

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

3rd Session of the 46th Synod Business Paper: Tuesday 19 October 2004

(Page references are to the Standing Committee's Report - see Part 5 of the Synod Business Rules for ordinance procedures.)

Members of Synod are asked to identify themselves each time they speak.

1. Devotions will be led by Bishop Reg Piper: see attached

2. Minutes of 18 October 2004

3. Answers to questions

3.1 Dr Karin Sowada to ask -

- (a) Does the Sydney Diocesan Superannuation Fund, Anglican Provident Fund, Sydney Diocesan Secretariat, Glebe Administration Board or the Sydney Anglican Church Investment Trust have policies on ethical investments?
- (b) Do they have any direct or indirect shareholdings in James Hardie Industries Limited?
- (c) If these bodies do have direct or indirect shareholdings in James Hardie Industries, what steps have the Boards and management taken to help ensure that James Hardie meets its obligations to the victims of asbestos-related diseases?

3.2 The Rev Ian Millican to ask -

Last year Synod passed resolution 14/03 whereby it requested "every parish, provisional parish, Anglican school and Diocesan organisation within the Sydney Diocese to transfer their main cheque account facility and deposits to the Glebe Income Accounts by 31 March 2004" and requested "all Sydney Anglicans to consider investing their own term deposits and other funds into Glebe Income Accounts."

- (a) What action has been taken by the Glebe Board in respect of this resolution?
- (b) What has been the increase over the last 12 months in the value of funds held in Glebe Income Accounts in cheque accounts and deposits?
- (c) What has been the increase over the last 12 months in the number of cheque accounts and deposits with Glebe Income Accounts?
- (d) What percentage of Diocesan parishes, provisional parishes, Anglican schools and Diocesan organisations now have a cheque facility with Glebe Income Accounts?
- (e) What ongoing or future action will be taken by the Glebe Board in respect of this resolution?

3.3 The Rev Ian Millican to ask -

In a recent survey of 992 born again Christians in the US, the Barna Organisation found that 43% accepted Jesus Christ before their 13th birthday. Further, 50% of Christians who embraced Christ before their teen years were led to Christ by their parents. If these figures are in anyway reflected in Australia, then they highlight the critical importance of children's' ministry.

- (a) What steps is the Diocese taking to encourage children's' ministry in our parishes, both on Sundays and during the week, and to encourage the identification and training of people for full-time, part-time and lay ministry to children?
- (b) What steps is the Diocese taking to equip parents to be able to lead their children to Christ, and to help grow in their faith?

3.4 Mr Graeme Marks to ask -

With regards to provisional cathedrals –

- (a) When were St John's Parramatta and St Michael's Wollongong declared to be provisional cathedrals and why was this done?
- (b) Have the reasons for creating the pro-cathedrals of Parramatta and Wollongong been reviewed to see if those reasons are still relevant?
- (c) If the answer to (b) is yes, when was the review and what were the recommendations if any?
- (d) In what years were the dates for the provisional status of St John's and St Michael's extended previously and what were the reason for doing so?
- (e) Has consideration ever been given to establishing provisional cathedrals in regions other than Wollongong and Western Sydney and if so, what conclusions were reached?

3.5 Ms Naomi Spencer to ask -

When will we as a Synod next have a celebratory Communion service at our Cathedral?

3.6 Dr Jocelyn Chey to ask -

Is the Archbishop aware of any action against any church member or officer arising out of the 1603 Canons or the rubrics of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer in relation to –

- (i) excommunication, or
- (ii) irregularities in the conduct of services?

If so,

- (a) How many clergy are involved, and how many laypeople?
- (b) What positions do the laypeople hold?
- (c) What effect will the repeal of the Canons of 1603 (anticipated in the General Synod Holy Communion Ordinance 2001 Adopting Canon 2004) have on these actions?

