

GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2016
AT CHURCH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER

TIMES OF SITTINGS

Monday 15 February	2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Tuesday 16 February	<i>Group work</i> 9.15 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. 11.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 17 February	9.15 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

SERVICES

Monday 15 February

12.00 noon	Holy Communion in the Chapel
2.30 p.m.	Worship in the Assembly Hall
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in the Assembly Hall

Tuesday 16 February

9.15 a.m.	<i>Morning Worship in Groups</i>
1.05 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in the Assembly Hall

Wednesday 17 February

9.15 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Assembly Hall
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GENERAL NOTES

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND QUESTIONS

1. Save where a special note is included in the Agenda, the following rules apply under the Standing Orders of the General Synod to notice of motions and amendments other than procedural motions:

NEW BUSINESS

2. The period of notice of new business **has expired**, save for urgent or other specially important business included by the direction of the Presidents.

MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS ARISING OUT OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

3. Notice of motions and amendments arising out of business on the Agenda (other than amendments to legislative business) must be delivered to the Clerk to the Synod as follows (SOs 10-12 and 27):

Business appointed for the first day of the group of sessions (Monday 15 February)

5.30 p.m. on Friday 12 February

Business appointed for the remaining days of the group of sessions

Business appointed for a *morning* sitting:
10.00 a.m. the day before

Business appointed for an *afternoon* sitting:
4.00 p.m. the day before

Contingency business

10.00 a.m. on Monday 15 February

4. Under Standing Orders 10 and 27, such notice must be accompanied by evidence of support from two or more members of the Synod in addition to the member giving the notice.
5. An amendment of which due notice has not been given may only be moved by permission of the Chair (SO 26(4)(a)).
6. The email address in respect of amendments and motions arising out of business on the Agenda is: **amendments@churchofengland.org**

QUESTIONS

7. Notice of Questions under Standing Orders 112-113 must be delivered **not later than 12 noon on Wednesday 3 February 2016.**

NOTICE

8. Notice must be in writing signed by the member giving notice and delivered to the Clerk to the Synod either by hand or by post, fax or e-mail. The postal address is Church House, Great Smith St, London SW1P 3AZ. The fax number is 020 7898 1369. The e-mail addresses are:

in respect of questions:

questions@churchofengland.org

in respect of amendments and motions arising out of business on the Agenda:

amendments@churchofengland.org

in respect of submissions to Revision Committees:

revisioncommittee@churchofengland.org

ORDER OF BUSINESS

9. Business set out in the Agenda will be taken on the day and at the times shown. If business set down for a particular day is completed before the next timed business is due to be called, the opportunity will be taken to complete any business already partly considered at this group of sessions.

CONTINGENCY BUSINESS

10. If there is no uncompleted business and a gap appears in the Agenda during this group of sessions, contingency business will be taken as follows:

SPECIAL AGENDA IV DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTION

BLOOD AND ORGAN DONATION (GS 2022A and GS 2022B)

The Revd Paul Cartwright (Leeds) to move on behalf of the Leeds Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod call on all Church of England parishes to encourage their members to consider, as part of their Christian giving:

- (a) becoming blood donors; and
- (b) registering as organ donors and making their wishes known to their families.'

11. The deadline for motions or amendments arising out of this item of business is **10.00 a.m. on Monday 15 February** (SOs 10(5) and 27(5)).

CONTACT

12. Please address queries or other matters not covered in these notes to the Clerk to the Synod as follows:

jacqui.philips@churchofengland.org

MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2016

2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

WORSHIP

1 INTRODUCTIONS

2 PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of the Prolocutor of the Convocation of Canterbury

Presentation of the Prolocutor of the Convocation of York

Presentation of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the House of Laity

APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE DIOCESES COMMISSION (GS 2012)

The Archbishop of Canterbury to move:

- 3 'That the appointment of Canon Professor Michael Clarke as Chair of the Dioceses Commission from 1 May 2016 to 30 April 2021 be approved.'
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REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2013)

The Chair of the Business Committee (the Revd Canon Sue Booy (Oxford)) to move:

- 4 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'
-

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- 5 The Archbishop of Canterbury will give a Presidential Address.
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LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The following items of business (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I – see page 7) will be taken:

- 500 Amending Canon No. 34 (GS 1953D)
– *Canon for Enactment*
- 501 Draft Mission and Pastoral etc. (Amendment) Measure (GS 2014)
– *Draft Measure for First Consideration*
-

THE SHARED CONVERSATIONS ON SPIRITUALITY, SCRIPTURE AND MISSION

6 Presentation under SO 107.

***Note:** The Business Committee has determined under SO 107(3) that this presentation should include an opportunity for questions.*

Not later than 5.45 p.m.

