

Department of Evangelism (New Churches) Reconstitution Ordinance 2010

No 27, 2010

Long Title

An Ordinance to reconstitute the board of the Department of Evangelism for the purposes of evangelism, including through the planting of new congregations and fellowships in the Diocese of Sydney.

The Synod of the Diocese of Sydney Ordains as follows.

1. Name

This Ordinance is the Department of Evangelism (New Churches) Reconstitution Ordinance 2010.

2. Amendments

The Department of Evangelism Ordinance 1978 (the "Principal Ordinance") is amended as follows –

- (a) delete the title "Department of Evangelism Ordinance 1978" and insert instead the title "Department of Evangelism and New Churches Ordinance 2010", and
- (b) delete all the matter from and including the Long Title and insert instead the matter in the Schedule.

3. Savings and transitional provisions

(1) The amendments to the Principal Ordinance made by clause 2 are subject to the transitional arrangements set out in this clause.

(2) All persons elected or appointed under the Principal Ordinance and holding office immediately before the date of assent to this Ordinance are to remain in office as if they had been elected or appointed under the Principal Ordinance as amended by this Ordinance provided that in relation to the membership of the reconstituted Board –

- (a) the Rev Sarie King and the Rev Archie Poulos (or any person or persons elected to fill a vacancy in the positions held by Ms King and Mr Poulos) are to retire as persons elected by the Synod on the first day of the first ordinary session of the 49th Synod, and
- (b) the Rev Bruce Hall and the Rev Baden Stace (or any person or persons elected to fill a vacancy in the positions held by Mr Hall and Mr Stace) are to retire as persons elected by the Synod on the first day of the second ordinary session of the 49th Synod, and

- (c) a member of the clergy may not be elected by the Synod or the Standing Committee as a member until the number of clergy elected by the Synod as members is or will at the time of the election be less than three.

(3) All other acts done under the Principal Ordinance before the date of assent to this Ordinance which continue to have effect immediately before the date of assent to this Ordinance are taken to be acts done under the Principal Ordinance as amended by this Ordinance.

(4) If at the third ordinary session of the 48th Synod –

- (a) one or more members of the clergy are elected by the Synod as members of the Board of the Department of Evangelism, or
- (b) the number of lay persons elected by the Synod as members of the Board of the Department of Evangelism is greater than two,

the election of such members of the clergy or the election of such lay persons is to be treated as void.

(5) The person who holds the office as chairman of the Board of the Department of Evangelism immediately before the date of assent to this Ordinance is taken to have completed an initial 3 year term of office as Chairman of the reconstituted Board on the first day of the first ordinary session of the 49th Synod.

(6) A reference to the Department of Evangelism Ordinance 1978 or any provision of that ordinance in an ordinance or other rule which has force and effect in this Diocese (except any such reference in this Ordinance) is taken to be a reference to the Department of Evangelism and New Churches Ordinance 2010 or the corresponding provision of that ordinance as applicable.

(7) A reference to the Department of Evangelism or the Board responsible for the management of the Department of Evangelism in an ordinance or other rule which has force and effect in this Diocese (except any such reference in this Ordinance) is taken to be a reference to the Board of the Department of Evangelism and New Churches under the Principal Ordinance as amended by this Ordinance.

4. Review

The Standing Committee is to review the Department of Evangelism and New Churches Ordinance 2010 and report to the Synod in 2012 about the outcome of its review.

Schedule

Long Title

An Ordinance to constitute a body for the purposes of evangelism, namely the proclamation of Jesus Christ as Lord to the lost in Sydney and beyond, including through the planting of new congregations and fellowships in the Diocese of Sydney.

The Synod of the Diocese of Sydney Ordains as follows.

Part 1 – Preliminary

1. Name

This Ordinance is the Department of Evangelism and New Churches Ordinance 2010.

2. Interpretation

In this Ordinance –

Board means the Board of the Department of Evangelism and New Churches constituted under clause 3.

congregation means a group of persons who meet together on a regular basis within the Diocese for services of public worship under the pastoral leadership of the minister of a parish.

fellowship means a group of persons who meet together on a regular basis within the Diocese under the pastoral leadership of a person who is appointed by the Board to lead the fellowship and who –

- (a) if the person is a member of the clergy, holds a general licence or authority to officiate in the Diocese, or
- (b) if the person is not a member of the clergy, holds an authority to lead the fellowship issued by the Archbishop pursuant to clause 16.

