

DIOCESE OF ST MARK THE EVANGELIST

Minutes of the *FOURTH SITTING* of the *TENTH DIOCESAN SYNOD* held at *Christ Church Cathedral, Polokwane,* on *Saturday, 1st December 2012*

~~~~~

#### **Registration and Tea**

From 8h00 and while clergy and lay representatives were gathering, registration took place and refreshments were served.

With †Martin's permission to be absent from the fourth sitting of Synod, apologies were received from :

- Rev Solomon Setshedi
- Rev Paulina Mamabolo
- Rev Patrick Masipa
- Rev Thomas Raphalo

#### **Morning Prayer**

Members from the Western Archdeaconry led us in Morning Prayer.

After Morning Prayer †Martin welcomed the Chancellor and Registrar and all others present. A special welcome was extended to Mr and Mrs Elston Makwela. Mr Makwela had been recommended by the Parish of Tlhatlaganya and †Martin conferred on him the award of the Order of St Mark the Evangelist.

#### **SESSION 1**

##### **1. Quorum and Resumption of Synod**

Synod resumed at 9h15 after the Registrar had confirmed that there was a *quorum* present.

#### **Daily Routine**

##### **2. Approval of Minutes of THIRD SITTING (1<sup>st</sup> September 2012)**

Referring to item 15. "Review of Progress" – Report from Committee : RC 1 : To amend Rule 24 to provide for nominations" on page 116 of the Fourth Agenda Book (page 5 of the Minutes), Mr Solomon Makololo proposed the following correction to the Rule :

In sub-paragraph (d) the words “..... not later than the last day of November“ should be deleted and “December” be changed to “January” so that sub-paragraph (d) will read as follows :

“(d) A list of nominees shall be published on the notice board to allow for objections and appeals by parishioners. The final list of successful candidates shall be published not later than the last day of January.”

Sub-Dean Philemon Mudzvovera seconded the proposal.

The change in wording was accepted by all as a correction of the Minutes.

The minutes of the THIRD SITTING of Synod held on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012, as corrected, were duly accepted by majority vote.

### 3. **Presentation and Reading of Petitions**

None

### 4. **Notice of Motions to add to the day’s proceedings**

None

### **Measures to amend Diocesan Rules : 3rd Reading**

#### 5. **RC 3 : Proposed Rule Change : Annual Financial Statements**

Dean Luke Pretorius read the Principle and Proposal.

The Rule Change was finally approved by majority vote.

#### 6. **RC 2 : The repeal of provisions of Rule 20.7**

The task team convened by the Chancellor could not complete this mandate as some of the members were not available. †Martin read the Rule and then Mr Solomon Makololo, the proposer, read the Principle and Proposal (page 51 of the Second Agenda Book) and spoke to the motion.

Rev Eddie Barnett, seconder of the proposal, spoke in support of the motion.

After much debate, Mr Makololo thanked everyone for their contributions.

Thereafter Sub-Dean Philemon Mudzvovera proposed that voting be done by a show of hands. This proposal was seconded by Rev Thembeke Gwija-Mothiba.

After a time of prayer, the voting took place :  
In favour of the Repeal = 22; Against the Repeal = 22.

After the deadlock there was a re-vote :  
In favour of the Repeal = 30; Against the Repeal = 30.

†Martin requested that the matter be left in abeyance until after brunch.

## **Motions to Synod**

### **7. Motion 10 : DFB Bye Law : Arising from debate on Rule 20.7**

The following motion was submitted to Synod :

PROPOSER : S. T. MAKOLOLO

SECONDER : REVD E. BARNETT

PRINCIPLE :

This Synod notes that :

The proposed repeal of Rule 20.7 (whether accepted or rejected by Synod) has raised considerable debate and exposed certain fears and concerns about the management of money.

PROPOSAL :

Therefore, this Synod respectfully requests that Diocesan Finance Board be tasked to put a bye-law in place that will govern and give financial guidelines for the control and management of funds in the archdeaonries.

Mr Solomon Makololo spoke to the motion. Some further debate on the matter followed. Mr Makololo thanked everyone for their input. Thereafter the motion was carried by majority vote.

### **8. Notices**

Rev Frauke Ackermann advised that complimentary copies of "Word and Worship" were available for the clergy – a gift from the Diocese.

Copies of the "Revised Common Lectionary" for the period Advent 2012 to December 2013 were also available.

## **Brunch**

Synod adjourned for 40 minutes for brunch.

