



DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

FIRST DAY – THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2025

WORSHIP

Members of the Synod gathered for a Eucharist in the Church of St Mary's in Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell. The Rt Rev'd Ross Bay presided. The Preacher was Mr Paul Gilberd, Chief Executive of Community Housing Aotearoa and Trustee of the Auckland City Mission.

QUORUM

The Diocesan Manager, Ms Sonia Maugham, certified that the requisite number of members were present to constitute the Synod. The President of the Synod formally constituted the Synod at 6.33pm. During the Eucharist, The Venerable Peter Jenkins was collated for his ministry as Archdeacon of the Southern Region.

At the conclusion of the Eucharist, members gathered in the Cathedral for the continuation of the Synod with The Rt Rev'd Ross Bay presiding.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were recorded in the attendance registers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President and the Diocesan Manager made some announcements.

CHANCELLOR

The President welcomed The Worshipful Sally Morris as Chancellor of the Diocese.

APPOINTMENTS

THE PRESIDENT MOVED:

(a) Order Paper Committee

“THAT the Order Paper Committee be the Diocesan Bishop, the Chancellor, and the Executive Assistant to the Diocesan Manager.”

(b) **Synod Officers**

“THAT the following be appointed as Officers of the Fifty-Eighth Synod:

<i>Clerical Secretary</i>	The Venerable Peter Jenkins
<i>Deputy Clerical Secretary</i>	The Reverend Kate Shrigley
<i>Lay Secretary</i>	Ms Ruth Peterson
<i>Deputy Lay Secretary</i>	<i>Vacant</i>
<i>Chair of Committees</i>	Mrs Katy Bexley
<i>Deputy Chair of Committees</i>	<i>Vacant</i>
<i>Clerk of Committees</i>	The Reverend Matthew Griffiths
<i>Deputy Clerk of Committees</i>	The Reverend Wendy Tiedt.”

(c) **Legal Business Committee**

“THAT the following be appointed as members of the Legal Business Committee: The Reverend Michael Berry, Mrs Katy Bexley, Ms Dawn Jones, The Worshipful Sally Morris, Mr Andrew Peat, The Venerable Peter Jenkins.”

AGREED

QUESTIONS

No questions were asked

GREETINGS

Greetings were received from Bishop Kito and Te Tai Tokerau, and from Bishops of the Dioceses of New Zealand.

ORDER OF THE DAY:

THE BISHOP’S CHARGE

The Rt Rev’d Ross Bay, Bishop of Auckland, delivered the Bishop’s Charge.

MOTIONS SOUGHT TO BE INTRODUCED

No motions were sought to be introduced.

REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS TO BE TABLED

The Diocesan Manager tabled the following:

- Minute Book of Diocesan Council
- Terrier of Properties in terms of Title F Canon III Clause 4.2

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

(a) **Hours of Business**

THE PRESIDENT MOVED:

"THAT the hours of business of this First Session of the Fifty-Eighth Synod be:

- i. Thursday 4 September 2025 - from 6.30pm to 9.00pm;
- ii. Friday 5 September 2025 - from 8.30am to 5.30pm including meal and refreshment breaks at 10.45am-11.10am, 1.00pm-1.45pm and 3.30pm-4.00pm;
- iii. Saturday 6 September 2025 - from 8.30am to 1.00pm including a refreshment break at 10.30am-10.55am;

provided that any sitting may be extended by Motion Without Notice."

(b) **Auditors**

THE PRESIDENT MOVED:

"THAT BDO be appointed auditors for the following entities for the year ended December 2025: Diocesan Council; Anglican Trusts Board."

The President put (a) and (b) of the Procedural Motions.

