JOURNAL

of

THE SECOND ORDINARY SESSION

of the

FIFTIETH

GENERAL SYNOD

of the

CHURCH OF IRELAND

HELD IN DÚN LAOGHAIRE

anno domini

MMXVI

with

AN APPENDIX

containing

STATUTES PASSED, REPORTS OF COMMITTEES &c., &c.

Edited by

KENNETH MILNE

________________

Published by the Authority of the General Synod

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED

Adams, Mrs Alison (Dromore)
Adams, Mrs Jacqueline (Connor)
Ainsworth, Mrs Margaret (Dublin)
Aiton, Rev Janice (Meath)
Ajuka, Rev Sampson (Clogher)
Alexander, Mr Henry-Joseph (Glendalough)
Anthony, Mr Andrew (Dromore)
Appleyard, Mr Douglas (Dublin)
Ardis, Rev John (Cork)
Armstrong, Mr Alan (Killaloe)
Armstrong, Rev Canon Maurice (Clogher)
Arnold, Mr Bill (Raphoe)
Arnopp, Mrs Helen (Cork)
Atkin, Rev Bill (Armagh)
Auchmuty, Mrs Brenda (Tuam)
Auchmuty, Mr Denzil (Tuam)
Bagnall, Mr Neville (Tuam)
Baker, Mr Wilfred (Cork)
Ballantine, Mrs Helen (Armagh)
Bamber, Rev Canon Patrick (Elphin)
Barrett, Mrs Brigid (Elphin)
Barrett, Mrs Hazel (Raphoe)
Barton, Rev Patrick (Connor)
Baxter, Ms Lynda (Down)
Bayley, Ms Lesley (Cashel)
Baylor, Rev Canon Nigel (Connor)
Beare, Mr Johnny (Down)
Beattie, Mr Alfred (Meath)
Benn, Mr Gordon (Cork)
Benson, Mr Roy (Killaloe)
Berry, Rev Canon Ian (Clogher)
Bibby, Ms Joy (Cashel)
Blackwell, Mr Leslie (Killaloe)
Blair, Rev Canon Henry (Clogher)
Blake, Ms Joan (Cashel)
Bleakley, Ms Sophia (Kilmore)
Blennerhassett, Mr Thomas (Ardfert & Aghadoe)
Blennerhassett, Ms Yvonne (Ardfert & Aghadoe)
Bogan, Ms Patricia (Cork)
Bogle, Very Rev Paul (Meath)
Bolt, Mr Raymond (Connor)
Bond, Mrs Joyce (Connor)
Bourke, Rev Peter (Down)
Bourke, Rev Canon Ronald (Elphin)
Bourke, Mrs Una (Clogher)
Bourke, Mr Wilfred (Tuam)
Bourne, Mr David (Cork)
Bowers, Mr Kevin (Meath)
Boyd, Miss Frances (Clogher)
Boyd, Rev James (Clogher)
Boyd, Miss Margaret (Raphoe)
Boyd, Rev Canon Robert (Armagh)
Boyd, Mr Roger (Cashel)
Boyle, Mrs Thea (Glendalough)
Bradley, Ms Mary (Cashel)
Bradley, Mr Noel (Derry)
Bradley, Mr Roger (Connor)
Brannigan, Mr Andrew (Down)
Brannigan, Mrs Lynne (Connor)
Brickenden, Mrs Margaret (Limerick)
Briggs, Mr George (Connor)
Briggs, Mrs Mildred (Connor)
Brislane, Mr Kieron (Limerick)
Brodison, Mr Bill (Armagh)
Journal 2016

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED

Brooks, Mr Roger (Dublin)               Clarke, Rev Canon Robert (Derry)
Brown, Rev Canon David (Down)          Clayton, Mr Willie (Armagh)
Brown, Mr Jonathan (Down)              Clements, Rev Canon Doris (Tuam)
Brown, Mr Kenneth (Derry)              Clingan, Miss Joyce (Clogher)
Bruce, Mr Paul (Armagh)                Cobbe, Mr Erwin (Meath)
Bruton, Mrs Joan (Meath)               Cochrane, Mrs Elizabeth (Armagh)
Burgess, Mr David (Cashel)             Codd, Mr Richard (Cashel)
Burke, Rev Patrick (Cashel)            Codd, Mr William (Cashel)
Burrell, Mrs Phyllis (Dromore)         Coleman, Mr Andrew (Cork)
Butler, Mrs June (Down)                Colton, Mrs Trudi (Meath)
Buttimer, Mrs Ann (Cork)               Comerford, Rev Canon Patrick (Dublin)
Byrne, Rev Canon Roy (Dublin)          Compton, Ms Susan (Elphin)
Cadden, Rev Canon Terence (Dromore)    Cooke, Mrs Heather (Connor)
Cairns, Rev Elizabeth (Armagh)         Cooke, Mr Robert (Killaloe)
Cairns, Mrs Judith (Connor)            Coomber, Mrs Vicky (Cork)
Caldwell, Mrs Mary (Armagh)            Coombes, Mr Gordon (Cork)
Calvin, Rev Alison (Kilmere)           Corbett, Mrs Jane (Dromore)
Campbell, Mrs Bertha (Raphoe)          Corbett, Rev Rory (Dromore)
Campbell, Mr Desmond (Dublin)          Corrigan, Ms Hazel (Cashel)
Campbell-Smyth, Rev Jonny (Connor)     Corrigan, Mr Robert (Cashel)
Carney, Ven Wayne (Killaloe)           Cosby, Mr Thomas (Cashel)
Carson, Mrs Heather (Connor)           Couchman, Mr Johnny (Cashel)
Carter, Ms Yvonne (Cashel)             Crawford, Mr Charles (Clogher)
Casserly-Farrar, Rev Caroline (Cashel) Cremin, Rev Eileen (Cork)
Catterall, Rev Canon David (Elphin)    Crockett, Mr Billy (Derry)
Cavanagh, Mrs Marjorie (Ardfert & Aghadoe) Cromer, Mrs June (Dublin)
Cavanagh, Rev Michael (Ardfert & Aghadoe) Crooks, Rev Canon David (Raphoe)
Champ, Mr Eric (Ardfert & Aghadoe)     Crossey, Very Rev (Kilmere)
Cherry, Mrs Cynthia (Connor)           Culleton, Mr Patrick, G. (Cork)
Clarke, Mr James (Limerick)            Cunningham, Mr James (Down)
Clarke, Rev Canon John (Meath)         Cunningham, Ms Maud (Kilmere)
                                      Cupples, Mr Chris (Down)
Journal 2016

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED

Currie, Mrs Julie (Down)
Dark, Rev Nicholas (Connor)
Darling, Rev Colin (Down)
Darling, Mr James (Dublin)
Davies, Mr Thomas (Down)
Davison, Ven George (Connor)
Davitt, Mrs Deborah (Elphin)
Dawson, Mrs Susan (Dublin)
Deazley, Mr Gordon (Clogher)
Deazley, Mr Gregory (Clogher)
Dempsey, Mr Desmond (Killaloe)
Deverell, Mr Joe (Meath)
Devlin, His Honour Judge Alistair
(Donagh, Mr Stephen (Down)
Donaghy, Mrs Wendy (Raphoe)
Donohoe, Rev Ollie (Glendalough)
Doogan, Rev Canon Simon (Down)
Dorrian, Rev Adrian (Down)
Dorrian, Mrs Anne (Down)
Dougherty, Mr Thomas Mervyn
(Connor)
Douglas, Mr Trevor (Dromore)
Dourish, Ms Viola (Kilmore)
Draper, Very Rev Paul (Cashel)
Dring, Mr Richard (Cork)
Driver, Mr Eric (Cashel)
Dudley, Miss Nuala (Raphoe)
Dukelow, Ms Sandra (Cork)
Duncan, Mr Russell (Armagh)
Duncan, Mrs Teresa (Armagh)
Duncan, Mrs Valerie (Dublin)
Dundas, Rev Paul (Connor)
Dungan, Mr Keith (Glendalough)
Dunlop, Mrs Laura (Kilmore)
Dunlop, Mrs Rosalind (Connor)
Dunne, Dr Ken (Connor)
Dunne, Very Rev Dermot (Dublin)
Dunne, Mr Howard (Cork)
Dunne, Very Rev Nigel (Cork)
Dunning, Ms Lindsay (Down)
Dunstan, Very Rev Gregory (Armagh)
Durand, Rev Canon Lady Stella
(Cashel)
Edgar, Ms Heather (Down)
Edgar, Mr Richard (Derry)
Elliott, Miss Kay (Clogher)
Dunn, Dr Ken (Connor)
Elliott, Rev Canon Dr Maurice
(Dromore)
Ellis, Rev Canon Ian (Dromore)
Ellis, Mr Robert (Raphoe)
Ellis, Professor Steven (Tuam)
Ellison, Mr Julian (Tuam)
Elmes, Rev Ruth (Cashel)
Elsdon, Rev Janice (Connor)
Farrell, Rev Stephen (Dublin)
Fenton, Mr Albert (Dublin)
Ferguson, Rev David (Connor)
Ferguson, Rev Peter (Connor)
Ferry, Rev Canon Henry (Derry)
Ferry, Rev Malcolm (Derry)
Field, Very Rev Gerald (Cashel)
Fielding, Rev Stephen (Connor)
Fitzpatrick, Rev Victor (Cashel)
Fleming, Miss Emma (Dromore)
Fletcher, Mrs Donna (Armagh)
Forbes, Mr Tony (Armagh)
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED

Forde, Rev Barry (Connor)
Forde, Mr Robert (Clogher)
Forde, Ven Stephen (Connor)
Forrest, Mrs Avril (Cashel)
Forster, Rev Canon Shane (Armagh)
Forster, Ven Andrew (Armagh)
Foster, Mr William H (Kilmore)
Frame, Mr Andrew (Down)
Fromholz, Mr Greg (Dublin)
Frost, Rev Linda (Elphin)
Fryday, Rev Canon Barbara (Cashel)
Fryday, Mr John N (Cashel)
Fullerton, Mr Denis (Connor)
Fullerton, Mrs Margaret (Connor)
Galbraith, Mrs Ruth (Elphin)
Galligan, Rev Canon Adrienne (Dublin)
Galloway, Mr John (Cashel)
Gamble, Mr Sydney (Derry)
Geelan, Ms Mary (Kilmore)
Genoe, Mr Samuel (Clogher)
Genoe, Rev Simon (Connor)
Gibson, Mr Ken (Connor)
Gilbert, Mr Alan (Cashel)
Gill, Rev Ruth (Killaloe)
Gillespie, Mr David (Elphin)
Gillespie, Rev Canon David (Dublin)
Gillespie, Mrs Patricia (Kilmore)
Gilmour, Rev Canon Harry (Raphoe)
Gilmour, Mrs Mildred (Tuam)
Gimpel, Rev Gerardo (Down)
Given, Rev Canon Harold (Derry)
Glenn, Mr Noel (Derry)

Godfrey, Mr Edward (Down)
Gordon, Mrs Linda (Down)
Gordon, Very Rev Tom (Cashel)
Gorman, Mrs Helen (Kilmore)
Gorman, Mrs Helen (Dublin)
Graham, Rev Alastair (Meath)
Graham, Mr Alwyn (Dromore)
Graham, Ms Irene (Cashel)
Graham, Mrs Sylvia (Dublin)
Grant, Mr John (Derry)
Green, Rev Adrian (Down)
Green, Rev Lucy (Killaloe)
Green, Rev Canon Susan (Cashel)
Grimason, Very Rev Alistair (Tuam)
Grothier, Ms Elaine (Cashel)
Grothier, Mrs Phyllis (Cashel)
Gyles, Rev Sonia (Dublin)
Hagan, Rev Matthew (Armagh)
Hall, Rev Nicola (Cashel)
Hall, Mr Edgard (Dublin)
Hall, Very Rev Kenneth (Clogher)
Hall, Michael (Elphin)
Hall-Thompson, Rev Colin (Connor)
Halliday, Mr Blair (Dublin)
Hamill, Mrs Sharon (Connor)
Hamilton, Mr Matthew (Down)
Hanley, Rev Mairt (Ardfert & Aghadoe)
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED

Johnston, Mr Jack (Clogher)
Johnston, Rev Canon Michael (Killaloe)
Johnston, Mr Mike (Down)
Johnston, Professor Paul (Tuam)
Johnston, Rev Trevor (Connor)
Jones, Mr David (Kilmore)
Jones, Rev Peter (Armagh)
Jones, Rev Canon Robert (Connor)
Kavanagh, Mr Ronnie (Armagh)
Kay Mbe, Mr Robert (Connor)
Keating, Mr John (Clogher)
Keatinge, Mrs Trilly (Dublin)
Kee, Mr John (Raphoe)
Kells, Mr Wilson (Kilmore)
Kennedy, Mr Ian (Derry)
Kenny, Mr Desmond (Meath)
Kenny, Mrs Freda (Killaloe)
Kerr, Rev Derek (Connor)
Kerr, Mr Donald (Down)
Kerr, Mrs Hope (Clogher)
Kerr, Mrs Mavis (Armagh)
Kerr, Mr Victor (Armagh)
Keys, Mr Jonathan (Clogher)
Kidd, Ms Claudia (Cashel)
Kilroy, Mr Carl (Tuam)
Kilroy, Mr Leo (Glendalough)
Kingston, Mrs Jennifer (Cork)
Kingston, Rev Malcolm (Armagh)
Kinkead, Rev Jack (Dublin)
Kirk, Mr Harry (Connor)
Kirk, Mrs Joan (Dublin)
Knox, Miss Irene (Clogher)
Leathem, Mrs Jennifer (Clogher)
Leckey, Miss Maxine (Dromore)
Leighton, Mrs Jane (Armagh)
Lennox, Rev Mark (Derry)
Leonard, Dr Elizabeth (Down)
Lewis, Mr David (Killaloe)
Lindsay, Mrs Carrie (Connor)
Lindsay, Rev Canon Sandra (Kilmore)
Linton, Rev Ian (Elphin)
Little, Ms Catherine (Connor)
Lockhart, Rev David (Connor)
Lockhart, Mr Melvyn (Armagh)
Lodge, Dr Anne (Dublin)
Logue, Mr Colin (Connor)
Loughrey, Mr Raymond (Derry)
Lowry, Rev Canon Stephen (Down)
Lucy, Mr Gordon (Connor)
Lumby, Rev Simon (Ardfert & Aghadoe)
Lynch, Rev Canon Eithne (Cork)
Lynch, Mr Richard (Cork)
Lyons, Mr Norman (Connor)
Macartney, Mr Arthur (Connor)
Macartney, Mrs Rosemary (Connor)
MacCann, Mr Lyndon (Dublin)
Maccarthy, Rev Denis (Cork)
Mann, Very Rev John (Connor)
Mansley, Rev Caroline (Clogher)
Marley, Very Rev Alan (Cork)
Marsden, Rev John (Meath)
Martin, Rev Bryan (Dromore)
Martin, Mrs Helen (Ardfert & Aghadoe)
Martin, Miss Johanne (Connor)
Journal 2016

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED

<p>| Masterson, Mr William (Cashel) | Mcmurray, Mrs Lynsey (Clogher) |
| Matchett, Rev Chris (Down) | Mcneile, Mr Andrew (Dublin) |
| Mayes, Rev Aonghus (Armagh) | Mcveigh, Rev Dorothy (Armagh) |
| McAdam, Rev Paul (Armagh) | Mcveigh, Rev Canon Samuel (Derry) |
| McBeth, Rev David (Derry) | Megarrell, Rev Joanne (Dromore) |
| McBride, Ven Stephen (Connor) | Merrick, Mrs Roberta (Raphoe) |
| McCann, Rev Alan (Connor) | Metcalfe, Mr Adam (Armagh) |
| McCann, Rev Michael (Connor) | Millar, Mr David (Dublin) |
| McCann, Rev Steve (Cork) | Millar, Ms Daphne (Ardfert &amp; Aghadoe) |
| McCarthy, Rev Brendan (Kilmore) | Miller, Ven Robert (Derry) |
| McCausland, Rev Norman (Dublin) | Moffitt, Mr Earl (Armagh) |
| McClay, Ven David (Down) | Montgomery, Mr Martin (Derry) |
| McClay, Mrs Hilary (Down) | Montgomery, Mr William (Derry) |
| McClelland, Mrs Jean (Armagh) | Mooney, Very Rev Paul (Cashel) |
| McCluskey, Mrs Helen (Armagh) | Moore, Mr Albert (Derry) |
| McClure, Rev John (Connor) | Moore, Mr Glenn (Clogher) |
| McCord, Mrs Ethne (Clogher) | Morris, Mr Colin (Dromore) |
| McCrea, Ms Amy (Elphin) | Morrow, Mrs Janette (Derry) |
| McCrossery, Rev Andrew (Dublin) | Morton, Very Rev William (Derry) |
| McCrossan, Mr Will (Down) | Mulhall, Rev James (Cashel) |
| McDowell, Rev Canon Peter (Connor) | Mulligan, Mr Alan (Dublin) |
| McElhinney, Rev Stephen (Connor) | Murray, Rev Elaine (Cork) |
| McFarland, Miss Susan (Down) | Murray, Rev Ruth (Armagh) |
| McFarland, Mr Stanley C (Derry) | Murray, Mr Thomas (Dromore) |
| McGrath, Ms Annette (Dromore) | Myles, Mr James (Down) |
| McKee Hanna, Rev Dr Patricia (Limerick) | Nairn, Mrs Myrtle (Tuam) |
| McKelvey, Mr William (Derry) | Neill, Miss Gillian (Down) |
| McKenna, Mr Ronan (Meath) | Neill, Mr Jim (Connor) |
| McKinley, Rev Canon Horace (Dublin) | Neill, Rev Canon Robert (Down) |
| Mcleod, Mr Norman (Down) | Neill, Mr Robert (Glendalough) |
| Mcmcmaster, Mr Geoffrey (Glendalough) | Neill, Rev Stephen (Killaloe) |
| Mcmurray, Rev Gary (Clogher) | Neilson, Mr Derek (Glendalough) |</p>
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Ruddock, Rev Leonard (Glendalough)  
Ruiters, Rev Canon Ivan (Kilmore)  
Rusk, Ms Shona (Dublin)  
Russell, Rev Brian (Raphoe)  
Rutherford, Captain Jasper (Down)  
Rutherford, Rev Peter (Meath)  
Rutter, Rev John (Connor)  
Sanders, Mr Joc (Killaloe)  
Sargent, Mr Trevor (Cashel)  
Scholes, Dr Andrew (Connor)  
Scholes, Mr David (Connor)  
Schutz, Mr Peter (Limerick)  
Scott, Dr Jennifer (Armagh)  
Scott, Mr Neville (Clogher)  
Scott, Ven Terry (Armagh)  
Selfridge, Mrs Adeleine (Derry)  
Shannon, Mr Jason (Elphin)  
Shannon, Mr John (Tuam)  
Sharpe, Mr Keith (Armagh)  
Sheahan, Mr Frank (Limerick)  
Sheil, Canon Lady Brenda (Down)  
Sheridan, Ms Aisling (Dublin)  
Sherwood, Rev Canon Nigel (Glendalough)  
Shorten, Mr Damian (Limerick)  
Singleton, Mr Lewis (Connor)  
Skuce, Rev Canon David (Clogher)  
Skuse, Rev Anne (Cork)  
Sloane, Rev Canon Niall (Dublin)  
Sparling, Mr Kieran (Limerick)  
Spies, Mr David (Connor)  
Sproule, Miss Elaine (Derry)  
St Leger, Dr Alicia (Cork)  
St Leger, Mr Hugh (Meath)  
Stacey, Rev Victor (Dublin)  
Stanley, Mr Alan (Cashel)  
Stanley, Mr Eric (Killaloe)  
Stanley, Mr John (Cork)  
Steacy, Rev William (Meath)  
Stephens, Mr Karl (Cashel)  
Stephens, Mrs Margaret (Cashel)  
Stevenson, Mrs Elva (Connor)  
Stevenson, Ven Leslie (Meath)  
Stevenson, Mr Tom (Connor)  
Stewart, Mr Basil (Dromore)  
Stewart, Rev Brian (Connor)  
Stewart, Rev Louise (Connor)  
Stewart, Rev Canon Raymond (Derry)  
Stewart, Mr William (Armagh)  
Strong, Mr Stephen (Meath)  
Suitor, Mrs Iris (Armagh)  
Suitor, Mr Vivian (Armagh)  
Sykes, Rev Margaret (Cashel)  
Syme, Mr Robbie (Cashel)  
Synnott, Ven Alan (Tuam)  
Taggart, Rev Canon William (Connor)  
Tanner, Rev John (Dublin)  
Tarneberg Steed, Ven Helene (Clogher)  
Taylor, Ms Gillian (Connor)  
Templeton, Mr Alan (Down)
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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**ARRANGED ACCORDING TO DIOCESES**

**NUMBERS INDICATE DAYS ATTENDED AT THE 2016 SESSION.**

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- Kee, Mr JCH
- Witherow, Mr KW
- Dudley, Miss N
- Ellis, Mr R
- Campbell, Mrs B
- Barrett, Mrs H

## Down and Dromore

### Down - Clerical

- Nixon, Rev WS
- Gimpel, Rev GF
- Matchett, Rev CJ
- Higgins, Rev Canon K
- McClay, Ven DA
- Jardine, Rev Canon N
- Harvey, Rev Canon JM
- Hull, Very Rev TH
- Brown, Rev Canon DL
- Nesbitt, Rev Canon R
- Green, Rev AP
- Dorrian, Rev ATW
- Lowry, Rev Canon SH
- Parker, Rev Canon MA
- Neill, Rev Canon RC
- Wilson, Rev RR
- Bourke, Rev PC
- Doogan, Rev Canon SE
- Darling, Rev CP

### Down - Lay

- Brannigan, Mr RA
- Higgins, Miss EA
- Frame, Mr A
- Dorrian, Mrs A
- Beare, Mr JD

## Dromore - Clerical

- Harron, Rev Canon GA
- Megarrell, Rev MJ
- Cadden, Rev Canon TJ
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- Elliott, Rev Canon Dr MJ
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COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

(as on 1 July 2016)

STANDING COMMITTEE

Ex-officio Members

THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS

THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

Mr Samuel Harper
Ven George Davison
Rev Gillian Wharton
Mr Kenneth Gibson

Elected Members

Diocese of:

Armagh
Rev Malcolm Kingston
Rev Matthew Hagan
Mr Paul Bruce
Mr Adam Metcalfe

Clogher
Rev Canon Ian Berry
Rev Canon Brian Harper
Mr Walter Pringle
Mr Glenn Moore

Derry
Rev Canon Henry Gilmore
Ven Robert Miller
Mr Martin Montgomery
Mrs Kaye Nesbitt

Down
Ven Roderic West
Rev Joanne Megarrell
Mrs Hilary McClay
Mr Andrew Brannigan

Connor
Rev Dr Alan McCann
Rev Trevor Johnston
Mr Roy Totten
Mrs Pauline High
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| Kilmore | Rev Canon Patrick Bamber  
Rev Hazel Hicks  
Mrs Brigid Barrett  
Mr Alan Williamson |
| Tuam | Rev Adam Pullen  
Ven Alan Synnott  
Mr Neville Bagnall  
Mr Denzil Auchmuty |
| Dublin | Ven Richard Rountree  
Rev Stephen Farrell  
Mr Lyndon MacCann SC  
Dr Éimhín Walsh |
| Meath | Rev Peter Rutherford  
Rev Canon Lynda Peilow  
Mrs Joan Bruton  
Mr Ronan McKenna |
| Cashel | Rev Nicola Halford  
Rev Canon Susan Green  
Mr Thomas Cosby  
Mr Richard Codd |
| Cork | Rev John Ardis  
Ven Adrian Wilkinson  
Mr Wilfred Baker  
Ms Síle Hunt |
| Limerick | Rev Lucy Green  
Rev Simon J Lumby  
Mr Adrian Hilliard  
Mr Edward Hardy |

**Co-opted Members**

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| Rev Dr Maurice Elliott  
Ven Andrew Forster  
Ven Gary Hastings  
Mrs Judith Cairns |
| Rev Gary McMurray  
Rev Stephen Neill  
Rev Alison Calvin |
COURT OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

The Archbishops and Bishops

His Honour Judge Tom Burgess  Mr Patrick Good QC
The Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell  Mr Lyndon MacCann SC
His Honour Judge Alistair Devlin  The Hon Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness
Mr Charles Galloway  Mr Ronald Robins
The Rt Hon Sir Paul Girvan  The Hon Mr Justice Benjamin Stephens

Registrar:  Rev Stephen Farrell, Zion Rectory, 18 Bushy Park Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6, D06 F6N4

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ex-officio Members

THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS

THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

Elected Members

Diocese of:

Armagh  Rev Matthew Hagan
         Mr Thomas Flannagan

Clogher  Vacant
         Mrs Hope Kerr

Derry  Rev Canon Henry Gilmore
       Mr Des West

Down  Rev Canon John Howard
       Mr James Bunting

Connor  Rev Ian Magowan
        Dr Ken Dunn

Kilmore  Very Rev Raymond Ferguson
         Mrs Brigid Barrett

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Tuam
Rev Canon Doris Clements
Professor Paul Johnston

Dublin
Rev Dr William Olhausen
Mr David Wynne

Meath
Rev Canon JDM Clarke
Mr A Oughton

Cashel Ferns and Ossory
Rev Canon Patrick Harvey
Mrs Avril Forrest

Cork
Ven Adrian Wilkinson
Mr Wilfred Baker

Limerick and Killaloe
Ven Susan Watterson
Mrs Margaret Brickenden

Co-opted Members
Mrs Rosemary Forde
Mr Simon Thompson (ISA)
Mrs Helen McClenaghan
Mr Andrew Forrest (ISA)
Mr Roy McKinney
Ms Rosemary Maxwell-Eager (ASTI)
Mrs Patricia Wallace
Mrs Susie Hall (ASTI)
Ms Amy McCrea (CIYD)
Ms Vicki Meredith (TUI)
Rev Brian O’Rourke
Mrs Joyce Perdue
Rev Canon Niall Sloane (Sunday School Society)
Ms Rachel Fraser
Dr Anne Lodge (Third Level)
Ms Sarah Richards
Mr Michael Hall (ISA)

PETITIONS COMMITTEE
Mrs Pauline High
Canon Graham Richards

The Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod
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**ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**
Rev Canon Simon Doogan  
Canon Graham Richards

The Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod

**BILLS COMMITTEE**
The Assessor (ex officio)  
Ven George Davison  
The Rt Rev Dr Paul Colton  
Rev Brian O’Rourke  
Mrs Ethne Harkness  
Canon Lady Sheil  
Mrs Pauline High  
The Honourable Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness (consultant)

**COMMISSION FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY AND DIALOGUE**
Rt Rev Alan Abernethy  
Rt Rev John McDowell  
Mr Wilfred Baker  
Mr Philip McKinley  
Rt Rev Michael Burrows  
Dr Kenneth Milne  
Rev Canon Patrick Comerford  
Rev Canon Daniel Nuzum  
Ms Georgina Copty  
Rev Patrick Rooke  
Rev Canon Dr Maurice Elliott  
Rev Kenneth Rue  
Rev Canon Ian Ellis  
Rev Canon Niall Sloane  
Mr Samuel Harper  
Ven Helene Tarneberg Steed  
Rt Rev Kenneth Kearon  
Ms Catherine Turner

**LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**
Rt Rev Kenneth Kearon  
Canon Lady Sheil  
Rev Canon Simon Doogan  
Ms Claire Bruton BL  
The Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell  
The Honourable Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness  

The Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod

**RECORD COMMITTEE**
The Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod

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STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

Rev Stephen Neill  Mr Trevor Sargent
The Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod

CHURCH OF IRELAND PENSIONS BOARD

Mr Owen Driver  Mrs Judith Peters
Rt Rev John McDowell  Canon Lady Sheil
Mrs Cynthia Cherry  Rev John Auchmuty
Mr Geoffrey Perrin

CHURCH OF IRELAND COUNCIL FOR MISSION

Rt Rev Alan Abernethy  House of Bishops
Rev Ruth West  General Synod
Rev Cliff Jeffers  General Synod
Captain Colin Taylor  General Synod
Rev Robert Jones  General Synod
Ms Johanne Martin  General Synod
Mrs Ruth Mercer  Mothers' Union
Vacant  CIYD
Vacant  CITI
Vacant  Bishops’ Appeal
Rev Dr Laurence Graham  Methodist Church
Ms Emma Lynch  AMS
Vacant  AMS
Mr Jan C de Bruijn  AMS
Rev Colin Hall-Thompson  AMS
Ms Julie Currie  Down and Dromore
Rev Patrick Burke  Cashel
Rev Eileen Cremin  Cork
Rev Ian Jonas  Cork Alternate
Dr Trevor Buchanan  Down
Rev Simon Genoe  Connor
Very Rev Kenneth Hall  Clogher
Rev Andrew Quill  Kilmore
Vacant  Meath
Ven Wayne Carney  Limerick
Rev Adam Pullen  Tuam
Vacant  Derry
Rev Paul McAdam  Armagh
Mr Thomas Stevenson  Armagh Alternate
Mr Derek Neilson  Dublin

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CHURCH OF IRELAND YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Executive

President

Most Rev Patricia Storey

Chairman

Rev Malcolm Kingston

Treasurer

Mr Edward Hardy

Secretary

Mrs Judith Peters

Mr Alan Williamson

Mr Martin Montgomery

Central Board – Executive (above) and:

Mr Steven Brickenden

Rev Diane Matchett

Rev Gary McMurray

Ms Emma Rothwell

Rev Ruth Noble

Mrs Zara Genoe

Co-options

Ms Sarah Lowry

Mr Damian Shorten

Rev Lesley Robinson

Standing Committee

Rev Nicola Halford

Mrs Brigid Barrett

MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND

See pages 5-13 of Representative Body Report

HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

Mr Samuel Harper

Cramer's Grove, Kilkenny, Co Kilkenny, R95 R886

Ven George Davison

The Rectory, 12 Harwood Gardens, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim, BT38 7US

Rev Gillian Wharton

The Rectory, Cross Avenue, Booterstown, Blackrock, Co Dublin, A94 W7R6

Mr Kenneth Gibson

11 Magheralave Court, Lisburn, Co. Antrim, BT28 3BY.

Assistant Secretary:

Mrs Janet Maxwell

Synod Officer:

Dr Catherine Smith

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STANDING ORDERS

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY, 1965


General

1. The Holy Bible and the Book of Common Prayer shall lie on the table of the Synod Hall.

2. Each day's proceedings shall open with a reading from Holy Scripture and prayer, during which time the doors shall be closed.