3.7 Mr Richard Lambert to ask -

In relation to resolution 25/02 of this Synod which inter alia reads -

“Synod recommends to the Standing Committee that priority be given....to resourcing Indigenous Peoples' Ministry by directing that a percentage of the proceeds from all sales of church trust property be added to the Indigenous Peoples' Trust Fund...”

can the President inform the Synod in respect of the period 1 October 2003 to 30 September 2004 -

- (a) How many ordinances did the Standing Committee pass to enable the sale of church trust property?
- (b) How many of those ordinances provided for a percentage of the proceeds to be paid to the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Trust Fund?
- (c) How many such ordinances did not make any such provision?

3.8 Mr Richard Lambert to ask -

In relation to resolution 25/02 of this Synod which inter alia reads -

“Synod...urges each parish of the diocese to generously support Indigenous ministry in the diocese any way it can, for example by giving a percentage of any land sales to the Indigenous Peoples’ Ministry Trust Fund or by giving 1% of their income to the fund....”

can the President inform the Synod in respect of the period 1 October 2003 to 30 September 2004 -

- (a) How many parishes are there in this Diocese?
- (b) How many ordinances for sale of property held in trust for a parish contained a provision for a percentage of a land sale to be paid to the trust fund?
- (c) How many ordinances for sale of property held in trust for a parish did not contain such a provision?
- (d) How many parishes have made donations to the trust fund?

3.9 Mr Ross Mitchell to ask -

In the considerations leading up to the proposed motions from Standing Committee on the subject of lay administration of Holy Communion, has the Diocese and/or its Standing Committee sought to obtain legal advice, either formally or informally, on the impacts and/or exposures facing the Diocese and/or persons within it, in relation to proceeding with the passing of the resolutions now before Synod. If so, what was the outcome, and if any advice was provided, can this be made available to those within the Diocese who may be affected by the motions proposed if they pass?

3.10 Mr Ross Mitchell to ask -

I refer to the article of religion number 34 “Of the Traditions of the Church” and enquire about a situation that could arise where a person involved in the proposed, but somewhat legally uncertain, practice of lay administration and proceeding based on a reliance on what could be seen as Standing Committee and Synod endorsement of the practice, is rebuked openly and publicly by a second church member, acting on the basis of doing that which is recommended in the article, in order that others hearing of this rebuking would be fearful and so less likely to be a party to lay administration of Holy Communion. Could the Synod be advised if the situation has been considered and if so what support there would be in such a case for either or both of the two parties, both acting in good faith as church members and believing their actions to be appropriate, but then suffering a loss in standing and reputation?

3.11 Mr Malcolm Purvis to ask -

What is the policy concerning the selection of breaking news stories on the Anglican Media website, in particular the selection of stories from third party sites such as the Sydney Morning Herald?

3.12 Mr Malcolm Purvis to ask -

What were the reasons behind the Year Book being delivered in September instead of the traditional time in May?

3.13 Mrs Elaine Langshaw to ask -

The Sydney Morning Herald of 9 October 2004 reported that the Archbishop found the style of worship he had experienced in St George’s Cathedral, Perth at the General Synod Service to be “alienating”, “divisive”, and representing “one

particular strand of Anglicanism that contradicted not just my theology but my spirituality.”

- (a) Is this report a substantially accurate report of what the Archbishop told the General Synod?
- (b) If so, will the Archbishop please clarify, for the sake of all members of the Synod -
 - (i) which elements of the service he found alienating and divisive, and why?
 - (ii) whether there are any parishes in the Diocese he will not visit because he does not find their theology, spirituality, and/or “strand of Anglicanism” edifying to him personally.

3.14 The Rev Dr James McPherson to ask -

The report of the Standing Committee included in the Additional Papers mentions the prospect of a charge being brought against an incumbent under the Tribunal Ordinance.

- (a) What financial, legal, and pastoral assistance will the Diocese provide an incumbent who is the subject of such a charge?
- (b) What, if any, indemnity and comfort will the Diocese provide an incumbent against such a charge, including regarding the prospects of future employability in this Diocese, the Anglican Church of Australia, or the Anglican Communion generally?
- (c) Did the Standing Committee consider the risks and exposures that could impact on the Diocese in the event that Synod passes any or all of the motions 16.8 – 16.10? If so, could the issues and considerations be reported to the Synod members?
- (d) Do the Diocese’s insurance policies provide any possible support for the exposures and possible costs that could arise from the passing of the proposed motions? Has the matter been discussed with our current insurers, and if so what was the outcome?