AGREED

(c) **Elections: Variation to Process and Close of Nominations**

THE PRESIDENT MOVED:

"THAT:

- 1) the following variations be made to the Elections and General Synod Representation Statute 2010 for the remainder of the First Session of the Fifty-Eighth Synod:

NOMINATIONS

- a. clauses 4.1 - 4.2 and 4.5 shall be observed in principle, except that nominations received in paper or electronic format are accepted; and

ELECTIONS

- b. clause 5.4 is suspended and two lay people and two clergy are to be appointed to act as scrutineers and assist the Diocesan Manager and the Diocesan Manager's staff in conducting the elections;

Ballot Papers

- c. clauses 5.6 – 5.8 shall be observed in principle, except that the election shall be conducted using an electronic voting and/or ballot paper system rather than being conducted solely by ballot paper.

Voting

- d. clauses 5.10 – 5.11 are suspended for members using the electronic voting system;

Counting and Validity of Votes

- e. clauses 5.12 – 5.13 are suspended and the Diocesan Manager and the Diocesan Manager’s staff will count and report votes in accordance with reports from the electronic and/or ballot paper voting system.
- 2) nominations for elections to Diocesan Council, the Clergy Retirement and Remuneration Committee, the Pool of Diocesan Nominators, and General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui shall close at 11.10am on Friday 5 September 2025; and
- 3) that ballots shall take place on Friday 5 September 2025.”

The Chancellor gave advice on the proposed changes.

The President put (c) of the Procedural Motions.

AGREED

ORDER OF THE DAY

The Rt Rev’d Ross Bay presiding.

Report of the Legal Business Committee

MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

LEGAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE

MOTION 1

MOVED BY The Venerable Michael Berry

SECONDED BY The Worshipful Sally Morris

“THAT whereas the Standing Orders and Standing Resolutions Statute 1968 authorises the Legal Business Committee to review resolutions passed at a previous Session of Synod or to amend any Standing Resolutions, with a view to determining which resolutions shall be maintained in force as Standing Resolutions of Synod, Synod therefore:

1. Receives the report of the Legal Business Committee;
2. Designates Part 1 of Motion 3 – The Third Session of the Fifty-Seventh Synod (2024) be made a Standing Resolution, namely:

“Land Stories

THAT this Synod affirms that the land we are guardians of has significant history to our church, to tangata whenua and to tangata tiriti.”

3. Designates Motion 6 – The Third Session of the Fifty-Seventh Synod (2024) be made a Standing Resolution, namely:

“Representation of Parish Vestries

THAT this Synod highly encourages parishes to have at least one member of their vestry to be under the age of 40.”

In his speech the Mover invited Synod to acknowledge the contribution of Ms Dawn Jones for her service as Chair of Committees over the past 27 years.

AGREED WITH ACCLAIM

The President directed that Synod go into committee to consider the report of the Legal Business Committee.

8.44pm	Synod in committee
8.50pm	Synod in session

The President moved that the report of the Legal Business Committee be received and put Motion 1.

AGREED

CLOSING PRAYERS were led by the President.

ADJOURNMENT

The President declared Synod adjourned at 8.51pm

SECOND DAY – FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2025

SYNOD IN SESSION at 8.30am, The Rt Rev'd Ross Bay presiding.

MORNING PRAYERS

Morning Prayers were led by the Post-Ordination Training Group.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were recorded in the attendance registers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President and the Diocesan Manager made some announcements.

QUESTIONS

No questions were asked.

MOTIONS SOUGHT TO BE INTRODUCED

No motions were sought to be introduced.

ORDER OF THE DAY

The Ven. Carole Hughes presiding.

Presentation of Report of Diocesan Council

Ms Anne Walsh, Mr Tony Randerson, Ms Angela Dalton, The Rt Rev'd Ross Bay and The Ven. Liz Martin spoke to the Report of Diocesan Council and answered questions.

MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

MOTHERS' UNION

MOTION 8

MOVED BY Mrs Filisi Beswick

SECONDED BY Mrs Fina Heath

"THAT this Synod,

- a. expresses its thanks and appreciation to the eight parishes that have a Mothers' Union group; and
- b. encourages every parish in the diocese to have a Mothers' Union group."

