

**GENERAL SYNOD
OF THE
CHURCH OF IRELAND
2002**

**BILLS
AND
EXPLANATORY MEMORANDA**

INTRODUCTION

This pamphlet contains those Bills which were lodged with the honorary secretaries at least six weeks before the first day of the session.

A Bill is a proposal for legislation which, if passed, will become a Statute, binding on all members of the Church of Ireland. The procedure is designed to ensure that the proposed legislation is considered carefully, both in principle and in detail, and that there is a day's interval for reflection before final approval is given.

The Bills will be taken into consideration in the order in which they appear in this pamphlet, unless the Synod directs otherwise. On the first stage, the proposer moves "That leave be given to introduce Bill no. ___" unless leave has been given in the previous session. This is a formal motion which is normally put to the Synod without debate, but in certain circumstances one speech in support of the motion, and one in opposition to it, may be permitted.

If that motion is passed, the Synod proceeds to the Second Reading, when the principles of the Bill are open to debate. At the conclusion of the debate on this stage, the motion "That the Bill be approved in principle and given a second reading" is put to the Synod. If this motion is passed, indicating that the Synod approved the Bill in principle, the Committee stage follows.

In the case of Special Bills leave to introduce such a Bill may only be given at an ordinary session of the Synod; leave having been given, the Bill shall be deemed to have been read a first time, but it shall not be processed further until the next ordinary session when it will come before the Synod for second reading.

On the Committee stage, the Bill is considered in detail, the clauses being put to the Synod one by one for debate and decision. The clauses are taken first in their order; then, the schedules (if any); and, finally, the Preamble (the introductory matter). Amendments, notice of which was given to the honorary secretaries not later than the Friday before the session, will appear on the agenda paper for the first day; no other amendment may be moved on Committee stage except with the leave of the Synod. An amendment is taken on the clause to which it relates, and is disposed of before the clause itself is put to the Synod.

In the case of Special Bills, an amendment can be moved on Committee stage only if notice has been given in the previous session except for any dealing with omissions or grammatical errors.

When the Committee stage has been concluded, the Bill is reported to the Synod, and a day – usually the third day – is fixed for the remaining stages.

On the third day the Report stage is taken. Any amendments which have been lodged with the honorary secretaries before the close of business on the second day will appear on the supplemental agenda paper for the third day. After these amendments have been disposed of – or immediately if there are not any amendments – the Synod proceeds to the Third Reading. At this stage, debate is confined to the provisions of the Bill, and at its conclusion the motion "That the Bill be now read a third time and passed" is put to the Synod.

A simple majority of the House of Representatives is required to pass any and every motion during the passage of a Bill through the Synod, except when

- (a) a vote by orders has been requisitioned by ten members of either order (which may be done on any motion), in which case a simple majority of each order, voting separately, is required.
- (b) a two-thirds majority of each order, voting separately, is required to pass the Second Reading and the Third Reading of a Bill which proposes a modification or alteration in the articles, doctrines, rites, rubrics or formularies of the Church.

For fuller information on Bill procedure reference should be made to Part II of Chapter I of the Constitution and to the Standing Orders. A leaflet on Bill procedure is available on application to the Honorary Secretaries.

CONTENTS

The following Bills were lodged with the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod before 2 April 2002:

