

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA DIOCESE OF CAPE TOWN



Sixty-Sixth Session Of Synod
26th-27th November 2021

Motions passed and adopted

MOTION 1

Diocesan Church Property Maintenance Team

This synod

1. Recognizing

That numerous parishes lack the expertise to assess and execute the maintenance required by church properties for which they are responsible.

2. Resolves

To request the Diocesan Property Manager to establish a property management team that may be called upon to assess and advise on the execution of such maintenance as is deemed appropriate to maintain diocesan property in good order at parish expense.

Proposer: Prof Richard Fuggle

Secunder: Ven Mark Long

MOTION 2

Diocesan Men's Ministry

This Synod noting:

1. The high levels of societal ills in South Africa: gender-based violence, women and children abuse, and substance abuse.
2. The consistent efforts that the church has made to address these social ills.
3. That our efforts as the Church have been fragmented and have not resulted in tangible change in our communities, or in our churches.
4. The real role that men in general, and particularly men in churches, can play in addressing social ills.
5. That men's ministries and organisations within our diocese lack coordinated and unified effort to reduce these ills in our communities.

This Synod resolves to:

1. Encourage men's groups in our diocese to work together as a Diocesan Men's Ministry.
2. Respectfully requests the Bishop of Table Bay to:
 - a. Licence a Chaplain to be responsible for promoting, unifying, and coordinating the work of men in our diocese.
 - b. Mandate the Diocesan Men's Ministry to initiate clear and succinct programs to effect change in our Church

and communities.

Proposer: Mr Lindile Batwa

Secunder: The Revd Mkhusele Lujabe

MOTION 3

Digital Media Committee

This Synod

1. Noting that:

- 1.1 The 2020 National lockdown prohibited in-person worship service for several months
- 1.2 Covid-19 guidelines and lockdown restrictions limited the number of people who could gather for in-person worship services when these were allowed
- 1.3 This was an unprecedented time in the life of the church

This Synod

2. Acknowledges:

- 2.1 The extraordinary efforts of all clergy in the Diocese to ensure the spiritual wellbeing of parishioners during this period
- 2.2 The support given by lay leaders in making new forms of worship possible.
- 2.3 The strides that have been made in developing digital tools to support the mission and ministry of the church
- 2.4 That online liturgies have added great value to the mission of the church.

3. Respectfully requests the Bishop of Table Bay to:

- 3.1 Establish a Diocesan Digital Media Team consisting of members of our Diocese with technical and/or liturgical skills
- 3.2 Mandate the Diocesan Digital Media Team to provide appropriate training to pastoral charges on inter alia tools, trends and techniques
- 3.3 Enable the Diocesan Digital Media Team to serve as a resource to pastoral charges wishing either to adopt new approaches to mission and ministry or to formalize these new tools into the existing activities.
- 3.4 Take steps to include the Digital Media Committee as a DRT in Chapter 20 of the Diocesan Acts

Proposer: The Revd Shaun Cozett.

Secunder: The Revd Allen Goliath

MOTION 4 ***Treasuring Water***

THIS SYNOD

1. NOTING THAT:

- 1.1 Cape Town is a water scarce area. Three consecutive dry winters (2015–2017) resulted in the Cape Town “Day Zero” drought in early 2018. Cape Town became known as the first major city in the world to risk having its taps turned off.
- 1.2 Capetonians rose to the challenge to save water. A combination of interventions led to a citywide water usage reduction of close to 50 percent in less than three years, and Day Zero was avoided.
- 1.3 The church contributed to the efforts to save water with the Diocesan Water (In) justice conference, Lenten daily meditations by the youth, a Lenten course on water. Individual pastoral charges employed creative water saving ideas.
- 1.4 Water supply is still at risk, due to population growth and future droughts due to climate change.
- 1.5 The potential drought led to a rapid increase in the number of boreholes, which is now impacting on groundwater and risks the long term consequences of draining the city’s aquifers faster than they can be recharged.
- 1.6 Canons 15, 24 and 29 spell out specific duties with respect to safeguarding creation
- 1.7 Water is our sacred element, we become members of the family of God through the waters of Baptism. Water is used in the sacrament of the Eucharist, we receive water, wine and bread.