AGREED

THE CONSTITUTION/TE POUHERE AMENDMENT

MOTION 2

MOVED BY The Reverend Ivica Gregurec
SECONDED BY The Reverend Grace Cox

“THAT this Synod,

assents to Statute 776 passed by General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui 2024 entitled, *“The Constitution/ Te Pouhere Amendment Statute, 2024”*.

AGREED

THE PASTORAL LITURGIES AMENDMENT

MOTION 3

MOVED BY The Reverend Ivica Gregurec
SECONDED BY The Reverend Grace Cox

“THAT this Synod,

assents to Statute 777 passed by General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui 2024 entitled, *“The Pastoral Liturgies – Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child Amendment Statute, 2024”*.

AGREED

THE LITURGIES OF THE WORD AMENDMENT

MOTION 4

MOVED BY Dr Peter Lineham
SECONDED BY The Reverend Grace Cox

“THAT this Synod,

assents to Statute 778 passed by General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui 2024 entitled, *“The Liturgies of the Word Amendment Statute, 2024”*.

CARRIED

The Diocesan Manager made announcements.

10.36am Synod adjourned for Morning Tea
11.12am Synod in session

The President declared that nominations to General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui, Diocesan Council, the Clergy Retirement and Remuneration Committee and the Pool of Diocesan Nominators had closed.

ORDER OF THE DAY

The Rt Rev’d Ross Bay presiding.

Synod Conference Session

The Rev’d Matthew Griffiths, The Rev’d Richard Bonifant and The Ven. Liz Martin introduced a Synod conference session on the report of the Synod Review Working Group, *“A Model for the Future”*.

11.43am Synod in conference
12.21pm Synod in session

APPROVAL OF BILL IN PRINCIPLE AND IN DETAIL

AUCKLAND CITY MISSION (TE TĀPUI ATAWHAI)

BILL 1

MOVED BY The Reverend Michael Berry
SECONDED BY Ms Helen Robinson

“That the principle of Bill Number 1 be approved.”

AGREED

12.47pm Synod in committee
12.54pm Synod in session

MOVED BY THE PRESIDENT

“THAT the detail of Bill Number 1 as agreed by Synod in Committee be approved.”

AGREED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Diocesan Manager made an announcement.

12.56pm Synod was adjourned for lunch until 1.45pm
1.47pm Synod in session, The Rt Rev’d Ross Bay presiding

ORDER OF THE DAY

Synod Conference Session

Ms Sophie Berry, Mr Evan Walters, Mr Soane Kolotau and Ms Steph Brooks introduced a Synod conference session on Ministry to the First Third.

2.09pm Synod in conference
2.42pm Synod in session

ORDER OF THE DAY

Elections

The President made some announcements.

The President announced that Ms Angela Blundell and Mrs Katy Bexley have been appointed to act as scrutineers.

The President invited the candidates for election to introduce themselves.

The candidates for Diocesan Council:

The lay candidates were: Cr. Angela Dalton (Parish of Clendon).

The clergy candidates were: The Rev’d Kim Parker (Parish of Northern Wairoa); The Rev’d Sarah Murphy (Parish of Remuera, St Mark); The Rev’d Daniel Pillay (Parish of Pakuranga); The Rev’d Brenda Rockell (Parish of Royal Oak).

The candidates for General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui:

The lay candidates were: Dr Paul Woodfield (Parish of Auckland Central, St Paul); Mr Nicholas Mercer (Parish of Remuera, St Aidan); Dr Peter Lineham (Parish of Ponsonby).

The clergy candidates were: The Rev'd Fraser McDermott (Parish of Hillsborough); The Rev'd Ivica Gregurec (Cathedral District); The Rev'd Richard Bonifant (Parish of Auckland Central, St Matthew).

