

**ASSISTANT MINISTERS ORDINANCE 1990**

No. 34, 1990

AN ORDINANCE to provide for tenure of office of assistant ministers.

WHEREAS it is expedient to repeal the Deacons Ordinance 1988 and to make further provision for the tenure of deacons and priests appointed to assist ministers of parishes.

NOW the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney ordains as follows —

**Citation**

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the "Assistant Ministers Ordinance 1990".

**Definition of terms**

2. (1) A word or an expression defined in clause 1 of the Deaconesses, Readers and Other Lay Persons Ordinance 1981 shall have the same meaning where used in this Ordinance.

(2) In this Ordinance, "assistant minister" means —

(a) a deacon; or

(b) a minister in priest's orders;

appointed to assist the minister of a parish.

**Tenure**

3. An assistant minister holding a licence or an authority of the Archbishop holds office subject to —

(a) the terms of that licence or authority; and

(b) where the assistant minister is entitled to or is paid a stipend or is entitled to any other emolument or perquisite, at least three months notice of termination of payment of such stipend or entitlement to such emolument or perquisite being given by or on behalf of the person or persons who pay or provide the same.

**Responsibility of parish council**

4. Where an assistant minister is appointed to assist the minister in a parish with the assent of the parish council thereof, it is the responsibility of that parish council to raise such moneys as may be needed to pay the stipend and provide any other emoluments or perquisites, other than surplice fees, to be paid or provided for the assistant minister until the appointment is terminated.

**Undertaking by minister**

5. Nothing in this Ordinance prevents the Archbishop from requiring an undertaking of the minister whom the assistant minister will assist concerning the work to be undertaken by the assistant minister or any other matter relating to the office to be exercised by the assistant minister.

**Procedure on occurrence of vacancy**

6. Should a vacancy occur in a parish an assistant minister ceases to hold office in that parish on the 90th day after the new minister is licensed to that parish unless —

- (a) the assistant minister has resigned or terminated the appointment within the 90 days; or
- (b) the new minister has applied to the Archbishop for continuation of the assistant minister's licence or authority and an appropriate agreement has been entered into between the new minister and the assistant minister.

**Repeal of Deacons Ordinance 1988**

7. The Deacons Ordinance 1988 is repealed but any action taken under that Ordinance is hereby deemed to have been taken under this Ordinance.

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

N. M. CAMERON  
Chairman of Committees

WE CERTIFY that this Ordinance was passed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney on this 11th day of October 1990.

G. K. CLIFTON  
W. G. S. GOTLEY  
Secretaries of Synod

I ASSENT to this Ordinance

DONALD ROBINSON  
Archbishop of Sydney

19/10/1990