

Standing Committee – Report 2009

# **STANDING COMMITTEE**

**REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS LAID BEFORE**

**THE GENERAL SYNOD AT ITS**

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINTH ORDINARY SESSION 2009**

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**THE GENERAL SYNOD  
OF THE  
CHURCH OF IRELAND**

**HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD**

Ven REB White, Moviddy Rectory, Aherla, Co Cork

Rev FJ McDowell, St Mark's Rectory, 4 Sydenham Avenue, Belfast, BT4 2DR

Mr SR Harper, Cramer's Grove, Kilkenny, Co Kilkenny

Canon Lady Sheil, Killinchy, Co Down BT23 6RL

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY** – Mrs JM Maxwell

**SYNOD OFFICER** – Ms JC Polden

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**1. SUMMARY**

Some significant matters dealt with by the Standing Committee during the year were:

- The Church of Ireland Response to the Draft Anglican Covenant
- The Consultative Group on the Past
- The Courts and Tribunals
- The Covenant Council

**2. NAMES AND ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS**

During the period six ordinary meetings of the Standing Committee were held. The number of meetings attended by each member is placed before his/her name.

**Ex-officio Members**

**THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS**

**THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD**

3	*	Rev Canon Dr IM Ellis
6		Ven REB White
1	°	Rev FJ McDowell
6		Mr SR Harper
6		Canon Lady Sheil

**Elected Members**

**Diocese**

Armagh	3	†	Rev Canon JM Barton
	5		Rev TS Forster
	5		Mr LV Johnston
	3		Mrs J Leighton
Clogher	5		Rev Canon BJ Courtney
	5		Rev BT Kerr
	6		Mr H Stewart
			None available

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Derry	1	Very Rev WW Morton
	0	Rev MRK Ferry
	5	Mr JHD Livingston
	1	Capt N Barnes
Down	6	Ven PF Patterson
	6	Rev Dr MJ Elliott
	6	Mr RJH Gallagher
	5	Mr HJE Ritchie
Connor	4	Very Rev JFA Bond
	2	Ven SR McBride
	4	MR HRJ Totten
	3	Mr PJ Hamill
Kilmore	0	Very Rev A Williams
	6	Ven GTW Davison
	4	Mr D Gillespie
	3	Mr JH Shannon
Tuam	4	Very Rev SM Patterson
	4	Very Rev AJ Grimason
	4	Mr DJ Auchmuty
	1	Mr RS Walker
Dublin	5	Rev Canon JE McCullagh
	4	Rev GV Wharton
	5	Mr MJT Webb
	4	Mr LJW MacCann SC

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Meath	4	Very Rev RW Jones
	4	Rev LEA Peilow
	6	Mrs JM Bruton
	2	Mr D Kenny
Cashel	5	Very Rev NN Lynas
	0	Rev PG Heak
	6	Mr C Wellwood
	2	Mr EGJ Driver
Cork	5	§ Very Rev CL Peters
	5	Rev AM Wilkinson
	5	Mr WF Baker
	2	Mr R Buttimer
Limerick	4	Very Rev JMG Sirr
	5	Rev Canon SM Neill
	5	Mr A Hilliard
	3	Mr E Hardy

**Co-opted Members**

2	•	Rev Canon CA Empey	6	Ven RB Rountree
4		Rev Canon P Comerford	3	Very Rev PW Rooke
2		Mr MC Davey	5	Ms CS Turner
6		Mr AN McNeile		
	•	Retired August 2008	†	Retired March 2009 Elected as a Clerical
	§	Elected June 2008	◦	Honorary Secretary March 2009
	*	Retired January 2009		

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The Chief Officer and Secretary of the Representative Church Body is entitled to attend and speak at meetings of the Standing Committee. The Assistant Secretary of the General Synod is also entitled to attend and to speak at meetings.

**COMMITTEES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

**FINANCE AND ARRANGEMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

Mr WF Baker

Rev TS Forster

The Honorary Secretaries

**LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

His Honour Judge JG Buchanan ±	The Hon Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness
The Hon Mr Justice Declan Budd	Mr WD Prentice
His Honour Judge T Burgess	His Honour Judge RF Rodgers
The Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell	The Hon Sir Benjamin Stephens
Mr MC Davey	Mr JW Wilson QC
The Honorary Secretaries	

**PRIORITIES FUND COMMITTEE**

Capt N Barnes	Mrs J Leighton
Mrs JM Bruton	Ven SR McBride
Ven GWT Davison	Mr HRJ Totten
Mr SR Harper	Rev AM Wilkinson

**BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE**

Mr WF Baker	Mr AN McNeile
Mr SR Harper	Mr HRJ Totten
Mr LV Johnston	

**WORLD DEVELOPMENT – BISHOPS’ APPEAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Rt Rev MAJ Burrows	Mr W Kingston
Rev OMR Donohoe	Rev JMD Pierce
Ms R Handy	Rev IP Poulton
Most Rev AET Harper	Mrs A Rooke
Rev Canon PA Harvey	Mr TA Smallwoods



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LAY JUDGES OF THE COURT OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

His Honour Judge JG Buchanan ±	The Rt Hon Sir Donald Murray
The Hon Mr Justice Declan Budd	The Hon Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness
The Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell	Mr RAM Robins
The Rt Hon Sir Paul Girvan	The Hon Sir Benjamin Stephens
Mr LJW MacCann SC	Mr JW Wilson QC

± Retired January 2009

**3. ANGLICAN COMMUNION**

The Lambeth Conference took place from 16 July to 3 August 2008 in the University of Kent, Canterbury. The conference utilized Indaba groups. The word Indaba is a Zulu word for a gathering of the community for a purposeful discussion of issues. The issues discussed in the groups included poverty, HIV/AIDS, education, the environment and the Anglican Communion. The transcripts of the meetings were collated by the Reflections Group and published as *Lambeth Indaba Capturing Conversations and Reflections from the Lambeth Conference 2008 Equipping Bishops for Mission and Strengthening Anglican Identity*. This document is available at the following website: [http://www.lambethconference.org/vault/Reflections\\_Document\\_\(final\).pdf](http://www.lambethconference.org/vault/Reflections_Document_(final).pdf)

**4. ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT**

In March 2008, the Joint Standing Committee of the Primates of the Anglican Communion and the Anglican Consultative Council requested the following:

That the Provincial representatives meeting at ACC-14 will be able to report Provincial commitment to engage with the St Andrew's Draft of the Anglican Covenant (which does not imply acceptance of or agreement to any text);

That the Provinces will initiate a process of detailed discussion and report progress to the Covenant Design Group (by March 2009) and address the following questions:

- a) Is the Province able to give an 'in principle' commitment to the Covenant process at this time (without committing itself to the details of any text)?
- b) Is it possible to give some indication of any synodical process which would have to be undertaken in order to adopt the Covenant in the fullness of time?
- c) In considering the St Andrew's Draft for an Anglican Covenant, are there any elements which would need extensive change in order to make the process of synodical adoption viable?

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In April 2008, the Standing Committee appointed the Anglican Covenant Response Group to examine the St Andrew's Draft of the Anglican Covenant, the questions posed by the Joint Standing Committee of the Primates of the Anglican Communion and to report to the Standing Committee in January 2009.

The report of the Anglican Covenant Response Group was submitted to the Standing Committee in November. The Committee raised a number of concerns at the meeting and it was agreed that the Anglican Covenant Response Group would re-examine the response.

In January 2009, the Anglican Covenant Response Group submitted an amended response to the Standing Committee. Following a considerable discussion, the Standing Committee adopted the document as the formal response of the Church of Ireland and approved its submission to the Anglican Communion Office. The response is included as Appendix B on page 170 and can be accessed via the internet at the following link: [http://www.ireland.anglican.org/cmsfiles/pdf/Information/Submissions/ac\\_resp0109.pdf](http://www.ireland.anglican.org/cmsfiles/pdf/Information/Submissions/ac_resp0109.pdf)

The Covenant Design Group met in Singapore at the end of September 2008. The group produced a document entitled *Lambeth Commentary* which outlined the reflections and reactions of the bishops to the St Andrew's Draft and the response from the Covenant Design Group. The document can be found at the following link: [http://www.anglicancommunion.org/commission/covenant/docs/a\\_lambeth\\_commentary.pdf](http://www.anglicancommunion.org/commission/covenant/docs/a_lambeth_commentary.pdf)

### 5. APPOINTMENTS

<b>Committee etc</b>	<b>Name</b>
General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, Belfast, June 2008	Very Rev PW Rooke Rev Dr MJ Elliott
Conference of the Methodist Church, Londonderry, June 2008	The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe Rev P Thompson
Meissen Commission Meeting, Saxony, September 2008	Rev Canon Dr IM Ellis
Meeting of the Governing Body of the Church in Wales, Lampeter, September 2008	The Bishop of Cashel and Ossory
Four Nations' Faith and Order Conference, Edinburgh, October 2008	The Bishop of Clogher
International Anglican Women's Network, New York, February 2009	Rev Canon DTS Clements
United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, New York, March 2009	Rev Canon DTS Clements

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Broadcasting Committee	Rev Dr R Tosh
Central Communications Board	The Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe
Church of Ireland Press Ltd	Mr P Good
The Church of Ireland Theological Institute	Rev AM Wilkinson Mr HRJ Totten
Churches Together in Britain and Ireland	Very Rev FJG Wynne Rev DM McCallig Rev OC Ulogwara
Internet Committee	Ms S Wynn

**6. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS**

The Standing Committee appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers to audit the accounts of the Representative Church Body.