The candidates for the Pool of Diocesan Nominators:

The clergy candidates were: The Rev'd Helen Wilderspin (Parish of Huapai); The Rev'd Chris Murphy (Parish of Devonport); The Rev'd Learne McGrath (Parish of Northwest Anglican).

The candidates for the Clergy Retirement and Remuneration Committee:

The lay candidates were: Ms Nichola Christie (Parish of Remuera, St Mark); Mr Ian Pallas (Parish of Auckland Central, St Matthew).

The Diocesan Manager made announcements.

The Rev'd Michael Berry sought the leave of Synod to pause the election process to allow for further nominations.

LEAVE GRANTED

The President sought the leave of Synod to amend the time of the first ballot for elections until 4.30pm or as soon thereafter as the ballot papers are ready.

LEAVE GRANTED

MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

DIOCESAN COMMITTEE FOR OVERSEAS MISSION

MOTION 6

MOVED BY The Reverend Daniel Sahayam

SECONDED BY Mrs Filisi Beswick

"THAT this Synod,

- a. recognises the impact of Anglican Missions in supporting and advocating for mission, development, and humanitarian work, especially in the Pacific Region;
- b. thanks all parishes that contribute to Anglican Missions and encourages other parishes to also contribute as they can; and
- c. sets a target of \$160,000 to support this work."

AGREED

The President made announcements.

3.26pm Synod adjourned for Afternoon Tea

3.31pm Synod in session

MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

LOCAL SHARED MINISTRY MODEL OF MINISTRY

MOTION 7

MOVED BY The Reverend Megan Means

SECONDED BY The Reverend Paul Doherty

“THAT this Synod,

- a. recognises, gives thanks and celebrates the vision, value and initiative of Local Shared Ministry in the diocese for:
 - i. enabling smaller parishes to be responsible for their local Anglican presence;
 - ii. equipping members to understand all church governance and ministry aspects; and
 - iii. developing a local shared team ministry approach;
- b. expresses thanks and gratitude to Archbishop Emeritus John Paterson and Barbara Wesseldine on this visionary model which significantly impacted many parishes in our diocese.”

AGREED

PREVENTING POVERTY FOR SUPERANNUITANTS AND BENEFICIARIES IN PRIVATE RENTALS

MOTION 10

MOVED BY Ms Vicky Mee

SECONDED BY Ms Tulaki Tu'inukuafe

“THAT this Synod,

calls on the New Zealand government to address poverty for superannuitants and beneficiaries in private rentals by:

- a. urgently increasing cash asset thresholds for supplementary benefits and related payments to appropriate levels for 2025; and
- b. ensuring all cash asset thresholds for supplementary benefits and related payments are automatically adjusted annually in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).”

AGREED

THE TITLE G CANON V AMENDMENT

MOTION 5

MOVED BY Dr Peter Lineham
SECONDED BY The Reverend Grace Cox

“THAT this Synod,

assents to Statute 779 passed by General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui 2024 entitled, “*The Title G Canon V, ‘Of Translations of Holy Scripture’ Amendment Statute 2024*”.

Debate on Motion 5 was suspended.

ORDER OF THE DAY

First Ballot for Elections

The President announced the appointment of Mr Mark Hangartner, Mrs Katy Bexley, The Rev’d Bryan Haggitt and The Rev’d Sarah Park as scrutineers.

With further nominations having been received, the President invited all candidates for election to introduce themselves.

The candidates for Diocesan Council:

The lay candidates were: Cr. Angela Dalton (Parish of Clendon); Ms Briar Peat (Mission Venture of Whitford); Ms Elizabeth Witton (Parish of Takapuna).

The clergy candidates were: The Rev’d Kim Parker (Parish of Northern Wairoa); The Rev’d Sarah Murphy (Parish of Remuera, St Mark); The Rev’d Daniel Pillay (Parish of Pakuranga); The Rev’d Brenda Rockell (Parish of Royal Oak); The Rev’d Alex Rose-Stewart (Parish of Northcote).