3. The hours for the Synod when in ordinary session shall be as follows:

   First day: 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.; 2.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. or, if the first and second readings of all Bills sent to the members with the summonses have not then been concluded, until such later hour as the Synod shall determine.

   Second day: 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.; 2.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

   Third day: 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.; 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. or such other hour as the Synod may determine.

Provided that:

(a) The Standing Committee may by Resolution determine that –

   i. the number of days of the Synod; and/or

   ii. the hour at which the Synod shall commence on any day shall be otherwise than as stated above.

(b) The Synod by Resolution assented to by at least two-thirds of the members of the House of Representatives present and voting thereon may (unless the Bishops present by a majority object) prolong the period of any sitting to such hour as may be named in such Resolution.

The hours for the Synod when in special session shall be specified in the notice convening the meeting.

4. (a) Notice of each ordinary meeting of the General Synod shall be sent by post to every member thereof at least 21 days before the day fixed for such meeting.

   (b) Notice of each special meeting of the General Synod shall be sent by post to every member thereof at least 7 days before the day fixed for such meeting.
5. Every member shall be furnished with a card of admission by the honorary secretaries, to be presented at the door of the house: and without such card no person, save members of the Representative Body and its Chief Officer and Secretary, the assessors, and other officers of the Synod, and representatives of Churches invited by the General Synod or by the Standing Committee, shall be admitted to the body of the Synod Hall. Strangers may, on the introduction of a member, be admitted to the gallery, subject to such conditions in this behalf as may be laid down by the Synod. They shall not be admitted to the body of the Synod Hall unless by leave of the house.

6. Reporters shall be admitted to such part of the Synod Hall as the Synod may appoint except when the Synod shall exclude them by standing order or by an express vote.

7. Four honorary secretaries, two clerical and two lay, shall be elected by their respective orders from among their own members. Any casual vacancy may be filled by the Standing Committee provided always that the clerical or lay representative so elected by the Standing Committee shall be deemed to hold office only until the day previous to the next meeting of the General Synod.

8. On the first day of each ordinary session the President shall appoint as Assessor a person having legal qualifications and experience of the form of government of the Church. The Assessor shall hold office until immediately prior to the following ordinary session and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

9. When the President shall have taken the Chair, no member shall continue standing, except when addressing the Chair.

10. No member shall pass between the Chair and a member who is speaking.

11. If it appear on notice being taken that a quorum is not present, the President shall thereupon adjourn the Synod, without question put, until an hour to be named by the President, or until the next day of meeting, as he shall think fit.

12. A motion to suspend Standing Orders may be moved without notice and to be passed such motion shall require the consent of three-fourths of the members present and voting.

13. All questions of order and relevance shall be decided by the President.

14. The President shall regulate the proceedings of the Synod in all matters not provided for in these Orders by analogy to parliamentary practice.

Rules of Debate

15. Every member desiring to speak shall rise and address the Chair, and when two or more members shall rise simultaneously to address the Chair the President shall decide which of them shall speak.

16. The President shall confine each speaker to the subject-matter of debate; it shall not be in order for any member to interrupt the speaker, except through the medium of the President.
17. Whenever the President rises during a debate, any member speaking or offering to speak shall sit down so that the President may be heard without interruption.

18. No speech of more than five minutes' duration shall be permitted except

(a) the proposer of the reports of the Standing Committee and the Representative Body, who may speak for fifteen minutes each; and

(b) the seconder of the reports of the Standing Committee and the Representative Body and the proposer of any other report or of any bill, who may speak for ten minutes;

provided that the President, having regard to the circumstances, including the gravity or complexity of the subject of the debate and the time available for the disposal of business, may decide that compliance with the above restrictions ought to be waived in regard to a particular speech.

19. The President shall leave the Chair when desiring to take part in a debate.

(Note - Appointment to the Chair - see appendix)

20. The proposer of a motion shall have a right of reply, but otherwise a member shall not be permitted to speak more than once on the same question except on the committee stage of a bill. The seconder of a motion or amendment may reserve the right to make a speech to any period of the debate.

21. Members of the Representative Body and its Chief Officer and Secretary shall be entitled to address the House on any question before it. Ecumenical guests shall be entitled to address the House on reports and motions, but shall not be entitled to address the house on bills. Only those who are members of the House shall be entitled to vote.

Bills

22. Notice of motion for leave to bring in bills for specified purposes may be sent to the honorary secretaries of the Synod with the proposed bill at any time not less than one week before the day appointed for the opening of the session of the Synod, and shall appear on the Agenda for the first day of such session; provided that any bill which is lodged with the honorary secretaries not less than six weeks before the first day of the session shall be printed and sent to the members with the summonses.

23. On leave being asked to bring in a bill, the name or names of the member or members proposing to bring in the bill shall be stated and the name or names shall be printed with the bill.

24. (a) At the first ordinary session of each Synod a Bills Committee consisting of six members with the Assessor ex officio shall be elected to hold office until immediately prior to the first ordinary session of the following General Synod.

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(b) The Bills Committee shall meet prior to each session of the General Synod to consider legal and drafting aspects of the Bills being presented. The proposer of each Bill shall be notified of the date and place of meeting, and the proposer or the proposer’s nominee shall be entitled to participate during the consideration of such Bill.

(c) It shall be competent for the Synod to refer to the Bills Committee any amendments which may be proposed during the progress of a Bill through the Synod.

25. Bills shall be considered in the order of lodgement thereof with the honorary secretaries, save that bills introduced at the request of the Synod or the House of Bishops or the Standing Committee or the Representative Body or the Pensions Board shall have priority over other bills.

26. Where there are for consideration two or more bills dealing with the same subject matter, the President, if of the opinion that it is advisable so to do, may direct that the question be not put on the second reading of any such bills until there shall have been a debate on the second reading of the other or others.

27. Notice of any amendment proposed to a bill shall be given in writing to the honorary secretaries. (And see S.O.s Nos. 34 to 39.)

28. In the case of any Ordinary Bill which has been printed and sent to the members with the summonses, no amendment shall be considered, save with the leave of the Synod, unless it has been notified to the honorary secretaries on or before the Friday next preceding the session of the Synod; and in the case of such bill (not being a bill to which Standing Order 30 refers) the Synod, if it thinks fit, may proceed on the day of the first reading to the second reading and consideration in committee.

29. Procedure on Ordinary Bills (Ch. 1 sec. 25 of the Constitution) shall be as follows:-

(a) Introduction and First Reading

The member moving for leave to introduce a bill shall be permitted to make a brief explanatory statement of not more than ten minutes' duration, and if the motion is opposed, a member opposing may make a statement in opposition of not more than ten minutes' duration. The member moving for leave may postpone making a statement until after the member opposing has spoken.

Only the one speech in support of, and one in opposition to, the motion may be made, and the question shall then be put without amendment or further debate; provided that in the case of a bill proposed to be introduced at the request of the Synod or the House of Bishops or the Standing Committee or the Representative Body or the Pensions Board the resolution giving leave to introduce it shall be put without debate unless notice of intention to oppose the resolution has been given to the honorary secretaries of the Synod on or before the Friday next preceding the meeting of the Synod.

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Leave to introduce having been given, the bill shall be read a first time, without debate, and an order made fixing a day for the Second Reading.

(b) Second Reading

On the motion “That the bill be now read a second time”, the debate, if any, shall be confined to the question whether the Synod approves the proposal in principle, matters of detail being postponed to the committee stage. The only amendment which may be moved to this motion is one proposing to delete all or some of the words after “That,” and the substitution of words which state some reason against the bill being read a second time forthwith.

The bill having been read a second time, an order shall be made fixing a day for consideration in Committee of the whole Synod.

(c) Consideration in Committee

The Committee of the whole Synod shall consider the bill, clause by clause, together with any relevant amendments which may be proposed, the preamble being taken last. The bill, with or without amendments, shall then be reported to the Synod and an order made fixing a day for consideration on report.

(d) Consideration on Report

On the order for consideration of a bill on report being read, the Synod may consider amendments which arise out of consideration on the committee stage and of which notice has been given the previous day: Provided that amendments rejected in committee shall not be in order. Amendments may also be made without notice if in the opinion of the President they involve merely matters of drafting or the correction of grammatical or clerical errors.

When the bill has received any relevant consideration, an order shall be made fixing a day for the third reading; provided that such order, together with that made under para. (c) above, must permit, unless the Synod otherwise direct, for a clear day being interposed between consideration in Committee and the third reading.

(e) Third Reading

On the motion “That the bill be now read a third time and passed,” any debate shall be confined to what is provided in the bill.

30. Procedure on Special Bills (Ch. 1 sec. 26 of the Constitution) shall be as for Ordinary Bills; provided that:-

(a) Leave to introduce such a bill may only be given at an ordinary session of the Synod; leave having been given, the bill shall be deemed to have been read a first time, but it shall not be processed further until the next ordinary session when it will come before the Synod for second reading. No amendment to such a Bill may be moved at the first reading stage, but notice of any such amendment
must be given at this stage provided that written notice of any such amendment if received by the Honorary Secretaries within one calendar month of the end of this Ordinary Session shall be deemed to have been given at the first reading stage. Amendments, of which notice has been given at the first reading stage, may be moved at the committee stage, and no other amendment may then be moved except any dealing with omissions, grammatical or clerical errors.

(b) Copies of the resolution giving leave to introduce shall be sent to each diocesan synod within one month after the ending of the session at which the resolution was passed.

c) The consent of not less than two-thirds of each order, present and voting, shall be required to pass the motions (i) for leave to introduce the bill, (ii) that the bill be now read a second time, and (iii) that the bill be now read a third time and passed, and

(d) Debate on the motion that leave to introduce be given shall be governed by the rules of debate without the limitations imposed by S.O. 29(a).

Motions

31. (a) A notice of motion (other than a notice of motion referred to in (d) or (e) of this Order) shall be delivered to the Honorary Secretaries not less than one month before the day appointed for the opening of the session of the Synod at which the motion is to be moved.

(b) A notice of motion duly delivered to the Honorary Secretaries in accordance with (a) of this Order shall be sent to the members of the Synod with the Summons for the Synod at which the motion is to be moved. Such notice shall also be printed on the agenda for the 1st day of such Synod, and may be taken into consideration without further notice.

(c) A notice of motion shall be signed by the intended mover or by some member on the mover’s behalf.

(d) A notice of motion received during a session of the Synod shall be read to the Synod by one of the Honorary Secretaries on such day as the President shall direct, but such motion shall not be taken into consideration until the next following session unless:-

(i) it arises out of business already transacted at the session at which it is received, or

(ii) The President and a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting consent to its being taken into consideration at the session at which it is received.

If a motion is taken into consideration under (i) or (ii) it shall be taken into consideration on such day as the President shall direct.

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(iii) A Notice of Motion received during a Session of the Synod shall be signed by the intended mover with a written indication of support signed by five other members.

(iv) The full text of such a Motion shall be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretaries, shall be read to the Synod by one of the Honorary Secretaries on such day as the President shall direct and printed copies of such Motion shall be made available for consideration by all members of the Synod as soon as possible after receipt from the person proposing the Motion and in any event not later than 12 noon on the final day of the Session unless in exceptional circumstances the President directs otherwise.

(v) All amendments to any such Motion shall be delivered in writing to the Honorary Secretaries and copies of such amendments shall be made available for consideration by all members of the Synod as soon as possible after receipt from the person tabling the amendment and in any event not later than 1.00 p.m. on the third day of the Synod unless the President shall direct otherwise.

(vi) Any such Motion which is not taken into consideration under (i) or (ii) above shall be sent to the members of the Synod with the Summonses for the next following Session.

(e) A motion may be moved without notice by the unanimous leave of the Synod.

32. Motions shall be set down in the order in which the notices were given, provided that motions relating to the same subject shall be taken consecutively and provided that motions relating to any committee or board or commission shall be taken in conjunction with the report of such committee or board or commission.

33. A motion which does not propose that action be taken beyond its publication or transmission to certain persons shall not be moved unless the permission of the Synod has been previously obtained. When such a motion has been submitted the President shall put the question that leave be given to the member desiring to propose the motion to do so, and a vote shall be taken on this question without debate.

34. No motion or amendment, except in Committee, shall be taken into consideration unless it be seconded; but, if seconded, it shall not be withdrawn without the leave of the Synod.

Amendments

35. A question having been proposed may be amended (a) by leaving out specified words or (b) by inserting in lieu of specified words included therein other specified words, or (c) by adding or inserting specified words; provided that an amendment which is in effect a direct negative to the question may not be moved.

All amendments shall be delivered in writing to the honorary secretaries.

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36. All amendments shall be put according to the priority of the words proposed to be inserted in or omitted from the clause under consideration, and, except by leave of the Synod, no amendment may be proposed in any part of a question after a later part has been amended.

37. The question to be put in regard to any proposed amendment shall in all cases be whether the proposed amendment be made.

38. (a) At any time before the question has been put in regard to any proposed amendment the mover thereof may with the leave of the Synod alter the terms thereof, but no other amendment to a proposed amendment shall be in order.

(b) When an amendment has been made, the question thus amended becomes the substantive question and further amendments may then be proposed.

39. Where amendments have been made, the main question as amended shall be put and where no amendments have been made the question shall be put as originally proposed.

40. The Synod may order a complicated question to be divided.

**Enforced Closure of Debate**

41. (a) At any time after a question has been proposed in the Synod, or in a Committee of the whole Synod, a member may claim to move “that the question be now put,” and, unless it shall appear to the President that such a motion is an abuse of Standing Orders, it shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate.

(b) At any time after a question has been proposed in the Synod a member who considers that a vote on the question is undesirable may claim to move “that the Synod do now pass from this question to its next business,” and, unless it shall appear to the President that such a motion is an abuse of Standing Orders, it shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate.

(c) The proposer of a closure motion under (a) or (b) above may not interrupt a speaker to do so, and the President, before putting such motion, shall read the original motion (or the motion as amended as the case may be) which was being debated.

(d) If a closure motion under (a) or (b) above is negatived this shall not of itself preclude the proposal of (i) further amendments and (ii), at the discretion of the President, further closure motions, upon the subject in debate.

**Motion for Adjournment of Debate or of the Synod**

42. No discussion shall be permitted on a motion for adjournment; but the question shall be put immediately from the Chair, and decided by a show of hands on such motion, or by a division, if called for.
43. No adjournment of a debate or of the Synod may be moved if a similar motion on the same subject has been made within the preceding hour.

**Voting Procedure**

44. (a) When any question is to be put to the Synod or to a Committee of the whole Synod, the President shall rise and announce that “The question is that ...”, thereupon reading or stating the question, and shall require that as many as are of that opinion shall say “Aye” and as many as are of the contrary opinion shall say “No”. The President shall judge from the answers to such requests and state the result, as an opinion, of putting the question.

(b) After the President shall have stated the result, as an opinion, of the putting of any question, any member may call for a vote upon that question. If a vote is not called for, the President shall forthwith declare the result to be that which had previously been expressed as an opinion.

(c) When a vote is called for, it shall be taken by show of hands unless 20 members request a division; and the President, before calling for a show of hands, shall afford sufficient opportunity for requests to be made for a division or for a vote by orders.

(d) A vote by orders shall be taken if ten members of either order or the provisions of Ch. 1 sec. 25 of the Constitution so require, and such vote shall be by show of hands unless a division is requested by the requisite number of members.

(e) When a division is to be taken, an interval of five minutes shall be allowed after which the doors shall be closed and the question put a second time. The President shall appoint two tellers for each side and order the House to divide; whereupon every member of the House of Representatives present, and wishing to vote, shall record an opinion by passing into the lobby with the “Ayes” or with the “Noes”. At the conclusion of the voting the tellers, having added their own votes, shall report the result to the President, who shall communicate it to the Synod.

(f) No question shall be deemed to be carried in the House of Representatives unless, in the case of both orders voting together, there is a majority in favour of the same of the representatives voting thereon, or in the case of the votes being taken by orders there is a majority in favour of the same of the representatives of each order voting thereon. (But see S.O. 29(c) in the case of Special Bills.)

45. When a division is called for, it shall be taken, notwithstanding that the time may have arrived at which, according to standing orders, the Synod ought to adjourn, or proceed to some other business.

(Note - Voting by bishops in Synod - see appendix)
Committees of the Synod

46. All committees of the Synod appointed at one session, and ordered to report at the following session of the Synod, shall lay their report upon the table within the first two days of the session, accompanied by such resolutions as may be necessary.

47. The Synod may order any resolutions, presented by committees upon the first day of the session, to be taken into consideration without further notice.

48. When a motion for the appointment of a committee is carried, the mover thereof shall then, or at the next meeting of the Synod, move the appointment of the members proposed to serve on the Committee, one of whom shall be named as convener. The name of the mover of the resolution for the Committee shall be included in the list of proposed members, provided that this shall not be obligatory when the resolution has been moved on behalf of the House of Bishops, the Standing Committee or the Representative Body.

49. No committee shall, without leave of the Synod, consist of more than fifteen members. Each Committee shall appoint its own chairperson.

50. Every report of a committee requiring action shall be accompanied by a resolution or resolutions for the consideration of the Synod, and the mere adoption by the Synod of a report of a committee shall not be an authority for the expenditure of money.

Request for Information

51. If any member ask for information with regard to the business of any committee, either of the Synod or of the Representative Body, it shall be the duty of the chairperson of such committee, or of some other member thereof or of the Chief Officer and Secretary of the Representative Body, if so requested, to reply: Provided that at least one clear day’s notice of such question shall have been given. The terms of all such requests received by the Honorary Secretaries not less than one week before the first day of a session of the Synod shall be printed on the agenda for the said first day. Any such requests shall be answered on each day of the session at 2 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be practicable.

Allocation of Money in the Hands of the R.C.B.

52. No resolution relating to the allocation of money in the hands of the Representative Body other than (a) money to the credit of the General Purposes Fund, or (b) for the payment of the expenses of the Synod and its committees shall be put to the Synod until a report from the Representative Body on the subject shall have been first obtained.

Separate Consideration by Bishops of Any Matter in Debate

53. When the bishops shall express their wish to consider separately any matter in debate, and upon such separate consideration shall think fit to communicate to the Synod their
opinion upon such matter, the communication so made shall be inserted in the printed orders of the day, and shall come before the Synod in due course for its consideration.

54. If the communication so made shall relate to a bill previously discussed in committee, and then awaiting its third reading, the publication as aforesaid of such communication shall of itself have the effect of re-committing the bill for further consideration upon the subject of such communication, but for no other purpose.

(Note - Voting by bishops in Synod - see appendix)

Orders of the Day

55. Prior to each session of the Synod the honorary secretaries shall prepare an agenda paper which shall include (a) all items required by the Constitution or Standing Orders to be discharged by the Synod, (b) all items which the Synod at a previous session has directed to be included, and (c) all bills, reports and notices of intention to propose motions or amendments which have been received by them by the appointed date. Motions relating to any committee, board or commission shall be placed on the agenda paper in conjunction with the report of the appropriate committee, board or commission.

56. On the first day at such time as the President shall deem appropriate and in any event not later than 12 noon, the Synod shall consider a motion or motions to be presented by the honorary secretaries with the approval of the President to allocate the time available under Standing Order 3 between the items listed on the agenda paper. In allocating the Synod’s time the Honorary Secretaries shall bear in mind that the first priority of the Church of Ireland is spiritual not material. On the adoption of such motion or motions (with or without amendments) business shall be conducted in accordance therewith. Such motion or motions shall include provision of not less than two hours each for consideration of the reports of the Standing Committee and the Representative Body and not less than one hour for the consideration of the report of the Role of the Church Committee.

57. The minutes of the proceedings of the session as certified by the honorary secretaries shall be presented to the next meeting of the Standing Committee and shall be confirmed by the signature of the Chairperson.

Consideration of the General State of the Church

58. On any day of meeting it shall be open to any member, at an hour when motions have precedence, to move that in priority to all other motions the Synod shall proceed to take into consideration the general state of the Church, its progress, prospects and needs. Such motion shall be put without discussion.

59. On such motion being passed, any subject then brought forward by any of the bishops shall have precedence of all others.
60. During such consideration neither strangers nor reporters shall be admitted to any part of the Synod hall or gallery.

61. Such consideration, if not sooner concluded, shall automatically cease at the expiration of one hour, unless prolonged by a special vote.

62. It shall not be necessary for a member bringing forward any subject to conclude with a resolution.

63. A separate record of the proceedings during such consideration shall be kept, and shall be authenticated by the signature of the President before the resumption of the business of the Synod.

64. During such consideration the discussion shall be regulated by the President, whose decision shall be final in all matters not provided for in the foregoing orders.

Petitions

65. A petition in writing may be made by any person or persons of the age of 18 years or upwards being a member or members of the Church of Ireland. Such petition shall be sent to the honorary secretaries of the Synod not later than one week before the day appointed for the meeting of the Synod. Any such petition shall be presented to the Synod by a member thereof and shall be referred to the Petitions Committee which shall be elected at the first session of each Synod.

APPENDIX

Voting by Bishops in Synod

Procedure relative to voting by the bishops at meetings of the General Synod is in accordance with the provisions contained in the following sections of Chapter I of the Constitution:

20. If at any time the bishops express their wish to consider separately any matter in debate, the further discussion of that matter shall be postponed until the bishops shall have had the opportunity of so doing.

21. The bishops shall vote separately from the representatives, and no question shall be deemed to have been carried unless there be in its favour a majority of the bishops present, if they desire to vote, and a majority of the clerical and lay representatives present voting conjointly or by orders: Provided always, that if a question affirmed by a majority of the clerical and lay representatives present and voting, conjointly or by orders, but in favour of which there shall not be a majority of the bishops, shall be reaffirmed at the next ordinary session of the General Synod, by not less than two-thirds of the clerical and lay representatives present and voting conjointly or by orders, it shall be deemed to be carried, unless it be negatived by not less than two-thirds of the then members of the House of Bishops, the said two-thirds being present and voting, and giving their reasons in writing.

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22. The bishops shall not vote until after the declaration of the votes of the clerical and lay representatives. If they desire to vote, the bishops may withdraw from the General Synod for that purpose, and may reserve the declaration of their vote until the following day.

Appointment to the Chair

Procedure relative to the appointment to the Chair at meetings of the General Synod is in accordance with the provisions contained in the following section of Chapter I of the Constitution:

18. The President may, at his discretion, invite any member of the House of Bishops to take the Chair for such period during a session as the President may determine; any person so taking the Chair shall have, and may exercise, all the powers and functions conferred by Standing Orders on the President.

Venue for the meeting of the General Synod

In the Standing Orders of the General Synod the expression ‘Synod Hall’, wherever it occurs, shall be deemed to include the room in any building in which, for the time being, the General Synod of the Church of Ireland is meeting in Ordinary or in Special Session.
This pamphlet contains those Bills which were lodged with the honorary secretaries at least six weeks before the first day of the session.

A Bill is a proposal for legislation which, if passed, will become a Statute, binding on all members of the Church of Ireland. The procedure is designed to ensure that the proposed legislation is considered carefully, both in principle and in detail, and that there is a day’s interval for reflection before final approval is given.

The Bills will be taken into consideration in the order in which they appear in this pamphlet, unless the Synod directs otherwise. On the first stage, the proposer moves “That leave be given to introduce Bill no. ___” unless leave has been given in the previous session. This is a formal motion which is normally put to the Synod without debate, but in certain circumstances one speech in support of the motion, and one in opposition to it, may be permitted.