**7. BISHOPS' APPEAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The World Development Bishops' Appeal Advisory Committee report is included in Appendix C on page 171.

**8. BOARD OF EDUCATION (NI)**

At the meeting of the Church of Ireland Board of Education (NI), held in Armagh on Friday 13 June, a request was made that a draft resolution be brought to the meeting of the Standing Committee underlining the concern of the Transferor Representatives' Council (TRC) in Northern Ireland. Similar resolutions were passed at the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church and the Annual Methodist Conference.

In June 2008, the Standing Committee adopted the following resolution:

The Standing Committee of the Church of Ireland unreservedly supports the Transferor Representatives' Council in seeking to ensure parity of protection for the Christian ethos in schools in the controlled sector with that currently enjoyed by schools in the Catholic Maintained Sector in Northern Ireland.

**9. CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BOARD**

A report from the Central Communications Board, which includes the work of the Broadcasting Committee, the Literature Committee and the Internet Committee, is included as Appendix D on page 179.

## **10. CHARITIES LEGISLATION**

New charities legislation was approved in both jurisdictions in recent months. The legislation will result in the creation of a register of charities in each jurisdiction and will require charities to adopt new rules for reporting their activities.

Consultation with dioceses has shown that the overall preference is for a diocesan structure of registration rather than a parochial or all-Church structure for the Church of Ireland to meet our obligations under the new Charities legislation.

In the light of the preference indicated by the dioceses a round table discussion involving the interested parties was held in March 2009 to consider the next steps. Bishops and diocesan representatives were invited to a meeting with the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod and the working group set up by the Archbishop of Armagh. The meeting discussed issues arising from the new legislation in respect of:

- The new regulatory scheme;
- Approaches to compliance in the Churches' sector;
- How a diocesan registration structure for the Church of Ireland might look and function;
- Guidelines and legislation that might be needed at central or diocesan level in order to implement such a reporting structure for the Church of Ireland.

The RB Finance Department, with the co-operation of parishes in both jurisdictions, has been testing suitable accounting packages that will satisfy the reporting requirements.

## **11. CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

The issue of Children's Ministry was raised at the General Synod 2008. It is intended that the Honorary Secretaries will hold an initial exploratory meeting with the various interested parties on 26 May 2009.

## **12. CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON THE PAST**

In June 2008, the Standing Committee discussed the interim statement from the Consultative Group on the Past and the subsequent statement from the Bishop of Clogher.

The Standing Committee gave permission to the Consultative Group on the Past for the inclusion of the name of the Church of Ireland in the list of organisations consulted in its final report.

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In January 2009, the Standing Committee agreed that the Church of Ireland group appointed by the Committee in September 2007, chaired by the Bishop of Clogher, would convene on Wednesday 28 January to respond to the final report of the Consultative Group on the Past. The statement is included as Appendix E on page 189.

### 13. COURTS AND TRIBUNALS

Following the General Synod 2008, Statute Chapter I of 2008 replaced Chapter VIII of the Church of Ireland Constitution dealing with ecclesiastical discipline and the system of courts and tribunals. Therefore a series of actions were required by the dioceses and the Standing Committee.

The dioceses of the Church of Ireland were requested to elect one clerical and one lay member to the Complaints Committee and the following were elected:

<b>Elections by Diocesan Synods of Members to the Complaints Committee</b>		
<b>Diocese</b>	<b>Clergy Member Elected</b>	<b>Lay Member Elected</b>
Armagh	Rev SRT Boyd	Mrs E Harkness
Clogher	Rev Canon JW Stewart	Dr N Baxter
Derry and Raphoe	Rev Canon HDJ Ferry	Mrs A Fletcher
Down and Dromore	Rev SE Doogan	Mr M Hunter
Connor	Very Rev JFA Bond	Mr G Briggs
Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh	Very Rev A Williams	Miss M Cunningham
Tuam, Killala and Achonry	Ven GL Hastings	Mr D Auchmuty
Dublin and Glendalough	Rev Canon JE McCullagh	Mr DG Perrin
Meath and Kildare	Very Rev RW Jones	Mr R Colton
Cashel, Ossory and Ferns	Very Rev TR Lester	Mr B Kemp
Cork, Cloyne and Ross	Ven REB White	Mr JAD Bird
Limerick, Killaloe and Ardfert	Rev Canon R Warren	Mr T Morrow

In accordance with Chapter VIII 21(a) and 21(f) of the Constitution, the Standing Committee appointed Mr A Walker BL and Mr P Good BL to the Complaints Committee and appointed them to hold the positions of Chairperson and Vice-chairperson respectively.