7 QUESTIONS

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2016

9.15 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.

Worship followed by discussion in small groups

11.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

REPORT FROM THE EVANGELISM TASK GROUP (GS 2015)

8 Presentation under SO 107.

The Bishop of Liverpool to move:

9 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'

2.30 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND–CHURCH OF SCOTLAND JOINT STUDY GROUP (GS 2016)

10 Presentation under SO 107 by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Revd Dr Angus Morrison.

The Bishop of Chester (Co-Chair of the Joint Study Group) to move:

11 'That this Synod,

- (a) welcome the report of the Joint Study Group of the Church of England and the Church of Scotland (annexed to GS 2016) as a significant development in the relationship between the two churches;
 - (b) approve the Columba Declaration, consisting of mutual Acknowledgements and Commitments, as set out in paragraph 38 of the report; and
 - (c) request the Council for Christian Unity to oversee the implementation of the Commitments contained in the Columba Declaration and set up the Contact Group proposed by it.'
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**SPECIAL AGENDA IV
DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS**

PAROCHIAL FEES (GS 2017A AND GS 2017B)

The Ven. Nikki Groarke (Worcester) to move on behalf of the Worcester Diocesan Synod:

- 12** 'That this Synod call on the Archbishops' Council to exercise its powers under s.1 of the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986 so that fees prescribed as payable to parochial church councils in respect of funerals and weddings should include any costs and expenses of providing a verger.'

The Ven. Nikki Groarke (Worcester) to move on behalf of the Worcester Diocesan Synod:

- 13** 'That this Synod call on the Archbishops' Council to exercise its powers under s.1 of the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986 so that fees prescribed as payable to parochial church councils in respect of funerals and weddings should include any costs and expenses of providing heating.'
-

PROPOSED ENABLING MEASURE (GS 2018)

The Bishop of Willesden (Southern Suffragans) (Chair of the Simplification Task Group) to move:

- 14** 'That this Synod:
- (a) endorse the view of the Archbishops' Council that there needs to be a means of amending or repealing some primary legislation concerning the Church of England by a more rapid and less complex process than is currently possible;
 - (b) welcome the proposals set out in GS 2018; and
 - (c) invite the Council to introduce draft legislation at the July group of sessions to give effect to them.'
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7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2016

A service of Holy Communion will be celebrated in the Assembly Hall at 9.15 a.m.

10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

SPECIAL AGENDA IV DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

IMPACT OF SANCTIONS ON BENEFIT CLAIMANTS (GS 2019A and GS 2019B)

The Revd Canon Kathryn Fitzsimons (Leeds) to move on behalf of the Leeds Diocesan Synod:

- 15** 'That this Synod:
- (a) request the Church of England Mission and Public Affairs Council to evaluate, with others as appropriate, the impact of sanctioning upon benefit claimants; and
 - (b) call on Her Majesty's Government to implement the recommendations numbered 58-63 inclusive, made in December 2014 by the All Party Parliamentary Inquiry Report into Hunger in the UK *Feeding Britain* in respect of the use of sanctions upon benefit claimants.'
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RENEWAL AND REFORM

- 16** Presentation under SO 107.

***Note:** The Business Committee has determined under SO 107(3) that this presentation should include an opportunity for questions.*

2.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

RENEWAL AND REFORM: RESOURCING MINISTERIAL EDUCATION (GS 2020)

- 17** Details of this Motion will be given on a Notice Paper.
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RENEWAL AND REFORM: RESOURCING THE FUTURE (GS 2021)

Canon John Spence (ex officio) to move:

- 18** 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'
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Not later than 5.00 p.m.

- 19 PROROGATION**
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-

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

AMENDING CANON No. 34 (GS 1953D)

Canon for Enactment

(Finally approved at the July 2015 group of sessions)

The Archbishop of Canterbury to move:

- 500** 'That the Canon entitled "Amending Canon No. 34" be made, promulgated and executed.'

**DRAFT MISSION AND PASTORAL ETC. (AMENDMENT) MEASURE
(GS 2014)**

Draft Measure for First Consideration

The Bishop of Willesden (Southern Suffragans) (Chair of the Steering Committee) to move:

- 501** 'That the Measure entitled "Mission and Pastoral etc. (Amendment) Measure" be considered for revision in committee.'

Note:

*If item 501 is carried, any member who wishes to submit proposals for amendment to the revision committee should send them in writing to the Clerk to the Synod so as to reach her **not later than Monday 21st March 2016** (SO 55).*

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

Note: This is the current order which includes signatures received by 3 December 2015.

