



Diocesan Council are releasing this information paper for consideration by Synod to:

1. rescind the *Continuing Ministry Education Ordinance 2003*
2. adopt changes to the Constitution to clarify the differences between the Commissary's and Administrator sede vacante's powers; and

The repeal of the *Continuing Ministry Education Ordinance 2003*

In April 2023, Diocesan Council endorsed the Ministry Wellbeing Framework, which included:

1. Ministry Pastoral Supervision Policy,
2. Ministry Reviews Policy, and
3. Ministry Professional Development Policy

Over the past two years, the Ministry Wellbeing program has evolved to provide a more holistic program of support for lay and ordained ministry.

Since the Ministry Professional Development policy was adopted in April 2023, there has been some confusion on how it interacts with the Continuing Ministry Education Ordinance.

It is the view of Diocesan Council that the Ministry Wellbeing Framework supersedes the ordinance, which is now obsolete and should be repealed at the upcoming session of Synod.

Synod members are reminded that all policies adopted or amended each year by Diocesan Council are listed for the attention of the Synod in the Reports and Accounts Book, and it is competent for the Synod to override, amend or discard any policy made by Diocesan Council acting as Synod out of session. Hence, policies should be considered to have weight and force.

Amendment to the Constitution

The rationale to amend section 6A of the Constitution is two-fold:

2. To ensure that the Administrator sede vacante has the power to appoint an Archdeacon.
3. To clarify the powers that the Administrator sede vacante holds and the powers the Commissary does *not* hold.

The amendments to the constitution in 2022 creating the Commissary role, contained drafting that was intended to limit the power of the Commissary, but inadvertently also captured the Administrator sede vacante.

It resulted in removing the power hitherto enjoyed by the Administrator sede vacante to appoint an Archdeacon. (Section 6A(3))

For clarity, the intention was that the powers for the Commissary should be exactly the same as would be if the Administrator were acting Diocesan Bishop, except for when the See is Vacant in which case the seat is occupied by the Administrator sede vacante.

It is desirable that an Administrator sede vacante should continue to have the power to appoint Archdeacons.

A MEASURE FOR

AN ORDINANCE to repeal the *Continuing Ministry Education Ordinance 2003*

NOW THE SYNOD HEREBY DETERMINES:

Part 1 - Preliminary

1 - Short title

This Ordinance may be cited as the *Continuing Ministry Education Repeal Ordinance 2025*.

2 - Commencement

This Ordinance will come into operation on a date and at a time to be determined by the President.

3 - Repeal of principal ordinance

The *Continuing Ministry Education Ordinance 2003* is repealed.

A MEASURE

to amend the *Constitution*.

NOW THE SYNOD HEREBY DETERMINES:

Part 1 - Preliminary

1 - Short title

This may be cited as the *Constitution (Powers of an Administrator) Amendment Measure 2025*.

2 - Commencement

This Measure will come into operation after it has been confirmed by the Synod in accordance with section 30(b) of the *Constitution*.

3- Amendment of the *Constitution*

The *Constitution* is amended in the manner set out in Part 2.

Part 2 - Amendment of the *Constitution*

4 - Amendment of section 6A

(1) Section 6A(1)(a) – delete “subsection (3)” and substitute:

subsections (3) and (3A)

(2)Section 6A(2) – delete “and subject to subsection (3),”

(3)Section 6A(3) – delete subsection (3) and substitute:

(3) The powers and authorities to be exercised by a Commissary or Administrator exercising the powers vested in the Bishop in accordance with subsection (1) will not include powers and authorities vested in the Bishop by Chapter I, Chapter II and sections 17, 18, 19, 20 and 30 of this Constitution.

(3A) The powers and authorities to be exercised by a Commissary will not include the authority to appoint an Archdeacon or the Dean.

CERTIFIED as a copy of the Measure as recommended in Committee.

.....
Chairperson of Committees

CERTIFIED as a copy of the Measure as passed by the Synod on October 2025.

.....
Secretary of Synod

CONSTITUTION

Arrangement

1. This Constitution is divided into Chapters as follows:-

CHAPTER I	THE DIOCESE OF ADELAIDE
CHAPTER II	THE BISHOP
CHAPTER III	THE SYNOD
CHAPTER IV	THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL
CHAPTER V	PARISHES
CHAPTER VI	THE SEAL
CHAPTER VII	AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION
CHAPTER VIII	INTERPRETATION

CHAPTER 1 - THE DIOCESE OF ADELAIDE

Membership of The Anglican Church of Australia

2. The Diocese is a diocese of The Anglican Church of Australia and where this Constitution or any Ordinance made hereunder is inconsistent with the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia or any Canon or Rule made thereunder and which is in force in or applies to or has force and effect in or is not excluded from operation within the Diocese, the latter shall prevail and the former shall to the extent of the inconsistency have no effect.

Government

3. Subject to the provisions of section 2 of this Constitution the authority and power to provide for the life and growth, the order and good government and the management of the affairs of the Diocese is vested in -
- (a) the Bishop, and
 - (b) the Synod which for such purposes may exercise the powers hereinafter provided.

Operation of Constitution

4. This Constitution and all Ordinances made hereunder shall be binding on the Bishop, all members of the clergy and lay persons as members of the Church residing or worshipping within the Diocese and for all purposes connected with or relating to Church property including trust property.