In accordance with Chapter VIII 22(b) of the Constitution, the Standing Committee appointed the following to the Disciplinary Panel:

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- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Rev AJ Forster       | 12. His Honour Judge T Burgess               |
| 2. Ven PHA Lawrence     | 13. The Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell          |
| 3. Ven SR McBride       | 14. Mr P Cross                               |
| 4. Rev Canon NG McEndoo | 15. Mrs K Erwin                              |
| 5. Ven DS McLean        | 16. Mr C Galloway                            |
| 6. Rev DS McVeigh       | 17. The Rt Hon Sir Paul Girvan               |
| 7. Rev Canon JO Mann    | 18. Ms R Handy                               |
| 8. Rev EME Murray       | 19. The Hon Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness |
| 9. Ven DA Pierpoint     | 20. Mr WD Prentice                           |
| 10. Rev SA Pragnell     | 21. The Hon Sir Benjamin Stephens            |
| 11. Rev Canon T Scott   | 22. MR JW Wilson QC                          |

In accordance with Chapter VIII 22(d) of the Constitution, the Standing Committee appointed The Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell and The Hon Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness as Chairperson and Vice-chairperson respectively of the Disciplinary Panel.

In accordance with Chapter VIII 20 of the Constitution, the Standing Committee appointed Ms E McClenaghan as Complaints Administrator.

**14. COVENANT COUNCIL**

General Synod 2008 passed the resolution proposed by the Covenant Council requesting the Standing Committee to deal with the issue of producing ecumenical canons. In June 2008, the Standing Committee stated that a general review of Canon Law is required and that such a review would directly impinge on Ecumenical Canons.

During the General Synod 2007, a resolution was adopted to examine the operation of Canon Law in relation to the Covenant Council. The resolution was passed by a majority of 111 to 68.

The resolution was passed by a majority of 111 to 68. The resolution was passed by a majority of 111 to 68.

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House of Bishops:	Bishop of Derry and Raphoe
House of Bishops:	Bishop of Cashel and Ossory
The Covenant Council:	Very Rev NK Dunne
The Covenant Council:	Rev PA Thompson
The Commission on Ministry:	Very Rev SM Patterson
The Commission on Ministry:	Mr SR Harper
The Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue:	Rev FJ McDowell
The Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue:	Miss CS Turner
Legal representative:	Rev SE Doogan
Honorary Secretary:	Ven REB White

### **15. GENERAL SYNOD / STANDING COMMITTEE FINANCES**

The Budget Sub-Committee considered budget submissions from the various bodies concerning their projected expenditure for the year 2009, and presented a report to the Standing Committee in November 2008. Following consideration of the report, recommendations were submitted to the Representative Church Body Allocations Committee.

In March 2009, the Chief Officer made a special report to the Standing Committee on the impact of the economic recession on the finances of the Church and the anticipated financial challenges in 2010.

### **16. GENERAL SYNOD TIMETABLE**

The Standing Committee stated that it wished to promote discussion and debate at the General Synod. The Committee also highlighted that the timetable should give prominence within its schedule to mission and ministry.

The Honorary Secretaries to the General Synod drafted a new version of the General Synod timetable. The changes to the timetable also required changes to the procedures of General Synod. A guideline document explaining the new procedures was produced and disseminated to the House of Bishops, all committee chairs and honorary secretaries, diocesan secretaries and members of General Synod. The document is included as Appendix F on page 190.

### **17. GENERAL SYNOD 2010**

The Standing Committee decided that during the next two triennia the General Synod will be held between Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin and Armagh on a rotational basis. The General Synod 2010 will be held in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. The dates for the Synod will be decided after General Synod 2009.

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**18. GENERAL SYNOD ROYALTIES FUND**

The Standing Committee approved that a subvention of £1,000 be made for the publication of a book on Church of Ireland Churches dedicated to St Anne by Mr D Scarlett.

A grant of €5,000 was approved for *Counting the People of God* by Dr M Macourt.

The Standing Committee agreed that the sum of €44,375 be made available for the printing of 3,500 copies of the large print pew edition and 1,500 copies of the presentation edition of the Church Hymnal (2000).

A grant of €2,000 was approved to assist *Search* with a short term cash flow problem.

The Standing Committee approved a grant of €850 to the Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral to subvent the publication, by Four Courts Press, of a study of Dean J H Bernard.

A grant of €3,500 was approved for the production of a leaflet on marriage by APCK.

The Standing Committee agreed a grant of €1,000 for Rev Canon D Crooks to subvent the publication, by the Ulster Historical Foundation, of *Clergy of Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh*.