PRELIMINARIES TO MARRIAGE

The Revd Stephen Trott (Peterborough) to move:

'That this Synod, noting the Registration of Marriages Regulations 2015 and the growing burden and complexity of the legal requirements imposed on members of the clergy who conduct weddings in the Church of England, invite the Archbishops' Council to bring forward draft legislation to replace ecclesiastical preliminaries to marriage by universal civil preliminaries, such as those which have been in operation in Scotland since 1977, when banns were replaced by a Marriage Schedule issued by the civil registrar.'

47 signatures

November 2015

MISSION AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr Gavin Oldham (Oxford) to move:

'That this Synod, considering the ratio of time and money spent in administration to that spent in mission to be too high throughout the Church of England, and noting the very effective facilities provided for parish statistics collection and clergy payroll:

(a) confirm that the principle of subsidiarity should not be applied to purely administrative functions; and

(b) request the Archbishops' Council to consult with the Church Commissioners and dioceses, with the objective of establishing centralised administrative facilities so that other functions which can be handled more efficiently thereby are transferred accordingly.'

9 signatures

November 2015

CANON B 30 AND CANON C 26

Mrs Andrea Minichiello Williams (Chichester) to move:

'That this Synod endorse the teaching of the Church of England contained in Canon B 30 on the nature and purpose of marriage and in Canon C 26 on the duty of clergy to conform their lives to this teaching and invite the House of Bishops to bring forward proposals to ensure that the discipline of the Church, which this entails in respect of the clergy and other Church leaders, is enforced.'

0 signatures

November 2015

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

... to move on behalf of the Chelmsford Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason;
- (b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and
- (c) call on the House of Bishops:
 - (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England’s involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks (especially the continuing Indaba process);
 - (ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and
 - (iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference. ’

March 2012

[The Bath and Wells, Lincoln, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford St Albans and Worcester Diocesan Synods passed a motion in identical terms.]

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

... to move on behalf of the Southwark Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason, all as set out in Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the draft Anglican Communion Covenant;
- (b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and
- (c) call on the House of Bishops:

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

- (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England's involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks (especially the continuing Indaba process);
- (ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and
- (iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference.'

March 2012

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

... to move on behalf of the Guildford Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod:

- (a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason;
- (b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and
- (c) call on the House of Bishops:
 - (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England's involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks;
 - (ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and
 - (iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference. '

April 2012

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

FOSSIL FUELS DISINVESTMENT

...to move on behalf of the Oxford Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) urge the national investing bodies to disinvest from all coal companies (except those investing in carbon capture) and tar sand companies at the earliest opportunity;
- (b) urge the national investing bodies to examine the possibility of disinvestment from oil companies but not before three years from now;
- (c) urge the national investing bodies to examine the possibility of disinvestment from natural gas companies but not before five years from now; and
- (d) call on parishes and individual Christians to take steps to encourage Her Majesty’s Government and political parties to act quickly on climate change.’

December 2014

WELCOMING TRANSGENDER PEOPLE

...to move on behalf of the Blackburn Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod, recognising the need for transgender people to be welcomed and affirmed in their parish church, call on the House of Bishops to consider whether some nationally commended liturgical materials might be prepared to mark a person’s gender transition.’

April 2015

IMPACT OF SANCTIONS ON BENEFIT CLAIMANTS

...to move on behalf of Leeds Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) request the Church of England Mission and Public Affairs Council to be evaluate, with others as appropriate, the impact of sanctioning upon benefit claimants; and
- (b) call on Her Majesty’s Government to implement the recommendations numbered 58-63 inclusive, made in December 2014 by the All Party Parliamentary Inquiry Report into Hunger in the UK *Feeding Britain* in respect of the use of sanctions upon benefit claimants.’

August 2015

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

PAROCHIAL FEES

..to move on behalf of the Worcester Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod call on the Archbishops' Council to exercise its powers under s.1 of the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986 so that fees prescribed as payable to parochial church councils in respect of funerals and weddings should include any costs and expenses of providing a vergger.'

and

'That this Synod call on the Archbishops' Council to exercise its powers under s.1 of the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986 so that fees prescribed as payable to parochial church councils in respect of funerals and weddings should include any costs and expenses of providing heating.'

October 2015

BLOOD AND ORGAN DONATION

...to move on behalf of the Leeds Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod call on all Church of England parishes to encourage their members to consider, as part of their Christian giving:

(a) becoming blood donors; and

(b) registering as organ donors and making their wishes known to their families.'

November 2015

NOTES