CHAPTER II - THE BISHOP

Election

5. (1) Subject to the provisions of section 8 of the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia the Bishop shall be elected or appointed in such manner as the Synod shall by Ordinance determine.
- (2) A person elected or appointed Bishop shall not take office without first having signed a declaration in the form contained in the First Schedule hereto and a declaration of assent to the doctrine and formularies of The Anglican Church of Australia.

Bishop's Powers

6. Subject to this Constitution and the Ordinances of the Synod and to the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia and to the Canons or Rules mentioned in section 2 of this Constitution the Bishop as Ordinary and Chief Pastor of the Diocese shall have and may exercise within the Diocese all and singular the powers and authorities which are inherent in his office.
- 6A.(1) During the absence of the Bishop from the Province or during any period which may be proposed by the Bishop and agreed to by the Diocesan Council, the following provisions will apply:
 - (a) subject to subsections (3) ~~and (3A)~~, the powers vested in the Bishop by this Constitution will be exercised by a Commissary appointed in such manner as the Synod will determine by Ordinance;
 - (b) if no Commissary has been appointed pursuant to paragraph (a), or if the person appointed is unable or unwilling to act, and subject to subsection (3), the powers vested in the Bishop by this Constitution will be exercised by an Administrator appointed in accordance with subsection (2).
- (2) In the event of the Bishop's death, resignation or becoming incapable, ~~the~~ powers vested in the Bishop by this Constitution will be exercised by an Administrator who will be the Assistant Bishop (if any) or (if more than one) the Assistant Bishops in order of their appointment as Assistant Bishops, or

Deleted: and subject to subsection (3)

if none, or in his or her or their absence or incapacity or unwillingness to act, the person or persons appointed in order by the Diocesan Council to be the Administrator (which appointments may be made and rescinded from time to time as the Diocesan Council may determine), or if none or in his or her or their absence or incapacity or unwillingness to act, the Dean or in his or her absence or incapacity or unwillingness to act, the Archdeacons in order of seniority.

- (3) The powers and authorities to be exercised by a Commissary or Administrator [exercising the powers vested in the Bishop in accordance with subsection \(1\)](#) will not include powers and authorities vested in the Bishop by Chapter I, Chapter II and sections 17, 18, 19, 20 and 30 of this Constitution.

Deleted: and will not include the authority to appoint an Archdeacon or the Dean.

[\(3A\) The powers and authorities to be exercised by a Commissary will not include the authority to appoint an Archdeacon or the Dean.](#)

- (4) In this section –

incapable, in relation to the Bishop, has the meaning contained in the *Bishop (Incapacity) Canon 1995*.

CHAPTER III - THE SYNOD

The Synod

7. Without limiting the effect of section 3 of this Constitution there shall be a governing body for the management of the affairs of the Diocese which shall be The Synod of the Diocese of Adelaide of The Anglican Church of Australia Incorporated.

Object

8. The object of the Synod is to provide for the life and growth and the order and good government of The Anglican Church of Australia within the Diocese in accordance with the provisions of the said Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia.

Powers of Synod

9. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution the Synod shall have the following powers:-
- (a) to consider and if thought necessary to pass motions upon any matter concerning or affecting the Church of God or any part thereof and its members whether within or outside the Diocese;

- (b) To consult with the Bishop on any matter on which the Bishop may agree to being consulted and to advise the Bishop;
- (c) To make alter or repeal such Ordinances (not being repugnant to this Constitution) as shall in its opinion be necessary for or conducive to the order and good government of The Anglican Church of Australia within the Diocese;
- (d) To purchase take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire and hold any real or personal property, including any rights and privileges, for the purposes of the Synod, the general purposes of the Diocese, any special diocesan purpose, any purpose of or connected with The Anglican Church of Australia (whether within or outside the Diocese) or for any other religious purpose or purposes or for the advancement of religion (whether within or outside the Diocese);
- (e) To erect buildings and to renovate repair reconstruct alter improve add to and demolish any buildings or structures now or hereafter vested in the Synod;
- (f) To sell exchange lease let mortgage pledge hire dispose of turn to account or otherwise deal with all or any of the real and personal property of the Synod;
- (g) To accept donations whether of real or personal estate and devises and bequests whether or not such donations devises or bequests are subject to any trusts;
- (h) To raise or borrow money and secure the repayment thereof in such manner as the Synod shall think fit with power to issue debentures, grant mortgages, charges or securities upon or charging all or any of the property whether real or personal present or future of the Synod and to redeem or pay off either wholly or in part any existing or future security;
- (i) To receive moneys on deposit, current account or otherwise with or without allowance of interest and to receive on deposit titles deeds leases and other securities of any description;
- (j) To lend or advance money to any person or body either at interest or without interest and with or without security and in particular to persons parishes congregations and organisations within the Diocese and generally to receive hold invest and lay out moneys or securities for money upon and subject to such terms and conditions without any restriction whatever as the Synod may determine;
- (k) To give any guarantee in relation to mortgages loans investments and securities whether made or effected or acquired through the agency of the Synod or otherwise and generally to guarantee or become surety for the performance of any contracts and obligations;