If that motion is passed, the Synod proceeds to the Second Reading, when the principles of the Bill are open to debate. At the conclusion of the debate on this stage, the motion “That the Bill be approved in principle and given a second reading” is put to the Synod. If this motion is passed, indicating that the Synod approved the Bill in principle, the Committee stage follows.

In the case of Special Bills leave to introduce such a Bill may be given only at an ordinary session of the Synod; leave having been given, the Bill shall be deemed to have been read a first time, but it shall not be processed further until the next ordinary session when it will come before the Synod for second reading.

On the Committee stage, the Bill is considered in detail, the clauses being put to the Synod one by one for debate and decision. The clauses are taken first in their order; then, the schedules (if any); and, finally, the Preamble (the introductory matter). Amendments, notice of which was given to the honorary secretaries not later than the Friday before the session, will appear on the agenda paper for the first day; no other amendment may be moved on Committee stage except with the leave of the Synod. An amendment is taken on the clause to which it relates, and is disposed of before the clause itself is put to the Synod.
In the case of Special Bills, an amendment can be moved on Committee stage only if notice has been given in the previous session except for any dealing with omissions or grammatical errors.

When the Committee stage has been concluded, the Bill is reported to the Synod, and a day – usually the third day – is fixed for the remaining stages.

On the third day the Report stage is taken. Any amendments which have been lodged with the honorary secretaries before the close of business on the second day will appear on the supplemental agenda paper for the third day. After these amendments have been disposed of – or immediately if there are not any amendments – the Synod proceeds to the Third Reading. At this stage, debate is confined to the provisions of the Bill, and at its conclusion the motion “That the Bill be now read a third time and passed” is put to the Synod.

A simple majority of the House of Representatives is required to pass any and every motion during the passage of a Bill through the Synod, except when

(a) a vote by orders has been requisitioned by ten members of either order (which may be done on any motion), in which case a simple majority of each order, voting separately, is required.

(b) a two-thirds majority of each order, voting separately, is required to pass the Second Reading and the Third Reading of a Bill which proposes a modification or alteration in the articles, doctrines, rites, rubrics or formularies of the Church.

For fuller information on Bill procedure reference should be made to Part II of Chapter I of the Constitution and to the Standing Orders. A leaflet on Bill procedure is available on application to the Honorary Secretaries.
The following Bills were lodged with the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod before Thursday 31st March 2016:

**BILL NO. 1**

REV STEPHEN FARRELL  
MR ROY TOTTEN  
(at the request of the General Synod)

Explanatory Memorandum  
To amend, consolidate and replace Chapter VI of the Constitution and to make minor consequential amendment of Chapter IV of the Constitution

Schedule

**BILL NO. 2**

MRS ETHNE HARKNESS  
MR EDWARD HARDY  
(at the request of the General Synod)

Explanatory Memorandum  
To alter the existing territorial arrangements of the two provinces under the government of their respective archbishops and of the several dioceses under the government of their respective bishops and for associated matters

**BILL NO. 3**

MR SYDNEY GAMBLE  
VEN LESLIE STEVENSON  
(at the request of the Standing Committee)

Explanatory Memorandum  
To amend Chapter III of the Constitution

**BILL NO. 4**

MR ROBERT NEILL  
THE BISHOP OF CONNOR  
(at the request of the Representative Church Body)

Explanatory Memorandum  
To amend Chapter X of the Constitution

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BILL NO. 5

MR ROBERT NEILL
MR WILLIAM OLIVER
(at the request of the Representative Church Body)

Explanatory Memorandum
To amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution

BILL NO. 6

THE BISHOP OF CASHEL, FERNS AND OSSORY
VEN LESLIE STEVENSON
(at the request of the Commission on Ministry)

Explanatory Memorandum
To amend Chapter IX of the Constitution

BILL NO. 7

VEN RICHARD ROUNTREE
MR GEOFFREY PERRIN

Explanatory Memorandum
To amend Chapter I of 1902
In the report of the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures to the General Synod 2015, the Commission included as Appendix III a position paper on the election of bishops. A resolution was passed: “That General Synod welcomes the principles, analysis and approach to the election of bishops outlined in Appendix III to the report of the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures, acknowledges that there is a need for change and requests the Commission to bring a Bill to the next General Synod to reform the procedure for electing Bishops along the lines proposed.” Following further reflection and consultation with interested parties, including diocesan councils, the Commission presents this Bill, to give legislative effect to changes outlined in the position paper of 2015.

Arrangements for episcopal elections are contained in Part I of Chapter VI of the Constitution. The Bill substitutes a new Chapter VI, and, while some aspects of the process are unchanged, there is significant reform proposed. In summary, the main changes are:

- Either a member of the House of Bishops or a bishop of another Province of the Anglican Communion may be elected to the Archbishopric of Armagh and Primacy of All Ireland.
- Persons will be appointed as facilitators, to work with diocesan episcopal electors in preparing a diocesan profile and statement of needs for each diocese (including Armagh) as the election process begins.
- In addition to the President (normally the archbishop of the province where the see is vacant), Electoral Colleges shall have two members of the House of Bishops, one from each province, rather than three as at present.
- There will be two and potentially three meetings of the College; at the first meeting members will nominate persons for consideration and those names will be referred to a Shortlisting Committee; the College will give directions on how the Committee is to carry out its functions of considering the academic career, ministerial service, qualities of heart and mind and suitability for election as bishop and preparing a shortlist of 3-5 persons.
- At the second meeting of the College, members will consider the report of the Shortlisting Committee and may proceed to election.
- If the College does not elect at the second meeting, additional names may be nominated by members of the College at that meeting for reference to the Shortlisting Committee and a third meeting may be held, with a new shortlist for consideration.
- There is a change in the voting process in that if any person receives a simple majority of the votes of members of each order present and voting, that name is...
put to the College alone to determine whether it reaches the requisite two thirds majority in each order.

Amendment of Part I of Chapter VI means that renumbering of later sections of the Chapter is required. A cross-reference in Chapter IV of the Constitution has been amended to reflect this renumbering.
REV STEPHEN FARRELL
MR ROY TOTTEN

BILL

(At the Request of the General Synod)

To Amend, Consolidate and Replace Chapter VI of the Constitution and to Make Minor Consequential Amendment of Chapter IV of the Constitution

WHEREAS it is desirable to amend the provisions relating to episcopal elections in Part I of Chapter VI of the Constitution following the recommendations of the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures;
AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to replace Chapter VI of the Constitution with an amended and consolidated Chapter VI as set out in the Schedule to this Statute and to make minor consequential amendment of Chapter IV of the Constitution;
BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016 and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In this Statute “Chapter VI” means Chapter VI of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland.

2. For Chapter VI there shall be substituted a new Chapter VI as set out in the Schedule to this Statute.

3. This Statute shall come into effect upon enactment thereof and the provisions of Part I of Chapter VI as substituted under section 2 shall apply to episcopal elections in a see, including the See of Armagh, on or after that date: Provided that where an episcopal election process has begun but has not been concluded before that date, then that process shall continue as arranged, notwithstanding the enactment of this Statute and the substitution of a new Chapter VI.

4. In consequence of the amendments to and consolidation of Chapter VI, Chapter IV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland shall be amended as follows:

In section 13(2), for the words “and the liability under section 35 of Chapter VI of the Constitution in future” there shall be substituted the words “and the liability under section 38 of Chapter VI of the Constitution in future”.

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Election to a vacant See

1. Throughout Part I of this Chapter the word “diocese” shall signify a single diocese or united dioceses under the jurisdiction of one bishop and the word “synod” shall signify the synod of a single diocese or the joint synods of united dioceses.

2. (1) Whenever the See of Armagh shall become vacant or shall be about to become vacant under the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, the House of Bishops shall appoint a person to assist the diocesan episcopal electors elected under the provisions of section 5(1) below (including those filling vacancies therein under the provisions of section 7(3) below) in preparing a diocesan profile and statement of needs.

   (2) The diocesan profile and statement of needs so prepared shall be submitted to the House of Bishops as soon as practicable after the occurrence of the vacancy in the See of Armagh.

   (3) As soon as may be convenient thereafter, the House of Bishops shall meet and shall by a majority of the votes of those present and voting elect one of its members or a bishop of another Province of the Anglican Communion to the Archdiocese of Armagh and Primacy of All Ireland. The House of Bishops shall determine the date, within a period of three months from the date of the election, upon which such translation shall take effect.

3. Whenever any see, other than the See of Armagh, shall become vacant or shall be about to become vacant under the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, an Episcopal Electoral College shall be constituted for the purpose of the election of an Archbishop of Dublin or of a bishop, as the case may be.

4. An Episcopal Electoral College shall consist of:
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(a) the President of the College, who shall be the archbishop of the province which includes the diocese of which the see is vacant or, if the archiepiscopal see be vacant or the archbishop thereof be unable to act, the bishop next in order of precedence in the province who may be able to act: Provided that for the purpose of the election of an Archbishop of Dublin the President of the College shall be the Archbishop of Armagh or, if that Archbishop be unable to act, a bishop nominated by the House of Bishops;

(b) two members of the House of Bishops nominated by that House, being one bishop from each province;

(c) twelve diocesan clerical and twelve diocesan lay episcopal electors from the diocese of which the see is vacant;

(d) (i) when the diocese of which the see is vacant is situated in the Province of Armagh, and subject to paragraph (e) below, two diocesan clerical and two diocesan lay episcopal electors from each of the other dioceses in the Province;

(ii) when the diocese of which the see is vacant is situated in the Province of Dublin, three diocesan clerical and three diocesan lay episcopal electors from each of the other dioceses in the Province;

(e) in the case of an election in either province to fill a vacancy in a see due to the archbishop or bishop thereof having been elected to the Archbishopric of Armagh, six diocesan clerical and six diocesan lay episcopal electors from the Diocese of Armagh.

6.2

Diocesan Episcopal Electors

5. (1) The diocesan synod of Armagh shall, in the year 2017 and triennially thereafter at the first session of each successive synod, elect from among its members, in the manner hereinafter provided, six clerical and six lay episcopal electors and such number of supplemental clerical and lay episcopal electors as it may determine.

(2) The synod of every other diocese shall, in the year 2017 and triennially thereafter at the first session of each successive synod, elect from among its members, in the manner hereinafter provided, twelve clerical and twelve lay episcopal electors and such number of supplemental clerical and lay episcopal electors as it may determine.
(3) The episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors so elected by each synod shall be the episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors of the said dioceses until the first day of the first session of the succeeding synods as elected triennially for each such diocese respectively: Provided that the episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors in office at the time of a see becoming vacant, or one month prior to the see becoming vacant in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, whichever be the earlier, shall be the episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors respectively for the purpose of the election of a bishop to fill the vacant see.

6. (1) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (4) of this section, the election of episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors in each synod shall be by the members thereof by voting papers. The voting shall be by orders, the clerical members voting for clerical episcopal electors and the lay members voting for lay episcopal electors.

(2) Every case of equality of votes shall be determined by lot.

(3) Additional supplemental episcopal electors, if required, may be elected at any meeting of the synod of a diocese.

(4) In any united diocese in which there shall be no joint meeting of the diocesan synods the election of clerical and lay episcopal electors may be carried out (i) in such manner as may be determined by agreement between the diocesan councils, or (ii) by a joint committee appointed by the diocesan councils over which the bishop shall preside, and in which the bishop shall in the case of equality of votes have a casting vote.

7. (1) The names of the persons elected to be clerical episcopal electors, supplemental clerical episcopal electors, lay episcopal electors and supplemental lay episcopal electors respectively for each diocese shall be placed on separate lists in order of the number of votes received by them respectively. In the event of two or more persons receiving an equality of votes, the order in which they shall be placed on lists shall be determined by lot.

(2) The lists of episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors for each diocese shall be sent immediately after each election to the archbishop of each province by the secretary or secretaries of the synod, who shall also inform them from time to time of any amendments to the lists which may be necessary.

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(3) Whenever any episcopal elector shall die or resign or be, in the opinion of the archbishop of the province which includes the diocese for which such person is an episcopal elector, permanently unwilling or unable to act or shall cease to be a member of the synod by which such person was elected or shall permanently cease to be resident in Ireland or, being a clerical episcopal elector, shall cease to be one of the beneficed or licensed clergy of the diocese for which such person was elected, that person’s place on the list shall become vacant. A vacancy shall be filled by the clerical or lay episcopal elector, if any, whose name stands next highest in order on the relevant list of episcopal electors or, where the circumstances so require, the supplemental clerical or lay episcopal elector whose name stands highest on the relevant list of supplemental episcopal electors.

(4) For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of subsection (3) above apply should a person’s place on the list become vacant between the first meeting of the Electoral College and any subsequent meeting of the same College. Any clerical or lay episcopal elector filling a vacancy that occurs between the first meeting of the College and any subsequent meeting of the same College shall be summoned to attend the subsequent meeting or meetings of the same College.

Procedure for Convening and Holding an Episcopal Electoral College

8. (1) Whenever any see, other than the See of Armagh, shall become vacant, or shall be about to become vacant in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, the President of the Electoral College shall, as soon as may be convenient:

(a) appoint the Registrar of the Province in which the College is to meet, or other fit person, to act as secretary of the College;

(b) appoint a person to assist the diocesan episcopal electors elected under the provisions of section 5(2) above from the diocese of which the see is vacant or about to become vacant (including those filling vacancies therein under the provisions of section 7(3) above) to prepare a diocesan profile and statement of needs for submission to the first meeting of the College;

(c) notify the House of Bishops of the intention to convene and hold meetings of the College and request the House of Bishops to nominate one bishop from the same province as the President and one bishop from the other province to be episcopal electors of such College;

(d) appoint the place, date and time for the first meeting of the College to take place without undue delay and in any case within four months of the see becoming vacant;

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(e) appoint the place, date and time for the second meeting of the College to take place within three months of the first meeting of the College;

(f) appoint the place, date and time for a third meeting of the College to take place within one month of the second meeting of the College in the event that the College requests it under the provisions of section 15(1) below;

(g) summon to attend the meetings of the College as episcopal electors:

(i) the two bishops nominated by the House of Bishops;

(ii) twelve diocesan clerical and twelve diocesan lay episcopal electors from the diocese of which the see is vacant;

(iii) when the diocese of which the see is vacant is situated in the Province of Armagh, and subject to (iv) below, the first two diocesan clerical and the first two diocesan lay episcopal electors on the respective lists of each of the other dioceses of the Province; or

when the diocese of which the see is vacant is situated in the Province of Dublin, the first three diocesan clerical and the first three diocesan lay episcopal electors on the respective lists of each of the other dioceses of the Province;

(iv) in the case of an election in either province to fill a vacancy in a see due to the archbishop or bishop thereof having been elected to the Archdiocese of Armagh, six diocesan clerical and six diocesan lay episcopal electors from the Diocese of Armagh:

Provided however that if any such diocesan episcopal elector shall, in the opinion of the President of the College, be unable or unwilling to act, the clerical or lay episcopal elector, if any, whose name stands next highest in order on the relevant list of episcopal electors or, where the circumstances so require, the supplemental clerical or lay episcopal elector whose name stands highest in order on the relevant list of supplemental episcopal electors shall be summoned in place of the diocesan episcopal elector so unable or unwilling to act.

(2) When a see, other than the See of Armagh, is about to become vacant under the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, the President of the College for the see may fulfil the requirements of sub-section (1) of this section before the see becomes vacant in order that the College may meet as soon as may be convenient after the vacancy occurs.

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(3) The President of the College, together with the two nominees of the House of Bishops and the diocesan episcopal electors summoned as aforesaid, shall be the members and episcopal electors of the said College.
Episcopal Electoral College Meetings and Procedure

9. On each day appointed for the meetings of the Electoral College, members shall assemble in a cathedral or church, as determined by the President, for a celebration of the Holy Communion. On the first such occasion, at the place of the sermon the President, or a bishop or priest appointed by the President, shall give a charge to the College declaring the office and work of a bishop in the Church of God and the qualities of heart and mind required in those who are called to that sacred office.

10. (1) No person may be present at a meeting of the Electoral College except the members of the College, the secretary of the College, and a legal assessor nominated by the President.

(2) Before any member of a College shall do any act therein such member shall sign a declaration in the words following: I, A.B., bearing in mind how important it is that the sacred office of a bishop should not be conferred unworthily, do solemnly declare that I shall record my votes at this election for such person or persons only as I, in my conscience, believe to be of such learning and soundness in the faith, and of such virtuous and godly character, as to be fitted and qualified for the holy office of bishop. I solemnly declare that I shall not act herein through favour or affection, but in singleness of heart, for the glory of God, the good of his Church, and the welfare of his people; and I further solemnly declare that I shall not disclose to any person whatsoever any information regarding the election other than that which may be agreed upon by the Electoral College.

(3) No information regarding proceedings of the College (including any voting therein) shall be given to the press, radio, television or social media or disclosed to any person save to the House of Bishops, except such information as may be agreed upon by the College.

11. At the first meeting of the Electoral College, the College shall:

(a) consider the diocesan profile and statement of needs submitted by the episcopal electors from the vacant see;

(b) nominate bishops or priests of not less than thirty years of age to be considered by a Shortlisting Committee;

(c) elect from its members a Shortlisting Committee of eight members, consisting of equal numbers of clergy and laity and equal numbers from the vacant see and from outside the vacant see together with such reserve members as it may deem necessary. Provided however that no person nominated for consideration shall be a member of the Shortlisting Committee unless he or she rejects their own nomination.
(d) With the assent of the President, agree directions on the procedure to be followed by the Shortlisting Committee.

12. Between the first and second meetings of the Electoral College, the Shortlisting Committee shall consider the academic career, ministerial service, qualities of heart and mind and suitability for election as bishop by this College of persons nominated by the College and produce a shortlist of at least three and not more than five persons for the College to consider at its second meeting.

13. At the second meeting the Electoral College shall consider a written report of the Shortlisting Committee and vote on the names of those shortlisted: Provided that any member of the College who is shortlisted shall withdraw from the meeting.

14. (1) All voting at the Electoral College shall be by orders, the bishops if they wish to vote voting as members of the clerical order. The President shall be entitled to vote in the same way as other members of the College. The voting shall be conducted in such manner as the President may determine, and may be repeated once or more often. Informal discussion may likewise precede the taking of any repeated vote. The President’s decision regarding any dispute as to the voting shall be final. The President may adjourn the meeting from time to time.

(2) If, on the taking of any vote, any person shall receive two-thirds of the votes of the members of each order present and voting, that person shall thereupon be declared elected.

(3) If, on the taking of any vote, any person shall receive a simple majority of the votes of the members of each order present and voting, the name of that person shall be put to the College alone, to determine whether it reaches the requisite two thirds majority of each order present and voting and if it does so, that person shall thereupon be declared elected.

15. (1) If after the taking of several votes no person has received the requisite majority, the Electoral College may by a simple majority pass a resolution that a third meeting of the College should take place on the date appointed by the President.

(2) The President shall invite members of the College to nominate additional bishops or priests of not less than thirty years of age for the consideration of the Shortlisting Committee.

(3) Between the second and third meetings of the College the Shortlisting Committee shall produce a new shortlist of at least two and not more than five persons for consideration by the College at the third meeting along with the persons shortlisted for the second meeting.

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(4) Alternatively, the College may by a simple majority pass a resolution that no further vote be taken, and the appointment shall pass to the House of Bishops.

16. (1) On the date appointed for a third meeting of the Electoral College, the College shall consider the written report of the Shortlisting Committee and vote on the names of those shortlisted: Provided that any member of the College who is shortlisted shall withdraw from the meeting.

(2) If at a third meeting after several votes have been taken no person has received the requisite majority, the College may by a simple majority pass a resolution that no further vote be taken, and the appointment shall pass to the House of Bishops.

17. (1) The bishop or priest elected as aforesaid by the Electoral College shall immediately thereafter be notified of the fact by the President or secretary of the College, and upon such person’s acceptance that person’s name shall be transmitted to the House of Bishops which, if satisfied of that person’s fitness to be duly ordained and consecrated, shall confirm the election and shall take the necessary steps to give effect to such election, including in the case of a translation the determination of a date, within a period of three months from the date of election by the College, upon which such translation shall take effect.

(2) If the bishop or priest elected as aforesaid shall decline, the President shall again fulfil the requirements of the procedure for convening and holding an Episcopal Electoral College under section 8 of this Chapter: Provided that section 8(1)(b) (appointment of a person to assist and preparation of a diocesan profile and statement of needs) shall not apply and Provided also that the time limits specified in section 8(1)(d), (e) and (f) shall not apply and the President shall set dates for meetings to take place as soon as may be practicable.

(3) The first meeting of the College convened and held under subsection (2) of this section shall be considered the first meeting of the College for the purposes of this Chapter.
18. Failure to summon any episcopal elector to a meeting or the absence of any episcopal elector so summoned as aforesaid shall not preclude the Electoral College from proceeding to election, but, if more than one diocese in the province in which the see is vacant be entirely unrepresented at the meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned to such date and time as the President shall decide, of which written notice shall be sent to each episcopal elector, and such adjourned meeting shall proceed to an election.

19. A grant towards the expenses of each episcopal elector who shall have attended a meeting of the Electoral College shall be paid out of the General Purposes Fund of the General Synod in accordance with a scale to be fixed by the Standing Committee.

20. The Archbishops of Armagh and Dublin may jointly from time to time make, rescind and vary regulations for such matters relating to the convening, holding and procedure of Electoral Colleges as are not provided for herein.

Election by House of Bishops

21. Whenever the appointment of an Archbishop of Dublin or a bishop shall have passed to the House of Bishops under the foregoing provisions, the House of Bishops shall, as soon as conveniently may be, by a majority of the votes of the archbishops and bishops present and voting at a meeting duly convened for the purpose, elect such person, being a bishop or priest of not less than thirty years of age, as it may think fit, to the vacant see. In the case of a translation, the House of Bishops shall determine the date, within a period of three months from the date of the election, upon which such translation shall take effect. At such meeting there shall be laid before the House of Bishops a record of the proceedings of the Electoral College.

Part II

GUARDIANSHIP OF THE SPIRITUALITIES OF A SEE DURING A VACANCY

22. If and so often as a vacancy shall occur in the Archbishopsric of Armagh the guardianship of the spiritualities of the Diocese of Armagh shall, so far as no other provision has been made therefor by the Constitution, devolve upon the Dean and Chapter of the cathedral church of St Patrick, Armagh, who shall forthwith proceed to elect an official administrator to carry out and execute the duties of the office.

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23. If and so often as a vacancy shall occur in the Archbishopric of Dublin, the guardianship of the spiritualities of the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough shall, so far as no other provision has been made therefor by the Constitution, devolve upon the Dean and Chapter of the cathedral of the Holy Trinity (commonly called Christ Church), Dublin, who shall forthwith proceed to elect an official administrator to carry out and execute the duties of the office.

24. (1) The guardianship of the spiritualities of a vacant see shall devolve on the archbishop of the province in which the said see is situated.

(2) During a vacancy in the Archbishopric of a province, the guardianship of the spiritualities of a vacant diocese in the province shall devolve on the Chapter of such diocese or, in the case of a united diocese, on the Chapters of the several dioceses of which it is composed; and the Chapter or Chapters jointly shall elect an official administrator to carry out and execute the duties of the office.

25. Each of the said official administrators shall have power to direct the summoning of Boards of Nomination to fill any cures which may be or may become vacant, to accept returns from Boards of Nomination, to receive the nomination of a member of the clergy to any vacant cure, to institute or decline to institute any nominated member of the clergy, to appoint curates in charge for any vacant cures, to grant licences to curates assistant, and generally to exercise the powers of the bishop in regard to the provisions of Chapter IV, save and except that no such official administrator shall exercise any right of patronage or appointment to any dignity or office in any cathedral or to any cure of souls which may accrue to the see by lapse or otherwise. The official administrator shall have power to suspend any member of the clergy who may have been convicted of any criminal offence by any of the temporal courts of the state, and also such powers of granting dispensations, licences, certificates for superannuation, and similar matters as may lawfully be exercised by any person not in episcopal orders.

Part III

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TEMPORARY DISCHARGE BY ANOTHER BISHOP OF DUTIES OF A BISHOP OR ARCHBISHOP

26. It shall be lawful for an archbishop or bishop, with the consent, in the case of a bishop, of the archbishop of the province, to arrange with another bishop of the Church of Ireland to discharge the duties of the see for a period not exceeding twelve months, and such bishop shall, for that time, have the authority and jurisdiction of the bishop of the see.

Part IV

RESIGNATION OF ARCHBISHOP OR BISHOP

27. In this Part “normal retirement age” and “episcopal service” shall have the meanings given to them by section 1 of Chapter XIV.

28. (1) An archbishop or bishop who has reached the age of 65 years may resign.

(2) Notice of resignation shall be given in the case of an archbishop to the House of Bishops or in the case of a bishop to the archbishop of the Province, and such notice shall specify the date on which it is to take effect which date shall not be less than two, nor more than four, months after the date of such notice.

(3) Notice of resignation may be given before reaching the age of 65 years, to take effect upon reaching it.

29. (1) An archbishop or bishop who has not reached the normal retirement age, but who desires to resign by reason of ill health and to receive an ill health early retirement pension, shall send a letter of request in the case of an archbishop to the House of Bishops or in the case of a bishop to the archbishop of the province, who shall communicate it to the House of Bishops.

(2) Every such letter of request shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Medical Panel, appointed in accordance with section 32 of Chapter XIV, that the applicant is permanently disabled by infirmity from the efficient discharge of episcopal duties.

(3) The House of Bishops, having considered the letter of request and the certificate from the Medical Panel, shall determine whether the resignation should be accepted and, if so, shall appoint a date on which it shall take effect.

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30. (1) An archbishop or bishop who has reached the age of 60 years but has not reached the normal retirement age, and who desires to resign for reasons other than ill health and to receive a pension, shall send a letter of request in the case of an archbishop to the House of Bishops or in the case of a bishop to the archbishop of the province.

(2) The House of Bishops or the archbishop (as the case may be) shall determine whether the resignation should be accepted and, if so, shall appoint a date on which it shall take effect.

31. (1) An archbishop or bishop who has not reached the normal retirement age, but who desires to resign without receiving a pension, shall send a letter of request in the case of an archbishop to the House of Bishops or in the case of a bishop to the archbishop of the province.

(2) The House of Bishops or the archbishop (as the case may be) shall determine whether the resignation should be accepted and, if so, shall appoint a date on which it shall take effect.

32. The House of Bishops or the archbishop (as the case may be) shall

   (a) notify the applicant of the determination reached under section 29(3), section 30(2) or section 31(2);

   (b) notify the Representative Body and the Church of Ireland Pensions Board of the receipt of a notice of resignation under section 28(2) and of a determination to accept a resignation under section 29(3), section 30(2) or section 31(2).