## **SESSION 2**

### **9. Motion 11 : Accountability Contract**

The following motion was submitted to Synod :

Proposer : Gail Blunden

Secunder : Jane Lloyd

That this Synod takes note of the Accountability Contract which has been drawn up for clergy and encourages parishes to make use of it – especially when new clergy are licensed in the parish.

[A draft contract was included in the Fourth Agenda Book]

Ven Gail Blunden introduced the motion. Rev Jane Lloyd, in support of the motion, explained that the contract should be used to clarify what a parish can expect from its clergy and what the clergy can expect from the parish.

Discussion ensued and it was generally agreed that the motion was good, although some work on the wording of the contract needed to be done.

†Martin pointed out that the draft contract is a guideline which does not form part of the motion and will be developed.

Ven Gail Blunden replied and thanked everyone for their comments and contributions.

†Martin said a short prayer whereafter acceptance of the motion was put to the vote. The majority were in favour of the motion and it was duly carried.

### **Midday Prayers**

†Martin led us in prayer remembering in particular those who are infected and affected by HIV and those who minister to them.

#### **10. RC 2 : The repeal of provisions of Rule 20.7**

Following on from the earlier debate, the Registrar proposed that Synod move on to the next business as we were not ready to deal with this matter finally and that the matter must be referred to the Diocesan Finance Board. Synod agreed.

### **Diocesan Finances**

#### **11. Approval of Budget 2013**

Mrs Felicity Roberts presented the summary of the Budget.

All parishes confirmed their pledges except Mokopane. Sibasa will have their budget vestry on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2012.

†Martin pleaded with people to give so that we don't have to spend more time than necessary talking about money.

Mrs Roberts spoke to the parishes not having stipendiary priests to continue giving towards "provision for future clergy" over time so that when a priest is finally appointed the adjustments won't be too big.

She also mentioned that a number of parishes have not sent their financial statements to the Diocesan office as they are supposed to be.

†Martin thanked Mrs Roberts, Ms Bontle Mokgonyana and Ms Naum Mamabolo for their splendid work.

The Budget was duly approved by majority vote.

**12. Elections**

Chaired by the Chancellor, elections took place. It was agreed that the Chancellor would tally the votes and the results made known later. The results are attached to these minutes.

**Conclusion of Fourth Sitting****13. Unopposed Motions**

Proposer : Rev Raphahle Malesela  
Seconder : Rev Ron Reiners

This Synod appreciates and commends Bishop Martin for the prominent role he played in the Anglicans Ablaze Conference. The motion was carried unanimously.

**14. Vote of Thanks**

Dean Luke Pretorius submitted and read a motion of thanks to Bishop Martin and Members of Synod. The motion was seconded by Rev Ron Reiners, The motion was duly received and accepted : a copy is attached to these minutes.

**15. Closing Worship and Promulgation of Synod**

The choir from the Church of the Good Shepherd in Extension 44 concluded the day's proceedings with some wonderful singing.

†Martin declared the FOURTH AND FINAL SITTING of the TENTH DIOCESAN SYNOD of the DIOCESE OF ST MARK THE EVANGELIST duly promulgated.

Minutes approved

---

Signature

---

Date

**Motion of Thanks**  
**Close of Synod**  
**December 2012**

Bishop Martin and Members of Synod.

It gives me great pleasure to stand before you this afternoon and propose this vote of thanks.

We have arrived at the end of another eventful and wonderful sitting of this the tenth Synod of the Diocese of St. Mark the Evangelist. It also marks the end of another eventful year in the ministry in which we are joined through the love and calling of Christ.

It is therefore to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ that I wish first to express our profound praise and thankfulness for his never-failing love, grace and leadership.

We must also express our appreciation to Bishop Martin for your constant and encouraging love and leadership in this Diocese. Without your support, encouragement and example we would never have achieved all that we have achieved. Neither would we be so enthusiastic for all the ministry potential that lies before us. I know that with your continuing guidance and leadership we will meet all which God places before us. Thank you for being who you are; precious and godly and loving.

We thank you too Bishop Martin for your chairing of this Synod and of all the preparatory work you do before it. You have a gentle touch with a profound ability to hear from God and to guide us in the way of Christ. Thank you.

I wish also to acknowledge the leadership and support shown by all members of this tenth sitting of Synod. The debate and decisions taken have been, as always, of a high calibre and fittingly moves this Diocese forward in obedience to God. To those who presented motions and measures and the budget for 2013 a big thank you for your hard work. I am sure we all are happy we can go home this afternoon and not have to plan to come back!