	Page
BILL NO 1 <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;"> REV CANON RB ROUNTREE REV CANON MAJ BURROWS <i>(at the request of the General Synod)</i> </div>	
Explanatory Memorandum	3
To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend that part of the <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> entitled <i>The Form of Solemnization of Matrimony</i> by substituting, for the above-mentioned part of the <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> , <i>The Form of Solemnization of Matrimony</i> as set out in the accompanying Schedule.	3
* * * * *	
BILL NO 2 <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;"> REV CANON RB ROUNTREE REV CANON MAJ BURROWS <i>(at the request of the General Synod)</i> </div>	
Explanatory Memorandum	4
To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> by including therein <i>The Marriage Service</i> as set out in the accompanying Schedule.	4
* * * * *	
BILL NO 3 <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;"> REV CANON RB ROUNTREE REV CANON MAJ BURROWS <i>(at the request of the General Synod)</i> </div>	
Explanatory Memorandum	5
To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> by including therein <i>A Form of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage</i> as set out in the accompanying Schedule.	5
* * * * *	
BILL NO 4 <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;"> REV CANON RB ROUNTREE REV CANON MAJ BURROWS <i>(at the request of the General Synod)</i> </div>	
Explanatory Memorandum	6
To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend that part of the <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> entitled <i>The Order for the Burial of the Dead</i> by substituting for the above-mentioned part of the <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> , <i>The Order for the Burial of the Dead</i> as set out in the accompanying Schedule.	6
* * * * *	
BILL NO 5 <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;"> REV CANON RB ROUNTREE REV CANON MAJ BURROWS <i>(at the request of the General Synod)</i> </div>	
Explanatory Memorandum	7
To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> by including therein <i>The Funeral Services</i> as set out in the accompanying Schedule.	7
* * * * *	

BILL NO 6

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE

REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

Explanatory Memorandum

8

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein *Sentences of Scripture* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

8

BILL NO 7

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE

REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

Explanatory Memorandum

9

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein a Psalter in contemporary language, namely, the Psalter from *Celebrating Common Prayer 1992* as adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America 1979* for use in the Church of Ireland.

9

BILL NO 8

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE

REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

Explanatory Memorandum

10

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend that part of the *Book of Common Prayer* entitled *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants to be used in the church* by substituting for the above-mentioned part of the *Book of Common Prayer*, *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants to be used in the church* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

10

BILL NO 9

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE

REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

Explanatory Memorandum

11

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein *Services of Initiation: a. Holy Baptism; b. Receiving into the congregation of those privately baptised; c. The Renewal of Baptismal Vows; d. Confirmation; e. Holy Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion – the Structure of the Service; f. Seasonal Variations and Readings* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

11

BILL NO 10

LADY SHEIL

REV CANON RD HARMAN

Explanatory Memorandum

12

To amend Chapters I, VIII and X of the Constitution.

13

BILL NO 11

REV CANON BJ COURTNEY

REV CANON PF PATTERSON

To amend Chapter I of the Constitution.

14

BILL NO 1

(regarding *The Form of Solemnisation of Matrimony*)

Explanatory Memorandum

In 2001 the General Synod approved, by the requisite majorities, a resolution granting leave for the introduction of this Bill and accompanying Schedule in 2002.

This Bill incorporates material from the *Book of Common Prayer* 1926, makes minimal changes to remove anachronisms, alter the order of some prayers and update rubrics; but other than changing the “which” form to “who” in the Lord’s Prayer and “Ghost” to “Spirit”, preserves the traditional language of that book.

This is part of the process of making a revision of the *Book of Common Prayer* 1926.

* * * * *

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE
REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

BILL

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend that part of the *Book of Common Prayer* entitled *The Form of Solemnization of Matrimony* by substituting, for the above-mentioned part of the *Book of Common Prayer*, *The Form of Solemnization of Matrimony* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

WHEREAS a Resolution to amend that part of the *Book of Common Prayer* entitled *The Form of Solemnization of Matrimony* by substituting, for the above-mentioned part of the *Book of Common Prayer*, *The Form of Solemnization of Matrimony* as set out in the accompanying Schedule was duly passed in full Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2001 by the required majorities, and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Resolution shall be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2002,

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In the *Book of Common Prayer* for that part entitled *The Form of Solemnization of Matrimony* there shall be substituted *The Form of Solemnization of Matrimony* as set out in the accompanying schedule.
2. The provisions of section 1 and of the Schedule to this Statute shall come into force on such day or days as may hereafter be appointed by the General Synod.

BILL NO 2*(regarding The Marriage Service)***Explanatory Memorandum**

In 2001 the General Synod approved, by the requisite majorities, a resolution granting leave for the introduction of this Bill and accompanying Schedule in 2002.

This Bill incorporates material from the Alternative Occasional Services 1993, amended and extended in the light of practical usage and recent liturgical scholarship.