33. Each archbishop and bishop shall be deemed to have resigned on the day on which such archbishop or bishop would have been deemed to have resigned if the provisions of section 36 of Chapter IV had applied, and such resignation shall be deemed to have been accepted forthwith: Provided always that section 36(3) of Chapter IV shall apply mutatis mutandis in the case of any such archbishop or bishop.
34. If at any time it appears to the House of Bishops, upon such evidence as it may deem sufficient, that any archbishop or bishop is incapacitated by permanent mental infirmity from the due performance of archiepiscopal or episcopal duties, and also from tendering a valid resignation, the House of Bishops may certify the same to the authority empowered to convene the Court of the General Synod, and the said Court shall thereupon be convened in manner prescribed by the Constitution; and if upon due enquiry and such evidence as the Court may deem sufficient and upon such notice to the archbishop or bishop aforesaid as the Court may deem just the Court shall by judgment pronounce such archbishop or bishop to be incapacitated as aforesaid, the judgment of the Court so pronounced shall have the same effect, and the same proceedings may be taken thereon, for the purpose of vacating the see and for the purpose of providing a pension for such archbishop or bishop as if such archbishop or bishop had given notice of resignation under section 28(2) or sent a letter of request under section 29(1).

Part V

FINANCING OF THE EPISCOPACY

35. From 1st January 1984 each diocese shall contribute towards the cost of the episcopacy of the Church of Ireland at a rate to be determined by the Representative Body not later than 30th November in 1983 and each year thereafter: Provided that a rate determined for any one year being more than twenty five per centum in excess of the rate for the year immediately preceding shall become operative only on the passing of an affirmative resolution of the General Synod.

36. (1) The contributions from each diocese shall be the sum of the number of cures, including vacant cures, in such diocese at the preceding 30th June (as agreed between the Representative Body and the diocesan council) multiplied by the minimum approved stipend of an incumbent as fixed from time to time by the General Synod in accordance with section 51(1) of Chapter IV and operative on 1st January of the year to which the contribution relates multiplied by a rate per centum determined by the Representative Body in accordance with section 35 of this Chapter.

(2) In the case of a diocese, part of which is situated in the Republic of Ireland and part of which is situated in Northern Ireland, account shall be taken of the differing figures for minimum approved stipend fixed in respect of incumbents resident in each jurisdiction, and the contributions shall be sub-divided accordingly.
(3) In the event of disagreement between the Representative Body and the diocesan council as to the number of cures in any diocese, such shall be determined by the decision of the archbishop of the province in which such diocese is situated.

37. Contributions shall be payable quarterly in arrears by each diocesan council on 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December each year or in such other manner as the Representative Body may approve.

38. Each diocesan council shall be at liberty to recover in whole or in part the contribution so charged by direct assessment on the individual parishes, unions or groups of parishes, or churches, within its jurisdiction in whatever manner it deems appropriate.

39. For the purposes of this Part the term “cure” shall have the same general meaning as contained in Chapter IV, and shall include:

(a) A parish, union or group of parishes under the care of an incumbent appointed under Part III of Chapter IV;

(b) A parish, union or group of parishes under the care of a bishop’s curate appointed under section 42 of Chapter IV;

(c) A parish, union or group of parishes assigned to the immediate care of a vicar appointed under Part X of Chapter IV;

(d) A parish, union or group of parishes in respect of which a certificate has been issued by the Representative Body under section 52 of Chapter IV;

(e) A “light-duty parish” as defined by section 62 of Chapter IV;

(f) A cathedral which is non-parochial.

40. The Representative Body shall at the ordinary session of the General Synod in 2003 and quinquennially thereafter, and may at any other session, present a report on the implementation of this Part, specifying any amendment which may appear to be necessary or expedient.

Part VI

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

41. During a vacancy in any see the expenses properly incurred in carrying out any duties normally performed by the bishop of the diocese may be paid by the Representative Body out of the income of the Episcopal Endowment Fund accruing during the vacancy.

42. Rules for carrying the provisions of this Chapter into effect may be framed from time to time in manner provided by Chapter VIII, section 11.
EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

By Statute Chapter II of 2012, the General Synod established the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures to prepare proposals for the provision of episcopal ministry and structures adequate for the needs, and compatible with the resources, of the Church of Ireland. The Statute Chapter II of 2014 extended the time available for the Commission to do its work until the termination of the ordinary meeting of the General Synod in 2016.

Section 5 of the 2012 Statute stated that, “For the purposes of the final scheme presented to the General Synod, as provided by this Statute, there shall be vested in the General Synod as regards all dioceses affected by the scheme, all the powers and functions of the respective diocesan synods concerned under section 31 of Chapter I of the Constitution.”

Having consulted widely and considered all aspects of its remit carefully and prayerfully, the Commission now proposes this Bill providing for alterations in the territorial arrangements of provinces and dioceses and for the establishment of an Implementation Committee to assist in bringing the new arrangements into operation. This is the final scheme presented to the General Synod by the Commission.

The Bill proposes changes in provincial and diocesan boundaries, summarised as follows:

- There will be eleven dioceses rather than twelve, six in the Province of Armagh and five in the Province of Dublin.
- In accordance with section 31 of Chapter I of the Constitution, the Archbishops of Armagh and Dublin have given their consent to the alterations in provinces: the transfer of the Dioceses of Tuam and Killala from the Province of Armagh to the Province of Dublin.
- The Dioceses of Tuam and Killala (without Achonry) will be united with the Diocese of Limerick and Killaloe to form a new diocese in the West, under one bishop. This union will come into effect when either the See of Tuam, Killala and Achonry or the See of Limerick and Killaloe is or becomes vacant after the end of the meeting of the General Synod in 2017, with the remaining Bishop assuming episcopal duties for the newly united dioceses at that date. This diocese will be in the Province of Dublin.
- At the same date, the Diocese of Achonry will be separated from the United Dioceses of Tuam, Killala and Achonry (as it now is) and will be joined with the United Dioceses of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh. This diocese will be in the Province of Armagh (as are its constituent parts at present).
- Six cures – Leixlip and Lucan; Celbridge and Straffan with Newcastle-Lyons; Blessington and Manor Kilbride with Ballymore-Eustace and Hollywood; Donoughmore and Donard with Dunlavin; Narraghmore and Timolin with Castledermot and Kinnegh; and Athy, Kilberry and Fontstown with Kilkea) – will be separated from the Diocese of Glendalough (Dublin and Glendalough) and join the Diocese of Kildare (Meath and Kildare). This will come into effect
on or after the end of the meeting of the General Synod in 2017, on a date to be determined.
Journal 2016 – Bills and Explanatory Memoranda

MRS ETHNE HARKNESS
MR EDWARD HARDY

BILL

(At the request of the General Synod)

To Alter the Existing Territorial Arrangements of the Two Provinces Under the Government of their Respective Archbishops and of the Several Dioceses Under the Government of their Respective Bishops and for Associated Matters

WHEREAS by Statute of the General Synod, Chapter II of 2012, the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures was appointed to prepare proposals on episcopal ministry and structures for submission to the General Synod;

AND WHEREAS for the purposes of the final scheme presented to the General Synod, as provided by section 5 of that Statute, there are vested in the General Synod as regards all dioceses affected by the scheme, all the powers and functions of the respective diocesan synods concerned under section 31 of Chapter I of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland;

AND WHEREAS the said final scheme comprises the arrangements and associated matters contained herein;

AND WHEREAS the Archbishop of Armagh and the Archbishop of Dublin have consented to the transfer of the dioceses of Tuam and Killala from the Province of Armagh to the Province of Dublin;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland, in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

PART 1

1. In this Statute, “the effective date” shall mean such date after the termination of the ordinary meeting of the General Synod held in the year 2017 upon which a vacancy shall exist in either the See of Tuam, Killala and Achnor or the See of Limerick and Killaloe.

2. On the effective date, the Diocese of Achnor shall be separated from the United Dioceses of Tuam, Killala and Achnor and joined with the United Dioceses of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh, under one Bishop.
3. On the effective date, the Dioceses of Tuam and Killala shall be transferred from the Province of Armagh to the Province of Dublin.

4. (1) On the effective date, the Dioceses of Tuam and Killala shall be united with the United Dioceses of Limerick, Ardfert, Aghadoe, Killaloe, Kilfenora, Clonfert, Kilmacduagh and Emly under one Bishop who shall be the remaining Bishop of the two former united dioceses, that is to say, the Diocese of Limerick and Killaloe and the Diocese of Tuam, Killala and Achonry.

   (2) Subject to any agreement to the contrary by the diocesan synod or synods concerned, the See constituted under subsection (1) of this section shall be generally known as “Tuam, Limerick and Killaloe”.

5. (1) If the See of Limerick and Killaloe shall become vacant before the termination of the ordinary meeting of the General Synod held in 2017, the Archbishop of Dublin shall make such arrangements as he may deem necessary for the supervision and pastoral care of the vacant dioceses until the succession of the Bishop of Tuam, Killala and Achonry on the effective date in accordance with section 4 of this Statute, and no episcopal election for the See of Limerick and Killaloe shall be held pending that succession.

   (2) If the See of Tuam, Killala and Achonry shall become vacant before the termination of the ordinary meeting of the General Synod held in 2017, the Archbishop of Armagh shall make such arrangements as he may deem necessary for the supervision and pastoral care of the vacant dioceses until the succession of the Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe on the effective date in accordance with section 4 of this Statute, and no episcopal election for the See of Tuam, Killala and Achonry shall be held pending that succession.

6. (1) On a date to be determined in accordance with subsection (2) of this section, the following parishes and cures in the Diocese of Glendalough shall be transferred from that Diocese to the Diocese of Kildare: Leixlip and Lucan; Celbridge and Straffan with Newcastle-Lyons; Blessington and Manor Kilbride with Ballymore-Eustace and Hollywood; Donoughmore and Donard with Dunlavin; Narraghmore and Timolin with Castledermot and Kinneigh; and Athy, Kilberry and Fontstown with Kilkea.

   (2) The date of transfer for the parishes and cures named in subsection (1) of this section shall be such date after the termination of the ordinary meeting of the General Synod held in 2017 as may be determined by the Standing Committee, having consulted with the Archbishop of Dublin and Glendalough and the Bishop of Meath and Kildare.
7. (1) An Implementation Committee (“the Committee”) shall be established to provide assistance and advice to the Standing Committee and to Bishops, diocesan synods and diocesan councils affected by the provisions of this Statute.

(2) The Standing Committee shall draw up terms of reference and appoint the members of the Committee and the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod shall convene the first meeting of the Committee as soon as may be practicable.

(3) Casual vacancies on the Committee shall be filled by the Standing Committee.

(4) The Committee shall report to the ordinary meeting of the General Synod held in 2017 and at such meeting the General Synod may reappoint, reconstitute or dissolve the Committee.

PART 2

8. From the effective date, each Province of the Church shall contain the following dioceses or groups of dioceses and each such diocese or group of dioceses shall be united under the jurisdiction of a single bishop:

Province of Armagh
Armagh
Clogher
Derry and Raphoe
Down and Dromore
Connor
Kilmore, Elphin, Ardagh and Achonry.

Province of Dublin

Dublin and Glendalough
Meath and Kildare
Cashel, Waterford, Lismore, Ossory, Ferns and Leighlin
Cork, Cloyne and Ross
Tuam, Killala, Limerick, Ardfert, Aghadoe, Killaloe, Kilfenora, Clonfert, Kilmacduagh, and Emly.
EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The role of Select Vestries is outlined in Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland and, on the basis of the responsibilities identified there, the charities regulators in both jurisdictions concluded that where a parish is registered as a charity, the members of the select vestry of a parish are the charitable trustees for the purposes of charities legislation. The role of the Select Vestry at the parish level is a key component of the governance of the Church of Ireland, bringing together clergy and laity in a shared decision-making body. The Select Vestry performs a range of governance functions including: providing support for Christian ministry and mission; acting as stewards of financial activity; acting as employer; and maintaining parish buildings and infrastructure.

The joint Representative Body/Standing Committee Working Group dealing with issues arising as a result of the new Charities legislation received several queries on the subject of trustee responsibilities of Select Vestry members. The Working Group believes it is desirable that the legal obligations of members of Select Vestries to comply with charities legislation should be made clear by means of decision of General Synod. To this end, the Working Group has prepared a bill for the consideration of the General Synod in 2016.
Bill No. 3

MR SYDNEY GAMBLE
MR KENNETH GIBSON

BILL

(At the request of the Standing Committee)

To amend Chapter III of the Constitution

WHEREAS for the purposes of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, or as the case may be, the Charities Act 2009, the members of a Select Vestry are to be regarded as the charity trustees of the parish;
AND WHEREAS it is desirable that neither parishioners, nor incumbents nor other members of the clergy officiating in a parish should be entitled to act as members of a Select Vestry if they are unwilling or unprepared to comply with their obligations under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 or the Charities Act 2009, as the case may be;
BE IT ENACTED BY the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-
1. In this Statute “Chapter III” means Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland.

2. In Chapter III, after Section 18, the following sections shall be inserted:

18A. If, within twenty-one days of being duly called upon to do so, a lay member of the Select Vestry, shall fail, refuse or neglect to execute any documentation that may be required of him or her, as a charity trustee, under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 or the Charities Act 2009 (as applicable), that person shall automatically vacate office as a member of the Select Vestry and the casual vacancy thereby arising shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of Section 22 or 23, as applicable, of this Chapter.

18B. If, within twenty-one days of being duly called upon to do so, a member of the clergy who is a member of the Select Vestry, shall fail, refuse or neglect to execute any documentation that may be required of him or her, as a charity trustee, under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 or the Charities Act 2009 (as applicable) that person shall be liable to disciplinary action pursuant to Part IV of Chapter VIII and shall not be entitled to receive notice of, or to attend or vote at meetings of the Select Vestry for so long as he or she shall fail, refuse or neglect to execute the said documentation.
In 1930, the General Synod passed a statute (Chapter I of 1930) which established the Church Fabric Fund. The terms of the Fund are set out in Part IV of Chapter X of the Constitution. The Representative Body is trustee of the Fund. The capital of the Fund comprises (i) monies received from the sale or compulsory alienation of certain pre-1869 church property theretofore vested in the Representative Body, (ii) statutory or other insurance compensation monies relating to churches or chapels and (iii) donations, subscriptions and bequests to the Fund. Since its formation, the Fund has been held for the repair of certain church buildings on terms specified in Part IV of Chapter X.

The proposed Bill seeks to rename the fund as the Church Fabric and Development Fund and to widen the terms on which the capital and income under the provisions of Part IV of Chapter X of the Constitution may be applied.
MR ROBERT NEILL  
THE BISHOP OF CONNOR  

(At the Request of the Representative Church Body)  

BILL  

To Amend Chapter X of the Constitution  

WHEREAS in 1930 the General Synod established the Church Fabric Fund, whose terms are contained in Part IV of Chapter X of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland;  

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to widen the terms of the Fund to enable the Fund’s assets to be applied for purposes in addition to those heretofore permitted by Part IV of Chapter X;  

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to rename the Fund to encourage and develop the use of the Fund;  

AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to amend Chapter X of the Constitution; 

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the clergy and laity of the Church of Ireland, in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:  

1. The Church Fabric Fund established by the Statute, Chapter I of 1930 is hereby renamed “The Church Fabric and Development Fund”.  

2. In Chapter X of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, for section 20 there shall be substituted:  

“20. The Church Fabric and Development Fund (‘the Fund’), established by the Statute, Chapter I of 1930, shall be held in trust for (i) the restoration or repair of the fabric of any church or chapel, whether cathedral, collegiate or parochial, used for public worship and vested in the Representative Body and (ii) for the development of initiatives supporting the long term mission of the Church.”  

3. In Chapter X, for section 24 there shall be substituted:  

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‘24. Subject to the provisions of sections 25, 26 and 27, the income of the Fund may be applied at the discretion of the Representative Body for the following purposes:

(a) The income of the Fund which has accrued up to 30th June 2016 may be applied for the restoration or repair of the fabric of any church or chapel, whether cathedral, collegiate or parochial, used for public worship and vested in the Representative Body;

(b) The income of the Fund accruing from 1st July 2016 may be applied for (i) the restoration or repair of the fabric of any church or chapel, whether cathedral, collegiate or parochial, used for public worship and vested in the Representative Body and/or (ii) the development of initiatives supporting the long term mission of the Church.

The Representative Body shall formulate rules and regulations for the administration and application of the Fund and shall present all rules and regulations to the Standing Committee of the General Synod for approval.’

4. In Chapter X, for section 27 there shall be substituted:

‘27. In any case where sections 25 or 26 do not apply, not more than 80% of the sale proceeds or compensation shall be held in trust by the Representative Body as an endowment for the Parish and (i) the income applied for such purposes in connection with the Parish as the select vestry with responsibility for the Parish, with the consent of the Diocesan Council and the Representative Body, shall decide and/or (ii) the capital made available for the development of such initiatives supporting the long term mission of the Church as the select vestry with responsibility for the Parish, with the consent of the Diocesan Council and the Representative Body, may propose. The Representative Body shall formulate rules and regulations for the administration and application of the capital of all endowments held under this section and shall present all rules and regulations to the Standing Committee of the General Synod for approval.’
New defined contribution (DC) clergy pension schemes for Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland were established in 2013 to provide for clergy pensions into the future, as the Clergy Pensions Fund (CPF) closed to new members and to future accruals. The DC schemes were established with the same objective as the CPF, to create a fund for the retiring member of the clergy that is accessible at the earliest normal retirement age, currently 66 years and increasing to 68 years. As with the CPF, standard pension contributions by the ‘employer’ – in the Church context, the parish – currently cease at that age for all scheme members.

As DC schemes by their nature cannot be guaranteed to provide a certain outcome at a set future date, the Representative Church Body (RCB), as sponsor of the DC schemes, considers that both ‘employer’ and member contributions should continue until actual retirement, whether that occurs at the earliest normal retirement age or at a later date up to the compulsory retirement age of 75, unless the individual member elects to cease contributions. The proposed Bill seeks to amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland to this effect.
MR ROBERT NEILL
MR WILLIAM OLIVER

(At the request of the Representative Church Body)

BILL

To amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution

WHEREAS it is desirable that, with effect from 1 January 2017, contributions required to be paid to a member's pension fund should continue to be paid until the member retires, unless the member upon or after attaining his or her Normal Retirement Age requests the cessation of pension contributions;

AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016 and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In this Statute "Chapter XIV" means Chapter XIV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland.

2. With effect from 1 January 2017 for Section 8 of Chapter XIV there shall be substituted:

   '8. (a) Member’s pension fund

   Unless a member, upon or after attaining his or her Normal Retirement Age, requests the cessation of pension contributions, contributions required to be paid to the member's pension fund until the member retires shall be as follows:

   (i) a member contribution of 9% per annum of the relevant Minimum Approved Stipend or Episcopal Stipend by a monthly deduction from the stipend of each member concerned; and

   (ii) a Parish / Diocesan Council / Other contribution of 8% per annum of the relevant Minimum Approved Stipend or Episcopal Stipend by assessment on that Parish / Diocesan Council / Other concerned for paying that member’s stipend.
(b) Death in Service insured benefit

Until a member attains his or her Normal Retirement Age contributions to Death in Service insured benefit is payable by a Parish / Diocesan Council / Other contribution at a contribution rate determined by the Representative Body to meet the cost of the benefit by way of assessment on that Parish / Diocesan Council / Other concerned for paying that member's stipend.'
Bill No. 6

Explanatory Memorandum

In 1999, the General Synod by statute made it possible, in certain circumstances, for members of the clergy to serve in part-time stipendiary deployment. However, they were required to have already served for at least three years in full-time ministry. The effect of this provision was that persons could not be ordained in the context of nomination to a part-time post.

The present Bill seeks, in the light of experience, to delete the three-year restriction. A number of persons have trained for ordination, often on a part-time basis, and have obtained the MTh degree. They aspire to continue to serve, at least initially, in a part-time situation as priests but are precluded from doing so under the present arrangements. They must make a choice either to serve full-time or in a completely non-stipendiary capacity.

The present Bill aspires to remove this anomaly and is consonant with the spirit of flexibility and innovation that has surrounded training for ordained ministry in more recent years.
BILL

(at the request of the Commission on Ministry)

To amend Chapter IX of the Constitution

WHEREAS it is desirable, in certain circumstances, to make provision for the admission into holy orders of persons who have been nominated to a post certified as suited to part-time deployment;

AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to amend Chapter IX of the Constitution;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops, and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland, in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire, in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. In this Statute “Chapter IX” means Chapter IX of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, and “Canon 34” means Canon 34 of the Canons of the Church of Ireland as contained in Chapter IX.

2. In Paragraph 4 of Canon 34 (The occupations of clergy) the following words shall be deleted:

“who, for a period of not less than three years, has held ecclesiastical office or served as a curate assistant, and”.

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Following the introduction of new charities legislation in the Republic of Ireland, a review of the Constitution of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, commonly called Christ Church, Dublin, brought to light an anomaly requiring amendment to ensure that the Cathedral Board should be identified as the trustee body for the Cathedral.

The requisite decisions to effect this clarification have been approved by the Dean and Chapter and by the Cathedral Board. A bill has been prepared to seek the approval of the General Synod to amend Chapter I of 1902 (as amended) to bring the regulation of the Cathedral into line with other Cathedrals of the Church of Ireland and with requirements necessary to register the Board as the trustee body for the purposes of the Charities Act 2009 (Republic of Ireland).
BILL

To amend Chapter I of 1902 as amended

WHEREAS it is expedient to make better provision for the regulation and management of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, commonly called Christ Church, Dublin; AND WHEREAS for this purpose it is necessary to amend Chapter I of 1902 as amended; BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. In this Statute “Chapter I of 1902” means the Statute of the General Synod, Chapter I of 1902.

2. For section 4 of Chapter I of 1902 there shall be substituted the following:

   The Chapter shall consist, with the Dean, of the Precentor, Chancellor, Treasurer, Archdeacon of Dublin, Archdeacon of Glendalough, and twelve Canons, eight of whom shall be appointed from the beneficed or licensed Clergy of the Diocese of Dublin, and four of whom shall be appointed from the beneficed or licensed Clergy of the Diocese of Glendalough. Of such twelve Canons the first three in seniority of appointment shall bear respectively the name and style of Prebendary of St. Michael, Prebendary of St. Michan, and Prebendary of St. John.

3. Chapter I of 1902 is hereby amended by the insertion after section 4 of the following section:

   4A Save to the extent otherwise provided for herein, the Dean and Chapter, with the consent of the Ordinary, shall be responsible for and may make regulations for the conduct of Divine Service in the Cathedral.

4. For Section 15 of Chapter I of 1902 there shall be substituted the following:

   The Cathedral Board shall have power to make rules and regulations for the times and conduct of its meetings; it shall be presided over by the Dean, or, in his absence, by the member of the Chapter next in rank, who shall be present, and the President shall have both an ordinary and a casting vote. A meeting of the Board may be summoned at any time by
the Dean or, in his absence, by his Deputy, and shall be summoned at any
time on the written requisition of four members of the Board, addressed to
the Dean, or to his Deputy, as the case may be. The elected members of
the Board shall retire from office at the Easter Vestry in every third year,
but shall severally be capable of re-election.

5. For section 19 of Chapter I of 1902 there shall be substituted the following:-

19(A) Save where otherwise provided for herein, the registration of
vestry persons, the election of synods persons, the filling of
vacancies and the business of the Cathedral Board, shall be
conducted in the same manner as for parishes under the
provisions of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, or as
near thereto as circumstances will permit.

(B) The Dean, or his Deputy, shall have the powers and duties of an
Incumbent.

(C) The Cathedral Board shall have the powers, functions and duties
of a Select Vestry and of Churchwardens and, without prejudice
to the generality of the foregoing, shall have the control, charge
and management of the following:-

(i) The preservation, restoration, and repair of the fabric
of the Cathedral and all permanent structures therein.

(ii) The lighting, heating and cleaning of the Cathedral.

(iii) The ornaments of the Cathedral, the monuments, the
tablets, windows and brasses to be placed in the
Cathedral: provided that none shall be erected or placed
in the Cathedral or removed therefrom without the
consent or approval of the Dean and Chapter and of the
Ordinary.

(iv) The collections and all financial matters relating to the
Cathedral, including the regulation of all salaries and
pensions payable by the Board.

(v) The appointment and removal of all lay officials of the
Cathedral and all officers of the Cathedral whose
appointment is not vested in the Archbishop, or in the
Dean and Chapter, excepting the Verger (who shall be
appointed and may be removed by the Dean).
On this day, according to the summons of His Grace the Lord Primate, the Synod assembled in the Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire.

The Bible and the Book of Common Prayer were laid on the table.

**Chair**

At 12 noon the Primate assumed the Chair and announced that the General Synod was in session.

**Holy Scripture and Prayer**

A hymn was sung and a portion of Holy Scripture and Prayers were read by the Right Rev Kenneth Kearon, Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe.

**Members of General Synod**

A list of members of the General Synod was laid on the Table.

**Nomination of an Assessor**

The President nominated Mr Lyndon MacCann, S.C., to act as his Assessor.

**President’s Address**

His Grace the Lord Primate delivered the following address.

In welcoming you all to this General Synod, may I begin by giving a particular welcome to those who are our visitors from other Christian traditions. We are delighted to have you with us. I believe that in the world in which we live it is more than ever essential that, as different Christian traditions, we seek to know each other better, to learn more and more from one another, to set ourselves common tasks in the furtherance of the work of Kingdom of God on earth, to pray together, and to grow in mutual affection and love in the service of Jesus Christ. As we embark on our work as a General Synod, we who are members of synod need to remember that this synod is not all about us.
On this island, we are at present in the midst of what has become widely known as a ‘decade of centenaries’, running from the Ulster Covenant of 1912 through to the civil war in the then Irish Free State which reached its conclusion in May 1923. This year, 2016, is central to these commemorations as the centenaries of both the Easter Rising and the Battle of the Somme fall within weeks of one another. They have both moved into history and historical interpretation as crucially symbolic events in the modern history of our island. I would want to suggest, as someone who has rather more than a dilettante interest in the history of this period, that neither event should be commemorated or interpreted through the lens of a single narrative. They were both highly complex affairs, both in the history of the events themselves, and also in subsequent interpretations of those events – but also deeply symbolic and emblematic and we have all been shaped in different ways and to differing degrees by them.

In just over a month from now, I will have the privilege, along with Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh, of leading a group of young people from Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic backgrounds, from both jurisdictions, on a three day journey which will take us from these shores to the battlefields of the Somme. That journey will start in Glasnevin cemetery at the new memorial wall that remembers by name all those who died at the Easter Rising in Dublin 1916 – Irish, British, military and civilian. We will then take a flight to Belgium and travel down to the battlefields of the Somme, where men from both traditions and both parts of this island fought and died together, side by side. Before we return home we will pause for a time of reflection at the Irish Peace Park in Messines. A shared journey on so many different levels, reflecting on our past but also looking to how we can shape our future.