Part 2 – Constitution, Object, Powers and Delegation

3. Constitution

There is to be a Board to be known as the Board of the Department of Evangelism and New Churches which is to consist of a President and ten other members.

4. Object

(1) The object of the Board is to advance the evangelistic purposes of the Diocese, including through the planting of new congregations and fellowships in the Diocese.

(2) The Board may, subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, fulfil its object by such means as the Board considers expedient including by –

- (a) resourcing churches and parishes to evangelise, including through the planting of new congregations in the Diocese, and
- (b) identifying, training, supporting and appointing suitably gifted persons to evangelise, including through the planting and leading of new fellowships in the Diocese.

5. Powers

The Board has power to do all things necessary and desirable to fulfil its object and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, may –

- (a) acquire property by purchase, donation or otherwise,
- (b) use any money paid to or held for or by the Board,
- (c) enter into contracts, employ and appoint persons and do all things that are necessary or incidental to fulfilling its object,
- (d) open and operate bank accounts and determine the persons by whom cheques and other banking documents shall be signed or endorsed, and
- (e) raise or borrow money for the purposes of the Board provided that a resolution of the Board to borrow must be within the terms of a prudential borrowing limit and be approved by resolution of the Standing Committee before action is taken upon it.

6. Delegation

The Board may delegate the exercise of any of its powers and functions (except this power to delegate) to an executive appointed from among its members and may revoke such delegation.

Part 3 - Membership

7. President

The Archbishop is President of the Board and is to preside at all meetings of the Board at which he is present.

8. Membership

The members of the Board, in addition to the President, are –

- (a) three members of clergy and three lay persons elected by the Synod, and
- (b) two persons appointed by the Archbishop, and
- (c) two persons elected by the other members of the Board.

9. Declaration

A person is not eligible to be elected or appointed as a member of the Board unless the person has first given the electing or appointing person or body a signed copy of the declaration set out in the Schedule.

10. Term of office of members

(1) Subject to clauses 11 and 12, one member of clergy and one lay person elected by the Synod as members of the Board are to retire on the first day of each ordinary session of the Synod. The members to retire are those who have held office the longest since last being elected but, in the case of competition, are to be determined by the members concerned. If those members cannot agree, the order of retirement is to be determined by lot.

(2) Subject to clause 11, the persons appointed to the Board by the Archbishop hold office until the first ordinary session of the next succeeding Synod.

(3) Subject to clause 11, the person elected to the Board by the other members of the Board hold office until the first ordinary session of the next succeeding Synod.

(4) Subject to clause 11, a retiring member is eligible for re-election or re-appointment.

11. Casual Vacancies

(1) A casual vacancy in the office of member of the Board elected by the Synod arises in a circumstance set out in rule 7.1(2) (except rule 7.1(2)(b)) of the Schedule to the Synod Elections Ordinance 2000.

(2) A casual vacancy in the office of member of the Board appointed by the Archbishop arises –

- (a) if the person holding that office resigns by notice in writing to the Archbishop, or
- (b) if a circumstance set out in rule 7.1(2)(a) (except rule 7.1(2)(a)(i)) of the Schedule to the Synod Elections Ordinance 2000 occurs in respect of that person.

(3) A casual vacancy in the office of member of the Board elected by the other members arises –

- (a) if the person holding that office resigns by notice in writing to the Board, or
- (b) if a circumstance set out in rule 7.1(2)(a) (except rule 7.1(2)(a)(i)) of the Schedule to the Synod Elections Ordinance 2000 occurs in respect of that person.

12. Filling of casual vacancies

- (1) A casual vacancy in the office of a member of the Board elected by the Synod is to be filled by the Synod, or by the Standing Committee if the Synod is not in session.
- (2) A person elected to fill a casual vacancy in the office of a member of the Board elected by the Synod holds office, subject to clause 11(1), for the balance of the term of office of the person whose place on the Board he or she has filled as if he or she had been elected to office by the Synod under clause 8(a).