The candidates for General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui:

The lay candidates were: Dr Paul Woodfield (Parish of Auckland Central, St Paul); Mr Nicholas Mercer (Parish of Remuera, St Aidan); Dr Peter Lineham (Parish of Ponsonby); Ms Helen Robinson (City Missioner); Ms Briar Peat (Mission Venture of Whitford); Ms Ireni Esler (Parish of Waiheke); Ms Sophie Berry (Youth Representative); Ms Kimberly Barry (Hillsborough); Mrs Filisi Beswick (Parish of Avondale); Ms Steph Brook (Diocesan Youth Facilitator).

The clergy candidates were: The Rev’d Fraser McDermott (Parish of Hillsborough); The Rev’d Ivicia Gregurec (Cathedral District); The Rev’d Richard Bonifant (Parish of Auckland Central, St Matthew); The Ven. Liz Martin (Archdeacon Northern Region); The Rev’d Grace Cox (Parish of Auckland Central, St Matthew); The Rev’d Diana Rattray (Selwyn Foundation); The Very Rev’d Anne Mills (Cathedral District).

The candidates for the Pool of Diocesan Nominators:

The clergy candidates were: The Rev'd Helen Wilderspin (Parish of Huapai); The Rev'd Chris Murphy (Parish of Devonport); The Rev'd Learne McGrath (Parish of Northwest Anglican); The Rev'd Cate Thorn (Parish of Auckland Central, St Matthew); The Rev'd Lucy Nguyen (Parish of Howick); The Rev'd Liam Phillips (Parish of Epsom, St Andrew); The Rev'd Dan Connolly (Parish of Northcote); The Rev'd Sarah Penwarden (Parish of Titirangi); The Rev'd Sandy Robertson (Diocesan School for Girls); The Rev'd Andrew Coyle (Parish of Onehunga).

The candidates for the Clergy Retirement and Remuneration Committee:

The lay candidates were: Ms Nichola Christie (Parish of Remuera, St Mark); Mr Ian Pallas (Parish of Auckland Central, St Matthew).

The Diocesan Manager gave instructions on voting.

The first ballots were held for elections to General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui, Diocesan Council, the Clergy Retirement and Remuneration Committee, and the Pool of Diocesan Nominators.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President made some announcements.

CLOSING PRAYERS were led by the Post-Ordination Training Group.

ADJOURNMENT

The President declared Synod adjourned at 5.47pm.

THIRD DAY – SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2025

SYNOD IN SESSION at 8.32am, The Rt Rev'd Ross Bay presiding.

MORNING PRAYERS

Morning Prayers were led by the Post-Ordination Training Group.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were recorded in the attendance registers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President and the Diocesan Manager made some announcements.

MOTIONS SOUGHT TO BE INTRODUCED

No motions were sought to be introduced.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President announced that the following had been elected to General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui on the first ballot:

Laity: Dr Peter Lineham, the Parish of Ponsonby; Ms Helen Robinson, City Missioner; and Ms Sophie Berry, Youth Representative.

Clergy: The Rev'd Ivicia Gregurec, the Cathedral District, and The Rev'd Richard Bonifant, the Parish of Auckland Central, St Matthew.

The President announced that the following had been elected to Diocesan Council on the first ballot:

Laity: Cr. Angela Dalton, the Parish of Clendon.

Clergy: The Rev'd Kim Parker, the Parish of Northern Wairoa; The Rev'd Sarah Murphy, the Parish of Remuera, St Mark; The Rev'd Daniel Pillay, the Parish of Pakuranga; The Rev'd Brenda Rockell, the Parish of Royal Oak.

The President announced that the following had been elected to the Clergy Remuneration and Retirement Committee: Ms Nichola Christie, the Parish of Remuera, St Mark; Mr Ian Pallas, the Parish of Auckland Central, St Matthew.