George Bernard Shaw once said, ‘We are made wise not by the recollection of our past but by the responsibility for our future.’ But the reality is that we are all shaped in some way or another by our history. I think it is a post-modernist nonsense to suggest that we can somehow begin ‘reality’ with ourselves. The real gift is surely to recognise the shaping that we have received by our past (for better or worse), to interrogate it, and to decide upon how this may and should influence our future, so that we in our generation may contribute to the shaping of a wider future. This is as true in the life of the Church as in the life of a nation. We as the Church of Ireland have been shaped by previous generations, by events both inside and outside the life of the Church, and by the influence of others upon us.

As many of you know, a project which I am particularly enthusiastic about concerns the Church of Ireland undergoing a comprehensive, objective and external review of itself as a Church community. This should take place before our own commemorations in 2019 – not a centenary in this case, but a sesquicentenary – marking 150 years since the disestablishment of the Church of Ireland. It would mean inviting others from outside the Church of Ireland to look at us, lovingly but also critically, to tell us where we as a Christian tradition on this island need to strike out in new directions, while also valuing what we have received through succeeding generations of men and women who sought God’s glory in faithful service of Christ and his Church.

The past year has seen the countries of Europe face new and serious challenges. There is of course the possibility that the European Union will fracture further, and this is particularly to the forefront of peoples’ minds in the light of the forthcoming referendum on British withdrawal. Regardless of one’s views on the matter, there can be no doubt that life on this island, and hence in our Church, may be rendered very different if the referendum in June results in the United Kingdom moving outside the European Union. As in every election and referendum, all citizens have a duty to consider carefully the consequences of their decision-making for the whole community, while also ensuring that they do not neglect the privilege they have been given as voters in a democratic system of government.

[1xiii]
Apart from this particular political issue, we must all face up to the responsibilities we have been given for those who have come to western Europe, in the hope of finding safety and security, as they flee from violence and destruction in their own countries. It can never be permissible for Christians to imagine that refugees should not be ‘our problem’. In the first place, it is the countries of the west that have, over decades, exacerbated the political situation in most of those countries that are now disintegrating before our eyes, and we cannot now pretend that we have no moral responsibilities. But, far more importantly, we need to recall that Christ himself was always more at home with those who were suffering and outside the realm of social or religious respectability than with the comfortable and complacent insiders. In so many ways he himself was an outsider, and he died on the cross as one rejected by all around him. God does not distinguish, in his love, between those we think of as ‘like us’ and those we think of as somehow different. We cannot turn our backs on dire need before our eyes; we are all made, equally, in the image of God. It is difficult to be certain what responsibilities we as a Church may have to shoulder as time goes on but, in the meantime, I am grateful to the Bishops of Derry and Tuam and those with whom they are working, as they monitor the realities of those who are arriving in Ireland as refugees.

As I have said on many occasions over the past couple of years, the Church of Ireland must look beyond its own self-interest and its own survival. It must reach upwards to God in trust. It must look beyond itself in every way. Not least, it must look beyond the present into the future to which we believe God is calling us.

In this context, I am aware that there may be some misunderstanding among a number of people as to the nature and scope of the ‘Long-Term Church’ project on which we as a Church are embarked. We need to be very clear that we should never imagine that the mission of the Church throughout every diocese and local community can somehow be ‘achieved’ by a central Church initiative. It is almost always in a local context – whether diocese, parish, or other local community or even through an event – that men, women and children are enabled to meet Jesus Christ and to grow into a greater maturity as his disciples. How this will happen will inevitably be different according to place and context.

What the central Church can and should do, however, is to ensure that it gives as much support and structural shape as it can achieve, in order to serve local communities in their mission and service to the world. This is the thinking behind the Long-Term Church venture. We should be thinking into the mid-term and even into the long-term with confidence in the purposes of God for the future of the Church of Ireland. I have a personal dislike of the phrase ‘fit for purpose’ in the context of the Church (as it rather seems to denigrate the efforts and work of many people who selflessly serve Christ with energy and commitment), and so I prefer the image of seeking to re-shape some of our structures so that they may more effectively serve the wider life, outreach and witness of the Church into the long term, hence the strap-line for Long-Term Church, ‘Shaping to Serve’. We have, as I have suggested, been shaped by the heritage we have received. While maintaining an essential continuity with that legacy, we need to play our part, with God’s help and guidance, in continuing the work of shaping the Church for the future.

A great deal has already been done under the heading of Long-Term Church, some of which relates to initiatives that had begun before this project had been articulated, but which nevertheless can be seen as being within this overarching concept. In this category, there has been a very useful computerising of the RCB’s database of all Church property. This is of tremendous value, not only for parishes and diocese (in addition to the central Church), in their collective stewardship and management of Church property. It will also be of great benefit in establishing the nature of our legal trusts, a matter of concern to the commissioners for charities in both Northern Ireland and the Republic. From this perspective it is also important that members of Select Vestries are fully aware of their responsibilities, not only in
Church law but also in the civil law, and the first section within the ongoing Parish Handbook project – that part dealing with the responsibilities of Select Vestry members – should be in the hands of parishes within the next few months.

New civil responsibility for the Church, particularly in relation to greater accountability in support of its charity status, has meant that much work has been done in our different dioceses to prepare for new methods of reporting on our finances and structural activities. This has had a beneficial concomitant value in that parishes and dioceses will have to report to the civil authorities, not simply on the financial management of their assets but also on the work and service that they undertake, if they wish to retain charitable status. This will indeed concentrate minds on what is being done by the Church at local level for more than the dubious end of its own self-perpetuation. Draft templates for use in this regard are therefore in the process of preparation. We all need to take a long and hard look at ourselves, as individuals and as communities, to evaluate just what we are doing in forwarding the mission of the Church in our localities and, ironically, it may be that we will be grateful to the state authorities for helping us to undertake such rigorous self-examination.

As part of the movement to make the work of the Church as a whole more accessible to all its members into the future, a group is now looking at how we could make the Constitution of the Church of Ireland more ‘approachable’. That we need a Constitution and statute law is undeniable, but are there ways in which these may be made as little esoteric as necessary? We are fortunate that Sir Paul Girvan, former High Court justice in Northern Ireland, has, in company with a small reference group, kindly agreed to investigate the possibilities of how this might be done, without beginning the process of an entire re-writing of a Constitution, which would indeed take decades of the General Synod’s time and attention.

Initiatives have been taken in other areas. There is the growing realisation that any body of the size of the Church of Ireland needs a centralised Human Resources capability. We have already seen aspects of this in the work done on a Dignity Charter and also in relation to long-term illness of clergy, but a further step has been taken and the Representative Church Body has now advertised the post of an HR advisor for the Church of Ireland. In addition, in a world becoming increasingly complex in areas of compliance with civil law, the role of a Compliance and Resource coordinator has been created, and it is a pleasure to welcome Ms Elaine Whitehouse into this new post. Work is also being undertaken to encourage parishes that wish to consider development programmes and the services of Ms Nicola Brown have been enlisted as a consultant for those parishes that wish to consider their own long-term priorities. It scarcely needs to be said that resources may indeed be made available for the use of the whole Church, but their value will be in the degree to which the local communities of the Church avail of such crucial resources.

For some time, consideration has been given as to how modern technology might enable members of central committees to participate more readily in the work of such committees, without the need to travel to every meeting. Tele-conferencing has long been available, but there are today more sophisticated modes of video-conferencing which serve to make the immediacy of such participation far greater. The central Church is investing in this technology, with the hope of having a number of venues in different parts of Ireland equipped with this technology. Individuals will also be able to participate in such meetings using their own computers. The purpose is not simply to save time, energy and money on over-frequent travel (although it will certainly achieve this end), and it is certainly not in question that meetings will continue to be held with the physical presence of all the membership being desirable. The use of modern technology should however mean that more people will be available for shorter meetings, and also that people who might not be able to make day-long trips to central meetings on a regular basis would consider becoming members of such committees or boards.
Journal – First Day (Thursday 12 May 2016)

My hope is that younger people may in this way be encouraged to involve themselves in the life and work of the central Church.

This General Synod sees the final weeks of Mr Adrian Clements’ tenure as Chief Officer of the Representative Church Body and Secretary-General of the Church of Ireland. I hope that we all realise the massive contribution that he has made to the Church in this role. His deep understanding of the Church, his effectiveness as an administrator and strategist, and his warmth and courtesy for all with whom he has contact, have all made a great impact on the life of the Church. In company with Mr Robert Neill, who is also nearing the conclusion of his chairmanship of the Executive Committee of the Representative Church Body, he has done an immeasurable service to us all in making the two different ‘arms’ of the Church of Ireland – the Representative Church Body and the General Synod with their respective responsibilities – not only truly comfortable with one another in every respect, but appreciating fully that they are working in creative tandem with one another for the purposes of the Kingdom of God. We now wish Adrian and Patricia every happiness in Adrian’s retirement. And in this context I wish to thank Mr Robert Neill for his wonderful contribution to the Church, as chairman of the Executive Committee. From a Primate’s perspective, he and our outgoing Chief Officer have been tremendously encouraging and motivating colleagues. I would also wish the Chief Officer to convey the thanks of this Synod to his staff, in both Dublin and in Belfast, for their continuing work on behalf of the Church of Ireland. Their hard work, efficiency and unfailing courtesy should never be taken for granted by any of us. We are all in their debt.

It is of course a great pleasure to welcome now to our midst Mr David Ritchie, our new Chief Officer and Secretary-General. He comes to us with a formidable array of skills and experience, in finance, in engineering, in financial management, with humanitarian projects, and even in the study of theology… I truly believe that we are extremely fortunate in acquiring his huge expertise, and we both welcome David and wish him happiness and fulfilment in the years ahead.

As we remember those who in the past have given service to the Church of Ireland, we give thanks to God for the life, work and witness of those Synod members who deaths have occurred in this past year, Mr Malcolm Cairns of Armagh Diocese, a committed and hard-working member of his parish and community in Dungannon, and also Mrs Margaret Stephens of the Dioceses of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory, a regular and valued participant in many synod debates. We remember also Canon Edgar Turner, a familiar face at General Synod (even in a lengthy and busy retirement) until last year’s synod, as a remarkable figure in the life of the Church. Gifted with a clear mind that was stocked with information of every kind, he was a living resource that many of us called upon regularly for practical guidance and legal reassurance. His depth of knowledge was matched by a great courtesy and humanity, and a warm interest in people. And we remember also with gratitude Mr Trevor Morrow from Limerick Diocese who served his diocese over many years in many capacities. He was a member of this General Synod for more than forty years. Many of us associate him with his service to the Church Unity Committee (now the Commission for Unity and Dialogue) on which he served for many years. Bishop Peter Barrett, one-time Bishop of Cashel and Ossory died suddenly, late last year. Many benefitted greatly from his pastoral care and ministry in different parts of Ireland over more than twenty years, and for this we give thanks to God. As in trust and faith we commend those who have died to God’s love, we remember all who have been bereaved by their departure from this earth.

A week ago, on Ascension Day, I had the privilege of representing the Church of Ireland at a large and invigorating service in All Souls’ Church, Langham Place in London. It was in celebration of one hundred and fifty years of Reader Ministry in these islands. Although it was some time later, early in the twentieth century, that reader ministry became a major feature of Church of Ireland ministry, it was of some interest for me to discover that there was a definite Irish connection with the decision on Ascension Day 1866 to initiate a form of Reader Ministry that we recognise today as central to the life
of most Anglican provinces. Remembering of course that 1866 was three years before the disestablishment of the Church of Ireland, it is of significance that two of those who attended the meeting of archbishops and bishops at Lambeth Palace that authorised the formation of a reader ministry were the then Archbishop of Armagh and the then Bishop of Derry and Raphoe. For me, it was a reminder of how much we have been enriched and indeed shaped by the ministry of readers in this part of the Anglican Communion. But it is also of importance to realise that the original vision for readers was that they would be an evangelistic face of the Church outside the buildings and traditional worship of the Church. Facing an increasingly unchurched society it was intended that the readers might be catechists and teachers; they were to guide others towards Christ in other contexts than formal worship. Much of this sounds remarkably similar to the ideas now being considered with regard to Pioneer ministries. What goes around does indeed come around. We need to be ready for surprises in the life of the Church.

As we now begin our work in synod, we are also approaching the Festival of Pentecost. And we would therefore do well to remind ourselves that all our planning and all our strategising is of little avail if we do not also place ourselves at the disposal of the Holy Spirit. Cardinal Leo Suenens, one of the great Roman Catholic proponents of the modern charismatic movement memorably commented that he would have liked to add a phrase to the creeds. Not only do we believe in the Holy Spirit, he suggested, but we should also express belief in ‘the surprises of the Holy Spirit’. I might perhaps suggest an addition to Cardinal Suenens’ phrase. We should believe in the surprises of the Holy Spirit, and our belief should be as much in the surprises of the Holy Spirit that are unwelcome, as in those surprises that we might welcome! In the Church of Ireland, we are not keenly attuned to the possibility of surprises, not even welcome surprises. But if we truly believe in the Holy Spirit, we must believe in surprises, and certainly General Synod and our participation in this Synod can never be all about us, but rather centred and focussed on the glory of God.

Welcome of Official Guests

The Primate welcomed the official guests on behalf of the General Synod.

Ecumenical Guest

At the invitation of the Primate and with the approval of the House, the Rev Brian Anderson, President of the Methodist Church in Ireland, addressed the Synod.

Election of an Honorary Secretary

Proposals for a Lay Honorary Secretary were invited by the President from the Lay members of the Synod.

Mr Kenneth Gibson was proposed by Mr Roy Totten (Connor), seconded by Mrs Kaye Nesbitt (Derry), and elected.

Motion on Procedure

Mr Samuel Harper moved Motion No. 1 on procedure. It was proposed by the Honorary Secretaries and passed:

[lxvii]
That Motion No 1 on procedure be passed.

**MOTION NO 1 – THE HONORARY SECRETARIES (WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT)**

That in accordance with Standing Order 56, the time available under Standing Order 3 be allocated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Agenda Items</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 noon</td>
<td>President takes the chair, Reading from Holy Scripture and Prayer, List of members of the General Synod to be laid on the table, Nomination of an Assessor by the President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to</td>
<td>President’s Address, Welcome of official Guests, Election of Honorary Secretary, Motion No. 1 (Timetable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00pm</td>
<td>Formal business and communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Answers to requests for information (if any) (SO 51), Motion No. 2 (Petitions Committee), Motion No. 3 (Bills Committee), Report of the Bills Committee, Bills No. 1 to 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to</td>
<td>Report of the Liturgical Advisory Committee, Motion No. 4 (Liturgical Advisory Committee - Special Resolution), Motion No. 5 (Liturgical Advisory Committee - Special Resolution), Motion No. 6 (Liturgical Advisory Committee - Membership)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Report of the Standing Committee (not more than 2 hours), Motion No. 7 (Honorary Secretaries - Response to World Council of Churches, Document), Select Committee on Human Sexuality in the Context of Christian Belief (30 minutes)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## SECOND DAY

### 10.00am
- Reading from Holy Scripture and Prayer
- Formal business and communications
- **Report of the Representative Church Body** (not more than 2 hours, inclusive of related motions)
  - (Including reports of the Church of Ireland Clergy Pensions Trustee Limited and the Church of Ireland Pensions Board)
  - Motion No. 8 (Representative Church Body - Allocations)
  - Motion No. 9 (Representative Church Body - Clergy and Ministry Protection Fund)
  - Motion No. 10 (Representative Church Body - The Church of Ireland Clergy Pensions Trustee Limited)

### 1:00pm
- **Board of Education** (not more than 1 hour)
  - Board of Education NI
  - Board of Education RI
  - Motion No. 11 (Children’s Ministry)
  - Launch of report: *Value for Learning: Study of Small Irish Protestant Primary Schools*

### 2.00pm
- Answers to requests for information (if any) (SO 51)
- **Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures**
  - Mission and Ministry (2 hours)
    - Commission on Ministry
    - Motion No. 12 (Commission on Ministry - Self-Supporting Ministry)
    - Council for Mission
    - Motion No. 13 (Council for Mission - Solidarity with Persecuted Christians)
    - Motion No. 14 (Council for Mission - Membership)
    - Motion No. 15 (Council for Mission - Protection, Resettlement and Integration for Refugees and Asylum Seekers)

### 6:30pm
- **Church of Ireland Youth Department**
### THIRD DAY

**10.00am**  
Reading from Holy Scripture and Prayer  
Formal business and communications  
to  
Bills No. 1 to 7: Further stage as ordered on the first day  

**1.00pm**  
**Church of Ireland Marriage Council**  
Motion No. 16 (Marriage Council - Membership)

**2.00pm**  
Answers to requests for information (if any) (SO 51)

**2.30pm**  
**Anglican, Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations**  
- Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue  
  Restructuring  
  Motion No. 17 (Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue - Restructuring)  
  Motion No. 18 (Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue - Membership)  
  Report of the Covenant Council  
  Motion No. 19 (Covenant Council - Covenant Relationship)  

**4.30pm**  
Motion No. 20 (Covenant Council - Membership)  
Motion No. 21 (Journal of the General Synod) (not more than 5 minutes)

At 4.25pm any outstanding items will be put from the Chair without debate.

If business listed for any period is completed before the hour appointed, reports listed for Saturday afternoon will be taken in reverse order, commencing with the Church of Ireland Youth Department. References in this motion to a “report” shall include any motions accompanying such report on the agenda paper.

### Reports of Committees and Boards

The following reports were presented:

- The Book of Reports 2016 incorporating the following
  - The Report of the Representative Church Body
  - The Report of the Standing Committee
  - The Report of the General Synod Board of Education
  - The Report of the Church of Ireland Youth Department
  - The Report of the Covenant Council
  - The Report of the Liturgical Advisory Committee
  - The Report of the Church of Ireland Council for Mission
  - The Report of the Commission on Ministry
  - The Report of the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures
  - The Report of the Church of Ireland Marriage Council

[1xx]
The Ven George Davison read a communication from the House of Bishops.

Without intending to anticipate any decision of the General Synod on the matter, the House of Bishops wishes to communicate with the General Synod concerning the Commission on Ministry’s report regarding ‘Self-Supporting Ministry’. The House of Bishops is immensely grateful for the considerable amount of work that has been done on this matter, on foot of the resolution of General Synod in 2012. The House of Bishops underscores the conviction of the Commission that the Church of Ireland is a Church ‘which stands in the threefold ministry of deacon, priest and bishops in regard to its ordained ministry and is thereby in apostolic continuity with the Early Church (without denying or denigrating the priestly ordination of all believers) and any fresh proposal for ministry must be constant with this understanding’. This is fundamental.

The House of Bishops welcomes - in principle - the proposed developments, subject to a number of matters being noted. In the light of further discussion and reflection on the Commission’s final Report, the House of Bishops draws attention to two matters. First, it is, in the opinion of the House of Bishops, preferable that the term ‘Self-Supporting Ministry’ (itself a ‘working title’ in the Commission’s Report) be replaced with the term ‘Ordained Local Ministry’. This, we believe, better reflects the intended deployment of this form of ordained ministry, voluntary and unpaid, as being in the context of other local ministries. Second, the H of B is aware that there are widespread reservations concerning any proposals to facilitate transfer from Ordained Local Ministry to Stipendiary Ministry. It notes that the Report itself envisages any such transfer as being highly unusual. The House wishes to make clear its own serious concerns regarding this matter, and to emphasise that the exercise of Ordained Local Ministry is distinct from the Stipendiary Ministry, in that the deployment of clergy within the former will be necessarily restricted. Hence transfer from the Ordained Local Ministry to Stipendiary Ministry will not be possible, without a full re-assessment of an individual at a selection conference with regard to the possible appropriateness of any such transfer. Without pre-empting the decision of the General Synod, the House of Bishops - as comprising those with whom lies responsibility for ordination within the Church of Ireland - wishes to affirm its willingness to implement the proposals of the Commission, should these be acceptable to
the General Synod. In addition, we would see such a development as being in significant parallel with a further evolution of Pioneer Ministries within the Church of Ireland.

Communication from the Record Committee

The following communication was received from the Record Committee and laid on the table.

13th October 2015

TO: THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

RECORD COMMITTEE

The Record Committee reports that, as provided by the Statutes, the Statutes passed at the last Session have been printed in duplicate and they now present two copies which have been compared, certified and sealed and signed by His Grace the Lord Primate.

Mr Samuel Harper
Chairman

Adjournment

The House adjourned at 1 pm and resumed at 2 pm. Upon the resumption of the Synod, the Archbishop of Armagh resumed the Chair.

Communication from Diocesan Synods

Speaking on behalf of the Honorary Secretaries, Mr Samuel Harper announced that several communications have been received.

- The Diocesan Synod of the United Dioceses of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory has amended its Diocesan Rules and Regulations and its Financial Scheme.
- The Diocesan Synod of Down and Dromore has amended its Diocesan Regulations and its Financial Scheme.
- The Diocesan Synod of Connor has amended its Diocesan Regulations.
- The Diocesan Synod of Clogher has amended its Financial Scheme and Standing Orders and Rules.
- The Diocese of Elphin and Ardagh and the Diocese of Kilmore have approved changes to their respective Financial Schemes and Rules and Regulations so that from 1st January 2017 the dioceses will operate under one administration, one Charities Registration Number, and one financial scheme.

The letters were laid on the table.

[1xxii]
Presentation of Petitions

Speaking on behalf of the Honorary Secretaries, Mr Samuel Harper announced that there were no petitions.

Ecumenical Guests

At the invitation of the Primate and with the approval of the House, the Most Reverend Brendan Leahy of the Roman Catholic Church addressed the Synod on behalf of the Official Guests.

Election to Petitions Committee

It was proposed by the Ven. George Davison on behalf of the Honorary Secretaries, seconded by the Rev Gillian Wharton and passed:

That the following be elected member of the Petitions Committee:

Mrs Pauline High

Election to Bills Committee

It was proposed by Mr Samuel Harper on behalf of the Honorary Secretaries, seconded by Mr Kenneth Gibson and passed:

That the following be elected member of the Bills Committee:

Ven George Davison

Chair

The Bishop of Cork assumed the Chair.

Bills Procedure

The Bishop of Cork gave a brief introduction to the Bills procedure at General Synod, explaining what can be raised and discussed at each stage.

Report of the Bills Committee

The Bishop of Cork presented the report of the Bills Committee and laid it on the table, along with a copy of the Bills pamphlet.

GENERAL SYNOD 2016

[lxxiii]
REPORT OF THE BILLS COMMITTEE

The function of the Bills Committee, as set out in Standing Order 24, is to ‘consider the legal and drafting aspects of Bills’ being presented to the General Synod.

The Bills Committee met on four occasions as follows:

- On Tuesday, 8th March, 2016 when Bills numbered 1, 3, 6 and 7 in the circulated Bills Pamphlet were considered and notice was given that three additional Bills would be submitted by the deadline of 31st March, 2016.
- On Monday, 11th April, 2016 when Bills numbered 1 to 7 in the circulated Bills Pamphlet were considered. The meeting adjourned to facilitate further research and consideration of Bill Number 2.
- On Friday, 15th April, 2016 when Bill No. 2 was discussed further and it was agreed that the Bills Committee should adjourn to give the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures an opportunity to consider a number of aspects of, and a possible amendment to Bill No. 2
- On Thursday, 12th May, 2016.

On each occasion the Bishop of Cork was in the Chair.

The Bills Committee reports that it has considered the Bills numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 in the Bills Pamphlet.

The Bills Committee has no comment to make on Bills numbers 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 other than to refer, in the case of Bills 1, 3, 4, and 5, that the appended report from the Representative Church Body, as required by Standing Order 52, has also been sent to the General Synod.

The Bills Committee notes that the Commission on Episcopal and Structures has indicated its intention to withdraw Bill Number 2.

The Bills Committee notes that Bill No. 7 is not drafted using inclusive language and recommends that this be addressed by amendment at Report Stage.

The venues of the meetings and the record of attendance of members at each of the four meetings is appended to this report.

Attendances and Venues:

On Tuesday, 8th March, 2016 in Church of Ireland House, Dublin.
Present: the Bishop of Cork (Chairman), Mrs Ethne Harkness, Mrs Pauline High, Mr Lyndon MacCann, Judge Catherine McGuinness, the Rev Brian O’Rourke, and Canon Lady Sheil.

[1xxiv]
In attendance: Mr Adrian Clements, Mrs Janet Maxwell, Dr Catherine Smith, and the Very Rev Victor Stacey.

On Monday, 11th April 2016 at 5 p.m. at Church of Ireland House, Dublin.

Present: the Bishop of Cork (Chairman), Mrs Ethne Harkness, Mrs Pauline High, Mr Lyndon MacCann, Judge Catherine McGuinness, and Canon Lady Sheil.

Apologies were received from the Reverend Brian O’Rourke.

In attendance: Mr Adrian Clements, the Ven. George Davison, Mr Ken Gibson, Mrs Janet Maxwell, Mr David Ritchie, and Dr Catherine Smith.

On Friday, 15th April 2016 at Church of Ireland House, Dublin at 1.15 p.m.

Present: the Bishop of Cork (Chairman), Mrs Ethne Harkness, Mrs Pauline High, Mr Lyndon MacCann, and Canon Lady Sheil.

In attendance: Mr Adrian Clements, Mrs Janet Maxwell, Mr David Ritchie, and Dr Catherine Smith.

On Thursday, 12th May, 2016 at the Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire at 11.15 a.m.

Present: the Bishop of Cork (Chairman), Mrs Ethne Harkness, Mrs Pauline High, Mr Lyndon MacCann, Canon Lady Sheil, and the Reverend Brian O’Rourke.

Apologies: Judge Catherine McGuinness.

**Bill No. 1 - To Amend, Consolidate and Replace Chapter VI of the Constitution and to Make Minor Consequential Amendment of Chapter IV of the Constitution**

It was proposed by Rev Stephen Farrell (Dublin), seconded by Mrs Ethne Harkness (Armagh) and passed:

That Leave be given to introduce Bill No 1.

That the Bill be approved in principle and given a second reading.

According to order the House went into Committee.

The Bill was considered in detail.

**AMENDMENT**

It was proposed by Mr Keith Roberts (Cork), seconded by the Very Rev Nigel Dunne (Cork) and passed:

[1xxv]
That the following wording be added to the end of Chapter 6, Paragraph 11, section (c):

“and provided that no member elected from outside the vacant see shall serve more than twice and never consecutively on a shortlisting committee”.

The Clauses as amended were passed.
The Preamble was passed.
The Schedule was passed.
The Bill was reported.
The House resumed.
Saturday 14th May was fixed for the next stage.

**Bill No. 2 to Alter the Existing Territorial Arrangements of the Two Provinces Under the Government of their Respective Archbishops and of the Several Dioceses Under the Government of their Respective Bishops and for Associated Matters**

The proposer announced the withdrawal of Bill No. 2.

**Bill No. 3 to amend Chapter III of the Constitution**

It was proposed by Mr Sydney Gamble (Derry), seconded by Mr Kenneth Gibson (Connor) and passed:

That Leave be given to introduce Bill No 3.

That the Bill be approved in principle and given a second reading.

According to order the House went into Committee.
The Bill was considered in detail.
The Clauses were passed.
The Preamble was passed.
The Bill was reported.
The House resumed.
Saturday 14th May was fixed for the next stage.