2. This Synod

RESOLVES TO encourage pastoral charges to continue taking actions towards saving and protecting water by:

- 2.1 Incorporating a session on the sacredness of water into our preparation
 - 2.2 Installing water tank or gray water system, or other.
 - 2.3 Regularly checking and mending dripping taps and leaking toilets
 - 2.4 Use indigenous plants and waterwise plants in church gardens
 - 2.5 Commit to stop using single use plastic, water bottles and Styrofoam
 - 2.6 Pick up litter in your church grounds, community and local river.
 - 2.7 Adopt a river as your ‘Jordan River’
3. Further Resolves to encourage Pastoral Charges to advocate for the protection of the city’s aquifers by encouraging parishioners to:
- 3.1 Not put paving and tarring over all surfaces, but being intentional about reserving open spaces for rainwater to infiltrate the soil and recharge the aquifer;
 - 3.2 Treat borehole water as a scarce resource
 - 3.3 Limit the use of pesticides and artificial fertilizers
 - 3.4 Properly dispose of potentially toxic substances like unused chemicals, pharmaceuticals, paint, motor oil, and other substances, in accordance with the disposal instructions on the label
 - 3.5 Use all natural/nontoxic household cleaners around premises whenever possible.

Proposer: The Revd Shaun Cozett

Seconded: The Revd Canon Rachel Mash

MOTION 5 ***Gender Equality in Appointments and Elections***

Noting:

- that the 2017 Diocesan Synod agreed “to seek to encourage the deliberate identification, nurturing and empowering of women into ministry”
- that ministry includes all ministry and not only the ordained ministry

Respectfully requests:

- that reflection and intentional action is taken to ensure gender equity when appointments or elections of representatives are made to the following:
 - o Parish bodies,
 - o Archdeaconry bodies,
 - o Diocesan bodies and
 - o Provincial bodies

That the Bishop of Table Bay requests the Diocesan Standing Committee to review election processes mandated by the Acts of the Diocese of Cape Town to ensure that equitable male and female representation is achieved.

That the Archbishop as Diocesan requests the Anglican Canon Law Council of Southern Africa to review canonically mandated election processes to ensure that equitable male and female representation is achieved.

Proposer: The Revd Canon Reeva Mulder

Seconded: Ven Moeketsi Motojane

MOTION 6 ***Remunerated Parish Youth Coordinators***

This synod:

Noting

1. That this motion pertains to local parishes seeking ways to grow, support and explore fresh ways of engaging young people across Cape Town.
2. The need for an individual to coordinate youth ministry in parishes, not to take over the current youth ministries, but to provide leadership, administrative, and spiritual support to those in youth ministry roles.
3. The need for rebuilding or restarting deficient ministries.
4. The impact of the role to strengthen and feed into the parish growth track.
5. The lack of employment for young people, and that this initiative provides job opportunities for them, as well as affirming the time and value of the person having the responsibility.

This synod:

Resolves

- a) That pastoral charges with active youth ministries endeavour to employ a youth coordinator.
- b) That the goal of the youth coordinator should be to grow the local young peoples’ ministry; 2.

set up such structures as may be needed to ensure ongoing sustainable youth ministry within a parish; and support parents, children, teens, and young adults.

- c) That youth coordinators work with and be guided by the Diocesan Youth Chaplain and Diocesan Youth Worker.
- d) That host Rectors together with their Youth Coordinator meet quarterly with the YPM Chaplain and Diocesan Youth Worker to evaluate and discuss roles, opportunities, and plans, as they work together in fulfilling objectives set for their local church.
- e) The Diocesan Young People's Ministry Committee provides training opportunities for development and growth of youth coordinators.
- f) A contractual agreement be drawn, and MOU agreed, between the pastoral charge and the prospective employee.
- g) The pastoral charge, in partnership with the diocese and with guidance from the Diocesan Standing Committee, determines the remuneration structure for the youth coordinator: with due regard for the work done and ministry opportunities provided.

A Diocesan Youth Worker Fund is established through which local parishes contribute to the program and through which youth coordinators may be subsidized for the work they do.

Proposed: Mr Jeremy Smith

Seconded: The Revd Glynis Rhodes

MOTION 7

The Church's Response To Gang Violence And Drug Abused In Affected Areas On The Cape Flats

This Synod notes with concern –

- A. Gang violence and drug abuse and child trafficking and shooting continue to seriously disrupt worship services and ministries e.g., Brigade, Youth Groups, Servers Guild, Bible Studies etc.
- B. The community life is abnormally affected in terms of people's safety and mobility even to the point where people are silenced to take action against illegal gang activity.
- C. How clergy and their families are traumatized in these circumstances preventing them to effectively minister to their people.

Therefore, respectfully requests –

- A. The Bishops to set meetings with the Head of Police WC to take action against gang leaders who endanger the lives of our children and people. Also, to liaise with all other religious leaders to join hands in taking action against illegal gang activity.
- B. Members of Diocesan Chapter to arrange trauma counselling and debriefing sessions for affected parishioners and clergy and their families.
- C. Parishes to set aside a Special day of prayer to address the continuous challenges of gang violence and drug abuse, children trafficking.
- D. The Bishops and members of the Diocesan Chapter to initiate the measures noted above within the next three months and from time to time communicate with

affected Parishes in terms of encouragement and support.