- (l) To invest and deal with the moneys of the Synod not immediately required upon such securities and in such manner as may from time to time be determined by the Synod and for that purpose to acquire and hold shares, stocks, debentures, debenture stock bonds, obligations securities or notes issued or guaranteed by any company or corporation constituted or carrying on business in Australia or elsewhere and debentures debenture stock bonds obligations and securities issued or guaranteed by any government commission public body or authority, municipal, local or otherwise in Australia or elsewhere and to acquire any such shares stock debentures debenture stock bonds obligations notes or securities by original subscription tender purchase exchange or otherwise and to subscribe for the same either conditionally or otherwise and to guarantee the subscription thereof and to exercise and enforce all rights and powers conferred by and incidental to the ownership thereof;
 - (m) To hold and administer any property on trust;
 - (n) To appoint regulate and dissolve such committees for such purposes as the Synod may from time to time determine;
 - (o) To delegate to any person persons or body any right authority or power conferred upon or exercisable by the Synod save and except the making altering or repealing of any Ordinance, the amendment of this Constitution and the exercise of any right authority or power to which the Synod shall by Ordinance declare that this paragraph shall not apply;
 - (p) To employ or dismiss such officers and employees as may from time to time be required;
 - (q) To do all such things as may be required by the provisions of any trust deed relating to Church property or the exercise of patronage;
 - (r) To do all such other acts matters or things as shall be or may appear to be incidental or conducive to the life and growth and the order and good government of The Anglican Church of Australia in the Diocese including the power to carry out exercise and accept the transfer of the powers functions and property of any other body or organisation within The Anglican Church of Australia in the Diocese;
- (2) Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to restrict or in any way limit the powers conferred upon the Synod by virtue of the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1956-1965 or any Act amending or replacing that Act or by any other law of the State of South Australia or the Commonwealth of Australia.

Composition of Synod

10. The Synod shall consist of:-

- (a) The Bishop;
- (b) The Chancellor;
- (c) Every licensed member of the clergy;
- (d) Lay members of the Synod representing each parish of the Diocese according to the following scale:-
 - I (i) for each parish having not more than 74 communicants, one lay member of the Synod;
 - (ii) for each parish having not fewer than 75 communicants nor more than 149 communicants, two lay members of the Synod;
 - (iii) for each parish having not fewer than 150 nor more than 249 communicants, three lay members of the Synod;
 - (iv) for each parish having not fewer than 250 nor more than 399 communicants, four lay members of the Synod;
 - (v) for each parish having not fewer than 400 communicants, five lay members of the Synod;

OR

- II for each parish comprised of two or more congregations, a number of lay members of the Synod equal to the number of congregations comprising the parish;

whichever is the greater.

- (d1) The Secretary of Synod;
- (d2) Not more than five lay members appointed by the Bishop;
- (d3) Lay members each representing a congregation (whether registered or not) which functions independently of a parish and which, in the opinion of the Diocesan Council, may in time become a parish and which the Diocesan Council has resolved should in the meantime be accorded representation by one lay member in the Synod.
- (e) Such other persons (if not already members of the Synod) as may be appointed to the Diocesan Council pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (f) of section 21(1) hereof but only for the duration of their appointment as aforesaid.

Chancellor

11. (1) The Chancellor shall be appointed by and shall hold office during the pleasure of the Bishop provided that a person shall not be Chancellor unless

he or she is a communicant and or is or has been qualified for appointment as a Justice of the High Court of Australia, the Federal Court of Australia or the Supreme Court of South Australia and provided also that any appointment to the office of Chancellor shall not terminate upon a vacancy occurring in the See but shall terminate upon a new Bishop taking office.

- (2) The Chancellor shall not take office without first having signed a declaration in the form contained in the Second Schedule hereto

Members of the Clergy

12. No member of the clergy shall be licensed by the Bishop without first having signed a declaration in the form contained in the Third Schedule hereto.

Lay Members of the Synod

13. (1) No person shall vote for the election of a lay member of the Synod unless at the time of such election he or she:

- (a) is a communicant, and
- (b) has attained the age of sixteen years, and
- (c) is a member of the parish for which the election is conducted and does not purport to be a member of any other parish in the Diocese, and
- (d) shall have signed a declaration in the form contained in the Fourth Schedule hereto.

- (2) No person shall be elected or appointed a lay member of the Synod pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (d) or (d1) or (d2) or (d3) or (e) of section 10 hereof unless at the time of such election or appointment he or she:

- (a) is a communicant, and
- (b) has attained the age of eighteen years, and
- (c) is a member of the parish for which the election is conducted or the appointment is made and does not purport to be a member of any other parish in the Diocese,

and the election or appointment shall not be effective until he or she shall have signed a declaration in the form contained in the Fifth Schedule hereto.

- (3) A person shall cease to be lay member of the Synod if:

- (a) by notice in writing to the Bishop he or she resigns, or

- (b) in the opinion of the Bishop he or she has ceased to be a communicant, or
- (c) he or she has been convicted or found guilty of any offence punishable either by imprisonment or by death and the Bishop declares his or her seat to be vacant, or
- (d) he or she has failed to attend any session of the Synod without leave of the Bishop and the Bishop declares his or her seat to be vacant, or
- (e) the Bishop is satisfied following receipt of a notice in writing from the parish council of the parish which the person was elected or appointed to represent, that the person has ceased to be a member of the parish, or
- (f) the parish which the person was elected or appointed to represent ceases to be a registered parish.