This service will thus be part of the new edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

* * * * *

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE
REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

BILL

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein *The Marriage Service* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

WHEREAS a Resolution to include in the *Book of Common Prayer* the form entitled *The Marriage Service* as set out in the accompanying Schedule was duly passed in full Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2001 by the required majorities, and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Resolution shall be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2002,

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In the *Book of Common Prayer* there shall be included the form entitled *The Marriage Service* as set out in the Schedule.
2. The provisions of section 1 and of the Schedule to this Statute shall come into force on such day or days as may hereafter be appointed by the General Synod.

BILL NO 3

(regarding *A Form of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage*)

Explanatory Memorandum

In 2001 the General Synod approved, by the requisite majorities, a resolution granting leave for the introduction of this Bill and accompanying Schedule in 2002.

This Bill provides for additional material, namely, a Form of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage, to be included in the new edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

* * * * *

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE
REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

BILL

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein *A Form of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

WHEREAS a Resolution to include in the *Book of Common Prayer* the form entitled *A Form of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage* as set out in the accompanying Schedule was duly passed in full Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2001 by the required majorities, and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Resolution shall be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2002,

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In the *Book of Common Prayer* there shall be included the form entitled *A Form of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.
2. The provisions of section 1 and of the Schedule to this Statute shall come into force on such day or days as may hereafter be appointed by the General Synod.

BILL NO 4

(regarding *The Order for the Burial of the Dead*)

Explanatory Memorandum

In 2001 the General Synod approved, by the requisite majorities, a resolution granting leave for the introduction of this Bill and accompanying Schedule in 2002.

This Bill incorporates material from the *Book of Common Prayer* 1926, makes minimal changes to remove anachronisms, alter the order of some prayers and update rubrics; but other than changing the “which” form to “who” in the Lord’s Prayer and “Ghost” to “Spirit”, preserves the traditional language of that book.

This is part of the process of making a revision of the *Book of Common Prayer* 1926.

* * * * *

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE
REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

BILL

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend that part of the *Book of Common Prayer* entitled *The Order for the Burial of the Dead* by substituting for the above-mentioned part of the *Book of Common Prayer*, *The Order for the Burial of the Dead* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

WHEREAS a Resolution to amend that part of the *Book of Common Prayer* entitled *The Order for the Burial of the Dead* by substituting, for the above-mentioned part of the *Book of Common Prayer*, *The Order for the Burial of the Dead* as set out in the accompanying Schedule was duly passed in full Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2001 by the required majorities, and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Resolution shall be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2002;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In the *Book of Common Prayer* for that part entitled *The Order for the Burial of the Dead* there shall be substituted *The Order for the Burial of the Dead* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.
2. The provisions of section 1 and of the Schedule to this Statute shall come into force on such day or days as may hereafter be appointed by the General Synod.

BILL NO 5(regarding *Funeral Services*)**Explanatory Memorandum**

In 2001 the General Synod approved, by the requisite majorities, a resolution granting leave for the introduction of this Bill and accompanying Schedule in 2002.

This Bill incorporates material from the Alternative Occasional Services 1993, namely, *The Funeral Service* and *The Funeral Service for a Child*, and also provides for additional material, namely *A Form for use in the Home, Funeral Home or Mortuary prior to the Service in Church*, to be included in the new edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

This service will thus be part of the new edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

* * * * *

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE
REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

BILL

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein *The Funeral Services* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

WHEREAS a Resolution to include in the *Book of Common Prayer* the form entitled *a. The Funeral Service*, *b. The Funeral Service for a Child*, *c. A Form for use in the Home, Funeral Home or Mortuary prior to the Service in Church* as set out in the accompanying Schedule was duly passed in full Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2001 by the required majorities, and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Resolution shall be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2002,

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In the *Book of Common Prayer* there shall be included the form entitled *a. The Funeral Service*, *b. The Funeral Service for a Child*, *c. A Form for use in the Home, Funeral Home or Mortuary prior to the Service in Church* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.
2. The provisions of section 1 and of the Schedule to this Statute shall come into force on such day or days as may hereafter be appointed by the General Synod.