[lxxvi]
Bill No. 4 to Amend Chapter X of the Constitution

It was proposed by the Bishop of Connor, seconded by Mr Robert Neill (Glendalough) and passed:

That Leave be given to introduce Bill No 4.
That the Bill be approved in principle and given a second reading.

According to order the House went into Committee.
The Bill was considered in detail.
The Clauses were passed.
The Preamble was passed.
The Bill was reported.
The House resumed.
Saturday 14th May was fixed for the next stage.

Bill No. 5 to amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution

It was proposed by Mr Robert Neill, seconded by Mr William Oliver (Derry) and passed:

That Leave be given to introduce Bill No 5.
That the Bill be approved in principle and given a second reading.

According to order the House went into Committee.
The Bill was considered in detail.
The Clauses were passed.
The Preamble was passed.
The Bill was reported.
The House resumed.

[1xxvii]
Saturday 14th May was fixed for the next stage.

**Bill No. 6 to amend Chapter IX of the Constitution**

It was proposed by the Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory, seconded by the Ven Leslie Stevenson (Meath) and passed:

That Leave be given to introduce Bill No 6.

That the Bill be approved in principle and given a second reading.

According to order the House went into Committee.

The Bill was considered in detail.

The Clauses were passed.

The Preamble was passed.

The Bill was reported.

The House resumed.

Saturday 14th May was fixed for the next stage.

**Bill No. 7 to amend Chapter I of 1902 as amended**

It was proposed by the Ven Richard Rountree (Glendalough), seconded by Mr Geoffrey Perrin (Dublin) and passed:

That Leave be given to introduce Bill No 7.

That the Bill be approved in principle and given a second reading.

According to order the House went into Committee.

The Bill was considered in detail.

The Clauses were passed.

The Preamble was passed.

The Bill was reported.

[1xxviii]
The House resumed.

Saturday 14th May was fixed for the next stage.

Chair

The Bishop of Clogher assumed the Chair.

Liturical Advisory Committee

It was proposed by the Bishop of Down and Dromore, seconded by the Very Rev Gerald Field (Cashel) and passed:

That the Report of the Liturgical Advisory Committee be received.

Liturical Advisory Committee – Special Resolution

It was proposed by the Ven Richard Rountree, seconded by the Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory, and passed:

That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution, leave be given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod 2017 to amend The Table of Readings in The Book of Common Prayer (2004; rev.ed. 2005), in the following terms:

THE TABLE OF READINGS

In The Table of Readings immediately before the Sunday between 29 May and 4 June the following be inserted:

“The Sunday between 24 and 29 May
If after Trinity Sunday
The provisions for the Second Sunday before Lent are used”

In The Table of Readings immediately after the Principal Service readings for The First Sunday of Christmas the following rubric be inserted:

“When this Sunday is 1 January the readings for The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus are used.”

Liturical Advisory Committee – Special Resolution

[1xxix]
It was proposed by the Ven Richard Rountree, seconded by the Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory, and passed:

That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution, leave be given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod 2017 to amend The Table of Readings and The Collects in *The Book of Common Prayer* (2004; rev. ed. 2005), in the following terms:

**THE TABLE OF READINGS**

In The Table of Readings under the Sunday between 6 and 12 November the following be inserted:

“Remembrance Sunday
Isaiah 2:1-5 or Isaiah 10.33-11.9 or Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 4 or Psalm 47 or Psalm 93 or Psalm 126 or Psalm 130
Romans 8:31-39 or Revelation 1:1-7
Matthew 5:1-12 or John15:9-17
Any combination of the above may be used.”

**THE COLLECTS**

In The Collects after The Third Sunday before Advent insert the following rubric:

“Collect Two and the Post Communion Prayer above are suitable for use on Remembrance Sunday”.

**Liturgical Advisory Committee – Membership**

It was proposed by the Bishop of Down and Dromore, seconded by the Very Rev Gerald Field and passed:

That the following be elected to the Liturgical Advisory Committee for the triennium term May 2016 – May 2019:
- Rt Rev Harold Miller
- Very Rev Gerald Field
- Ven Ricky Rountree
- Very Rev Nigel Dunne
- Rev Alan Rufli
- Rev Dr Peter Thompson
- Rev Robert Ferris
- Rev Ken Rue
- Rev Julie Bell
- Rev Abigail Sines
Journal – First Day (Thursday 12 May 2016)

Rev Nigel Pierpoint
Rev Johnny Campbell Smith
Mrs Jacqueline Mullen
Mr John Morris.

Chair

The Bishop of Down and Dromore assumed the Chair.

Standing Committee

It was proposed by the Ven Adrian Wilkinson (Cork), seconded by Mrs Pauline High (Connor), and passed:

That the report of the Standing Committee be received and adopted.

Standing Committee – Response to WCC Document

It was proposed by Mr Samuel Harper on behalf of the Honorary Secretaries, seconded by the Rev Gillian Wharton, and passed:

That General Synod adopts the Church of Ireland’s response, as endorsed by the Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue and received by the Standing Committee, to the document The Church: Towards a Common Vision, published by the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches (Faith and Order Paper No. 214).

Select Committee on Human Sexuality in the Context of Christian Belief

It was proposed by the Very Rev John Mann (Connor), seconded by Mrs Helen McClenaghan (Armagh) and passed:

That the report of the Select Committee on Human Sexuality in the Context of Christian Belief be received.

Request for Information

On behalf of the Honorary Secretaries, Mr Samuel Harper noted that a request for information had been received from the Rev Dr Alan McCann (Connor) under Standing Order 51.

[lxxxi]
The request was that the General Synod be informed of the financial expenditure of the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures over its lifetime to date, and, if possible, the man hours expended by the total membership of the committee.

Mr Harper announced that the information would be given to the Synod after lunch on the second day.

**Adjournment**

The Benediction was pronounced and the Synod adjourned until Friday 13th May 2016.
SECOND DAY’S PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY 13TH MAY 2016

The Chair was taken at 10 am by His Grace the Lord Primate.

A hymn was sung and a portion of Holy Scripture and Prayer were read by the Right Rev. Kenneth Kearon, Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe.

On behalf of the Honorary Secretaries, Mr Samuel Harper informed the General Synod that a motion had been submitted by the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures, and read the motion to the members of Synod. He noted that a report from the Representative Church Body on the motion had been received, in accordance with Standing Order 52.

Chair

The Archbishop of Dublin assumed the Chair.

Communication from the Representative Church Body

The following communication was received from the Representative Church Body:

13th May 2016

TO THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

I wish to advise you that at its meeting on 13th May 2016 the Representative Church Body elected the following as co-opted members:

Mr Terence Forsyth
Mrs Judith Peters
Dr Michael Webb

ADRIAN CLEMENTS
Chief Officer and Secretary

Report of the Representative Church Body

[1xxxiii]
It was proposed by Mr Robert Neill, seconded by the Bishop of Meath and Kildare and passed:

That the Report of the Representative Church Body, incorporating the report of the Church of Ireland Clergy Pensions Trustee Limited, be taken into consideration.

It was proposed by Mr Robert Neill, seconded by the Bishop of Meath and Kildare and passed:

That the General Synod hereby authorises the Representative Body to make the following allocations from General Funds in 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Allocation</th>
<th>€</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group A</td>
<td>Maintenance of the Stipendiary Ministry</td>
<td>1,296,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group B</td>
<td>Pension Related Costs</td>
<td>130,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group C</td>
<td>Training of Ordinands</td>
<td>1,363,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group D</td>
<td>General Synod Activities</td>
<td>1,081,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group E</td>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>11,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________</td>
<td></td>
<td>__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,883,045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It was proposed by Mr Robert Neill, seconded by the Bishop of Meath and Kildare and passed:

That, in accordance with Clause 1 of the Statute Chapter XVI of 2003 as amended by Statute Ch III of 2015, the General Synod hereby affirms the decision of the Representative Body that the rate of contribution from each diocese to the Clergy and Ministry Protection Fund in respect of the year 2017 be set at 0.5% of the Minimum Approved Stipend in force at 1 January 2017 multiplied by the sum of the number of cures, including vacant cures, in such diocese at 30 June 2016.

It was proposed by Mr Robert Neill, seconded by the Bishop of Meath and Kildare and passed:

That, pursuant to section 56(1) of the Companies Act 2014 and in accordance with the provisions of the Memorandum of Association of the Church of Ireland Clergy Pensions Trustee Limited (the Company), the General Synod hereby consents to the Representative Body making such amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company (the Memorandum and Articles) as may be necessary.

[lxxxiv]
Journal – Second Day (Friday 13\textsuperscript{th} May 2016)

(a) to enable the registration of the Company as a designated activity company (DAC); and
(b) to ensure that the Memorandum and Articles reflect the provisions of the Companies Act 2014; and
(c) to provide that the consent of the Standing Committee and not the General Synod be required for any future amendment to the Memorandum and Articles.

It was proposed by Mr Robert Neill, seconded by the Bishop of Meath and Kildare and passed:

That the report of the Representative Church Body, incorporating the report of the Church of Ireland Clergy Pensions Trustee Limited, be adopted subject to the resolutions already passed relating thereto.

Chair

The Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory assumed the Chair.

Report of the Board of Education

It was proposed by Miss Frances Boyd (Clogher), seconded by Rev Canon Niall Sloane (Dublin) and passed:

That the Report of the Board of Education be received.

Board of Education – Children’s Ministry

It was proposed by Rev Canon Niall Sloane, seconded by the Bishop of Connor and passed:

That this General Synod supports and encourages the ongoing discussions in making Children’s Ministry a central, fundamental and integral part of the life of the Church of Ireland. This General Synod affirms the key importance of formulating a practical vision for Children’s Ministry and looks forward to learning at a subsequent General Synod how this will be achieved in the short, medium and long term.

Standing Orders

[lxxxv]
The Chairperson asked the Synod if it would agree to the suspension of Standing Orders to allow the launch of “Value for Learning: Small Irish Protestant Primary Schools,” a report carried out by Dr Anne Lodge and Dr David Tuohy and based in the Church of Ireland College of Education. The House agreed.

**Launch of Report**

The report was launched by the past president of the INTO, Mr Sean McMahon, and Dr Anne Lodge.

**Standing Orders**

Standing Orders were resumed.

**Adjournment**

The House adjourned at 12.50 pm and resumed at 2 pm. Upon the resumption of the Synod, the Archbishop of Armagh assumed the Chair.

**Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures**

It was proposed by the Chair that the Report of the Commission and the motion proposed should be taken together. The House agreed.

**Report of the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures**

It was proposed by Mrs Ethne Harkness (Armagh), seconded by Mr Edward Hardy (Killaloe) and passed:

That the report of the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures be received.

It was proposed by Mrs Ethne Harkness, seconded by Mr Edward Hardy and passed:

That the General Synod:

- Recognises that the task of reviewing the provision of appropriate episcopal ministry and structures for tomorrow’s church cannot simply be set aside in the light of the withdrawal of Bill No 2 of 2016;
- Considers that any appropriate ways forward are now likely to emerge from discussions initiated within and between the dioceses most likely to be directly affected by boundary changes;
- Requests that the bishops and diocesan councils of the dioceses identified in the withdrawn Bill now consider beginning processes that
might, with diocesan consent, build on the substantial work of CEMS over the past four years;
- Further requests that reports on these processes should be provided to the General Synod in 2017, with proposals for legislation where necessary;
- Requests the Standing Committee at an opportune time to set up a committee along the lines of the Implementation Committee referred to in the withdrawn Bill to support and work with the dioceses concerned and assist a process of change.

Chair

The Bishop of Clogher assumed the Chair.

Report of the Commission on Ministry

It was proposed by the Ven Leslie Stevenson, seconded by the Ven Terry Scott (Armagh) and passed that:

The report of the Commission on Ministry be received.

Commission on Ministry – Self-Supporting Ministry

It was proposed by the Ven Leslie Stevenson, seconded by the Ven Terry Scott and passed that:

That this General Synod commends the proposals contained in Appendix One of the Report of the Commission on Ministry.

Report of the Council for Mission

It was proposed by Rev Patrick Burke (Cashel), seconded by Mr Derek Neilson (Glendalough), and passed:

That the Report of the Council for Mission be received.

Council for Mission – Membership

It was proposed by Rev Patrick Burke, seconded by Mr Derek Neilson (Glendalough), and passed:
Journal – Second Day (Friday 13th May 2016)

That the following be elected by General Synod to the Church of Ireland Council for Mission for the forthcoming triennial period:

Rev Adam Pullen
Rev Andrew Quill
Rev Patrick Burke.

Council for Mission – Solidarity with Persecuted Christians

An amendment was proposed by the Ven Stephen Ford (Connor), seconded by Mr Joc Sanders (Killaloe) and passed:

The motion as amended was proposed by Rev Patrick Burke, seconded by Mr Derek Neilson (Glendalough), and passed:

That the General Synod recognises that Christians are amongst the most persecuted body of people on the planet; expresses its solidarity with its brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world who are persecuted for their faith and commits to supporting them in prayer; and charges the Council for Mission to raise awareness of this issue within the Church of Ireland and also in wider society in an effort to put an end to what is effectively genocide in certain parts of the world.

Council for Mission – Protection, Resettlement, and Integration for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

It was proposed by Rev Andrew Quill (Kilmore), seconded by Rev Patrick Burke, and passed:

That the General Synod would ask the House of Bishops to remind the Government of the Republic of Ireland to implement the key recommendations of ‘Protection, Resettlement and Integration: Ireland’s Response to the Refugee and Migration ‘Crisis”, a report compiled by a Consortium of Irish advocacy and aid agencies, including Actionaid, Christian Aid, Trócaire, Oxfam Ireland, The Irish Refugee Council, The Immigrant Council of Ireland, and many others, and of which the Church of Ireland is a signatory; these recommendations including:

(A) Enhance legal channels for migration, and take our fair share of refugees;
(B) Develop community approaches to reception conditions and the long-term integration of asylum seekers and refugees; and to
(C) Uphold in Ireland and in the European Union a strong commitment to human rights, humanitarian aid and to addressing the root causes of conflict and inequality.

[1xxxviii]
Adjournment

The Synod was adjourned for five minutes.

Chair

The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe assumed the Chair.

Report of the Church of Ireland Youth Department

It was proposed by Rev Nicola Halford (Cashel), seconded by Mr Martin Montgomery (Derry), and passed:

That the Report of the Church of Ireland Youth Department be received.

Adjournment

The Benediction was pronounced and the Synod adjourned until Saturday 14th May 2016.
THIRD DAY’S PROCEEDINGS

SATURDAY 14th MAY 2016

The Chair was taken at 10 am by His Grace the Lord Primate.

A hymn was sung and a portion of Holy Scripture and Prayer were read by the Right Rev. Kenneth Kearon, Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe.

Chair

The Bishop of Cork assumed the Chair.

Bill (No. 1) To Amend, Consolidate and Replace Chapter VI of the Constitution and to Make Minor Consequential Amendment of Chapter IV of the Constitution

As ordered, Bill No. 1 was received for final consideration.

It was agreed that the next stage be taken.

It was proposed by the Rev Stephen Farrell, seconded by Mr Roy Totten and passed by the required two-thirds majority:

That Bill No. 1 to amend, consolidate and replace Chapter VI of the constitution and to make minor consequential amendment of Chapter IV of the Constitution be read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 3) to Amend Chapter III of the Constitution

As ordered, Bill No. 3 was received for final consideration.

It was agreed that the next stage be taken.

It was proposed by Mr Sydney Gamble, seconded by Mr Kenneth Gibson and passed by the required two-thirds majority:

That Bill No. 3 to amend Chapter III of the Constitution be read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 4) to Amend Chapter X of the Constitution

As ordered, Bill No. 4 was received for final consideration.

It was agreed that the next stage be taken.

[xc]
It was proposed by the Bishop of Connor, seconded by Mr Robert Neill and passed:

That Bill No. 4 to amend Chapter X of the Constitution be read a third time and passed.

**Bill (No. 5) to Amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution**

As ordered, Bill No. 5 was received for final consideration.

It was agreed that the next stage be taken.

It was proposed by Mr Robert Neill, seconded by Mr William Oliver and passed:

That Bill No. 5 to amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution be read a third time and passed.

**Bill (No. 6) to amend Chapter IX of the Constitution**

As ordered, Bill No. 6 was received for final consideration.

It was agreed that the next stage be taken.

It was proposed by the Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory, seconded by Ven Leslie Stevenson and passed:

That Bill No. 6 to amend Chapter IX of the Constitution be read a third time and passed.

**Bill (No. 7) to amend Chapter I of 1902 as Amended**

An amendment was proposed by the Ven Richard Rountree, seconded by Mr Geoffrey Perrin, and passed.

As ordered, Bill No. 7 was received for final consideration.

It was agreed that the next stage be taken.

It was proposed by the Ven Richard Rountree, seconded by Mr Geoffrey Perrin and passed:

That Bill No. 7 to amend Chapter I of 1902 be read a third time and passed.

[xci]
Chair

The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe assumed the Chair.

Report of the Church of Ireland Marriage Council

It was proposed by the Rev John Ardis (Cork), seconded by the Rev Stephen Farrell, and passed:

That the Report of the Church of Ireland Marriage Council be received.

Church of Ireland Marriage Council – Membership

It was proposed by the Rev John Ardis, seconded by the Rev Stephen Farrell, and passed:

That the following be appointed members of the Marriage Council for the next two years from 1 June 2016:

A bishop to be appointed by the House of Bishops

Elected by General Synod:

Mrs Sarah Bevan
Rev Stephen Farrell
Mrs Lynn Heber
Rev Canon Lynda Peilow
(Hon Secretary)

Rev John Ardis (Chairperson)
Mrs Jennifer O’Regan
Rev Jonathan Campbell-Smyth
Rev Nicola Halford

Chair

The Bishop of Meath and Kildare assumed the Chair.


It was proposed by Mr Samuel Harper, seconded by Rev Canon Niall Sloane and passed:

That the report of the Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue be received.

Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue – Restructuring

It was proposed by Rev Canon Niall Sloane, seconded by the Bishop of Clogher, and passed:

[xcii]
That this General Synod approves the restructuring of the General Synod Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue (CCUD), consisting of a membership not exceeding 20.

**Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue – Membership**

It was proposed by Rev Canon Niall Sloane, seconded by the Bishop of Clogher, and passed:

That this General Synod approves the appointment of the following to the General Synod Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue (CCUD) for the following year:

**MAIN BODY**

Membership (total 20)
- The Bishop of Clogher
- Anglican & Ecumenical Affairs Working Group (The Bishop of Cashel)
- The Bishop of Connor
- Interfaith Working Group (The Bishop of Limerick)
- Ven Helene Steed
- European Affairs Working Group (The Bishop of Tuam)
- Rev Canon Maurice Elliott
- Rev Ken Rue
- Mr Wilfred Baker
- Rev Canon Niall Sloane
- Mr Sam Harper

Note: (3 working groups x 3 persons) to be suggested at the June meeting of CCUD and to be ratified by the Standing Committee in June.

**Chair**

The Archbishop of Armagh assumed the Chair.

**Report of the Covenant Council**

It was proposed by the Rev Barry Forde (Connor), seconded by the Rev Canon Dr Maurice Elliott (Dromore) and passed:

That the report of the Covenant Council be received and approved.

**Covenant Council – Celebrations**

It was proposed by the Rev Barry Forde, seconded by the Rev Canon Dr Maurice Elliott and passed:
That General Synod continues to encourage congregations to celebrate the Covenant relationship with neighbouring Methodist congregations on or around John Wesley Day, 24th May, each year.

**Covenant Council – Membership**

It was proposed by the Rev Barry Forde, seconded by the Rev Canon Dr Maurice Elliott and passed:

That the following be elected as Church of Ireland representatives on the Covenant Council for the coming year:

Rt. Rev. Alan Abernethy, Bishop of Connor (Co-Chair)
Ms Elva Byrne
Very Rev Nigel Dunne
Rev Canon Dr Maurice Elliott
Rev Barry Forde
Mr Harold Giboney
Rev Dr Peter Thompson

**Journal of the General Synod**

It was proposed by the Honorary Secretaries and passed:

That the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod be instructed to publish, with as little delay as possible, the Journal of the Proceedings of the General Synod during this session, with such appendices as they think expedient.

**Attendance of Members**

Mr Samuel Harper informed the Synod of the attendance of members on behalf of the Honorary Secretaries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Clerical</th>
<th>Lay</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12th May 2016</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13th May 2016</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 14th May 2016</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Benediction was pronounced and the session terminated at 12 noon.

[xciv]
Resolutions

RESOLUTIONS

ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL SYNOD SESSION 2016

Bills

To Amend, Consolidate and Replace Chapter VI of the Constitution and to Make Minor Consequential Amendment of Chapter IV of the Constitution.
First reading passed.
Second reading passed.
Third reading passed.

To Amend Chapter III of the Constitution
First reading passed.
Second reading passed.
Third reading passed.

To Amend Chapter X of the Constitution
First reading passed.
Second reading passed.
Third reading passed.

To Amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution.
First reading passed.
Second reading passed.
Third reading passed.

To Amend Chapter IX of the Constitution
First reading passed.
Second reading passed.
Third reading passed.

To Amend Chapter I of 1902
First reading passed.
Second reading passed.
Third reading passed.

[xcv]
Resolutions

Bills Committee

That the following be elected members of the Bills Committee:

Ven George Davison

Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue

(a) That the report of the Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue be received.

(b) That this General Synod approves the restructuring of the General Synod Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue (CCUD), consisting of a membership not exceeding 20.

(c) That this General Synod approves the appointment of the following to the General Synod Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue (CCUD) for the following year:

MAIN BODY
Membership (total 20)
The Bishop of Clogher
Anglican & Ecumenical Affairs Working Group (The Bishop of Cashel)
The Bishop of Connor
Interfaith Working Group (The Bishop of Limerick)
Ven Helene Steed
European Affairs Working Group (The Bishop of Tuam)
Rev Canon Maurice Elliott
Rev Ken Rue
Mr Wilfred Baker
Rev Canon Niall Sloane
Mr Sam Harper

Note: (3 working groups x 3 persons) to be suggested at the June meeting of CCUD and to be ratified by the Standing Committee in June.
Resolutions

Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures

(a) That the report of the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures be received.

(b) That the General Synod

Recognises that the task of reviewing the provision of appropriate episcopal ministry and structures for tomorrow’s church cannot simply be set aside in the light of the withdrawal of Bill No 2 of 2016;
Considers that any appropriate ways forward are now likely to emerge from discussions initiated within and between the dioceses most likely to be directly affected by boundary changes;
Requests that the bishops and diocesan councils of the dioceses identified in the withdrawn Bill now consider beginning processes that might, with diocesan consent, build on the substantial work of CEMS over the past four years;
Further requests that reports on these processes should be provided to the General Synod in 2017, with proposals for legislation where necessary;
Requests the Standing Committee at an opportune time to set up a committee along the lines of the Implementation Committee referred to in the withdrawn Bill to support and work with the dioceses concerned and assist a process of change.

Commission on Ministry

(a) That the report of the Commission on Ministry be received.

(b) That this General Synod commends the proposals contained in Appendix One of the Report of the Commission on Ministry.

Council for Mission

(a) That the report of the Council for Mission be received.

(b) That the following be elected by General Synod to the Church of Ireland Council for Mission for the forthcoming triennial period:
Rev Adam Pullen
Rev Andrew Quill
Rev Patrick Burke.

(c) That the General Synod recognises that Christians are amongst the most persecuted body of people on the planet; expresses its solidarity with its brothers and sisters in
Resolutions

Christ throughout the world who are persecuted for their faith and commits to supporting them in prayer; and charges the Council for Mission to raise awareness of this issue within the Church of Ireland and also in wider society in an effort to put an end to what is effectively genocide in certain parts of the world.

(d) That the General Synod would ask the House of Bishops to remind the Government of the Republic of Ireland to implement the key recommendations of Protection, Resettlement and Integration: Ireland’s Response to the Refugee and Migration ‘Crisis’, a report compiled by a Consortium of Irish advocacy and aid agencies, including Actionaid, Christian Aid, Trócaire, Oxfam Ireland, The Irish Refugee Council, The Immigrant Council of Ireland, and many others, and of which the Church of Ireland is a signatory; these recommendations including:
(A) Enhance legal channels for migration, and take our fair share of refugees;
(B) Develop community approaches to reception conditions and the long-term integration of asylum seekers and refugees;
and to
(C) Uphold in Ireland and in the European Union a strong commitment to human rights, humanitarian aid and to addressing the root causes of conflict and inequality.

Covenant Council

(a) That the report of the Covenant Council be received.

(b) That the following be elected as Church of Ireland representatives on the Covenant Council for the coming year:

The Rt Rev Alan Abernethy, Bishop of Connor (Co-Chair)
Ms Elva Byrne
Very Rev Nigel Dunne
Rev Canon Dr Maurice Elliott
Rev Barry Forde
Mr Harold Giboney
Rev Dr Peter Thompson.

(c) That General Synod continues to encourage congregations to celebrate the Covenant relationship with neighbouring Methodist congregations on or around John Wesley Day, 24th May, each year.
Resolutions

Church of Ireland Marriage Council

(a) That the report of the Church of Ireland Marriage Council be received.
(b) That the following be appointed members of the Marriage Council for the next two years from 1 June 2016:
   A bishop to be appointed by the House of Bishops

   Elected by General Synod:

   Mrs Sarah Bevan
   (Chairperson)
   Rev Stephen Farrell
   Mrs Lynn Heber
   Rev Jonathan Campbell-Smyth
   Rev Canon Lynda Peilow (Hon Secretary)

   Rev John Ardis
   Mrs Jennifer O’Regan
   Rev Jonathan

Church of Ireland Youth Department

That the report of the Church of Ireland Youth Department be received.

Election of an Honorary Secretary

That the following be elected an Honorary Secretary of the General Synod:

Mr Kenneth Gibson

General Synod Board of Education

(a) That the report of the General Synod Board of Education be received.
(b) That this General Synod supports and encourages the ongoing discussions in making Children’s Ministry a central, fundamental and integral part of the life of the Church of Ireland. This General Synod affirms the key importance of formulating a practical vision for Children’s Ministry and looks forward to learning at a subsequent General Synod how this will be achieved in the short, medium and long term.
Resolution

That the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod be instructed to publish with as little delay as possible, the Journal of the Proceedings of the General Synod during this session, with such appendices as they think expedient.

Liturgical Advisory Committee

(a) That the report of the Liturgical Advisory Committee be received.

(b) That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution, leave be given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod 2017 to amend The Table of Readings in The Book of Common Prayer (2004; rev.ed. 2005), in the following terms:

THE TABLE OF READINGS

In The Table of Readings immediately before the Sunday between 29 May and 4 June the following be inserted:

“The Sunday between 24 and 29 May Proper 3
If after Trinity Sunday Green
The provisions for the Second Sunday before Lent are used”

In The Table of Readings immediately after the Principal Service readings for The First Sunday of Christmas the following rubric be inserted:

“When this Sunday is 1 January the readings for The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus are used.”