Part 4 – Meetings of the Board

13. Chairman

- (1) The members of the Board are to elect one of their number to be the Chairman of the Board for a term of up to three years.
- (2) A person who has been elected as chairman is eligible for re-election at the expiry of his or her term of office provided that a person cannot hold office as chairman for more than nine consecutive years.
- (3) The Chairman of the Board is to be chairman of meetings of the Board at which the President is not present.
- (4) In the absence of the President and the Chairman of the Board, the meeting is to appoint one of its number then present to be chairman of the meeting of the Board.

14. Meetings of the Board

- (1) The Board is to meet at such times as it may determine, and is to meet at least once in any 3 month period.
- (2) A meeting of the Board may be convened by –
 - (a) the President, or
 - (b) the Chairman, or
 - (c) any 3 members of the Board.
- (3) A quorum for a meeting of the Board is 6 members.

Part 5 – Fellowships

15. Nature and planting of fellowships

- (1) A fellowship is a ministry of the Board.
- (2) A fellowship is taken to be outside any parish.
- (3) Although the permission of the minister and the Regional Bishop is not necessary, it is intended that fellowships be planted and operate with the goodwill and encouragement of the Regional Bishop and the minister of any parish in which a fellowship would, but for subclause (2), meet or operate.

16. Authority of lay persons to lead fellowships

- (1) The Archbishop may authorise a person who is not a member of the clergy to lead a fellowship in the Diocese.
- (2) The Archbishop is not to issue an authority pursuant to subclause (1) to a person unless the person satisfies the Archbishop that he or she has been adequately trained or otherwise equipped, possesses a sufficient knowledge of Scripture, assents to the doctrine referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Schedule, is of godly character, and, will conduct their fellowships in a way agreeable to the Word of God and consistent with the doctrine of the Anglican Church of Australia.
- (3) An authority issued pursuant to subclause (1) –
 - (a) may be limited to a fellowship or the fellowships named in the authority or may apply to any fellowship in the Diocese or any specified part of the Diocese, and
 - (b) may be issued subject to any conditions which are specified in the authority.
- (4) An authority issued pursuant to subclause (1) may be revoked at any time by the Archbishop.

Part 6 – Miscellaneous

17. Director of the Board

- (1) The Director of the Board is the chief executive of the Board and is responsible to the Board for the implementation of its plans and strategies and for the operation and management of its activities and functions.
- (2) The Director of the Board is to be appointed by the Archbishop on the recommendation of the Board for such term and upon such conditions as the Board with the concurrence of the Archbishop thinks fit.

18. Indemnity

- (1) Subject to subclause (2), each member of the Board is indemnified out of the assets of the Board against all loss or liability which a member of the Board or any of the members of the Board may have incurred for or on behalf of the Board and which they or any of them may be subject through being a member of the Board.
- (2) A member of the Board is not entitled to be indemnified under subclause (1) against any loss or liability caused by the member's own wilful act or neglect.

19. Reporting by the Board

(1) The Board must at least once in every year present a report on its proceedings to the Synod and must furnish such other information as may be required from time to time by resolution of the Synod or the Standing Committee.

(2) The Board is to include in its report to Synod each year details of any fellowships created under this Ordinance.

20. Compliance with the Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995

The Board must comply with the provisions of the Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995.

Schedule

1. I believe and hold to the truth of the Christian faith as set forth in the Nicene Creed, as well as the Apostles' Creed as set out below –

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he shall come to judge the
living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.*

2. In particular I believe –
 - (a) There is only one way to be reconciled to God which is through his Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and was raised for our justification; and
 - (b) That we are justified before God by faith only.

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- (c) That God's word written, the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
 - (d) The doctrine contained in the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion interpreted according to their plain and literal sense.
3. I shall endeavour to fulfil my duties as a member of the Board of the Department of Evangelism and New Churches to which I am elected or appointed in accordance with its Christian ethos and its constituting ordinance.
 4. I agree that my continuance as a member of the Board of the Department of Evangelism and New Churches is dependent upon my continuing agreement with this statement and I undertake to resign if this ceases to be the case.

I Certify that the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as reported.

PG KELL
Chairman of Committees

We Certify that this Ordinance was passed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney on 19 October 2010.

CJ MORONEY
R WICKS
Secretaries of Synod

I Assent to this Ordinance.

PETER F JENSEN
Archbishop of Sydney
21/10/2010