Term of Office

14. (1) All lay members of the Synod, other than those referred to in paragraphs (d1) and (e) of section 10 of this Constitution, shall be elected or appointed in an election year in such manner as the Synod shall by Ordinance determine and shall take office on the 1st day of July of that election year and shall hold office until the 30th day of June of the election year next following.
- (2) For the purposes of this section an election year shall be the third year after the last preceding election year provided that the Bishop with the approval of the Diocesan Council may in a particular case determine that an election year shall be the first or second year after the last preceding election year.
- (3) A casual vacancy arising under paragraph (d2) of section 10 may be filled by the Bishop. Any other casual vacancy in the office of lay member of the Synod shall be filled in such manner as the Synod shall by Ordinance determine.
- (3a) A lay member appointed under paragraph (d2) of section 10 shall be eligible for reappointment for one, but not more than one, consecutive term.
- (4) The Secretary of Synod shall keep a register of all members of the Synod and unless the Synod shall otherwise determine such register shall be *prima facie* evidence as to any person's entitlement to membership of the Synod and his or her lawful election or appointment.

Sessions of Synod

15. (1) Subject to subsection (4), there shall be a session of the Synod at least once in each calendar year to be held at a time and place to be determined by the Bishop after consultation with the Diocesan Council.

- (2) A special session of the Synod may be called at any time by the Bishop and shall be called whenever the Bishop receives a request for a special session under the hand of ten lay members of the Synod from at least three parishes and five members of the clergy and the request is supported by the Diocesan Council.
- (3) The Synod may by Ordinance provide for the exclusion from sessions of the Synod of any member thereof who or whose parish is in default in complying with any provisions of this Constitution or of any Ordinance.
- (4) A session of the Synod may instead of being held at a place with members of the Synod being physically present, be held:
 - (a) remotely; or
 - (b) with some members of the Synod being physically present at one or more venues and other members participating remotely,
if
 - (c) the Bishop, after consultation with the Diocesan Council, determines that, because of special or extenuating circumstances, the session should be conducted under this subsection; and
 - (d) arrangements have been put in place (as determined to be appropriate by the Bishop after consultation with the Diocesan Council) so that the session may be conducted insofar as members are participating remotely, by:
 - (i) audio visual means; or
 - (ii) audio means; or
 - (iii) any other means of communication determined by the Bishop after consultation with the Diocesan Council.
- (5) If arrangements are put in place under subsection (4):
 - (a) a member of the Synod will be taken to be at the relevant meeting (and to form part of the quorum for the meeting) if the member registers as a participant at the meeting in a manner determined or approved by the Bishop as part of the arrangements put in place under subsection (4); and
 - (b) voting (including voting by orders) on any question or motion will be conducted in a manner (and using technology) determined or approved by the Bishop after consultation with the Diocesan Council; and

- (c) other procedures specified, determined or approved by or under an Ordinance for the purposes of facilitating the conduct of the business of the Synod in the relevant circumstances may apply.

Quorum

- 16. A quorum of the Synod shall comprise not fewer than one fifth of the total number of members of the clergy and not fewer than one fifth of the total number of lay members of the Synod entitled to be present.

President

- 17. At every meeting of the Synod the Bishop shall preside. In his absence the person who, during any incapacity or absence from the Diocese of the Bishop would be the Administrator, shall preside.

Voting

- 18 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution the decision of the Synod shall be the decision of the majority of those members present and voting. The President of the Synod, whenever the Synod does not vote by orders, shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.
- (2) A decision in the election of a Bishop shall be made in such manner as the Synod shall by Ordinance prescribe: provided that general licence clergy shall not vote in such an election or in any separate meeting of the clergy forming part of the process of election.
- (3) Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution any member of the Synod may before a vote is taken require a vote by orders. (4) In the event of a vote by orders being required the question shall be put first to the lay members of the Synod voting separately then to the members of the clergy voting separately and then to the Bishop if present (other than general licence clergy) and no question shall be deemed to be resolved in the affirmative unless it is so resolved by a vote of the majority of those present in each of the orders of members of the clergy and lay members of the Synod and by the Bishop if present.
- (5) The members of the clergy who are entitled to vote or to require a vote by orders are those members of the clergy who are not general licence clergy.

Validity of Proceedings

- 19. (1) The Synod may proceed to the despatch of its business notwithstanding the failure of any parish to provide for its representation or any casual vacancy in the office of lay member of the Synod, notwithstanding a vacancy in the office of Bishop or Chancellor.

- (2) Neither the making altering or repealing of any Ordinance nor the exercise of any power of the Synod shall be vitiated by reason of:
- (a) the fact that any person to be elected or appointed to the Synod has not been elected or appointed; or
 - (b) any informality with respect to the election or appointment of any member of the Synod; or
 - (c) the failure to give or send a summons or notice of any kind or a copy of any measure to any member of the Synod, unless at the session of the Synod at which the power is exercised or the measure for the Ordinance is considered the Synod by a majority of two thirds of its members present and voting as a whole shall otherwise determine.