(c) That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution, leave be given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod 2017 to amend The Table of Readings and The Collects in The Book of Common Prayer 2004 (rev. ed. 2005), in the following terms:

THE TABLE OF READINGS

In The Table of Readings under the Sunday between 6 and 12 November the following be inserted:

[c]
Resolutions

“Remembrance Sunday
Isaiah 2:1-5 or Isaiah 10.33-11.9 or Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 4 or Psalm 47 or Psalm 93 or Psalm 126 or Psalm 130
Romans 8:31-39 or Revelation 1:1-7
Matthew 5:1-12 or John15:9-17
Any combination of the above may be used.”

THE COLLECTS
In The Collects after The Third Sunday before Advent insert the following rubric:

“Collect Two and the Post Communion Prayer above are suitable for use on Remembrance Sunday”.

(d) That the following be elected to the Liturgical Advisory Committee for the triennium term May 2016 – May 2019:

Rt Rev Harold Miller
Very Rev Gerald Field
Ven Ricky Rountree
Very Rev Nigel Dunne
Rev Alan Rufli
Rev Dr Peter Thompson
Rev Robert Ferris
Rev Ken Rue
Rev Julie Bell
Rev Abigail Sines
Rev Nigel Pierpoint
Rev Johnny Campbell Smith
Mrs Jacqueline Mullen
Mr John Morris.

Petitions Committee

That the following be elected a member of the Petitions Committee:

Mrs Pauline High.
Resolutions

The Standing Committee

(a) That the report of the Standing Committee be received and adopted.

(b) That General Synod adopts the Church of Ireland’s response, as endorsed by the Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue and received by the Standing Committee, to the document The Church: Towards a Common Vision, published by the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches (Faith and Order Paper No. 214).

(See appendix for this response).

Representative Church Body

(a) That the Report of the Representative Church Body, incorporating the report of the Church of Ireland Clergy Pensions Trustee Limited, be taken in consideration.

(b) That the General Synod hereby authorises the Representative Body to make the following allocations from General Funds in 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Allocation (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group A</td>
<td>1,296,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group B</td>
<td>130,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group C</td>
<td>1,363,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group D</td>
<td>1,081,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group E</td>
<td>11,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,883,045</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(c) That, in accordance with Clause 1 of the Statute Chapter XVI of 2003 as amended by Statute Ch III of 2015, the General Synod hereby affirms the decision of the Representative Body that the rate of contribution from each diocese to the Clergy and Ministry Protection Fund in respect of the year 2017 be set at 0.5% of the Minimum Approved Stipend in force at 1 January 2017 multiplied by the sum of the number of cures, including vacant cures, in such diocese at 30 June 2016.

(d) That, pursuant to section 56(1) of the Companies Act 2014 and in accordance with the provisions of the Memorandum of Association of the Church of Ireland Clergy...
Resolutions

Pensions Trustee Limited (the Company), the General Synod hereby consents to the Representative Body making such amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company (the Memorandum and Articles) as may be necessary:

(a) to enable the registration of the Company as a designated activity company (DAC); and

(b) to ensure that the Memorandum and Articles reflect the provisions of the Companies Act 2014; and

(c) to provide that the consent of the Standing Committee and not the General Synod be required for any future amendment to the Memorandum and Articles.

Select Committee on Human Sexuality in the Context of Christian Belief

(a) That the report of the Select Committee on Human Sexuality in the Context of Christian Belief be received.

[ciii]
The Church of Ireland welcomes the WCC Faith and Order Commission's document, *The Church: Towards a Common Vision*, recognising that it is the fruit of a committed, deep and sustained dialogue on issues of fundamental importance for the whole Church.

The report well reflects the stated primary purpose of the Commission itself, “to serve the churches as they call one another to visible unity in one faith and in one Eucharistic fellowship, expressed in worship and common life in Christ, through witness and service to the world, and advance towards that unity in order that the world may believe” (p. vii).

We note that the Commission has sent *The Church: Towards a Common Vision* to the Churches with the objective of assisting the processes of renewal in the Church and of theological agreement (p. viii) and we wholeheartedly endorse these objectives.

Aware of the depth of the ecumenical and theological engagement that lies behind *The Church: Towards a Common Vision*, we recall that the Commission's 1982 report, *Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry*, was a similar major Faith and Order milestone that encouraged new steps on the Churches' common pilgrimage in search of the fullness of that unity which is God's gift and calling for the Church (*The Canberra Statement*, WCC Seventh Assembly, 1991).

**BACKGROUND**

The concluding 'Historical Note' section in *The Church: Towards a Common Vision* provides a very helpful oversight of the development of thinking and priorities within the Faith and Order movement since its first World Conference, in 1927. That history has led to this latest document with its emphasis on the theme of koinonia, which came to the fore at the Fifth World Conference on Faith and Order in 1993 at Santiago de Compostela, and also following the further study of ecclesiology particularly reflected in Commission's report, *The Nature and Mission of the Church*, which was presented to the 2006 WCC Porto Alegre Assembly.

*The Church: Towards a Common Vision* describes itself as a "convergence text", that is, "a text which, while not expressing full consensus on all the issues considered, is much more than simply an instrument to stimulate further study” (p. 1). It is thus in status the successor to *Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry*. 

[civ]
LOOKING AHEAD

We see The Church: Towards a Common Vision as representing an effective statement of where the Churches currently find themselves on the journey of Faith and Order. It therefore presents an opportunity for reflection both on the journey so far and on possible directions for the future. To this extent, it is indeed more than a 'study document', allowing a time for serious reflection on the direction of the ecumenical journey into the years ahead.

As mentioned above, the World Conference on Faith and Order held in Santiago de Compostela in 1993 placed a characteristic stress on the theme of koinonia, communion, in understanding the nature of the Church itself. This signalled a more dynamic approach when compared with earlier models based on a more static, institutional concept of the Church. The theme of koinonia is rich in terms of highlighting relational dynamics and potentially allowing more space for ecclesial diversity itself, reflecting the diversity in the supremely relational and loving koinonia of the Holy Trinity (para 67, p. 39).

However, the Church, by virtue of being a considerable assembly of people, will always be an institution and will need structures in order to function effectively in the world (cf. Report on Institutionalism, Fourth World Conference on Faith and Order, 1963; Faith & Order Paper No. 37). Nonetheless, the Church must not be governed by an authoritarian or institutional mentality. As the Churches seek to be more faithful to Christ and his way, they will inevitably find themselves drawn more closely to one another.

Behind the whole process of the search for visible unity lies the operation of the Holy Spirit and, going forward, the Church is called to such a faithful following of the Spirit as The Church: Towards a Common Vision sees undoubtedly exemplified in Mary. (The document refers to Mary as 'the Mother of God', [para.15, pg 11], although we would prefer to render the term 'Theotokos' more accurately as 'Mother of God incarnate', not least for the sake of clarity in interfaith dialogue, in which the title, 'Mother of God', is liable to be easily misunderstood.)

THE ORDAINED MINISTRY

Regarding the ordained ministry, we welcome the affirmation at para. 20: “Agreed statements are making it clear that the royal priesthood of the whole people of God (cf. 1 Pet. 2:9) and a special ordained ministry are both important aspects of the church, and not to be seen as mutually exclusive alternatives.”

We also note the observation, in light of the challenges over issues relating to ordained
Resolutions

ministry in ecumenical dialogue, that if differences such as those relating to the priesthood of
the ordained prohibit full unity, overcoming those differences must be an urgent priority (p.
26, italicized note before para 46).

We would urge imagination and courage in taking creative steps of faith in this endeavour, for
the sake of greater visible unity through reconciled ordained ministries.

AUTHORITY

We agree with the Commission that authority in the Church must be distinguished from "mere
power" (paras. 49f, p. 28). The kind of authority which is exercised in the Church must reflect
the kind of authority found in Christ whose authority was not based on office or position, but
on the power of the truth itself.

We affirm with The Church: Towards a Common Vision that "service (diakonia) belongs to
the very being of the Church" (para 58, p. 33). Indeed, we would suggest that it lies at the
heart of all authority in the Church.

However, the document seems to suggest that authoritative decisions in the Church are
necessarily to achieve consensus: “Decision-making in the Church seeks and elicits the
consensus of all and depends upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit, discerned in attentive
listening to God’s Word and to one another. By the process of active reception over time, the
Spirit resolves possible ambiguities in decisions.” (para 51, p. 28). Yet, we believe that the
Church can err (Articles of Religion, 21) and that this refers to more than mere “ambiguities
in decisions”.

The Church: Towards a Common Vision raises the subject of the possibility of a form of
universal primacy: “Partly because of the progress already recorded in bilateral and
multilateral dialogues, the Fifth World Conference on Faith and Order raised the question ‘of a
universal ministry of Christian unity’. In his encyclical Ut Unum Sint, Pope John Paul II
quoted this text when he invited Church leaders and their theologians to ‘enter into patient and
fraternal dialogue’ with him concerning this ministry.” (para 56, p. 31)

The Church: Towards a Common Vision, we believe, is correct to indicate, in this connection,
the importance of distinguishing “between the essence of a ministry of primacy and any
particular ways in which it has been or is currently being exercised”. Clearly, there are many
issues to be addressed in relation to this subject.

THE CATHOLICITY OF THE CHURCH
Regarding the 'local' Church, we affirm the statement in The Church: Towards a Common Vision: “Each local church contains within it the fullness of what it is to be the Church. It is wholly Church, but not the whole Church.”

Regarding the whole Church, among the greatest challenges which it faces today is the need to respond to changing cultural contexts and moral attitudes. We therefore recognise a serious challenge in the document's observation that koinonia “includes not only the confession of the one faith and celebration of common worship, but also shared moral values, based upon the inspiration and insights of the Gospel” (para 62, p. 35).

We affirm The Church: Towards a Common Vision when it indicates that the “essential catholicity of the Church is undermined when cultural and other differences are allowed to develop into division” (para 22, pg 14).

Regarding the use of the expression “Church as sacrament” (cf. para 27, p. 15), we understand what is meant - that is, that the Church is an effective sign of God's presence in the world - but we can also see that for various reasons others may find difficulty with the expression. It should therefore be used with ecumenical sensitivity.

We appreciate what The Church: Towards a Common Vision has to say about evangelization in the context of interfaith relations, in indicating that this should always be respectful of those who hold other beliefs. It is appropriately stated that sharing the good news of Christ, and calling others to embrace that good news, is nothing less than “an expression of respectful love” (para 60, p. 34). This is an important aspect of the outreach of the whole Church with the one faith to the whole world.

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

Five particular questions have been addressed to the Churches in The Church: Towards a Common Vision (p. 3) and, following our comments above, we now set out our responses to those specific questions in brief:

1. To what extent does this text reflect the ecclesiological understanding of your church?

The Church of Ireland finds its Anglican ecclesiological understanding well reflected in The Church: Towards a Common Vision.

2. To what extent does this text offer a basis for growth in unity among the churches?

The Church of Ireland considers that this will largely depend on how the various
Resolutions

denominations receive the text but is of the view that *The Church: Towards a Common Vision* has considerable potential to deepen ecumenical life and thereby foster Christian unity.

3. **What adaptations or renewal in the life of your church does this statement challenge your church to work for?**

The Church of Ireland sees *The Church: Towards a Common Vision* as challenging it in various ways, including calling it to

- a deeper reflection, both as a denomination and ecumenically, on the document's broad themes;

- a clearer understanding of the limits of "legitimate" diversity in the Church (cf. p. 17, italicized section);

- new models of leadership and episcopate (cf. p. 19, ad loc.);

- yet more prophetic witness in the world;

- the developing and resourcing of new approaches to mission (paras. 6f, p. 7; para 22, p. 14);

- more effective ways of dealing with divisions over moral issues; and

- a deeper dialogue with other Churches and faith communities in Ireland.

4. **How far is your church able to form closer relationships in life and mission with those churches which can acknowledge in a positive way the account of the Church described in this statement?**

The Church of Ireland is ready to explore all possibilities for closer relationships with Churches identifying with the thrust of *The Church: Towards a Common Vision*.

5. **What aspects of the life of the Church could call for further discussion and what advice could your church offer for the ongoing work by Faith and Order in the area of ecclesiology?**

Moral discernment and eucharistic sharing, in particular, are major issues in our current context that require special attention at this time. The Church of Ireland suggests that the Faith and Order Commission draws out the major themes emerging from the responses to *The Church: Towards a Common Vision* and focuses on these in the next phase of its work.

CHAPTER I
To Amend, Consolidate and Replace Chapter VI of the Constitution and to Make Minor Consequential Amendment of Chapter IV of the Constitution

WHEREAS it is desirable to amend the provisions relating to episcopal elections in Part I of Chapter VI of the Constitution following the recommendations of the Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures;

AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to replace Chapter VI of the Constitution with an amended and consolidated Chapter VI as set out in the Schedule to this Statute and to make minor consequential amendment of Chapter IV of the Constitution;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016 and by the authority of the same as follows:

In this Statute “Chapter VI” means Chapter VI of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland.

For Chapter VI there shall be substituted a new Chapter VI as set out in the Schedule to this Statute.

This Statute shall come into effect upon enactment thereof and the provisions of Part I of Chapter VI as substituted under section 2 shall apply to episcopal elections in a see, including the See of Armagh, on or after that date: Provided that where an episcopal election process has begun but has not been concluded before that date, then that process shall continue as
Statutes of the General Synod

arranged, notwithstanding the enactment of this Statute and the substitution of a new Chapter VI.

In consequence of the amendments to and consolidation of Chapter VI, Chapter IV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland shall be amended as follows:

In section 13(2), for the words “and the liability under section 35 of Chapter VI of the Constitution in future” there shall be substituted the words “and the liability under section 38 of Chapter VI of the Constitution in future”.

Schedule

CHAPTER VI

ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS

Part I

EPISCOPAL ELECTIONS

Election to a vacant See

1. Throughout Part I of this Chapter the word “diocese” shall signify a single diocese or united dioceses under the jurisdiction of one bishop and the word “synod” shall signify the synod of a single diocese or the joint synods of united dioceses.

2. (1) Whenever the See of Armagh shall become vacant or shall be about to become vacant under the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, the House of Bishops shall appoint a person to assist the diocesan episcopal electors elected under the provisions of section 5(1) below (including those filling vacancies therein under the provisions of section 7(3) below) in preparing a diocesan profile and statement of needs.

(2) The diocesan profile and statement of needs so prepared shall be submitted to the House of Bishops as soon as practicable after the occurrence of the vacancy in the See of Armagh.
(3) As soon as may be convenient thereafter, the House of Bishops shall meet and shall by a majority of the votes of those present and voting elect one of its members or a bishop of another Province of the Anglican Communion to the Archbishopsric of Armagh and Primacy of All Ireland. The House of Bishops shall determine the date, within a period of three months from the date of the election, upon which such translation shall take effect.

3. Whenever any see, other than the See of Armagh, shall become vacant or shall be about to become vacant under the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, an Episcopal Electoral College shall be constituted for the purpose of the election of an Archbishop of Dublin or of a bishop, as the case may be.

4. An Episcopal Electoral College shall consist of:

(a) the President of the College, who shall be the archbishop of the province which includes the diocese of which the see is vacant or, if the archiepiscopal see be vacant or the archbishop thereof be unable to act, the bishop next in order of precedence in the province who may be able to act: Provided that for the purpose of the election of an Archbishop of Dublin the President of the College shall be the Archbishop of Armagh or, if that Archbishop be unable to act, a bishop nominated by the House of Bishops;

(b) two members of the House of Bishops nominated by that House, being one bishop from each province;

(c) twelve diocesan clerical and twelve diocesan lay episcopal electors from the diocese of which the see is vacant;

(d) (i) when the diocese of which the see is vacant is situated in the Province of Armagh, and subject to paragraph (e) below, two diocesan clerical and two diocesan lay episcopal electors from each of the other dioceses in the Province;

(ii) when the diocese of which the see is vacant is situated in the Province of Dublin, three diocesan clerical and three diocesan lay episcopal electors from each of the other dioceses in the Province;

[cxii]
(e) in the case of an election in either province to fill a vacancy in a see due to the archbishop or bishop thereof having been elected to the Archbishopric of Armagh, six diocesan clerical and six diocesan lay episcopal electors from the Diocese of Armagh.

**Diocesan Episcopal Electors**

5. (1) The diocesan synod of Armagh shall, in the year 2017 and triennially thereafter at the first session of each successive synod, elect from among its members, in the manner hereinafter provided, six clerical and six lay episcopal electors and such number of supplemental clerical and lay episcopal electors as it may determine.

(2) The synod of every other diocese shall, in the year 2017 and triennially thereafter at the first session of each successive synod, elect from among its members, in the manner hereinafter provided, twelve clerical and twelve lay episcopal electors and such number of supplemental clerical and lay episcopal electors as it may determine.

(3) The episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors so elected by each synod shall be the episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors of the said dioceses until the first day of the first session of the succeeding synods as elected triennially for each such diocese respectively: Provided that the episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors in office at the time of a see becoming vacant, or one month prior to the see becoming vacant in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, whichever be the earlier, shall be the episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors respectively for the purpose of the election of a bishop to fill the vacant see.

6. (1) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (4) of this section, the election of episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors in each synod shall be by the members thereof by voting papers. The voting shall be by orders, the clerical members voting for clerical episcopal electors and the lay members voting for lay episcopal electors.

(2) Every case of equality of votes shall be determined by lot.

(3) Additional supplemental episcopal electors, if required, may be elected at any meeting of the synod of a diocese.
Statutes of the General Synod

(4) In any united diocese in which there shall be no joint meeting of the diocesan synods the election of clerical and lay episcopal electors may be carried out (i) in such manner as may be determined by agreement between the diocesan councils, or (ii) by a joint committee appointed by the diocesan councils over which the bishop shall preside, and in which the bishop shall in the case of equality of votes have a casting vote.

7. (1) The names of the persons elected to be clerical episcopal electors, supplemental clerical episcopal electors, lay episcopal electors and supplemental lay episcopal electors respectively for each diocese shall be placed on separate lists in order of the number of votes received by them respectively. In the event of two or more persons receiving an equality of votes, the order in which they shall be placed on lists shall be determined by lot.

(2) The lists of episcopal electors and supplemental episcopal electors for each diocese shall be sent immediately after each election to the archbishop of each province by the secretary or secretaries of the synod, who shall also inform them from time to time of any amendments to the lists which may be necessary.

(3) Whenever any episcopal elector shall die or resign or be, in the opinion of the archbishop of the province which includes the diocese for which such person is an episcopal elector, permanently unwilling or unable to act or shall cease to be a member of the synod by which such person was elected or shall permanently cease to be resident in Ireland or, being a clerical episcopal elector, shall cease to be one of the beneficed or licensed clergy of the diocese for which such person was elected, that person’s place on the list shall become vacant. A vacancy shall be filled by the clerical or lay episcopal elector, if any, whose name stands next highest in order on the relevant list of episcopal electors or, where the circumstances so require, the supplemental clerical or lay episcopal elector whose name stands highest on the relevant list of supplemental episcopal electors.

(4) For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of subsection (3) above apply should a person’s place on the list become vacant between the first meeting of the Electoral College and any subsequent meeting of the same College. Any clerical or lay episcopal elector filling a vacancy that occurs between the first meeting of the College and any subsequent meeting of the same College shall be summoned to attend the subsequent meeting or meetings of the same College.

Procedure for Convening and Holding an Episcopalian Electoral College

[exiii]
8. (1) Whenever any see, other than the See of Armagh, shall become vacant, or shall be about to become vacant in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, the President of the Electoral College shall, as soon as may be convenient:

(a) appoint the Registrar of the Province in which the College is to meet, or other fit person, to act as secretary of the College;

(b) appoint a person to assist the diocesan episcopal electors elected under the provisions of section 5(2) above from the diocese of which the see is vacant or about to become vacant (including those filling vacancies therein under the provisions of section 7(3) above) to prepare a diocesan profile and statement of needs for submission to the first meeting of the College;

(c) notify the House of Bishops of the intention to convene and hold meetings of the College and request the House of Bishops to nominate one bishop from the same province as the President and one bishop from the other province to be episcopal electors of such College;

(d) appoint the place, date and time for the first meeting of the College to take place without undue delay and in any case within four months of the see becoming vacant;

(e) appoint the place, date and time for the second meeting of the College to take place within three months of the first meeting of the College;

(f) appoint the place, date and time for a third meeting of the College to take place within one month of the second meeting of the College in the event that the College requests it under the provisions of section 15(1) below;

(g) summon to attend the meetings of the College as episcopal electors:

   (i) the two bishops nominated by the House of Bishops;

   (ii) twelve diocesan clerical and twelve diocesan lay episcopal electors from the diocese of which the see is vacant;

   (iii) when the diocese of which the see is vacant is situated in the Province of Armagh, and subject to (iv) below, the first two diocesan clerical and the first two diocesan lay episcopal electors on the respective lists of each of the other dioceses of the Province; or

   [cxiv]
when the diocese of which the see is vacant is situated in the Province of Dublin, the first three diocesan clerical and the first three diocesan lay episcopal electors on the respective lists of each of the other dioceses of the Province;

(iv) in the case of an election in either province to fill a vacancy in a see due to the archbishop or bishop thereof having been elected to the Archbishopric of Armagh, six diocesan clerical and six diocesan lay episcopal electors from the Diocese of Armagh:

Provided however that if any such diocesan episcopal elector shall, in the opinion of the President of the College, be unable or unwilling to act, the clerical or lay episcopal elector, if any, whose name stands next highest in order on the relevant list of episcopal electors or, where the circumstances so require, the supplemental clerical or lay episcopal elector whose name stands highest in order on the relevant list of supplemental episcopal electors shall be summoned in place of the diocesan episcopal elector so unable or unwilling to act.

(2) When a see, other than the See of Armagh, is about to become vacant under the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter, the President of the College for the see may fulfil the requirements of sub-section (1) of this section before the see becomes vacant in order that the College may meet as soon as may be convenient after the vacancy occurs.

(3) The President of the College, together with the two nominees of the House of Bishops and the diocesan episcopal electors summoned as aforesaid, shall be the members and episcopal electors of the said College.

Episcopal Electoral College Meetings and Procedure

9. On each day appointed for the meetings of the Electoral College, members shall assemble in a cathedral or church, as determined by the President, for a celebration of the Holy Communion. On the first such occasion, at the place of the sermon the President, or a bishop or priest appointed by the President, shall give a charge to the College declaring the office and work of a bishop in the Church of God and the qualities of heart and mind required in those who are called to that sacred office.

10. (1) No person may be present at a meeting of the Electoral College except the members of the College, the secretary of the College, and a legal assessor nominated by the President.
Statutes of the General Synod

(2) Before any member of a College shall do any act therein such member shall sign a declaration in the words following: I, A.B., bearing in mind how important it is that the sacred office of a bishop should not be conferred unworthily, do solemnly declare that I shall record my votes at this election for such person or persons only as I, in my conscience, believe to be of such learning and soundness in the faith, and of such virtuous and godly character, as to be fitted and qualified for the holy office of bishop. I solemnly declare that I shall not act herein through favour or affection, but in singleness of heart, for the glory of God, the good of his Church, and the welfare of his people; and I further solemnly declare that I shall not disclose to any person whatsoever any information regarding the election other than that which may be agreed upon by the Electoral College.

(3) No information regarding proceedings of the College (including any voting therein) shall be given to the press, radio, television or social media or disclosed to any person save to the House of Bishops, except such information as may be agreed upon by the College.

11. At the first meeting of the Electoral College, the College shall:

(a) consider the diocesan profile and statement of needs submitted by the episcopal electors from the vacant see;

(b) nominate bishops or priests of not less than thirty years of age to be considered by a Shortlisting Committee;

(c) elect from its members a Shortlisting Committee of eight members, consisting of equal numbers of clergy and laity and equal numbers from the vacant see and from outside the vacant see together with such reserve members as it may deem necessary; Provided however that no person nominated for consideration shall be a member of the Shortlisting Committee unless he or she rejects their own nomination; and provided that no member elected from outside the vacant see shall serve more than twice and never consecutively on a Shortlisting Committee.

(d) With the assent of the President, agree directions on the procedure to be followed by the Shortlisting Committee.

12. Between the first and second meetings of the Electoral College, the Shortlisting Committee shall consider the academic career, ministerial service, qualities of heart and mind and suitability for election as bishop by this College of persons nominated by the College and produce a shortlist of at least three and not more than five persons for the College to consider at its second meeting.
13. At the second meeting the Electoral College shall consider a written report of the Shortlisting Committee and vote on the names of those shortlisted: Provided that any member of the College who is shortlisted shall withdraw from the meeting.

14. (1) All voting at the Electoral College shall be by orders, the bishops if they wish to vote voting as members of the clerical order. The President shall be entitled to vote in the same way as other members of the College. The voting shall be conducted in such manner as the President may determine, and may be repeated once or more often. Informal discussion may likewise precede the taking of any repeated vote. The President’s decision regarding any dispute as to the voting shall be final. The President may adjourn the meeting from time to time.

(2) If, on the taking of any vote, any person shall receive two-thirds of the votes of the members of each order present and voting, that person shall thereupon be declared elected.

(3) If, on the taking of any vote, any person shall receive a simple majority of the votes of the members of each order present and voting, the name of that person shall be put to the College alone, to determine whether it reaches the requisite two thirds majority of each order present and voting and if it does so, that person shall thereupon be declared elected.

15. (1) If after the taking of several votes no person has received the requisite majority, the Electoral College may by a simple majority pass a resolution that a third meeting of the College should take place on the date appointed by the President.

(2) The President shall invite members of the College to nominate additional bishops or priests of not less than thirty years of age for the consideration of the Shortlisting Committee.

(3) Between the second and third meetings of the College the Shortlisting Committee shall produce a new shortlist of at least two and not more than five persons for consideration by the College at the third meeting along with the persons shortlisted for the second meeting.

(4) Alternatively, the College may by a simple majority pass a resolution that no further vote be taken, and the appointment shall pass to the House of Bishops.
16. (1) On the date appointed for a third meeting of the Electoral College, the College shall consider the written report of the Shortlisting Committee and vote on the names of those shortlisted: Provided that any member of the College who is shortlisted shall withdraw from the meeting.

(2) If at a third meeting after several votes have been taken no person has received the requisite majority, the College may by a simple majority pass a resolution that no further vote be taken, and the appointment shall pass to the House of Bishops.

17. (1) The bishop or priest elected as aforesaid by the Electoral College shall immediately thereafter be notified of the fact by the President or secretary of the College, and upon such person’s acceptance that person’s name shall be transmitted to the House of Bishops which, if satisfied of that person’s fitness to be duly ordained and consecrated, shall confirm the election and shall take the necessary steps to give effect to such election, including in the case of a translation the determination of a date, within a period of three months from the date of election by the College, upon which such translation shall take effect.