3.15 The Rev Dr James McPherson to ask -

If a lay minister employed by a parish, acting with the encouragement of the Synod, conducts a Holy Communion service (whether on church trust property or not) and is subsequently dismissed by the incumbent for conducting that service, what financial, legal and pastoral assistance will the Diocese provide the lay minister, the incumbent, and the parish?

4. Petitions

5. Notices of questions

6. Procedural motions from members

7. The President will invite members to give notice of other motions

8. Calling of motions on the business paper

9. Motions

To be taken today at 3:30 pm

9.1 Naremburn/Cammeray: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Naremburn/Cammeray as a parish with effect from 1 January 2005.

(Additional Papers, page AP13) (Archdeacon Terry Dein/The Rev Richard Smith)

9.2 Minto: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Minto as a parish with effect from 1 January 2005.
(*Additional Papers, page AP8*) (The Rev Robert Happer/Mr Geoff Kyngdon)

To be taken today at 4:30 pm

9.3 General Synod - Holy Communion Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2004

That the General Synod - Holy Communion Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2004 be approved in principle.
(*Page 88*) (Bishop Glenn Davies)

9.4 Recognised Churches Amendment Ordinance 2004

Synod permits the introduction of the Recognised Churches Amendment Ordinance 2004.
(*Page 95*) (Bishop Robert Forsyth)

To be taken today at 7:00 pm

9.5 Parishes (Special Administration) Ordinance 2004

Synod permits the introduction of the Parishes (Special Administration) Ordinance 2004.
(*Special Mailing*) (Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Michael Orpwood QC)

To be taken on Monday 25 October 2004 from 3:30 pm

9.6 Shellharbour City Centre: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Shellharbour City Centre as a parish with effect from 1 January 2005.
(*Additional Papers, page AP16*) (The Rev Michael Williamson)

9.7 Helensburgh with Stanwell Park: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Helensburgh and Stanwell Park as a parish with effect from 1 November 2004.
(*Additional Papers, page AP1*) (Mr Ron Balderston/The Rev Trevor Young)

To be taken on Monday 25 October 2004 from 4:30 pm

9.8 Structural Change in Ministry

Synod requests that the Archbishop, by licence, broaden the range of ministries for which people may be made deacons and that he put in place whatever additional arrangements are necessary to create a permanent diaconate by –

- (a) developing new selection standards for deacons and making it easier for people to resign their orders when they are no longer licensed as a deacon, and
- (b) breaking the nexus between being made a deacon and being ordained a priest by making new requirements for ordination to the presbyterate which reflect the real character of that ministry, as distinct from the diaconate.

(*Page 67*) (The Very Rev Phillip Jensen)

To be taken on Monday 25 October 2004 from 8:00 pm

9.9 Child Protection

Synod -

- (a) notes Child Protection Resolutions Nos. 1 to 4 and the *Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Canon (Amendment) Canon 2004* passed by the 13th General Synod and requests the Professional Standards Board to further development policies for implementing safe ministry practices in parishes and diocesan organisations and report to the first session of the 47th Synod,
- (b) adopts as the diocesan Safe Ministry Policy Statement -
The Anglican Church of Australia is committed to the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare and safety to all people, particularly within its own community. To ensure the safety of children and vulnerable people in our communities, the Church will -
- carefully recruit and train its clergy and church workers,
 - adopt and encourage safe ministry practices by its clergy and church workers,
 - respond promptly to each concern raised about the behaviour of its clergy and church workers,
 - offer pastoral support to any person who has suffered abuse, and
 - provide supervision of and pastoral accountability to any person known to have abused a child or another vulnerable person.
- (c) recommends that each parish and diocesan organisation adopts the diocesan Safe Ministry Policy Statement,
- (d) adopts *Faithfulness in Service* as the diocesan code for personal behaviour and the practice of pastoral ministry by clergy and lay church workers,
- (e) recommends that each diocesan organisation adopt *Faithfulness in Service* as the code for personal behaviour and practice of pastoral ministry by clergy and employed and voluntary lay church workers who exercise a pastoral ministry.