The Standing Committee also approved a grant of €500 to the Hard Gospel Committee to print a *Directory of Migrant-led Churches and Chaplaincies* by Rev Dr Livingstone Thompson and Dr Alan Bruce.

The Standing Committee approved a grant of €2,000 from the General Synod Royalties Fund to enable the Hard Gospel final report to be printed and disseminated to all members of the General Synod and all serving clergy. In addition, the Standing Committee requested the payment of grants totalling €19,000 to the Hard Gospel Project as previously agreed.

**19. HARD GOSPEL**

The Hard Gospel concluded its programme in January 2009. The final report from the external evaluators can be read at the following link:  
[http://www.hardgospel.net/cmsfiles/files/external\\_evaluation\\_of\\_the\\_hard\\_gospel\\_project.pdf](http://www.hardgospel.net/cmsfiles/files/external_evaluation_of_the_hard_gospel_project.pdf). The report will be supplied to members of General Synod.

A report from the Hard Gospel Committee is included as Appendix G on page 193.



**20. HARD GOSPEL IMPLEMENTATION WORKING GROUP**

General Synod 2008, resolved that a small implementation group be appointed by the Standing Committee, for a period of three years, to identify the priorities from the report, *Living with Difference – A Reality Check*, and to bring forward specific resolutions to the Standing Committee to implement the recommendations contained in the report and to make regular reports to the Committee.

In June 2008, the Standing Committee elected five people to the Hard Gospel Implementation Working Group and gave the group the power to co-opt two further members.

The Hard Gospel Implementation Working Group submitted an interim report and proposals to the Standing Committee in March 2009. The document is included as Appendix H on page 198.

**21. HISTORIOGRAPHER'S REPORT**

A report from the Church of Ireland Historiographer, Dr K Milne, is included as Appendix I on page 204.

**22. MEISSEN AGREEMENT**

A meeting of the Meissen Commission was held in Meissen, Saxony, from 11 to 14 September 2008 and attended by Rev Canon Dr IM Ellis as the Observer for the Celtic Anglican Churches. The report of the meeting is attached as Appendix J on page 205.

**23. NON-CHRISTIAN BURIALS IN PARISH GRAVEYARDS**

The Standing Committee received a letter that was written on behalf of the Dioceses of Down and Dromore, and Connor, regarding the burial of non-Christians in Church of Ireland graveyards. After consideration the Standing Committee submitted the following questions to the General Synod Legal Advisory Committee:

- a) Whether it would be in accordance with Canon Law and the Constitution of the Church of Ireland for the officiating member of the clergy and the churchwardens, having responsibility for the administration of a pre-disestablishment graveyard vested in the Representative Church Body under the Irish Church Act 1869, to permit the burial therein of persons of other faiths or none?

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- b) Whether it would be in accordance with Canon Law and the Constitution of the Church of Ireland for the officiating member of the clergy and the churchwardens, having responsibility for the administration of a post-disestablishment graveyard vested in the Representative Church Body since 1870, to permit the burial therein of persons of other faiths or none?
- c) If the answer to questions a) and/or b) is yes, do any pre-conditions have to be met and if so what are they? In particular, does the burial have to be in a Christian form?

The Legal Advisory Committee met to consider this issue on 1 October 2008 and 17 February 2009. The Legal Advisory Committee will give its response to the Standing Committee in due course.

**24. PARISH DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

The pilot programme of the Parish Development Working Group ended at the end of 2007. In January 2008, the Standing Committee approved the running of a second programme of Parish Development and appointed 11 members to the working group and permitted the co-option of a further three members.

A report from the Parish Development Working Group is included as Appendix K on page 207.

**25. PRIORITIES FUND COMMITTEE**

- (a) The following allocations from the Priorities Fund were approved by the Standing Committee in March 2009:

**ALLOCATION OF GRANTS FROM 2008 PRIORITIES FUND**

<b>Ministry</b>	<b>€</b>
Church of Ireland Council for Mission – To enable the Council to continue the joint mission process with the Methodist Church	2,625
Church of Ireland Council for Mission – To assist with the cost of running the Mission Shaped Ministry Course	2,625
Church of Ireland Student Centre, Queen’s University, Belfast – Funding for the development of joint ministry with the Methodist Church in the university	10,499
Diocesan Strategic Review Team (Derry and Raphoe) – To provide seed funding for a strategic project which will assist the diocese in implementing the new diocesan themes of Transforming Community, Radiating Christ Through Growth, Teams and Leadership	5,249
Parish Development Working Group – To assist with the costs involved in running a second Parish Development Programme and supplying resources to help parishes develop in ministry – [Stg€15,000 per year for 3 years] – Second year	15,748
The Centre for Celtic Spirituality, Armagh – Provision of seed capital for the development of an ecumenical project, with local, national and international potential	14,226