(2) If the bishop or priest elected as aforesaid shall decline, the President shall again fulfil the requirements of the procedure for convening and holding an Episcopal Electoral College under section 8 of this Chapter: Provided that section 8(1)(b) (appointment of a person to assist and preparation of a diocesan profile and statement of needs) shall not apply and Provided also that the time limits specified in section 8(1)(d), (e) and (f) shall not apply and the President shall set dates for meetings to take place as soon as may be practicable.

(3) The first meeting of the College convened and held under subsection (2) of this section shall be considered the first meeting of the College for the purposes of this Chapter.

18. Failure to summon any episcopal elector to a meeting or the absence of any episcopal elector so summoned as aforesaid shall not preclude the Electoral College from proceeding to election, but, if more than one diocese in the province in which the see is vacant be entirely unrepresented at the meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned to such date and time as the President shall decide, of which written notice shall be sent to each episcopal elector, and such adjourned meeting shall proceed to an election.
Statutes of the General Synod

19. A grant towards the expenses of each episcopal elector who shall have attended a meeting of the Electoral College shall be paid out of the General Purposes Fund of the General Synod in accordance with a scale to be fixed by the Standing Committee.

20. The Archbishops of Armagh and Dublin may jointly from time to time make, rescind and vary regulations for such matters relating to the convening, holding and procedure of Electoral Colleges as are not provided for herein.

Election by House of Bishops

21. Whenever the appointment of an Archbishop of Dublin or a bishop shall have passed to the House of Bishops under the foregoing provisions, the House of Bishops shall, as soon as conveniently may be, by a majority of the votes of the archbishops and bishops present and voting at a meeting duly convened for the purpose, elect such person, being a bishop or priest of not less than thirty years of age, as it may think fit, to the vacant see. In the case of a translation, the House of Bishops shall determine the date, within a period of three months from the date of the election, upon which such translation shall take effect. At such meeting there shall be laid before the House of Bishops a record of the proceedings of the Electoral College.

Part II

GUARDIANSHIP OF THE SPIRITUALITIES OF A SEE DURING A VACANCY

22. If and so often as a vacancy shall occur in the Archbishopric of Armagh the guardianship of the spiritualities of the Diocese of Armagh shall, so far as no other provision has been made therefor by the Constitution, devolve upon the Dean and Chapter of the cathedral church of St Patrick, Armagh, who shall forthwith proceed to elect an official administrator to carry out and execute the duties of the office.

23. If and so often as a vacancy shall occur in the Archbishopric of Dublin, the guardianship of the spiritualities of the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough shall, so far as no other provision has been made therefor by the Constitution, devolve upon the Dean and Chapter of the cathedral of the Holy Trinity (commonly called Christ Church), Dublin, who shall forthwith proceed to elect an official administrator to carry out and execute the duties of the office.

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24. (1) The guardianship of the spiritualities of a vacant see shall devolve on the archbishop of the province in which the said see is situated.

(2) During a vacancy in the Archbishopric of a province, the guardianship of the spiritualities of a vacant diocese in the province shall devolve on the Chapter of such diocese or, in the case of a united diocese, on the Chapters of the several dioceses of which it is composed; and the Chapter or Chapters jointly shall elect an official administrator to carry out and execute the duties of the office.

25. Each of the said official administrators shall have power to direct the summoning of Boards of Nomination to fill any cures which may be or may become vacant, to accept returns from Boards of Nomination, to receive the nomination of a member of the clergy to any vacant cure, to institute or decline to institute any nominated member of the clergy, to appoint curates in charge for any vacant cures, to grant licences to curates assistant, and generally to exercise the powers of the bishop in regard to the provisions of Chapter IV, save and except that no such official administrator shall exercise any right of patronage or appointment to any dignity or office in any cathedral or to any cure of souls which may accrue to the see by lapse or otherwise. The official administrator shall have power to suspend any member of the clergy who may have been convicted of any criminal offence by any of the temporal courts of the state, and also such powers of granting dispensations, licences, certificates for superannuation, and similar matters as may lawfully be exercised by any person not in episcopal orders.

Part III

TEMPORARY DISCHARGE BY ANOTHER BISHOP OF DUTIES OF A BISHOP OR ARCHBISHOP

26. It shall be lawful for an archbishop or bishop, with the consent, in the case of a bishop, of the archbishop of the province, to arrange with another bishop of the Church of Ireland to discharge the duties of the see for a period not exceeding twelve months, and such bishop shall, for that time, have the authority and jurisdiction of the bishop of the see.
RESIGNATION OF ARCHBISHOP OR BISHOP

27. In this Part “normal retirement age” and “episcopal service” shall have the meanings given to them by section 1 of Chapter XIV.

28. (1) An archbishop or bishop who has reached the age of 65 years may resign.

(2) Notice of resignation shall be given in the case of an archbishop to the House of Bishops or in the case of a bishop to the archbishop of the Province, and such notice shall specify the date on which it is to take effect which date shall not be less than two, nor more than four, months after the date of such notice.

(3) Notice of resignation may be given before reaching the age of 65 years, to take effect upon reaching it.

29. (1) An archbishop or bishop who has not reached the normal retirement age, but who desires to resign by reason of ill health and to receive an ill health early retirement pension, shall send a letter of request in the case of an archbishop to the House of Bishops or in the case of a bishop to the archbishop of the province, who shall communicate it to the House of Bishops.

(2) Every such letter of request shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Medical Panel, appointed in accordance with section 32 of Chapter XIV, that the applicant is permanently disabled by infirmity from the efficient discharge of episcopal duties.

(3) The House of Bishops, having considered the letter of request and the certificate from the Medical Panel, shall determine whether the resignation should be accepted and, if so, shall appoint a date on which it shall take effect.

30. (1) An archbishop or bishop who has reached the age of 60 years but has not reached the normal retirement age, and who desires to resign for reasons other than ill health and to receive a pension, shall send a letter of request in the case of an archbishop to the House of Bishops or in the case of a bishop to the archbishop of the province.

(2) The House of Bishops or the archbishop (as the case may be) shall determine whether the resignation should be accepted and, if so, shall appoint a date on which it shall take effect.
31. (1) An archbishop or bishop who has not reached the normal retirement age, but who desires to resign without receiving a pension, shall send a letter of request in the case of an archbishop to the House of Bishops or in the case of a bishop to the archbishop of the province.

(2) The House of Bishops or the archbishop (as the case may be) shall determine whether the resignation should be accepted and, if so, shall appoint a date on which it shall take effect.

32. The House of Bishops or the archbishop (as the case may be) shall

(a) notify the applicant of the determination reached under section 29(3), section 30(2) or section 31(2);

(b) notify the Representative Body and the Church of Ireland Pensions Board of the receipt of a notice of resignation under section 28(2) and of a determination to accept a resignation under section 29(3), section 30(2) or section 31(2).

33. Each archbishop and bishop shall be deemed to have resigned on the day on which such archbishop or bishop would have been deemed to have resigned if the provisions of section 36 of Chapter IV had applied, and such resignation shall be deemed to have been accepted forthwith: Provided always that section 36(3) of Chapter IV shall apply *mutatis mutandis* in the case of any such archbishop or bishop.

34. If at any time it appears to the House of Bishops, upon such evidence as it may deem sufficient, that any archbishop or bishop is incapacitated by permanent mental infirmity from the due performance of archiepiscopal or episcopal duties, and also from tendering a valid resignation, the House of Bishops may certify the same to the authority empowered to convene the Court of the General Synod, and the said Court shall thereupon be convened in manner prescribed by the Constitution; and if upon due enquiry and such evidence as the Court may deem sufficient and upon such notice to the archbishop or bishop aforesaid as the Court may deem just the Court shall by judgment pronounce such archbishop or bishop to be incapacitated as aforesaid, the judgment of the Court so pronounced shall have the same effect, and the same proceedings may be taken thereon, for the purpose of vacating the see and for the purpose of providing a pension for such archbishop or bishop as if such archbishop or bishop had given notice of resignation under section 28(2) or sent a letter of request under section 29(1).

Part V
FINANCING OF THE EPISCOPACY

35. From 1st January 1984 each diocese shall contribute towards the cost of the episcopacy of the Church of Ireland at a rate to be determined by the Representative Body not later than 30th November in 1983 and each year thereafter: Provided that a rate determined for any one year being more than twenty five per centum in excess of the rate for the year immediately preceding shall become operative only on the passing of an affirmative resolution of the General Synod.

36. (1) The contributions from each diocese shall be the sum of the number of cures, including vacant cures, in such diocese at the preceding 30th June (as agreed between the Representative Body and the diocesan council) multiplied by the minimum approved stipend of an incumbent as fixed from time to time by the General Synod in accordance with section 51(1) of Chapter IV and operative on 1st January of the year to which the contribution relates multiplied by a rate per centum determined by the Representative Body in accordance with section 35 of this Chapter.

(2) In the case of a diocese, part of which is situated in the Republic of Ireland and part of which is situated in Northern Ireland, account shall be taken of the differing figures for minimum approved stipend fixed in respect of incumbents resident in each jurisdiction, and the contributions shall be sub-divided accordingly.

(3) In the event of disagreement between the Representative Body and the diocesan council as to the number of cures in any diocese, such shall be determined by the decision of the archbishop of the province in which such diocese is situated.

37. Contributions shall be payable quarterly in arrears by each diocesan council on 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December each year or in such other manner as the Representative Body may approve.

38. Each diocesan council shall be at liberty to recover in whole or in part the contribution so charged by direct assessment on the individual parishes, unions or groups of parishes, or churches, within its jurisdiction in whatever manner it deems appropriate.
Statutes of the General Synod

39. For the purposes of this Part the term “cure” shall have the same general meaning as contained in Chapter IV, and shall include:

(a) A parish, union or group of parishes under the care of an incumbent appointed under Part III of Chapter IV;
(b) A parish, union or group of parishes under the care of a bishop’s curate appointed under section 42 of Chapter IV;
(c) A parish, union or group of parishes assigned to the immediate care of a vicar appointed under Part X of Chapter IV;
(d) A parish, union or group of parishes in respect of which a certificate has been issued by the Representative Body under section 52 of Chapter IV;
(e) A “light-duty parish” as defined by section 62 of Chapter IV;
(f) A cathedral which is non-parochial.

40. The Representative Body shall at the ordinary session of the General Synod in 2003 and quinquennially thereafter, and may at any other session, present a report on the implementation of this Part, specifying any amendment which may appear to be necessary or expedient.

Part VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS

41. During a vacancy in any see the expenses properly incurred in carrying out any duties normally performed by the bishop of the diocese may be paid by the Representative Body out of the income of the Episcopal Endowment Fund accruing during the vacancy.

42. Rules for carrying the provisions of this Chapter into effect may be framed from time to time in manner provided by Chapter VIII, section 11.
Statutes of the General Synod

CHAPTER II

To amend Chapter III of the Constitution

WHEREAS for the purposes of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, or as the case may be, the Charities Act 2009, the members of a Select Vestry are to be regarded as the charity trustees of the parish;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that neither parishioners, nor incumbents nor other members of the clergy officiating in a parish should be entitled to act as members of a Select Vestry if they are unwilling or unprepared to comply with their obligations under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 or the Charities Act 2009, as the case may be;

BE IT ENACTED BY the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:--

1. In this Statute “Chapter III” means Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland.

2. In Chapter III, after Section 18, the following sections shall be inserted:

18A. If, within twenty-one days of being duly called upon to do so, a lay member of the Select Vestry, shall fail, refuse or neglect to execute any documentation that may be required of him or her, as a charity trustee, under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 or the Charities Act 2009 (as applicable), that person shall automatically vacate office as a member of the Select Vestry and the casual vacancy thereby arising shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of Section 22 or 23, as applicable, of this Chapter.

18B. If, within twenty-one days of being duly called upon to do so, a member of the clergy who is a member of the Select Vestry, shall fail, refuse or neglect to execute any documentation that may be required of him or her, as a charity trustee, under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 or the Charities Act 2009 (as applicable) that person shall be liable to disciplinary action pursuant to Part IV of Chapter VIII and shall not be entitled to receive notice of, or to attend or vote at meetings of the Select Vestry for so long as he or she shall fail, refuse or neglect to execute the said documentation.
Statutes of the General Synod

CHAPTER III

To Amend Chapter X of the Constitution

WHEREAS in 1930 the General Synod established the Church Fabric Fund, whose terms are contained in Part IV of Chapter X of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to widen the terms of the Fund to enable the Fund’s assets to be applied for purposes in addition to those heretofore permitted by Part IV of Chapter X;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to rename the Fund to encourage and develop the use of the Fund;

AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to amend Chapter X of the Constitution;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the clergy and laity of the Church of Ireland, in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. The Church Fabric Fund established by the Statute, Chapter I of 1930 is hereby renamed “The Church Fabric and Development Fund”.

2. In Chapter X of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, for section 20 there shall be substituted:

“20. The Church Fabric and Development Fund (‘the Fund’), established by the Statute, Chapter I of 1930, shall be held in trust for (i) the restoration or repair of the fabric of any church or chapel, whether cathedral, collegiate or parochial, used for public worship and vested in the Representative Body and (ii) for the development of initiatives supporting the long term mission of the Church.’

3. In Chapter X, for section 24 there shall be substituted:

‘24. Subject to the provisions of sections 25, 26 and 27, the income of the Fund may be applied at the discretion of the Representative Body for the following purposes:

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Statutes of the General Synod

(a) The income of the Fund which has accrued up to 30th June 2016 may be applied for the restoration or repair of the fabric of any church or chapel, whether cathedral, collegiate or parochial, used for public worship and vested in the Representative Body;

(b) The income of the Fund accruing from 1st July 2016 may be applied for (i) the restoration or repair of the fabric of any church or chapel, whether cathedral, collegiate or parochial, used for public worship and vested in the Representative Body and/or (ii) the development of initiatives supporting the long term mission of the Church.

The Representative Body shall formulate rules and regulations for the administration and application of the Fund and shall present all rules and regulations to the Standing Committee of the General Synod for approval.

4. In Chapter X, for section 27 there shall be substituted:

‘27. In any case where sections 25 or 26 do not apply, not more than 80% of the sale proceeds or compensation shall be held in trust by the Representative Body as an endowment for the Parish and (i) the income applied for such purposes in connection with the Parish as the select vestry with responsibility for the Parish, with the consent of the Diocesan Council and the Representative Body, shall decide and/or (ii) the capital made available for the development of such initiatives supporting the long term mission of the Church as the select vestry with responsibility for the Parish, with the consent of the Diocesan Council and the Representative Body, may propose. The Representative Body shall formulate rules and regulations for the administration and application of the capital of all endowments held under this section and shall present all rules and regulations to the Standing Committee of the General Synod for approval.’
CHAPTER IV

To amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution

WHEREAS it is desirable that, with effect from 1 January 2017, contributions required to be paid to a member's pension fund should continue to be paid until the member retires, unless the member upon or after attaining his or her Normal Retirement Age requests the cessation of pension contributions;

AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to amend Chapter XIV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016 and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In this Statute "Chapter XIV" means Chapter XIV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland.

2. With effect from 1 January 2017 for Section 8 of Chapter XIV there shall be substituted:

‘8. (a) Member’s pension fund
Unless a member, upon or after attaining his or her Normal Retirement Age, requests the cessation of pension contributions, contributions required to be paid to the member's pension fund until the member retires shall be as follows:

a member contribution of 9% per annum of the relevant Minimum Approved Stipend or Episcopal Stipend by a monthly deduction from the stipend of each member concerned; and
a Parish / Diocesan Council / Other contribution of 8% per annum of the relevant Minimum Approved Stipend or Episcopal Stipend by assessment on that Parish / Diocesan Council / Other concerned for paying that member’s stipend.

(b) Death in Service insured benefit
Until a member attains his or her Normal Retirement Age contributions to Death in Service insured benefit is payable by a Parish / Diocesan Council / Other contribution at a contribution rate determined by the Representative Body to meet the cost of the benefit by way of assessment on that Parish / Diocesan Council / Other concerned for paying that member's stipend.’
CHAPTER V

To amend Chapter IX of the Constitution

WHEREAS it is desirable, in certain circumstances, to make provision for the admission into holy orders of persons who have been nominated to a post certified as suited to part-time deployment;

AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to amend Chapter IX of the Constitution;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops, and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland, in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire, in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. In this Statute “Chapter IX” means Chapter IX of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, and “Canon 34” means Canon 34 of the Canons of the Church of Ireland as contained in Chapter IX.

2. In Paragraph 4 of Canon 34 (The occupations of clergy) the following words shall be deleted:

“who, for a period of not less than three years, has held ecclesiastical office or served as a curate assistant, and”.

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WHEREAS it is expedient to make better provision for the regulation and management of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, commonly called Christ Church, Dublin;

AND WHEREAS for this purpose it is necessary to amend Chapter I of 1902 as amended;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

1. In this Statute “Chapter I of 1902” means the Statute of the General Synod, Chapter I of 1902.

2. For section 4 of Chapter I of 1902 there shall be substituted the following:-

   The Chapter shall consist, with the Dean, of the Precentor, Chancellor, Treasurer, Archdeacon of Dublin, Archdeacon of Glendalough, and twelve Canons, eight of whom shall be appointed from the beneficed or licensed Clergy of the Diocese of Dublin, and four of whom shall be appointed from the beneficed or licensed Clergy of the Diocese of Glendalough. Of such twelve Canons the first three in seniority of appointment shall bear respectively the name and style of Prebendary of St. Michael, Prebendary of St. Michan, and Prebendary of St. John.

3. Chapter I of 1902 is hereby amended by the insertion after section 4 of the following section:-

   4A Save to the extent otherwise provided for herein, the Dean and Chapter, with the consent of the Ordinary, shall be responsible for and may make regulations for the conduct of Divine Service in the Cathedral.

4. For Section 15 of Chapter I of 1902 there shall be substituted the following:-

   The Cathedral Board shall have power to make rules and regulations for the times and conduct of its meetings; it shall be presided over by the Dean, or, in his or her absence, by the member of the Chapter next in rank, who shall be present, and the President shall have both an ordinary and a casting vote. A meeting of the Board may be summoned at any time by the Dean or, in his or her absence, by his or her Deputy, and shall be summoned at any time on the
written requisition of four members of the Board, addressed to the Dean, or to
his or her Deputy, as the case may be. The elected members of the Board
shall retire from office at the Easter Vestry in every third year, but shall
severally be capable of re-election.

5. For section 19 of Chapter I of 1902 there shall be substituted the following:--

19(A) Save where otherwise provided for herein, the registration of
vestry persons, the election of synods persons, the filling of vacancies and the
business of the Cathedral Board, shall be conducted in the same manner as for
parishes under the provisions of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, or
as near thereto as circumstances will permit.

(B) The Dean, or his or her Deputy, shall have the powers and duties of an
Incumbent.

(C) The Cathedral Board shall have the powers, functions and duties of a
Select Vestry and of Churchwardens and, without prejudice to the generality
of the foregoing, shall have the control, charge and management of the
following:--

i. The preservation, restoration, and repair of the fabric of the
    Cathedral and all permanent structures therein.

ii. The lighting, heating and cleaning of the Cathedral.

iii. The ornaments of the Cathedral, the monuments, the tablets,
    windows and brasses to be placed in the Cathedral: provided that
    none shall be erected or placed in the Cathedral or removed
    therefrom without the consent or approval of the Dean and Chapter
    and of the Ordinary.

iv. The collections and all financial matters relating to the Cathedral,
    including the regulation of all salaries and pensions payable by the
    Board.

v. The appointment and removal of all lay officials of the Cathedral
    and all officers of the Cathedral whose appointment is not vested in
    the Archbishop, or in the Dean and Chapter, excepting the Verger
    (who shall be appointed and may be removed by the Dean).
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STA – Board for Social Theology in Action
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"   ii. Exempt Jurisdiction of Newry and Mourne.  Repealed by 1879, C.i.

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"   iv. General Synod.  Repealed by 1879, C.i.


"   vi. Churchwardens.  Repealed by 1879, C.i.


"   viii. Preservation and Authentication of Records of General Convention and General Synod.  All except ss.4 and 5 repealed by 1879, C.i.


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"  iv. Widows and Orphans. Repealed by 1889, C.i.

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"  v. Exchange of Benefices. Repealed by 1899, C.i.

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"  iii. Tuam Cathedral. Amended by 2013, C.ii.

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"  x. Book of Common Prayer. -
"  xi. Book of Common Prayer. -
"  xii. Book of Common Prayer. -
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"  xiv. The Canons. -
"  xv. Consolidation of the Constitution. -

Cap.  i  Clergy Pension Fund -
      2005

Cap.  i  Marriage Record Books -
"  ii  Diocesan Architects -
"  iii  Down Cathedral Repealed by 2014, C.v.

Cap.  i  Marriage Regulations -
"  ii  Ministry with Children -
"  iii  Child Protection Officers -
"  iv  Christ Church Cathedral -
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Cap.  i  Book of Common Prayer -
"  ii  Institution of an Incumbent -
"  iii  Canon 32 -
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"  x. Clergy Pensions (Defined Contribution)

2014
   Cap. i. Interchangeability of Ministry with the Methodist Church
   ii. Commission on Episcopal Ministry and Structures
   iii. St Mary’s Cathedral, Tuam
   iv. Select Vestries (Size of)
   v. Down Cathedral

2015
   Cap. i. Dignity in Church Life Charter
   ii. Provision for Clergy illness
   iii. Clergy and Ministry Protection Fund
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   v. Armagh Cathedral
   vi. Pensions

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   ii. Membership of Select Vestries
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INDEX TO RULES, PROTOCOLS AND REGULATIONS LAID ON THE TABLE AT GENERAL SYNOD 2012-2016

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<td>Protocol for transferring clergy serving in the non-stipendary ministry to the stipendary ministry, HoB 2013/001, 2014 p cx.</td>
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| Deacon, Licence of a, Form 43A 2012, p. lxxviii. |

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COURT OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

REPORTS OF CASES HEARD

The following Cases have been reported in the Journals of the General Synod as follows:-

1. 1885 Re Meath Episcopal Election. Right of Diocesan Synod to submit the names of three clergymen to the Bench of Bishops. Case from Bishops. - Reported in Journal, 1886, p. 169.


3. 1888 Legality of Grant for Divinity School in connection with the Church of Ireland. Case from General Synod. - Reported in Journal, 1888, p. 158.


8. 1892 Grant v. Smith and others. Construction of Canon XXXVI. Appeal from Diocesan Court of Dublin. Cross on Stand behind Communion Table held to be illegal. - Reported in Journal, 1895, p. 204.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Case</th>
<th>Summary</th>
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<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>Re Leet</td>
<td>Clergyman incapacitated by permanent mental infirmity. - Reported in Journal, 1905, p. 333</td>
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<tr>
<td>1907</td>
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<td>Clergyman incapacitated by permanent mental infirmity. - Reported in Journal, 1908, p.332.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>Re The Deceased Wife's Sister Marriage Act, 1907</td>
<td>Case from Bishops. - Reported in Journal, 1908, p.333 and pp.1iii-lv.</td>
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</table>
22. 1914 Correll v. Robinson and others.

23. 1916 Diocesan Council of Down, Connor and Dromore v. Representative Church Body.
Claim in respect of Bequest of Archdeacon Smythe.

Ceasing to reside in Parish and to perform his duties as Incumbent. Sentence of Suspension.

25. 1918 Hitchcock and others v. Archbishop of Armagh.
Claim a Declaration that ruling of Respondent as President of the Session of the General synod was erroneous. No jurisdiction.

The Court decided that it was within the power of the General Synod to amend Canon XXII by the insertion of the following words after the word "Ministers": "and in such examination shall be included a course of theological study approved by the General Synod". Case from Bishops.

27. 1921 Johnson and others v. Robinson.

Violations of Canons. Sentence of Admonition.

29. 1933 Re Bradshaw.
Cleryman incapacitated by permanent mental infirmity.
- Reported in Journal, 1933, p. 381.

30. 1935 Christie and others v. Colquhoun.
Violation of Canons. Sentence of Admonition.

30A. 1937 Chamney and others v. Colquhoun.
Violation of Canons. Sentence of six months suspension.

31. 1939 Caithness and others v. Colquhoun and others.
Petition for a Faculty for the removal of a Crucifix. Appeal from Diocesan Court of Dublin. Appeal dismissed.

32. 1940
Colquhoun and others v. Caithness and others.
Petition for a Faculty to confirm the retention of a Crucifix. Appeal from Diocesan Court of Dublin. Remitted to Diocesan Court.
- Reported in Journal, 1941, p.413.

33. 1941
Hick and others v. Wilson
Alleged violation of Canons. Petition dismissed.

34. 1947
Bishop of Tuam v. Judge.
Refusal to meet Ordinary. Sentence of Admonition. Sundry other charges dismissed.

35. 1991
Carnduff and Others v. Thomas and Another.
Grant of Faculty for the placing of a cross on the Communion Table. Appeal from Diocesan Court of Down and Dromore. Appeal dismissed.

36. 2001
Re Special Diocesan Synod of Cashel and Ossory held on 29 June 2000.

37. 2002
Holding beliefs contrary to the doctrines of the Church of Ireland. Petition withdrawn on agreed terms. – Reported in Journal 2003.

NOTES

1. The following case was also heard and decided by the Court, but was not reported:-

1872
Gilbert v. Maturin.
Defendant was charged with certain ecclesiastical offences, some of which were held to be proved, but in the exceptional circumstances of the case no punishment was inflicted nor were costs awarded.

2. The Court sat on sundry dates in November and December, 1923, to hear Appeals from the Decisions of the Commissioners appointed under the Statute 1920 (Special Session), c.iii, in respect of Final Schemes framed by them. Six Appeals were granted, and three were dismissed. Details of the nine Appeals are printed in Journals, 1924 - 1963.

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ECCLESIASTICAL TRIBUNALS

REPORTS OF CASES

The following Cases have been reported in the Journals of the General Synod as follows:-

Disciplinary Tribunal

1. 2011 Complaints Committee v. Williamson
   Conduct unbecoming to sacred calling – neglect of duty – breach of Safeguarding Trust.
   Sentence of permanent deprivation of office and deposition from holy orders, upon terms. - Reported in Journal, 2011, p. 451

2. 2013 Complaints Committee v. Hemphill
   Conduct unbecoming to sacred calling
   Sentence of temporary deprivation of office. – Reported in Journal 2014, p. 454

Complaints Committee

1. 2011 Complaints Committee v. Hemphill
   Conduct unbecoming to sacred calling – neglect of duty.
   Sentence of severe admonition on consent. - Reported in Journal, 2011, p. 454
## ATTENDANCE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2016

### Thursday 12th May

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<th>Diocese</th>
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<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clogher</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Derry &amp; Raphoe</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Down &amp; Dromore</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>41</td>
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<td>Connor</td>
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**SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE**

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<tr>
<td>May 12th</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>283</td>
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<td>May 13th</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14th</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total number of attendances recorded: 1,193; average 398

Clerical 453 Average 151
Lay 740 Average 247

**NOTES ON THE SESSION OF 2016**

The House of Bishops did not sit separately and twelve were present at the meeting of the full Synod.

Seven Bills were submitted in advance. One of these was withdrawn by the proposer before the first reading. The other six were passed, and are now Statutes.
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