(Mr Garth Blake)

To be taken on Tuesday 26 October 2004 from 3:30 pm

9.10 Narellan: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Narellan as a parish with effect from 1 January 2005.

(*Additional Papers, page AP10*) (Mr David Nockles/The Rev Michael Blake)

9.11 Petersham: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Petersham as a parish with effect from 1 January 2005.

(*Supp Report, page 9*) (The Rev Antony Barraclough/Archdeacon Deryck Howell)

9.12 Ashbury: Creation of a provisional parish

Synod assents to the creation of the provisional parish of Ashbury effect from 1 January 2005.

(*Supp Report, page 5*) (Archdeacon Deryck Howell)

To be taken on Tuesday 26 October 2004 from 7:00 pm

9.13 Synod Appropriations and Allocations for 2006-2008

Synod, noting the report "Synod Appropriations and Allocations for 2006-2008" -

- (a) notes the intention to appropriate the funds shown in the schedule to the report (from the Diocesan Endowment Ordinance, the other specific trust ordinances and the general provision for distribution held by the Glebe Administration Board) in each of the years 2006-2008, and
- (b) notes the intention to make a special allocation of funds to the capital of the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Fund in each of the years 2006-2008, and
- (c) notes the intention to allocate the percentage of Total Funds Available shown in the schedule to the report to each of the policy areas for the years 2006-2008.

(Additional Papers, page AP19)

(Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration

9.14 Delegation of Powers (Provident Fund) Amendment Ordinance 2004

Synod permits the introduction of the Delegation of Powers (Provident Fund) Ordinance 2004.

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(Mr Mark Payne)

9.15 Regions (Transitional Provisions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Amending Ordinance 2004

Synod permits the introduction of the Regions (Transitional Provisions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Amending Ordinance 2004.

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(Bishop Ivan Lee)

9.16 Synod Membership (Election of Parochial Representatives) Amendment Ordinance 2004

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Membership (Election of Parochial Representatives) Amendment Ordinance 2004.

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(Mr Michael Orpwood QC)

9.17 Associated Churches

Synod requests that the Standing Committee –

- (a) consider the means by which non-Anglican churches might be recognised as associated churches of the Diocese and the benefits which may arise for both the Diocese and those churches by reason of such association, and
- (b) prepare and, if thought appropriate, pass such ordinances as it thinks necessary to provide for such association.

(Dean Phillip Jensen)

9.18 Abortion

Synod grieves the loss of up to 100,000 Australian lives each year through abortion, and calls upon this church, the federal government, state governments and the Australian community to -

- (a) identify and reduce the stresses causing so many women to terminate pregnancies, and
- (b) discern how more children might be welcomed into loving adoptive families rather than aborted.

(Mrs Lesley Ramsay/Mrs Claire Smith)

9.19 Use of the word "Priest"

Synod -

- (a) reaffirms the decision of motion 20/97,

Synod considers -

(a) *that the good reason for our reformers retaining the word "priest" in the Book of Common Prayer is its derivation from the Greek "presbuteros", (which means a senior person, and "elder", or a mature leader); and*

(b) *that much of this meaning has been lost, because modern English has come to use "priest" to mean a person who mediates between man and God,*

and therefore encourages all involved in liturgical revision, in place of the word "priest", to use words like "elder", "president", "presbyter" or "minister".

- (b) considers that our continued use of the word "Priest" in legislation and formularies describing New Testament ministers, is unhelpful, confusing and dangerous, and
- (c) asks that the Standing Committee bring to the next session a report, on the action needed to replace the word "priest" with words such as "presbyter" or "senior minister" in all our legislation and formularies and, if necessary, legislation to effect this.

(The Rev Chris Clerke)

9.20 Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care

Synod -

1. Notes that the report of the Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care by the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs tabled in Federal Parliament on 30 August 2004 said in part -

The Committee received hundreds of graphic and disturbing accounts about the treatment and care experienced by children in out-of-home care. Many care leavers showed immense courage in putting intensely personal life stories on the public record. Their stories outlined a litany of emotional, physical and sexual abuse, and often criminal physical and sexual assault. Their stories also told of neglect, humiliation and deprivation of food, education and healthcare. Such abuse and assault was widespread across institutions, across States and across the government, religious and other care providers.

and

But the overwhelming response as to treatment in care, even among those that made positive comments was the lack of love, affection and nurturing that was never provided to young children at critical times during their emotional development.

