



2020 SYNOD

SECOND SESSION OF THE FIFTIETH SYNOD

Saturday, 26 September

9:00 am	Synod commences in various hubs around the Diocese Acknowledgement of Country Standing Orders for the 2020 Synod Procedural Motions Petitions Notices of Questions Notices of Motions First Reading of Ordinances Call over of Motions Tabling of Reports Financial Report and Budget Second and Third Reading of Ordinances Motions
4:00 pm	Synod Concludes
4:00 – 4:30 pm	Prayer

Morning Tea Break: 10:30 am

Lunch Break: 12:30 am

Afternoon Tea Break: 3:30 pm

The Bishop's Presidential Address will be included in the Synod papers, and will be available to view online from 12:15 pm on Friday 25 September 2020 at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pFxllBiRz8c>



FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTIETH SYNOD

MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

1. Diocesan Council, recognising the restrictions on Synod meeting caused by Covid19, requests that this synod approves the suspension of Standing Orders and that they be replaced with the special Covid19 Standing Orders provided with the synod papers, so as to facilitate the conduct of this Second Session of the Fiftieth Synod by way of electronic means using the Zoom platform.

MOVED: The Rev. Brian Kirk

SECONDED: The Rev. Rod Chiswell

2. That the Bishop and the Registrar be authorised to peruse and amend, where necessary, the minutes of this session to enable them to be signed as a true and correct record thereof and then the Bishop to sign them as such once they have been ratified by Diocesan Council at its November 2020 meeting.

MOVED: The Registrar

SECONDED: The Ven. Geoff Hearne

MOTIONS

3. That the Diocesan audited financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2020 be received.

MOVED: The Registrar

SECONDED:

4. That the Diocesan audited financial statements for the year ending the 30 June 2020 be adopted.

MOVED: The Registrar

SECONDED:

5. That the audited financial statements of the Diocesan Development Fund for the year ending 30 June 2020 be received.

MOVED: The Registrar

SECONDED:

6. That the Bishop vacate the chair and Synod resolve into a Committee of the Whole to consider the draft budget for 2020-21.

MOVED: The Registrar

SECONDED:

7. That the report of the committee that the draft budget for 2020-21 passed through the committee with/without amendment be received.

MOVED: Chairman of Committees

SECONDED:

8. That the Diocesan budget, schedule of the assessments and missionary target figures for 2020-21 be adopted.

MOVED: The Registrar

SECONDED:

9. That the audited financial statements of Calrossy Anglican School for the year ending 31 December 2019 be tabled.

MOVED: The Registrar

SECONDED:

10. Synod asks the Diocesan Council to develop a policy, within the next 12 months, to actively encourage and support women in pursuing their God-given gifts and calling to service within the Diocese. Such a policy should contain reference to gender-inclusive language in the public reading of Scripture, singing and preaching; provision of training and education; and, encouragement to participate in roles such as leading church services and preaching.

MOVED: Rev. Brian Kirk

SECONDED: Mrs. Isabel Strutt

11. Synod asks the Diocesan Council to investigate the financial cost for the appointment of an Archdeacon of Women to the Anglican Diocese of Armidale. Further, that the Bishop and his successor consider the appointment of an Archdeacon to Women as a priority so as to provide women with an increased representation in the leadership of the Diocese.

MOVED: Mrs. Isabel Strutt

SECONDED: Mr. Mark Allen

12. That this Synod gives thanks to our Lord for those people He has placed over us in government in Australia. We give thanks for their leadership and many hours of service to the communities of Australia. We thank our Lord that until now this nation has been spared much loss of life from this global pandemic.

This Synod likewise gives thanks for the many health professionals who, at risk to their own health, have served the needs of the communities of this nation through this time. (1 Timothy 2;1 and 2).

This Synod is specifically not anti-vaccine in its theology and prays for the speedy development of a vaccine for the prevention of Covid 19. However, this Synod

draws attention to the ethical concerns that many people, including this Synod, have with the use in vaccine development of cell lines derived from electively aborted fetuses. We request that every possible effort be made to source an alternative vaccine that does not use such cells in the process of development or manufacture.

We do note that at this time the government has negotiated two potential sources of supply for a vaccine. We give thanks that one of these does not raise the same ethical concerns.

We pray that the government will take up vaccines that do not make use of foetal cell lines at any point in their development. If such a regrettable step is taken, we encourage the government to have a comprehensive information programme for the public regarding the sources and methods of development of any such vaccine that is supplied to the Australian people. Such transparency will enable people with similar concerns to those outlined above to make an informed choice that reflects their ethical position.

This Synod also notes with concern that there are presently a number of vaccines in use (e.g. Rubella, Chicken Pox, Hepatitis A) that have been produced using cell lines from electively aborted fetuses. This Synod requests that the government inform the public regarding the process of development and manufacture of such vaccines; again, so that people can make an informed choice that reflects their ethical position. We strongly encourage the sourcing of alternatively produced vaccines that do not raise the same ethical concerns.

This Synod requests that its Bishop communicate the contents of this motion to the Prime Minister and the Federal Health Minister and to any other parties the Bishop thinks most expedient.

MOVED: Mr. Phil Firth

SECONDED: The Rev. Neil Hunt

13. Recognising the gracious provision of God to his people for all that they need to be his people, this Synod gives thanks to God for the more than eight years ministry and leadership of Rick and Janene Lewers within the Anglican Diocese of Armidale.

This Synod gives thanks for the leadership and ministry of Rick as Bishop, in the faithful proclamation of the Word of God, the faithful proclamation and representation of Jesus as Lord and Saviour, and the dependence on the Spirit for guidance, counsel and assurance.

This Synod gives thanks for the ministry and leadership of Janene, as she has encouraged women across the Diocese to meet and know Jesus, and as she has enabled the safe and faithful proclamation of Jesus in the context of Special Religious Education and Safe Ministry practices.

This Synod prays that both Rick and Janene will continue to walk with Jesus as Lord, faithfully proclaim and love the Word of God, and serve the people of God by

pointing them to our Lord and Saviour, until they are both safely home in the presence of God.

MOVED: The Ven. Bernard Gabbott

SECONDED: Mr. Phil Firth