BILL NO 6*(regarding Sentences of Scripture)***Explanatory Memorandum**

In 2001 the General Synod approved, by the requisite majorities, a resolution granting leave for the introduction of this Bill and accompanying Schedule in 2002.

This Bill provides for additional material, namely, *Sentences of Scripture*, to be included in the new edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

This service will thus be part of the new edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

* * * * *

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE
REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

BILL

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein *Sentences of Scripture* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

WHEREAS a Resolution to include in the *Book of Common Prayer* the form entitled *Sentences of Scripture* as set out in the accompanying Schedule was duly passed in full Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2001 by the required majorities, and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Resolution shall be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2002,

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In the *Book of Common Prayer* there shall be included the form entitled *Sentences of Scripture* as set out in the Schedule.
2. The provisions of section 1 and of the Schedule to this Statute shall come into force on such day or days as may hereafter be appointed by the General Synod.

BILL NO 7(regarding *The Psalter*)**Explanatory Memorandum**

In 2001 the General Synod approved, by the requisite majorities, a resolution granting leave for the introduction of this Bill and accompanying Schedule in 2002.

This Bill provides for additional material, namely, a Psalter in contemporary language, to be included in the new edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

This Psalter will thus be part of the new edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

* * * * *

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE
REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

BILL

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein a Psalter in contemporary language, namely, the Psalter from *Celebrating Common Prayer 1992* as adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America 1979* for use in the Church of Ireland.

WHEREAS a Resolution to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein a Psalter in contemporary language, namely, the Psalter from *Celebrating Common Prayer 1992* as adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America 1979* for use in the Church of Ireland. was duly passed in full Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2001 by the required majorities, and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Resolution shall be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2002,

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In the *Book of Common Prayer* there shall be included the Psalter from *Celebrating Common Prayer 1992* as adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America 1979* for use in the Church of Ireland.
2. The provisions of section 1 and of the Schedule to this Statute shall come into force on such day or days as may hereafter be appointed by the General Synod.

BILL NO 8

(regarding *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants to be used in the church*)

Explanatory Memorandum

In 2001 the General Synod approved, by the requisite majorities, a resolution granting leave for the introduction of this Bill and accompanying Schedule in 2002.

This Bill incorporates material from the *Book of Common Prayer* 1926, makes minimal changes to remove anachronisms, alter the order of some prayers and update rubrics; but other than changing the “which” form to “who” in the Lord’s Prayer and “Ghost” to “Spirit”, preserves the traditional language of that book.

This is part of the process of making a revision of the *Book of Common Prayer* 1926.

* * * * *

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE
REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

BILL

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend that part of the *Book of Common Prayer* entitled *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants to be used in the church* by substituting for the above-mentioned part of the *Book of Common Prayer*, *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants to be used in the church* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

WHEREAS a Resolution to amend that part of the *Book of Common Prayer* entitled *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants to be used in the church* by substituting, for the above-mentioned part of the *Book of Common Prayer*, *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants to be used in the church* as set out in the accompanying Schedule was duly passed in full Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2001 by the required majorities, and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Resolution shall be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2002;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In the *Book of Common Prayer* for that part entitled *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants to be used in the church* there shall be substituted *The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants to be used in the church* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.
2. The provisions of section 1 and of the Schedule to this Statute shall come into force on such day or days as may hereafter be appointed by the General Synod.

BILL NO 9(regarding *Services of Initiation*)**Explanatory Memorandum**

In 2001 the General Synod approved, by the requisite majorities, a resolution granting leave for the introduction of this Bill and accompanying Schedule in 2002.

This Bill incorporates material from the Alternative Occasional Services 1993, *Holy Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion, Renewal of Baptismal Vows, Confirmation* amended and extended in the light of practical usage and recent liturgical scholarship, and additional material, *Receiving into the Congregation of those Privately Baptised, The Structure of the Service and Seasonal Variations and Readings*.

This service will thus be part of the new edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

* * * * *

REV CANON RB ROUNTREE
REV CANON MAJ BURROWS

(at the request of the General Synod)

BILL

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod of 2001 to amend the *Book of Common Prayer* by including therein *Services of Initiation: a. Holy Baptism; b. Receiving into the congregation of those privately baptised; c. The Renewal of Baptismal Vows; d. Confirmation; e. Holy Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion – the Structure of the Service; f. Seasonal Variations and Readings* as set out in the accompanying Schedule.