And therefore recommended

The Committee believes that governments, the Churches and agencies should issue formal statements acknowledging their role in past institutional care policies and practices and the impact this had on the lives of many care leavers. These statements should express sorrow and apologise for the physical, psychological and social harm caused as a result of the care leavers' experiences as children in institutional care. The Committee also considers that these acknowledgments

must be accompanied by other positive measures as recommended in the report to ensure that they are not regarded as merely 'empty gestures' by the care leavers and the community generally.

2. Commends the report to the parishes and institutions of the Diocese for study, prayerful reflection and appropriate response, especially to any care leavers they come into contact with.
3. Requests that Anglicare prepare a response to the Report, which addresses its key recommendations.
4. Asks that this response be presented to the Archbishop, Standing Committee and the Board of Anglicare for action and that a report of action taken be prepared for the 2005 session of Synod.
5. Welcomes the development by the Professional Standards Unit and Anglicare of the "Pastoral Care and Assistance Scheme" and requests the parishes and organisations of the Diocese to familiarise themselves with this scheme and to advertise widely its availability.
6. Recognises the important role of Care Leavers Australia Network Inc (CLAN) in providing support and advocacy for those brought up in 'care', and encourages the Diocese, Anglicare, the parishes and organisations of the Diocese as well as individual members to support CLAN and its work.
7. Acknowledges the role of the Anglican Church, Diocese of Sydney through its organisations including Anglican Home Mission Society (Anglicare) and the Church of England Homes, in the administration of institutional care arrangements. Further acknowledging that some of the children who were brought up in 'care' during the last century have been left with the life-long effects of emotional deprivation and neglect and in some cases even worse, physical, sexual and psychological abuse, Synod expresses its deep regret at the harm caused by the failure to provide appropriate care. In particular Synod apologises for the physical, psychological and social harm and suffering experienced by any care leavers as a result of their experiences in any institution run under the auspices of the Anglican Church, Diocese of Sydney. Synod encourages such persons to make themselves known so that support, personal apology and appropriate assistance can be offered.
(The Rev Chris Albany/Archdeacon Geoff Huard)

9.21 Anglican Schools

Synod gives thanks to God on the successful commencement in 2004 of two new Anglican schools in the Diocese of Sydney - Shellharbour Anglican College in the Illawarra, under the principalship of Mr Tony Cummings, and Wollondilly Anglican College in the Southern Highlands, under the principalship of Mr Stuart Quarmby.
(The Rev Ian Mears)

9.22 Mr John Scott

Synod gives thanks to God for the leadership of Mr John Scott, Principal of St Luke's Grammar School, Dee Why, who on his retirement at the end of 2004 will have completed over 13 years of distinguished service as Principal within the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation, including 12 years as Principal of St Luke's Grammar School.
(The Rev Ian Mears)

9.23 **New principals of Anglican Schools**

Synod -

- (a) notes the appointment of 3 new principals to Anglican schools in the Diocese of Sydney - Mrs Judith Poole, Headmistress of Abbotsleigh, Wahroonga, to commence from 2005; Mrs Jann Robinson, Principal of St Luke's Grammar School, Dee Why, to commence from 2005 and Mr Paul Kidson, Principal of Shoalhaven Anglican School, also to commence from 2005, and
- (b) offers its prayerful encouragement to these persons as they commence their significant ministries.

(The Rev Ian Mears)

9.24 **Anglican Sports Ministries**

Synod gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Rev Stuart Gyngell and the Rev David Tyndall as Chaplains at the recent Athens Olympic Games. It commends the visionary ministry of Anglican Sport Ministries and encourages parishes to consider outreach opportunities presented by the holding of the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne in March 2006.