Ordinances

20. An Ordinance shall be made altered or repealed by measure passed in accordance with the following procedure:-
- (a) A copy of the measure shall have been sent to each member of the Synod not less than fourteen days before the first day of the session of the Synod at which the measure is to be presented;
 - (b) On the passing of the measure (with or without amendment) the President may declare that the measure shall not take effect until it has been confirmed at a subsequent session of the Synod, or any member of the Synod may thereupon move that the measure shall not take effect until it has been confirmed at a subsequent session of the Synod. It shall not be possible to require a vote by orders for such a motion, and any such motion shall be deemed to have been passed if not less than one third of the members of the Synod present and voting vote in favour of the motion;
 - (c) If the Bishop be absent or the See be vacant the measure shall not take effect until it has been confirmed at a subsequent session of the Synod at which the Bishop is present;
 - (d) Subject to the passing or confirmation of the measure as the case may require, the Ordinance shall take effect from the date specified therein or, if no such date is specified, from the date of such passing or confirmation.

CHAPTER IV - THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Composition

21. (1) There shall be a Diocesan Council which shall consist of :-
- (a) the Bishop, the Assistant Bishop (if any), the Commissary (if any) or the Administrator (as the case requires and if not already a member of the Diocesan Council) and the Dean ex officio;

- (b) two Archdeacons appointed by the Bishop;
 - (c) the Chancellor and the Secretary of Synod ex officio, who shall be non-voting members;
 - (d) so many members of the Synod being not fewer than three members of the clergy and six lay members of the Synod as the Synod shall by Ordinance determine;
 - (e) such other communicants not exceeding six in number as the Synod shall by Ordinance determine who need not be members of the Synod;
 - (f) not more than two other communicants whom the Diocesan Council may from time to time appoint and who need not be members of the Synod.
- (2) For the purposes of this section a non-voting member means a person who is entitled to be given notice of and to attend a meeting of the Diocesan Council and to speak at such meeting but not to vote thereat.
- (3) The method of election or appointment of the persons mentioned in paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (1) shall be as prescribed by Ordinance.

Powers

22. The Diocesan Council shall be a council of advice to the Bishop and the executive committee of the Synod and subject to the provisions of the several Ordinances of the Synod and to any general or special direction of the Synod shall have power in the name and on behalf of the Synod to exercise or perform all or any of the rights authorities and powers of the Synod save and except the making altering or repealing of any Ordinance the altering or repealing of this Constitution and the exercise of any right authority or power to which the Synod shall by Ordinance declare that this Section shall not apply.

Regulation of Affairs

23. The election or appointment of persons to and the regulation of the affairs of and the term of office of members of the Diocesan Council shall be prescribed by Ordinance of the Synod.

CHAPTER V - PARISHES

Registration

24. Subject to the provisions of Section 25 of this Constitution the conditions for registration and termination of registration of a parish, the qualifications for membership of a parish and the conditions for registration of changes in the composition or name of a parish shall be determined and may be varied from time to time in such manner as the Synod shall by Ordinance determine.

Procedure for Registration of a Parish

25. The Synod shall not register a new parish unless the persons desiring to form it shall have held a meeting presided over by the Bishop or his nominee at which a resolution in the form contained in the Sixth Schedule hereto shall have been passed by a majority of those present and voting and the person presiding thereat shall have signed and delivered to the Secretary of Synod a certificate in the form of the Sixth Schedule.

Church Property

26. The fee simple or any other right title or interest of the Synod or of any parish or congregation or of any members of the Church in any land used for the purposes of the Church within the Diocese shall be vested in the Synod or in such other trustee or trustees as the Synod shall approve and upon such trusts as the Synod shall from time to time have approved or adopted.

CHAPTER VI - THE SEAL

Sealholders

27. The sealholders of the Synod shall comprise the Bishop and seven members of the Synod of whom not fewer than two shall be members of the clergy and not fewer than three shall be lay members of the Synod and who shall be elected by the Synod.

Use of Seal

28. Any deed instrument or document required to be made or executed under the seal of the Synod shall be deemed not to be duly made or executed unless two of the sealholders for the time being shall have signed the same and the Secretary of Synod or some other person authorised by the Diocesan Council to do so shall have countersigned the same.

Authority

29. The seal shall not be affixed to any deed instrument or document without the authority of the Diocesan Council or of a committee of the Diocesan Council if the Diocesan Council shall so determine.

CHAPTER VII - AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Procedure

30. This Constitution may be amended or repealed by measure passed in accordance with the following procedure:-

- (a) A copy of the measure shall be sent to each member of the Synod not less than fourteen days before the first day of the session of the Synod at which the measure is to be presented;
- (b) Voting on the measure (with or without amendment) shall be by orders in accordance with the provisions of section 18 hereof provided that the measure shall be deemed not to have been passed unless it is agreed to by two thirds of those present in each of the orders of lay members of the Synod and members of the clergy and by the Bishop and unless it is confirmed in like manner at a subsequent session of the Synod.

CHAPTER VIII - INTERPRETATION

Definitions

31 In this Constitution and in any Ordinance unless the context or subject matter otherwise indicates:-

- (a) "Administrator" means the administrator of the Diocese appointed pursuant to section 6A;

"Archdeacon" means a person appointed to such office by the Bishop who shall hold office for such period and shall have such powers and functions as the Bishop may from time to time determine;

"Assistant Bishop" means a person in bishop's orders appointed to such office in accordance with any ordinance provided that where the context requires reference to one such person only and there is more than one office of Assistant Bishop it shall mean the Assistant Bishops in order of seniority.

