

EMABARGOED UNTIL DELIVERY

Bill No 12

Proposed by Lady Brenda Sheil

Your Grace

As members of Synod will be all too well aware in the last few years the General Synod has passed a long series of liturgical statutes; the provision of those enactments when brought fully into operation will, together with the provisions of various other statutes already in operation, form part of the 2004 edition of the Book of Common Prayer.

Accordingly Clause 1, together with the provisions of Schedule I seeks to provide that the 6th June 2004, Trinity Sunday 2004, shall be the date upon which the appropriate provisions of the twenty-four liturgical statutes shall come into operation to form part of the new edition of the Prayer Book.

In Clause 2 provision is made for the order of offices in the Book of Common Prayer. Where in a very few instances, such as Morning and Evening Prayer, a service is listed as 'ONE' or 'TWO' this is simply for ease of reference. In each such case 'ONE' will refer to the traditional language version of the service and 'TWO' to the service in the Alternative Prayer Book form as amended in the light of practical usage of recent liturgical scholarship. I would emphasise that in all cases the services are as approved by the General Synod.

Clause 3 and Schedule II seek to repeal the provisions of several statutes which, by virtue of the 2004 edition of the Book of Common Prayer, will become redundant. The statutes so to be repealed make provision for services which were originally included in the Book of Alternative Occasional Services (1992) and which, in a revived form, have now been included in and so will be superseded by the 2004 edition of the Book of Common Prayer.

Your Grace, I am honoured to have the privilege of moving the Second Reading of this Bill which, if enacted, will provide that Trinity Sunday 2004 shall be the date upon which the new edition of the Book of Common Prayer, the third since the disestablishment of the Church of Ireland, shall come into operation.

I beg to move that the Bill be now read a second time.