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Archdeacon Deryck Howell)

9.25 **Micah Challenge**

Synod endorses the Micah Challenge, a global Christian campaign launched on 15 October 2004 seeking to mobilize Christians against poverty, in its endeavour -

- (a) to deepen Christian engagement with the poor by proclaiming and demonstrating the love of God, in the person of Jesus Christ, to a world in need, and
- (b) to influence leaders of the 191 member states of the United Nations to fulfil their public promise to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and so halve absolute global poverty by 2015.

Furthermore, Synod encourages members of all congregations to visit the website **micahchallenge.org.au** and add their names to the growing community of those who are affirming their Christian commitment to overcoming poverty and injustice.

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

9.26 **Support of Churches in other dioceses**

Synod -

- (a) remembers that material support for churches by wealthier communities of believers stretches back to the first century AD, as illustrated by the assistance given to the saints in Jerusalem by the churches in Macedonia and Achaia, and
- (b) recognises the great need of our brothers and sisters in parishes of the Dioceses of Northwest Australia, Tasmania and Armidale, which are faced with the difficulties of gospel ministry over large distances, the effects of drought and the impact of economic and social hardship in many towns, and
- (c) calls on parishes in the Diocese of Sydney with the means to do so, to "adopt-a-parish" in these dioceses, by providing financial and other support, and
- (d) refers this motion to the Mission Taskforce for co-ordination and implementation.

(Dr Karin Sowada/Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

9.27 Occupational Health & Safety

Synod notes the responsibility of our church to care for the health and safety of those who work or attend activities on our church properties; commends the work being done to assist churches to continue to work cooperatively and take all reasonable and practicable measures to meet the legislative requirements of Government.

(Mr Andrew Burton/Mrs Denise Lynne)

9.28 Amendment to the Synod business rules

Synod requests that the Standing Committee bring to the next session of Synod an ordinance to amend to the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 to provide for a simple mechanism for the President to vacate the chair in cases of personal emergency or conflict of interest.

(Ms Jill Faddy)

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Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Tuesday 19 October 2004.

Tuesday 19 October 2004	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 9.1 Naremburn/Cammeray: Reclassification as a Parish 9.2 Minto: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	9.3 General Synod - Holy Communion Canon 2001 Adopting Ordinance 2004 9.4 Recognised Churches Amendment Ordinance 2004 Other ordinances which remain to be considered
7:00 pm +	Commissioning of new Executive Director of Anglicare 9.5 Parishes (Special Administration) Ordinance 2004

Monday 25 October 2004	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 9.6 Shellharbour City Centre: Reclassification as a Parish 9.7 Helensburgh with Stanwell Park: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	9.8 Structural Change in Ministry Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 - 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm +	9.9 Child Protection Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

Tuesday 26 October 2004	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 9.10 Narellan: Reclassification as a Parish 9.11 Petersham: Reclassification as a Parish 9.12 Ashbury: Creation of a Provisional Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	Ordinances which remain to be considered Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Presentation on the New Capital Project 9.13 Synod Appropriations and Allocations for 2006-2008 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

Wednesday 27 October 2004

3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	Ordinances Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Business as per the business paper

Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: 19 October 2004

Bible Reading: Acts 2:22-36

Bible Reader: Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett

Bible Study Leader: Bishop Reg Piper

²²"Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵David said about him:

"I saw the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.
²⁶Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will live in hope,
²⁷because you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.
²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

²⁹"Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. ³²God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. ³³Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

"The Lord said to my Lord:
"Sit at my right hand
³⁵until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet." '

³⁶"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version

Hymn: These are the facts

1. These are the facts as we have received them,
These are the truths that the Christian believes,
This is the basis of all of our preaching,
Christ died for sinners and rose from the tomb.
2. These are the facts as we have received them,
Christ has fulfilled what the Scriptures foretold,
Adam's whole family in death had been sleeping,
Christ through His rising restores us to life.
3. These are the facts as we have received them,
We, with our Saviour, have died on the Cross,
Now, having risen, our Jesus lives in us,
Gives us His Spirit and makes us His home.
4. These are the facts as we have received them,
We shall be changed in the blink of an eye,
Trumpets shall sound as we face life immortal,
This is the victory through Jesus , our Lord.

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Pianist: Peter Waterhouse