"Bishop" means the Bishop of the Diocese for the time being who is by virtue of the constitution of the Province of South Australia the Metropolitan Bishop of the Province and is styled the Archbishop of Adelaide. Except for the purposes of Chapters I and II and sections 17, 18, 19, 20 and 30 and the definitions of "Archdeacon" and "Dean", the expression shall include the Commissary or Administrator as the case requires during any incapacity or absence from the Diocese of the Bishop or during any vacancy of the See;

"Chancellor" means the Chancellor of the Diocese appointed pursuant to section 11 hereof;

"member of the clergy" or "licensed member of the clergy" means a bishop, priest or deacon holding a licence from the Bishop;

"Commissary" means a Commissary appointed pursuant to section 6A;

"Communicant" means a member of the Church who communicates at least three times in the year;

"Congregation" means a congregation of members of the Church who meet regularly for worship and which has been registered as a congregation by the Synod in such manner as the Synod shall by Ordinance determine;

"Dean" means the person appointed as the Dean of the Cathedral Church of St Peter by the Bishop, subject to such conditions (if any) as may be lawfully prescribed;

"Diocese" means the Diocese of Adelaide of The Anglican Church of Australia;

"lay member of the Synod" means a member of the Synod other than the Bishop, and any member of the clergy, and includes, if the Synod shall by Ordinance provide for the appointment or election of such persons, an alternate lay member of the Synod;

"Member of the Church" means a baptised person who attends the public worship of The Anglican Church of Australia and who declares that he or she is a member of The Anglican Church of Australia and not a member of any other religious denomination;

"Parish" means an ecclesiastical unit comprising members of the Church the pastoral care of whom has been committed to one or more members of the clergy licensed thereto by the Bishop and which has been registered as a parish in such manner as the Synod shall by Ordinance determine;

"General licence clergy" means members of the clergy who hold a general licence to officiate and no other licence.

"Secretary of Synod" means the secretary for the time being of the Synod appointed in such manner as the Synod shall by Ordinance determine. The Secretary of Synod shall be the Public Officer of the Synod;

"Synod" means The Synod of the Diocese of Adelaide of The Anglican Church of Australia.

- (b) Words importing the masculine shall include the feminine and vice versa;
- (c) Words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa;
- (d) Seniority of an Assistant Bishop or Archdeacon, shall be determined by the length of his or her continuous service in such office, and where two or more have the same length of service, by his or her seniority in priest's orders;
- (e) Headings to sections are for reference only and shall not affect the proper interpretation of this Constitution or any Ordinance;
- (f) Any reference to the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia includes any amendment thereof.

Reference of Questions to Appellate Tribunal

32. (1) Any resolution of the Synod referred to in section 63 of the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia shall be deemed to have been made if not less than one quarter of all the members of the Synod vote in favour of the resolution.
- (2) It shall not be possible to require a vote of orders for such a resolution.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE

(Section 5)

I _____ having been duly
elected or appointed as Bishop of the See of Adelaide DO HEREBY DECLARE

1. That subject to the provisions of The Anglican Church of Australia Constitution Act 1961-80 I submit to and agree to be bound by the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia and the Canons and Rules made thereunder from time to time in force insofar as they may apply.
2. That I submit to and agree to be bound by the Constitution of the Diocese of Adelaide and every Ordinance of the Synod from time to time in force.
3. That I will hold the said Office under and subject to all terms stipulations and provisions of the Trusts of the said See from time to time in force and will well and faithfully observe and perform the same and conform thereto in every respect.
4. That I will submit and conform to any sentence lawfully passed upon me and that I undertake and agree to give up to the Synod or other trustee for the time being on demand of the Administrator, the Synod or other trustee possession of such real and personal estate and effects as I may hold or be entitled to by virtue of my office at the time if and when sentenced according to the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia to suspension from office, expulsion from office, deprivation of rights or emoluments appertaining to office or deposition from holy orders and that in the event of such sentence I shall hold such real and personal estate and effects as tenant at will of the Synod or other trustee.

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this

day of

in the year of our Lord

in the presence of:

THE SECOND SCHEDULE

(Section 11)

I _____ having been appointed
Chancellor of the Diocese of Adelaide HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE that The
Anglican Church of Australia, being an Apostolic Church, receives and retains the
Catholic Faith, which is grounded in Holy Scripture and expressed in the Creeds,
and within its own history, in the Thirty-nine Articles, in the Book of Common
Prayer and in the Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons. Accordingly, I do
solemnly make the following declarations:

1. I firmly and sincerely believe the Catholic Faith and I give my assent to
the doctrine of The Anglican Church of Australia as expressed in the
Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer and the
Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons and I believe that doctrine to be
agreeable to the Word of God.
2. I submit to and agree to be bound by the Constitution of the Diocese of
Adelaide and every Ordinance made thereunder from time to time in
force.
3. I promise to perform the duties of my office honestly, impartially,
faithfully and to the best of my judgement and ability and in accordance
with and subject to the said Constitution and Ordinances.