I must also acknowledge the vitally important supportive and wise role played by our Diocesan Chancellor and Registrar. Two incredibly wise and competent ladies, whose legal expertise guides us all through the minefield that is Canon Law. Your calm and reassuring knowledge and practice of the law makes us all immeasurably richer. Thank you.

There are many who were part of this Synod but who never stood up to speak or sat in this synod chamber or voted on motions and measures. They are the unsung heroes who kept us fed, prayed for and equipped us with agenda books and sundry pieces of paper. So, to the Mother's Union for their tea and brunches, to the intercessory prayer team who unfailing prayed over each of us through each sitting, to the diocesan staff who quite literally slaved in the diocesan office to get ready the agenda books and distribute them,

and to those who were here first at every sitting in order to set up the registration tables and who strived to keep us orderly, presentable and registered; a very, very big thank you. May God bless you all for your willing and helpful hearts.

Our grateful appreciation to all those who agreed to stand for election to the various boards and institutions of this Diocese and of the wider Anglican Church of Southern Africa. Congratulations to those who have been elected to these positions of responsibility.

Thank you to those who sacrificed to take our minutes and to those who undertook to scrutinise them and to correct errors before these minutes were presented to us for acceptance. You are all fantastic! To the runners and assistants who distributed and collected and counted; you helped make this Synod a success and you should deservedly be proud. Thank you.

To those who led our worship at each sitting; thank you for the time and effort you so diligently put into this. I think especially today of the choir from the Church of the Good Shepherd who will lead us in song at the close. We appreciate you all and love you for it.

I wish as Dean to express my gratitude to the staff of the Cathedral. They toiled hard before a sitting to make ready this church for us to meet. They toil again after the sitting to ready it for the worship on Sunday. To our administrators and verger staff a very big thank you. To our Church Wardens who took responsibility to ensure the availability of this church and for their role in the opening Eucharist, and to the media personnel – particularly James Kwenaita, who made sure the microphones and projectors were working and ready for us. To those who unlocked the church and opened the doors and windows for us, please accept our grateful appreciation. To you all, your commitment and servant heart helped make this Synod the success it was. Thank you.

Finally, should I have inadvertently neglected to mention someone I take full responsibility and apologise unreservedly. You too have been of immeasurable worth to this Synod and we thank you.

I accordingly ask that my vote of thanks be received and accepted.

Luke Pretorius

Dean, Christ Church Cathedral

# Synod Election Results

---

## Electoral Advisory Committee

|                                                                                       |                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lay</b><br>Kgabo Ledwaba<br>Matsaro Semenya<br>Elias Komape<br>Matsatsi Tshabalala | <b>Clergy</b><br>Malin Mokou<br>Gail Blunden<br>Shearsby<br>Mupfudzapake<br>Elias Makgoka |
| <b>Lay Alternate</b><br>Pam Oberholzer                                                | <b>Clergy Alternates</b><br>Jane Lloyd<br>Eddie Barnett                                   |

## Diocesan Finance Board

|                                                       |                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lay</b><br>Kgabo Ledwaba<br>Abby Ledwaba           | <b>Clergy</b><br>Pat Lennox                                          |
| <b>Lay Alternate</b><br>Tshaka Motsudi<br>John Galane | <b>Clergy Alternates</b><br>Mackson Shika<br>Madimetja<br>Senthumule |

## Diocesan Trustees

|                                               |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lay</b><br>Solomon Makololo<br>L Mokgalaka | <b>Clergy</b><br>Eddie Barnett<br>Pat Lennox |
| <b>Lay Alternate</b>                          | <b>Clergy Alternates</b><br>Robbie Novella   |

## Provincial Synod

Meeting from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013 in Pretoria

|                                                                    |                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lay</b><br>Solomon Makololo<br>Pam Oberholzer<br>Tshaka Motsudi | <b>Clergy</b><br>Jack Kudumela<br>Luke Pretorius<br>Malin Mokou                       |
| <b>Lay Alternates</b><br>John Galane<br>Elias Komape               | <b>Clergy Alternates</b><br>Gail Blunden<br>Shashi Ledwaba<br>Madimetja<br>Senthumule |

## Provincial Standing Committee

|                                         |                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lay</b><br>Abby Ledwaba              | <b>Clergy</b><br>Jack Kudumela                              |
| <b>Lay Alternate</b><br>Tshaka Motshudi | <b>Clergy Alternates</b><br>Eddie Barnett<br>Luke Pretorius |