

# Synod Representative (Election at Annual Vestry Meetings) Ordinance 1992

No 40, 1992

An Ordinance to amend the Synod Representative and Membership Ordinance 1945 and the Church Administration Ordinance 1990 so as to provide for the election of parochial representatives at an annual vestry meeting.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the Synod Representative and Membership Ordinance 1945 and the Church Administration Ordinance 1990 so as to provide for the election of parochial representatives to Synod at an annual vestry meeting.

Now the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney Hereby Ordains Declares Directs and Rules as follows -

## Citation

1. This ordinance may be cited as the "Synod Representative (Election at Annual Vestry Meetings) Ordinance 1992".

## Amendment of the Synod Representative and Membership Ordinance 1945

2. Clause 1 of the Synod Representative and Membership Ordinance 1945 is deleted and is replaced with the following -

"1. (1) At the last Annual Vestry Meeting of a Parochial Unit held before the first session of a Synod, a Representative or Representatives for that Parochial Unit may be elected for that Synod.

(2) Two Representatives may be elected for a Parochial Unit which is a parish.

(3) One Representative may be elected for a Parochial Unit which is a provisional parish or an assisted provisional parish.

(4) If a Parochial Unit, being a parish, becomes a provisional parish after it has elected two Representatives, the Representatives for that parish must retire at the Annual Vestry Meeting which next follows that change. A new Representative may be elected at that meeting. If a Parochial Unit, being a parish, becomes a provisional parish before it has elected two Representatives, it may only elect one Representative.

(5) If a Parochial Unit, being a provisional parish, becomes a parish before or during the term of a Synod, an additional Representative may be elected at the Annual Vestry Meeting which next follows that change.

(6) If a Representative is not elected at the Annual Vestry Meeting specified in subclause 1(1), 1(4) or 1(5) the Representative may be elected at any subsequent Vestry Meeting.

(7) The rules set out in clause 14 of the Church Administration Ordinance 1990 apply in relation to the nomination of a person as a Representative and the conduct of contested elections for the office of Representative.

(8) A person is qualified to be elected as a Representative if that person is of or above the age of 18 years and is a communicant member of the Anglican Church of Australia.

(9) A person ceases to hold office as a Representative if the person -

(a) dies;

(b) resigns by writing given to a secretary of the Synod;

(c) becomes bankrupt;

(d) becomes mentally ill or is otherwise incapable of acting as a Representative;  
or

(e) that person retires under subclause 1(4).

(10) A vacancy in the office of Representative may only be filled at a Vestry Meeting of the Parochial Unit.

(11) In this clause 1 -

'Annual Vestry Meeting' means -

- (a) in relation to a Parochial Unit having only one church - the annual vestry meeting of that church;
- (b) in relation to a Parochial Unit having more than one church not being a Parochial Unit to which paragraph (c) applies - the annual vestry meeting of the principal church of the Parochial Unit;
- (c) in relation to a Parochial Unit having more than one church where a combined annual vestry meeting of all the churches in the Parochial Unit is held pursuant to permission under clause 16 of the Church Administration Ordinance at which the matters referred to in this clause may be considered - the combined annual vestry meeting of the churches of the Parochial Unit.

'Parochial Unit' means each separate cure of souls including a provisional parish and an assisted provisional parish constituted under or recognised as such under the Parishes Ordinance 1979.

'Representative' means a representative under the 8th Constitution contained in the Schedule to the 1902 Constitutions.

'Vestry Meeting' means -

- (a) an Annual Vestry Meeting;
- (b) in relation to a Parochial Unit having only one church - a vestry meeting of that church; and
- (c) in relation to a Parochial Unit having more than one church - a vestry meeting of the principal church of the Parochial Unit."

### **Amendment of the Church Administration Ordinance 1990**

3. The Church Administration Ordinance 1990 is amended as follows -

(a) Clauses 11(n), 11(o), 12(p) and 12(q) are renumbered as clauses 11(o), 11(p), 12(q) and 12(r) respectively.

(b) A new clause 11(n) is inserted in the following terms -

"(n) if the meeting is entitled so to do, to elect a representative or representatives under the Synod Representative and Membership Ordinance 1945 or to postpone the election until an adjourned or subsequent vestry meeting."

(c) A new clause 12(p) is inserted in the following terms -

"(p) if it is the annual vestry meeting of the principal church of the parish and the meeting is entitled so to do, to elect a representative or representative under the Synod Representative and Membership Ordinance 1945 or to postpone the election until an adjourned or subsequent vestry meeting."

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

**E.D. Cameron**  
Deputy Chairman of Committees

We Certify that this Ordinance was passed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney on this 15th day of October 1992.

**G.K. [Signature]**  
**W.G.S. Gougeon**  
Secretaries of Synod

I Assent to this Ordinance.

**Donald Robinson**  
Archbishop of Sydney

15/10/1992