Proposer: The Revd Ronald Dias

Seconded: The Revd Basil Davids

MOTION 8 (previously Measure 1)

Written Constitutions For Pastoral Church

This Synod

(1) Noting that:

- (a) The Financial Intelligence Centre Act 38 of 2001 (FICA) requires accountable institutions, such as banks, insurance businesses, and investment advisers to establish and verify the identities of their clients.
- (b) A written constitution or similar founding document is usually requested by such accountable institutions as proof of identity.
- (c) The officers of Pastoral Charges often have difficulty in providing satisfactory proof of identity in the ordinary course of business with accountable institutions;

2. Resolves to:

Take all such steps as may be required to facilitate the transaction by Pastoral Charges of their affairs, and their compliance with financial regulations.

Request, through the office of the Archbishop, the Anglican Canon Law Council of Southern Africa (ACLC-SA) to explore the use of a parish constitution; such constitution to be in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of ACSA, as well as the provisions of the Income Tax Act that relate to Public Benefit Organizations (PBOs).

Proposer: Mr Kevin Rorke

Seconded: Ven Donovan Meyer

Motions Arising out of Conference of Synod

MOTION 9

PUBLIC POLICY LIAISON

This Synod,

- 1. Noting and appreciating the role of the bishops in the public sphere,
- 2. Calls on the Archbishop and Bishop of Table Bay to appoint a Public Policy liaison officer in the office of the Bishop of Table Bay, to
 - (a) consider the role and position of the church in the political and social life of the country, including engagement with issues such as National Statutes, Gender-based violence, human sexuality, and other pertinent issues;
 - (b) promote activism, political education and organization at Archdeaconry and parish level.
 - (c) Central to the role of the public policy liaison officer would be the setting up of spaces of engagement with political, civil society leaders and industry leaders.

Proposer: Mr Goitsione Mokou

Seconded: Mr Alan Accom

MOTION 10

DIOCESAN AND PARISH REVIEW

This Synod notes that:

1. Covid19 has effected and affected everyone and every facet of life.
2. Parishes and its leadership have had to creatively adapt to ways of being and doing church.
3. This has placed a huge strain on parish resources especially its finances.
4. Covid19 has highlighted again much of the social ills such as the inequality between the rich and the poor, Gender-based Violence, growing unemployment, substance abuse, community violence, lack of government role in service delivery, the physical and mental and spiritual health and many more areas of great concern.

The Synod also acknowledges that:

1. Out of the Synod Conference report from the Ibongolethu and Constantia Archdeaconries there is a recommendation for a Diocesan and Parish Ministerial Review.

Therefore, respectfully requests –

1. The Bishop of Table Bay to set up a Diocesan and Parish Review Task Team
2. The Diocesan and Parish Review Task Team to also be representative as set out in point 2 within the preamble of the Acts of the Diocese of Cape Town.
3. That the task team researches various review process, meet with parish leadership, diocesan leadership as well as diocesan clergy so as to include all role players in the setting up of a Diocesan and Parish review process.
4. To report and recommend to the Diocesan Standing Committee by the end of 2022.

Proposer: The Revd Grant Damoes

Secunder: Dr Thomas Blake

MOTION 11

Diocesan Committee on Contextual Bible Study

This synod,

Noting that:

1. There is a need for Contextual Biblical reflection as we navigate often uncharted territories amidst this global pandemic
2. There is a great need to focus on bringing people back to church
3. Reading and reflecting on the Bible is central to the living out of our faith

Resolves to respectfully request the Bishop of Table Bay to establish a committee, made up of representatives from each Archdeaconry,

1. Diocesan Contextual Bible Study Programmes on, but not limited to:
 - Season of Lent
 - Season of Advent
 - Bereavement and loss
 - Communities of Faith
 - Stewardship

2. The development of collections Daily Prayers for distribution throughout the Diocese .
3. To provide training for implementing contextual bible study

Proposer: Very Revd Michael Weeder

Secunder: The Revd Nobuntu Mageza

MOTION 12

Intra-Diocesan Parish Partnerships

This Synod,

Noting that:

1. The Archbishop in his charge reflected on the hardships experienced throughout the country as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. The financial, mental and spiritual impact of these is disproportionately experienced.

Resolves to:

1. Respectfully request the Bishop of Table Bay to set up an appropriate structure that would explore appropriate models to enable parishes to support each other. These partnerships should be voluntary and mutually beneficial in sharing and supporting one another.

Proposer: Mr Dennis Fredericks

Secunder: Mrs Anthea Matthews