WHEREAS a Resolution to include in the *Book of Common Prayer* the form entitled *Services of Initiation: a. Holy Baptism; b. Receiving into the congregation of those privately baptised; c. The Renewal of Baptismal Vows; d. Confirmation; e. Holy Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion – the Structure of the Service; f. Seasonal Variations and Readings* as set out in the accompanying Schedule was duly passed in full Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2001 by the required majorities, and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Resolution shall be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 26(1) of Chapter 1 of the Constitution leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2002,

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In the *Book of Common Prayer* there shall be included the form entitled *Services of Initiation: a. Holy Baptism; b. Receiving into the congregation of those privately baptised; c. The Renewal of Baptismal Vows; d. Confirmation; e. Holy Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion – the Structure of the Service; f. Seasonal Variations and Readings* as set out in the Schedule.
2. The provisions of section 1 and of the Schedule to this Statute shall come into force on such day or days as may hereafter be appointed by the General Synod.

BILL NO 10**Explanatory Memorandum**

The General Synod in 2001 authorised the Legislation Committee to prepare a Bill to consolidate enactments of the General Synod concerning the Constitution of the Church of Ireland so replacing the Statute of 1988. It is proposed to introduce such a Bill in the General Synod of 2003. Since a Consolidation Bill cannot include amendments of substance any such amendments to the Constitution, if they are to be included in the Consolidation Statute, must be made in separate legislation in advance of the Consolidation Bill.

Several such amendments have been brought to the attention of the Legislation Committee and accordingly the purpose of this Bill is to seek to make the said amendments in advance of next year's Consolidation Bill.

Both the Standing Committee of the General Synod and the Representative Church Body consider that the time is now right to reduce by three years the minimum age limit for lay members of the General Synod and of the Representative Church Body. Accordingly clauses 3 and 6 of this Bill would so reduce by three years that age limit. It should be noted that under section 7 of Chapter I of the Constitution the age limit for qualification for election is the age of the person on 1st January preceding his or her election to the General Synod for a period of three years commencing on the following 1st January. Accordingly, while the word "seventeen" would replace the word "twenty" in practice, laypersons so elected would have attained the age of eighteen by the time they first sat as lay members of the General Synod. Similarly most lay members of the Representative Church Body would be eighteen years of age or older before they sat as lay members of the Representative Body.

Clause 2 seeks to clarify the maximum age limit for clerical membership of the General Synod; at present an anomaly has arisen with auxiliary ministers and clergy who are not members of the Church of Ireland Clergy Pensions Fund and consequently are not precluded from membership by being in receipt of a clergy pension. Clause 2 would apply a maximum age limit for clerical membership of the General Synod similar to that applicable to lay membership of the Synod.

Clause 5(1) of the Bill would reduce the period of office for election to membership of diocesan courts from five to three years in line with the triennial period for membership of the General Synod; in clause 5(2) the position of existing members of diocesan courts is protected to avoid premature termination of the period of office for which they have already been elected.

Clause 4 seeks to specify the Liturgical Advisory Committee in section 26(3) of Chapter I of the Constitution giving formal recognition to the practice followed and clause 1 is purely interpretative.

LADY SHEIL
REV CANON RD HARMAN

BILL

To amend Chapters I, VIII and X of the Constitution.

WHEREAS it is desirable to reduce the minimum age limit for eligibility for election of laypersons to be members of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland and of the Representative Body, to clarify the maximum age limit for clerical membership thereof, to make new provision for election to membership of Diocesan Courts and to make sundry other amendments relating to election to membership of the General Synod and committees thereof;

AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to amend Chapters I, VIII and X of the Constitution;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. In this Statute Chapters I, VIII and X mean Chapters I, VIII and X of Constitution of the Church of Ireland, 1988.
2. In section 6 of Chapter I after the words “under the provisions of Chapter XIV” there shall be inserted “and on 1st January preceding election had not attained the age of seventy-four years”.
3. In sections 7 and 9 of Chapter I for the word “twenty” wherever it occurs there shall be substituted the word “seventeen”.
4. In section 26(3) of Chapter I for the words “a Liturgical Committee appointed by the General Synod” there shall be substituted the words “the Liturgical Advisory Committee of the General Synod”.
5. (1) Without prejudice to the provisions of subsection (2), in section 7 of Chapter VIII for the words “hold office for five years” there shall be substituted the words “be elected to hold office from 1st January of the first year of the General Synod triennium for three years and be elected triennially thereafter”.
- (2) Members of the Diocesan Court in office on 14th May 2002 shall be entitled to continue in office until the expiry of the General Synod triennium during which their term of office would otherwise have expired.
6. In section 5(2) of Chapter X for the word “twenty” there shall be substituted the word “seventeen”.

BILL NO 11

REV CANON BJ COURTNEY
REV CANON PF PATTERSON

BILL**To amend Chapter I of the Constitution.**

WHEREAS it is expedient to conduct a continuing review of the size of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the principles upon which the clerical and lay representatives to the General Synod to represent the several Dioceses and United Dioceses of the Church of Ireland be set out in the Constitution of the Church of Ireland;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the table contained in Section 4 (2) of Part 1 of Chapter I of the said Constitution be amended in accordance with such continuing review;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to review the number of clerical and lay representatives returned to the General Synod to represent the several Dioceses and United Dioceses of the Church of Ireland be conducted at least every third triennium;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to specify the method of election to be utilised in returning the said clerical and lay representatives to the General Synod;

AND WHEREAS for such purposes it is necessary to amend Chapter I of the Constitution;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops, and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dublin in the year 2002, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. Section 4 (1) of Part 1 of Chapter I of the Constitution is hereby amended by deleting the said provision and substituting the following therefor:
 - (a) The House of Representatives shall consist of representatives of the clergy and of the laity to be elected as hereinafter provided in the year 2005 and triennially thereafter.
 - (b) The number of clerical representatives to be returned to the General Synod by each Diocese or United Dioceses shall be in the proportion of one representative to every two cures, where cure shall have the meaning as contained in section 37 of Part V of Chapter 6 of the Constitution, such clergy neither being in receipt of a retiring annuity under provisions of Chapter XIV, nor having attained the age of seventy four years, and notwithstanding any vacancy in any benefice within the Diocese or United Dioceses. An additional representative shall be returned for any remaining cure.
 - (c) For the purpose of 1 (b) the number of cures shall, in the year 2005 and at every subsequent review carried out in accordance with section 4 (1) (e), be ascertained on the 1 January of the review year.
 - (d) The number of lay representatives shall be to the clergy in the proportion of 2:1.
 - (e) A review of the number of representative both clerical and lay to be returned by each Diocese or United Dioceses to the General Synod shall be conducted on the basis of the principles hereinbefore set out at least every third triennium, in a manner determined by the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod, provided that the number of representatives of the clergy to be returned by any Diocese or United Dioceses shall not fall below 4.
2. Section 4 (2) of Part 1 of Chapter I of the Constitution is hereby amended by deleting the table contained therein and substituting therefor in the year 2005 and at every subsequent review carried out under 1 (e) a table showing the number of representatives both clerical and lay returned to represent in the General Synod each Diocese or United Dioceses as calculated in accordance with principles set out in Section 4 (1)(b).
3. Section 4 Part 1 of Chapter I of the Constitution be further amended by adding the following as subsection (6):

Representatives to General Synod both clerical and lay shall be elected by each Diocesan Synod on the system of Proportional Representation by means of the single transferable vote in accordance with regulations prescribed from time to time by the Standing Committee of the General Synod.
4. For section 6 of Part 1 of Chapter I of the Constitution there shall be substituted the following section:
 6. Every beneficed or licensed clergyman of the Church of Ireland who is not in receipt of a retiring annuity under the provisions of Chapter XIV, and who has not on 1 January preceding the election attained the age of seventy four years, shall be qualified to be elected as a clerical representative or supplemental clerical representative whether resident or not in the diocese for which the election is being held.