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The Church’s Ministry of Healing – Financial assistance to bring sustainability and induce further growth to the Church’s Ministry of Healing	13,648
The House of Bishops – To support continuing ministerial education in the dioceses	60,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>€124,620</b>
 <b>Retirement</b>	
C of I Clergy Pensions Fund – Additional income for most needy	2,872
C of I Clergy Pensions Fund – Retired Chaplain	530
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>€3,402</b>
 <b>Education</b>	
Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh Diocesan ‘Forward’ Project – To provide the finance to enable volunteers to deliver the ‘Skills to Lead’ programme, which has been designed to give participants the skills, knowledge and confidence to take on leadership roles within their parishes and dioceses	12,180
Love for Life (NI) – Financial assistance to adapt and pilot relationship and sexuality education programmes for young people, in three regions of the Republic of Ireland	7,068
Sligo Grammar School – To assist with the development of a school based sacred space, to facilitate Christian spiritual growth through, for example, alternative worship activities	7,500
The Church of Ireland Marriage Council – To assist financially with the development of a six day programme entitled ‘Contemporary Couples’	2,877
<b>The following applications all concern youth work and the grants allocation take into consideration recommendations made by the Executive Committee of the Church of Ireland Youth Department</b>	
C of I Youth Department – Funding towards the running costs involved in the establishment of a ‘year out’ mission and service opportunity for approximately eight young adults – [Stg€30,000 – First year : Stg€25,000 – Second year : Stg€15,000 – Third year] – Second year	26,247
Cork, Cloyne and Ross Diocesan Youth Council – To assist with the ‘Bridge’ project, whose aim is to support, resource and develop sustainable, quality youth work and ministry within the dioceses – [€14,000 – First year : €7,000 – Second year : €3,500 – Third year] – Second year	7,000
Derry and Raphoe Youth – Support for the creation of new groups of ‘Sitting Ducks’ tribes across the diocese and develop youth work, through events throughout the year, as mission for young people	8,399
Down and Dromore Youth Council – Funding for the publication of a book, aimed at teenage young people, to help restore better levels of religious knowledge, with a particular reference to the Church of Ireland	5,249
Fusion, Lisburn Cathedral (Connor) – Financial assistance to create a dynamic ministry, to impact teenagers with creative arts and multimedia style materials, that speaks into their lifestyle – [Stg€17,000 – First year : Stg€7,000 – Second year] – First year	17,848
Greenisland Realway Adopt a Station Project (Connor) – To assist with the purchase and development of a bus, as part of the facilities for the GRASP drop-in centre	10,472
Kidz Klub (Agape Ltd) at CORE (Dublin) – To support the on-going work of this organisation in St Catherine’s Church, Dublin, for disadvantaged children and young people living in the local inner city area	10,000

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Newtownbreda United Churches (Down) – To assist with funding for the continuation of a ‘Connecting with Youth’ outreach project, organised and run by volunteers from the Church of Ireland and other denominations, in partnership with the local council and the PSNI – [Stg£6,000 per year for 3 years] – Final year	6,299
St Augustine’s Church, Londonderry (Derry) – Financial assistance for the ‘All Together Now’ project, which will promote all age activities within the church and in its outreach, bring together the generations	8,819
St Mary’s Parish, Ballybeen (Down) – Funding for the continuation of ACTS Ballybeen (Active Compassion Through Serving Ballybeen), to respond to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs in the community but mainly focusing on children in the locality – [Stg£6,000 – First year : Stg£4,000 – Second year : Stg£3,000 – Third year] – First year	6,299
Summer Madness (NI) Ltd – Funding to establish a weekly internet radio programme for young people that will strengthen their faith and equip them for engagement in the world	2,100
The Logic Cafe, St John’s Parish, Moira (Dromore) – Financial assistance to further develop the work of the Logic Cafe – [Stg£8,000 – First year : Stg£6,000 – Second year : Stg£4,000 – Third year] – First year	8,399
Willowfield Parish (Down) – To assist with funding for youth leadership training and a project working with severely disadvantaged young people	9,186
Willowfield Parish Community Association (Down) – Financial assistance for a project to reach out to over 150 children in inner city Belfast, e.g. homework clubs, English classes for ethnic minority children and a Kidz Klub programme to introduce them to the Christian faith – [Stg£25,000 – First year : Stg£20,000 – Second year : Stg£15,000 – Third year] – First year	26,247
Xpression Portadown (Armagh) – To assist with the ongoing development of the Xpression cross community outreach initiative	1,575
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>€183,764</b>
<b>Community</b>	
Ardoyne Ballysillan Care Ltd (Connor) – Change of use for grant awarded from the 2007 Fund, to the parish of Holy Trinity & St Silas with Immanuel	10,499
Church Mission Society Ireland – To assist with an integration project ‘Failte Balbriggan’, providing social services primarily to refugees and asylum seekers, in the north Co Dublin area	18,000
Cleenish Pursuits Centre (Clogher) – Financial assistance for the setting up of a 60 bed weekend conference centre. (This organisation has reapplied, as the grant was not taken up from the 2004 Fund)	20,997
Grandma’s – Ireland, Dublin – To assist financially with the expansion and continuation of childcare and family orientated services to those affected by HIV/AIDS in Dublin	5,000
Maghera Parish Caring Association (Derry) – Financial assistance to build a peaceful community in the rural town of Maghera, through the development of a mediative intervention for contentious parades	5,249
Shankill Parish Caring Association (Dromore) – To deliver an accredited Good Relations training and citizenship package, to marginalised young adults across the Lurgan area – [Stg£15,000 per year for 2 years] – Final year	15,748
The Mageough Home, Dublin – To assist with the cost of rewiring the Chapel	10,000
‘Wellsprings’ of Life, Kilmakee Parish (Connor) – Funding for a new project called ‘Food for Thought’, to empower people to give something back to the community in which they were previously marginalised	5,249
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>€90,742</b>

