Allen (Lichfield) to move:

- 18** '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.'
-

**SEE OF CANTERBURY: MEMBERSHIP OF THE CROWN
NOMINATIONS COMMISSION (GS 2253)**

The Bishop of Worcester to move:

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

20 FAREWELLS

Not later than 4.30 pm

21 PROROGATION

MEETING OF THE HOUSE OF LAITY

The House of Laity will meet at 4.40 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.

FACULTY JURISDICTION (AMENDMENT) RULES 2022 (GS 2245)

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

The Chair of the Rule Committee (the Rt Worshipful Morag Ellis QC, Dean of the Arches and Auditor) (ex officio) to move:

500 'That the Faculty Jurisdiction (Amendment) Rules 2022 be approved.'

Notes:

- 1. The Business Committee has determined in accordance with SO 70(1) that the Rules are to be considered on the One Motion Procedure under SO 72.*
- 2. Amendments to the Rules 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 Monday 7th February 2022.***

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS MOTIONS

Note: This is the current order which includes signatures received by 8 December 2021.

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND DEDICATION

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 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.’

114 signatures

November 2021

SCRUTINY OF DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING

Mr Gavin Drake (Southwell & Nottingham) to move:

‘That this Synod requests the Archbishops’ Council to bring draft legislation to the earliest possible Group of Sessions, the purpose of which is to create statutory powers for a new or existing national body, giving them the authority to investigate, intervene, and if necessary to direct a particular course of action in cases where bishops or dioceses are not managing safeguarding cases appropriately, effectively, safely, or in line with the House of Bishops’ safeguarding guidance.’

30 signatures

November 2021

ASSISTED SUICIDE

Dr Simon Eyre (Chichester) to move:

‘That this Synod

- a) appreciate the enormous and untiring efforts of health professionals, including healthcare chaplains, in constantly developing and maintaining the excellence of palliative and end of life care provision in this country;
- b) call on Her Majesty’s Government to guarantee and expedite the adequate funding and resourcing of palliative care services within the NHS to ensure that the highest possible standards of care are achieved and made universally accessible; and
- c) affirm that the current legislation in relation to Assisted Suicide referenced in Section 2 of the Suicide Act 1961 (and its application through the DPP guidelines) should remain unchanged.’

6 signatures

November 2021

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS MOTIONS

SAFEGUARDING AUDIT

Mr Gavin Drake (Southwell & Nottingham) to move:

‘That this Synod:

- a) acknowledge with shame and lament that church-related abuse of children, vulnerable adults, and others is not just a problem of the past, but is something that continues today; offers a real, deep and sincere apology to victims and survivors for the abuse that they have suffered;
- b) acknowledge that the Church nationally and locally is still not offering a proper, safe and consistent approach in supporting victims and survivors, and therefore:
- c) endorse the 8th recommendation in the report of IICSA’s investigation into the Anglican Church, in its call for regular external audits of the “effectiveness of safeguarding practice in dioceses, cathedrals and other Church organisations” and for the reports from those audits to be published;
- d) while endorsing IICSA’s call for external audit, acknowledge that the primary responsibility for ensuring effective safeguarding in the Church remains the responsibility of the Church itself;
- e) call on the Archbishop’s Council to produce a report at the conclusion of the PCR2 process containing anonymised statistical analysis showing, for each diocese, the number of cases referred by the independent reviewers as showing cause for concern, and whether or not –prior to the PCR2 referral –those cases had been considered
 - i. by the diocese following a complaint,
 - ii. by an archbishop in response to a CDM complaint about the bishop’s handling of the case, and/or
 - iii. by an NST Core Group; and specify the outcome of those considerations so that we can assess for ourselves whether the Church of England’s increasing national investment in safeguarding is effective.’

18 signatures

December 2021

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

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:

- (c) acknowledge the leading role that Her Majesty’s Government has played internationally in challenging slavery; and
- (d) 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

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX

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

‘That this Synod, noting:

- (a) the various public goods that are delivered by charities, including in the case of churches through their care of nationally valued heritage assets and their provision of community services; and
- (b) the fact that the money needed by charities to meet their liabilities, including Insurance Premium Tax, has to be raised by them, including in the case of churches through fund raising in their local communities

call on Her Majesty’s Government to exempt charities, including churches, from liability for Insurance Premium Tax.’

April 2019

PERSECUTED CHURCH IN THE WORLD

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

That this Synod request that:

- (c) 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
- (d) the next Lambeth Conference address the issue of the persecution of Christians.

July 2019

REDUCE PAROCHIAL FEES FOR MARRIAGES

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

‘That this Synod call on the Archbishops’ Council:

to introduce an order to amend the Parochial Fees and Scheduled Matters Amending Order 2019 so that the fees relating to marriages are set at nil or at a minimal amount in order to demonstrate the Church’s commitment to marriage and pastoral care.’