The President announced that no candidate had been elected to the Pool of Diocesan Nominators.

ORDER OF THE DAY

Second Ballot for Elections

The Diocesan Manager gave instructions on voting.

The second ballot was held for elections to General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui, Diocesan Council and the Pool of Diocesan Nominators.

ORDER OF THE DAY

PASSAGE OF THE BILL

The President moved that Bill number 1 having been approved in detail now pass and become statute.

AGREED

MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Debate on Motion 5 resumed.

The motion was put.

MOTION LOST

Dr Peter Lineham sought the leave of Synod to introduce a motion without notice.

LEAVE GRANTED

MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE

MOVED BY Dr Peter Lineham

SECONDED BY The Reverend Grace Cox

The motion sought to memorialise Synod's concern about the proposed Inclusive Bible translation and to ask that the Common Life Liturgical Commission do the work of establishing criteria for authorising translations of Holy Scripture.

AGREED

MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

MINISTRY AND RESOURCES

MOTION 9

FOR THE LAST STAGE OF LIFE

MOVED BY The Reverend Diana Rattray

SECONDED BY Ms Denise Cosgrove

"THAT this Synod,

- a. recognises the opportunities the Church can offer to people approaching their last stages of life; and
- b. encourages the Diocesan Council to partner with The Selwyn Foundation to develop educational and practical resources for use in parishes."

AGREED

ORDER OF THE DAY

General Debate

The reports were received.

Dr Peter Lineham spoke to the Diocesan Statistical Returns.

Ms Carolyn Wellm spoke to the Auckland Anglican Space Programme and Selwyn Programme reports.

The Rev'd Dr Noel Cox spoke to the report of the Mission to Seafarers Society.

Ms Vivienne Hackney spoke to the report of the Auckland City Mission.

Ms Angela Blundell spoke to the Intergenerational Ministry report.

The Rev'd Sarah Moss spoke to the report of the Anglican Trust for Women and Children.

Mr Grant Hodgson spoke to the Diocesan Statistical Returns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President made announcements.

The President announced that Ms Elizabeth Witton, the Parish of Takapuna, had been elected to Diocesan Council on the second ballot.

10.33am Synod adjourned for Morning Tea

11.11am Synod in session

In response to a concern raised, the Chancellor gave advice about the elections to General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui that the reopening of nominations for all positions was in accordance with The Elections and General Synod Representation Statute 2010.

ORDER OF THE DAY

Third Ballot for Elections

The third ballot was held for the Pool of Diocesan Nominators and General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui.

ORDER OF THE DAY

Synod Conference Session

The Ven. Peter Jenkins and The Ven. Liz Martin introduced a Synod conference session on Strategic Planning for Ministry and Outreach.

11.43am Synod in conference

12.19am Synod in session

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President made announcements.

The President announced that no further candidates had been elected to the Pool of Diocesan Nominators or General Synod Te Hīnota Whānui and informed Synod that Diocesan Council would fill the remaining lay vacancies.

QUESTIONS

The Diocesan Manager answered questions asked during the Report of Diocesan Council.

MOTION OF THANKS

The Rev'd Bryan Haggitt sought the leave of Synod to move a motion of thanks.

LEAVE GRANTED

MOVED BY The Reverend Bryan Haggitt

SECONDED BY Ms Maika Bonifant

A motion to thank all those involved in the organising and running of Synod, including the Diocesan Manager and her team, those involved with hospitality, members of Synod for their engagement, and the President for his leadership.

AGREED WITH ACCLAIM

CLOSING PRAYERS

Closing prayers were led by the Post-Ordination Training Group.

Bishop Ross gave the blessing.

CONCLUSION

The President declared the First Session of the 58th Synod concluded at 12.42pm.

The Second Session of the 58th Synod will commence at 6.30pm on Thursday 3 September 2026.


..... President


..... Clerical Secretary


..... Lay Secretary

25 September 2025