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### Areas of Need

Cork – Carrigrohane Union – Seed funding for the development of purpose built children’s facilities in the Church of the Resurrection, Blarney	5,000
Dromore – Kilbroney Parish – Funding for phase two of an evaluation programme carried out by CREED, to progress the future of the Kilbroney Centre in relation to the parish church	7,874
Dublin – Parish of St George and St Thomas – Financial assistance for the development of inner city ministry	12,000
* Leighlin – St Lasarian’s Cathedral, Old Leighlin – Financial assistance for the instigation of a feasibility study, to ensure the cathedral and the ‘Place Apart’ retreat centre, are viable development projects	1,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>€25,874</b>

### Outreach Initiatives

C R E E D (Communities Regenerated Enabled Enriched and Developed) – Seed funding to enable parishes to benefit from CREED’s expertise, in co-ordination and utilisation of resources – [Stg€15,000 per year for 3 years] – Second year	15,748
Magheralin Parish (Dromore) – Funding to assist with the launch of a Christians Against Poverty centre, to help people who are experiencing financial difficulties	2,100
Muckamore Parish Development Association (Connor) – To assist with re-establishing the outreach work of the parish in the Ballycraigy housing area and re-connecting with the unchurched of Muckamore – [Stg€30,000 – First year : Stg€22,000 – Second year : Stg€14,000 – Third year] – First year	31,496
Parish of Kilroot (Connor) – To secure funding for the establishment of a drop-in centre in Eden Village, to provide a safe and supportive environment for residents to meet and to re-establish a serving presence in the area – [Stg€3,000 per year for 3 years] – Final year	3,150
Parishes of Maghera and Killelagh (Derry) – Financial assistance to build a new expression of church, that will engage the largely unchurched population of Upperlands and establish a self-sustaining congregation, including cell groups, in the village of Upperlands – [Stg€15,000 – First year : Stg€10,000 – Second and Third year] – Final year	10,499
St Andrew’s Church, Glencairn (Connor) – To provide seed funding, to enable the exploration of government funding for the establishment of a church/community building in a very disadvantaged area	4,199
The Church of the Pentecost, Mount Merrion (Down) – To obtain ‘seed funding’ for projects designed to address some of the many complex social and spiritual needs of people in an inner city area of East Belfast	20,997
Willowfield Parish (Down) – To obtain ‘seed funding’ for a project called ‘Men Matter’, which aims to provide support and practical help to men in East Belfast who struggle with unemployment, poor health, mental health issues, alcohol, drug addictions, loneliness and isolation – [Stg€10,000 per year for 3 years] – Final year	10,499
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>€98,688</b>

### Innovative Ministry in a Rural Context

All Saints’ Parish, Loughguile (Connor) – Financial assistance for the development of ministry to young families and the wider rural community	15,748
Donaghheady Parish (Derry) – Financial assistance for the training of youth leaders, to develop skills and talents through regular training events in an isolated rural area	5,291

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Parish of Killesher (Kilmore) – Funding for a new development in rural youth ministry	8,399
St Mark's Parish Youth Club, Augher (Clogher) – Funding to establish a church youth club in a very rural area, where young people feel marginalised because they are part of a minority	5,249
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>€34,687</b>
<b>Total Allocated</b>	<b>€61,777</b>

Sterling grants have been converted to Euro using the 2008 end of year rate of 0.9525.

Diocesan targets for contributions to the 2010 Fund will not be increased but will remain the same as the 2009 Fund, which were approved by the Standing Committee in March 2008.