Signature: _____

Witness: _____

Date: _____

THE THIRD SCHEDULE

(Section 12)

I _____ being about to be licensed as a member of the clergy in the Diocese of Adelaide DO HEREBY DECLARE

1. That subject to the provisions of The Anglican Church of Australia Constitution Act 1961-80 I submit to and agree to be bound by the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia and the Canons and Rules made thereunder from time to time in force insofar as they may apply in the Diocese.
2. That I submit to and agree to be bound by the Constitution of the Diocese of Adelaide and every Ordinance from time to time in force.
3. That as a member of The Synod of the Diocese of Adelaide of The Anglican Church of Australia Incorporated I promise to perform the duties thereof and the duties of any office to which I may be elected or appointed pursuant to the said Constitution and Ordinances honestly, impartially, faithfully and to the best of my judgement and ability and in accordance with and subject to the said Constitution and Ordinances.
4. That I undertake and agree to give up to the Synod or other trustee for the time being on demand by the Bishop possession of such real and personal estate and effects as I may hold or be entitled to by virtue of any office or appointment or charge which I may now or hereafter hold or possess within the Diocese if and when sentenced according to the Constitution and Ordinances of the Diocese to deprivation or suspension or if and when my licence or authority or appointment is lawfully revoked or cancelled by the Bishop and that in the event of such deprivation, suspension, revocation or cancellation I shall hold such real and personal estate and effects as tenant at will of the Bishop for the time being.

Signature: _____

Witness: _____

Date: _____

THE FOURTH SCHEDULE

(Section 13 (1))

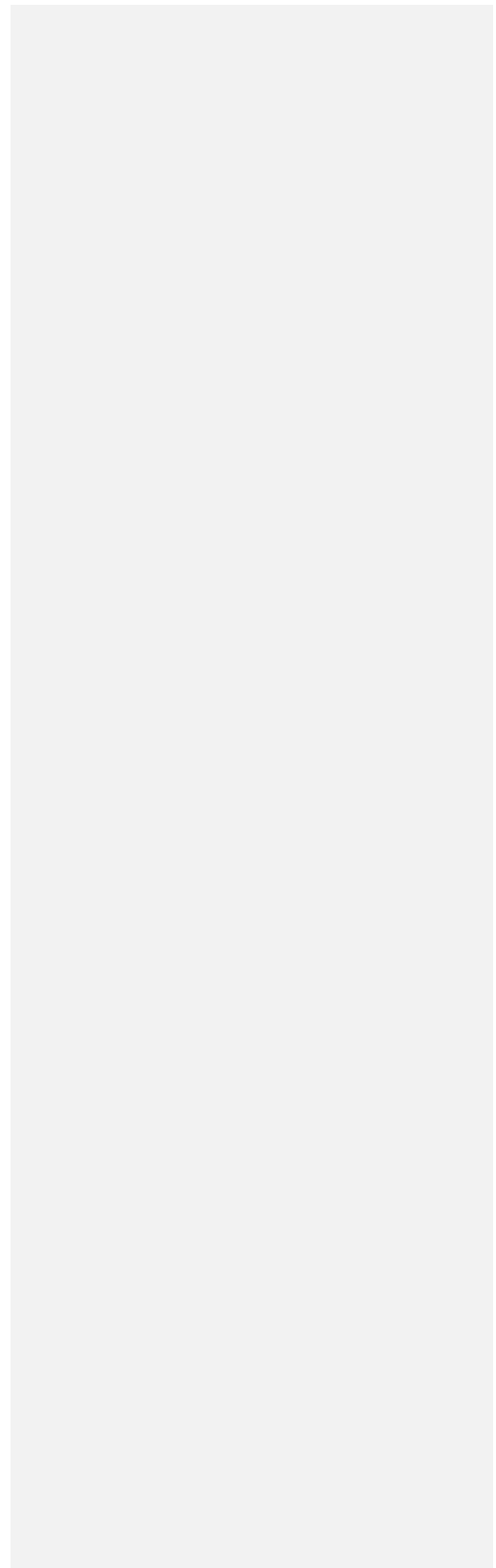
I DO HEREBY DECLARE that I am a member of The Anglican Church of Australia, that I am a communicant of the said Church, that I do not belong to any other religious denomination, that I have received the Holy Communion not less than three times during the past twelve months, that I have attained the age of sixteen years, that I am a member of the parish of:

.....

and that I do not consider myself to be a member of any other parish in the Diocese of Adelaide

Signature: _____ Witness: _____

Date: _____



THE FIFTH SCHEDULE

(Section 13(2))

I

of

DO HEREBY DECLARE

1. That I am a member of The Anglican Church of Australia and that I am a communicant of the said Church;
2. That I belong to no other religious denomination;
3. That I am a member of the Anglican Parish of and that I do not consider myself to be a member of any other Anglican parish in the Diocese of Adelaide.
4. That I have received the Holy Communion not less than three times during the past twelve months;
5. That I have attained the age of 18 years;
6. That I submit to and agree to be bound by:
(a) the Constitution of the Diocese of Adelaide;
(b) every Ordinance from time to time in force; and
(c) any lawful direction made under the Constitution or any Ordinance that applies to lay members of the Synod.
7. That I hereby accept the office of lay member of the Synod and any other office to which I may be elected or appointed pursuant to the said Constitution and Ordinances and promise to perform the duties thereof honestly, impartially, faithfully and to the best of my judgement and ability and in accordance with and subject to the said Constitution and Ordinances.
8. That I acknowledge that my appointment to the Synod relates to my membership of the Parish of for the duration of the three years of the current Synod triennium and that I may be removed from office if I cease to be a member of that Parish.