March 2020

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

PRISONER REHABILITATION SCHEMES

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

‘That this Synod, recognising that faith can have a positive impact on an offender's behaviour:

- (a) note with pleasure the decision made by the National Probation Service to recognise faith as a protective factor in reducing reoffending, and its desire to work in partnership with churches, prison and community chaplains and faith communities to support rehabilitation;
- (b) commend the value of partnership working with the National Probation Service as an important additional support in churches' welcome of people leaving prison, including training of clergy and authorised lay ministers;
- (c) call on dioceses to nominate a contact person or office to link the Probation Service locally to clergy, parishes and chaplaincies.’

March 2020

RESPONDING TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

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

‘That this Synod, affirming the fifth mark of mission, concerned by the scientific evidence that climate change is proceeding at a rapid rate and by the impact of climate events, and seeking to build on the decisions taken with respect to GS 2159:

- (a) urge the National Investing Bodies of the Church of England to prioritise investment in renewable energy;
- (b) call on all parts of the Church of England to review their policies and procedures, in order to ensure that they give due priority to creation care;
- (c) urge the Church of England to further develop pre- and post-ordination and lay training to deepen understanding in how care for the earth is part of our Christian faith and a missional imperative;
- (d) urge all parts of the Church of England to seek to support, through prayer, advocacy and practical action, the poorest in the world who are suffering the most from the impacts of climate change, in the awareness that our nation has been among those who have benefited most from the emissions that have caused the crisis;
- (e) commit earnestly and regularly to pray - and to promote prayer - about the climate and wider environmental crisis.
- (f) call upon all institutions of the Church of England to make urgent practical preparations for the delivery of substantial reduction of the Church's carbon

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

footprint, including, but not restricted to, the following immediate actions in respect of Church buildings:

- (i) ensuring that the NCIs are adequately resourced to provide DACs, Buildings Departments, Education Departments and others with authoritative national guidance notes, advice and training on key technical and procedural questions relating to adaptation of buildings for the net zero target; and
- (ii) ensuring that Parish Buying and other national-level entities have the capacity to engage with manufacturers and suppliers of products and processes recommended for making our buildings more efficient, with a view to using the scale of the national net zero project to achieve both sympathetic design and economies of scale on cost.'

April 2020

ECO-DIOCESE PROGRAMME

... to move on behalf of the St Albans Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod, following the motion passed by this Synod in February 2020, which recognises that the global climate emergency is a crisis for God's creation and a fundamental injustice and which calls on all parts of the Church of England, including dioceses and parishes, to work towards net zero emissions, request that every diocese register with A Rocha UK for the Eco-Diocese Programme.'

December 2020

PAROCHIAL FEES

... to move on behalf of London Diocesan Synod

'That this Synod request the Archbishops' Council to lay a draft order before the Synod to amend the Parochial Fees and Scheduled Matters Amending Order 2019 so that a fee payable to the parochial church council is prescribed in respect of funeral services that take place at crematoria and cemeteries.'

March 2021

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

FUTURE OF WORK

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

‘That this Synod:

mindful of the deep economic effects of the pandemic, the impacts of new technology, and the global rise of new forms of working--

(a) affirm the dignity and value of purposeful work as a significant component of human flourishing

(b) endorse and commend the five principles used for evaluating fair and dignified platform work in the gig economy by Fair.work and

(c) call for the Faith and Order Commission (FAOC) together with Mission and Public Affairs Committee to advise on what is essential to purposeful, dignified, and fair work in the context of the fourth industrial revolution now in progress.’

March 2021

KAIROS PALESTINE

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

‘That this Synod:

(a) endorse the “Cry for Hope” expressed by Palestinian Christians and the ‘Global Kairos for Justice’ coalition (GKfJ);

(b) request that the Faith and Order Commission produce a report which analyses and refutes any theological justifications, for example, those promoted by some Christian Zionists, for the oppression of Palestinians

(c) instruct the Ethical Investment Advisory Group to provide guidance to the National Investing Bodies (NIBs) and Dioceses that will enable them to screen their investments and thereby make decisions regarding engagement with, and divestment from, companies which profit from the occupation.’

October 2021

AGE VERIFICATION FOR PORNOGRAPHY WEBSITES

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

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

‘That this Synod

- a) acknowledge that our children and young people are suffering grave harm from free access to online pornography and that there is currently no legal requirement for pornography sites to have in place age verification systems to prevent children from having access to those sites; and
- b) ask Her Majesty’s Government to introduce legislation requiring pornographic sites to have in place age verification systems preventing access by people under the age 18.’

November 2021