\* This grant was referred back to the Priorities Fund Committee for further consideration and is subject to final approval from the Standing Committee.

- (b) Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2008 are included as Appendix L on page 208. Contributions to the Fund do not close until the end of February. The amount actually received by 28 February was €481,754.

### 26. PROPOSED WORKING GROUP ON CLERGY TIED HOUSING

In November 2008, the Rev FJ McDowell submitted a letter to the Standing Committee for consideration. It stated that the consultation of clergy and clergy spouses in 2007 and 2008, by the Church of Ireland Marriage Council, had demonstrated that there are significant issues for clergy and their families related to clergy tied housing.

The Standing Committee agreed to establish a working group, to include a member of the Standing Committee, a representative of the House of Bishops, the Commission on Ministry and the Church of Ireland Marriage Council and members nominated by the Representative Church Body. A proposal, terms of reference and names will be brought to the Standing Committee in April 2009.

### 27. REVIEW OF COMMITTEES

The Church in Society Committee, the Board for Social Responsibility RI and the Board for Social Action NI are engaged on a project to restructure the work of the Church on social theology in action. The following proposal was approved by the Standing Committee in March 2009.

That the restructuring proposal from the Church in Society Committee, the Board for Social Responsibility RI and the Board for Social Action NI be approved and an enabling resolution be appended to the Report of the Standing Committee to the General Synod 2009.

The restructuring proposal is included as Appendix M on page 210.

**28. SAFEGUARDING TRUST**

The following Resolution, passed by the Diocesan Synod of Derry and Raphoe on 25 October 2007, was conveyed to the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod for consideration by the Standing Committee:

*'2. That this synod request the Standing Committee of the Church of Ireland to have the Provisions of Safeguarding Trust reviewed so that they can be implemented in every parish of the Church of Ireland.*

*In view of the fact that protection of young people and vulnerable adults is a necessary part of the care of our Church we accept that regulation of that care should go beyond that required by either State in this island. However, due to the differing nature of every parish and community it is not possible for all regulations to be implemented in all parishes. We therefore request that the Safeguarding Trust Committee distinguish between statutory requirements (which must be mandatory in full) and the specific Church of Ireland requirements (which should be implemented as far as is possible in each individual parish).'*

After consideration the Standing Committee submitted this item to the General Synod Legal Advisory Committee for opinion.

The Legal Advisory Committee met to consider this issue on 1 October 2008 and 17 February 2009. The Legal Advisory Committee will give its response to the Standing Committee in due course.

**29. SPECIAL BILL 2009**

Ven PF Patterson submitted an amendment to Resolution 1 that will be brought as a Bill to the General Synod in 2009. The amendment was as follows:

*In paragraph 3 delete the words....The Declaration, which was adopted by a Resolution of General Synod Of 1999... and replace with the words... a Declaration...*

*And in the Schedule in paragraph 3 after the words...distinct differences remain...add the words...the tone and tenor of the language of the...*

Ven PF Patterson was concerned that the wording of the Declaration could undermine the validity of the Book of Common Prayer and therefore requested that the Standing Committee submit two questions to the Legal Advisory Committee.

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On the proposal of Ven PF Patterson and seconded by Mr RJH Gallagher, the following resolution was adopted:

That the following questions from Ven PF Patterson be sent by the Standing Committee to the Legal Advisory Committee for opinion:

The proposed declaration to be prefixed to the 39 articles contains a statement, 'Negative statements towards other Christians should not be seen as representing the spirit of this Church today.'

1. Does this statement have the effect of changing the doctrine of the Church of Ireland so that the theological content of such negative statements no longer expresses the doctrine of the Church of Ireland?
2. How does this proposed declaration affect the Preamble and Declaration prefixed to the statutes of the Church of Ireland? In particular the phrase, 'The Church of Ireland doth receive and approve The Book of the Articles of Religion.'

The Legal Advisory Committee met to consider this issue on 1 October 2008 and 17 February 2009. The Legal Advisory Committee will give its response to the Standing Committee in due course.

### **30. UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

The Rev Canon DTS Clements represented the Church of Ireland at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. A statement to the Anglican Consultative Council from the Anglican Women attending the conference is included as Appendix N on page 212. The Rev Canon DTS Clements will also represent the Church of Ireland at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women will be held in New York from 2 to 13 March 2009.

### **31. WORKING GROUP ON DISABILITY**

A report from the Working Group on Disability is included as Appendix O on page 215.

### **32. OBITUARY**

The following members died since the last session:

Mr TS Donald	Diocese of Cashel, Ossory and Ferns
Mr TD Kidd	Diocese of Cashel, Ossory and Ferns
Rev C Lindsay	Diocese of Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh