

DIOCESE OF ARMIDALE

REGULATIONS CONCERNING SERVICES ORDINANCE

NO. 5 OF 2023

WHEREAS Holy Scripture is the rule and authority in all matters for Christians, and whereas within Holy Scripture the message of Christ is to be at the centre of our Christian gatherings (Colossians 3:16–17) for the sake of building one another up (1 Corinthians 14:26) in a fitting and orderly way (1 Corinthians 14:40) according to the one true gospel that saves (1 Corinthians 15:2),

and WHEREAS

- (1) The Canon Concerning Services was passed by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia in 1992 and amended by the General Synod in 2017, and these canons were adopted by the Armidale Diocese in 1999 and 2019;
- (2) Sub-section 5(2) of the Canon Concerning Services provides that a minister may, on occasions for which no provision is made, use forms of service considered suitable by the minister for those occasions;
- (3) Sub-section 5(3) of the canon requires that any variations in forms of service and all forms of service used must be reverent and edifying and must not be contrary to or a departure from the doctrine of the Anglican Church;
- (4) Sub-section 5(4) of the canon provides that any question concerning the observance of the provisions of sub-section 5(3) may be determined by the bishop of the diocese; and
- (5) Sub-section 5(2) of the canon is qualified, making it subject to any regulation made from time to time by the Synod of a diocese;

this ordinance provides regulations for the conduct of services in the Diocese of Armidale as provided for in sub-section 5(2) of the General Synod Canon Concerning Services 1992.

1. Long Title

An ordinance to provide regulations for the conduct of services in the Diocese of Armidale.

The Synod of the Diocese of Armidale ordains and rules as follows:

2. That the Regulations Concerning Services, as set out in Schedule A of this ordinance, are regulations to be observed in the conduct of Anglican services in the Diocese of Armidale.
3. This ordinance is to be known as the Regulations Concerning Services Ordinance 2023.

SCHEDULE A
ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF ARMIDALE
REGULATIONS CONCERNING SERVICES

Further to the General Synod Canon Concerning Services 1995, adopted by the Armidale Diocese, the following regulations concerning services apply in the Armidale Diocese:

1. WHEREAS Holy Scripture is our rule and authority in all matters, and whereas within Holy Scripture marriage is ordained by God from the beginning, being the exclusive union of one man and one woman arising from mutual promises of lifelong faithfulness, which is in accordance with the teaching of Christ that, “from the beginning the Creator made them male and female”, and in marriage, “a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh” (Matt 19:4–5), so no service is permitted which purports to solemnize, bless, condone or otherwise approve of a same-sex marriage or union.