Signature: _____ Witness: _____

Date: _____

THE SIXTH SCHEDULE

(Section 25)

I

..... HEREBY CERTIFY
that at a meeting at which I presided held at
.....(place) ondate) of persons all of whom
declared themselves to be members of The Anglican Church of Australia and who
agreed to be bound by the Constitution of the Diocese of Adelaide and every Ordinance
from time to time in force thereunder and the pastoral care of whom has been committed
to one or more members of the clergy licensed thereto by the Bishop the following
motion was passed:-

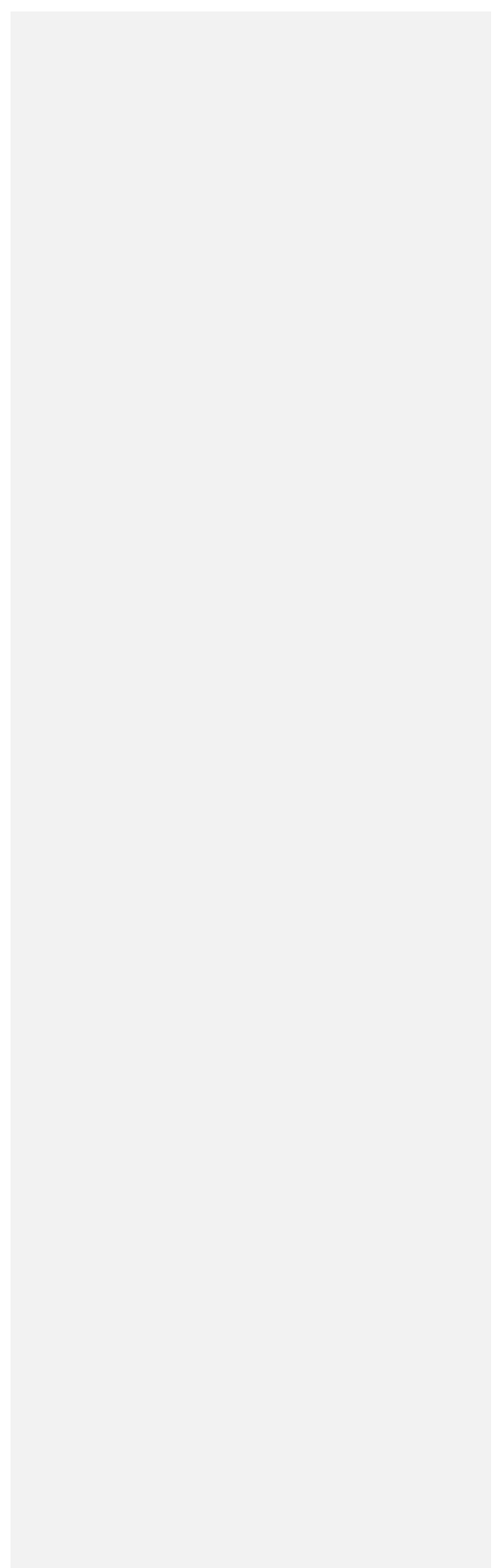
"That this meeting, comprising members of The Anglican Church of Australia the
pastoral care of whom has been committed to one or more members of the clergy
licensed thereto by the Bishop being desirous of being registered as a parish under the
title of

.....

hereby requests the Synod to register such parish.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



Passed 19th September 1977. Confirmed 10th April 1980

References: The Constitution has been amended by the following Measures:

- Constitution Amendment Measure 1980
 - Passed 10th April 1980. Confirmed 16th September 1980
- Constitution Amendment Measure (No. 1) 1984
 - Passed 15th September 1984 - Confirmed 22nd September 1985
- Constitution Amendment Measure (No. 2) 1984
 - Passed 17th September 1984 - Confirmed 20th September 1985
- Constitution Amendment Measure 1986
 - Passed 22nd September 1986 - Confirmed 18th September 1987
- Constitution Amendment Measure 1987
 - Passed 20th September 1987 - Confirmed 16th September 1988
- The Constitution Amendment (Administrator) Measure 1989
 - Passed 17th September 1989 - Confirmed 16th September 1990
- The Constitution Amendment (Membership of Synod) Measure 1994
 - Passed 17th September 1994 - Confirmed 28 July 1995.
- The Constitution Amendment (Voting Age) Measure 1994
 - Passed 17th September 1994 - Confirmed 28 July 1995
- The Constitution Amendment (Sessions of Synod) Measure 1998
 - Passed 6th September 1998 – Confirmed 16th December 1998
- The Constitution Amendment (Term of Office) Measure 2000
 - Passed 29 May 1999 – Confirmed 20 May 2000
- The Constitution Amendment (Diocesan Council) Measure 2006
 - Passed 29 October 2006 – Confirmed 26 May 2007
- The Constitution Amendment (Date of Synod) Ordinance 2008
 - Passed 25 October 2008 – Confirmed 23 May 2009
- The Constitution Amendment (Election of Lay Members of Synod) Ordinance 2009
 - Passed 24 October 2009 – Confirmed 22 October 2010
- The Constitution Amendment (Section 31, Interpretation “Assistant Bishop”)
 - Passed 22 October 2010 – Confirmed 21 October 2011
- The Constitution Amendment (Commissary, Virtual Meetings, Lay Members of Synod) Measure: Passed 16 October 2021 – Confirmed 15 October 2022