

## **ANNUAL DIOCESAN SYNOD – 2016 RESOLUTIONS CONSIDERED AT SYNOD**

### **Resolution # 1      Re General Banking Facilities**

**WHEREAS** the Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands may from time to time require General Banking Facilities, not limited to overdraft, e.g. Letters of Guarantee;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Synod authorize the Diocesan Financial Board to arrange General Banking Facilities at the National Commercial Bank (Jamaica) Limited, or any other Bank registered under the Banking Act for a total amount not exceeding two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) should the need arise.

Moved by:     The Hon. Michael Fennell, O.J.

Seconded by: The Rev. Canon Denzil Barnes

**PASSED**

### **Resolution # 3      Re Expansion of the definition of Non Assessable Income**

**WHEREAS** Non Assessable Income is defined in Section 13.3 of the Policy Manual for Clergypersons and Church Workers; and

**WHEREAS** the report on the Method of Assessment presented at the 145<sup>th</sup> Synod 2015 opined that the formula for the Assessment was fair and equitable and did not incorporate new categories in the definition of Assessable and Non Assessable Income;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the definition of Non Assessable Income be expanded to include receipts from specific fund raising activities:

- I.    To insure the assets of the Church
- II.   To maintain the cemetery
- III.  To provide security for the assets and congregation
- IV.  To continuously maintain our Churches

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the 146<sup>th</sup> Synod request the Diocesan Financial Board to explore the possibility of classifying these receipts as Non-Assessable Income.

Moved By: Mr. Sterling Soares  
Seconded By: Rev. Canon Major Serrano Kitson

**PASSED**

#### **Resolution # 4 Re Technology and the Media in the Mission and Ministry of the Diocese**

**WHEREAS** technology has made a significant difference in the modes of information and communication in the region and the nation; and

**WHEREAS** technology can be used in the effective proclamation of the Gospel; and

**WHEREAS** there is need for the Diocese to reach a wider cross-section of people in our nation, especially among youth and young adults with the gospel; and

**WHEREAS** the technology is becoming increasingly the medium by which our youth and young adults communicate and have their world values shaped; and

**WHEREAS** people of all ages are now using the most popular means of communication technology, the cell phone, which is opening unlimited possibilities for information gathering and sharing; and

**WHEREAS** the Diocese's use of technology as an instrument for Mission and Ministry has been limited in scope and is in need of updating and revamping; and

**WHEREAS** the two major means of mass communication are the radio program 'Think on These Things' and the publication of the Anglican have served us well over several decades, but are now in need of review and re-focusing within a broader based communication strategy; and

**WHEREAS** the 39<sup>th</sup> Triennial Synod of the Church in the Province of the West Indies passed several resolutions concerning the use of technology as a vehicle for effective communication of the gospel, and called for the promotion and implementation of the use of available technology in the life of the Church;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Bishop in the Diocesan Council re-constitutes the Communications Committee, with a view toward implementing a more effective strategy for communication within the Diocese which makes better and more widespread use of technology, undertake a

review of the current use of radio and print media, identify the human and technological resources necessary for the implementation of the same, and the formulation of a policy for the Diocese which will guide our use of technology in going forward.

Moved By: Rev. Leslie Mowatt

Seconded By: Mrs. Andria Dilbert

**PASSED**

### **Resolution #5 Re Encouraging the Payment of Mission Share on a timely basis**

**WHEREAS** the collection of Mission Share (Assessments) has become an increasing challenge resulting in a sharp buildup of arrears to the Diocese; and

**WHEREAS** the Diocese finances its annual operation by making loans with interest to congregations in arrears thereby increasing the rate of building up the total indebtedness of congregations to the Diocese; and

**WHEREAS** the current policy towards indebtedness reduces the capacity of the Diocese to make investments which would increase the ability the Diocese needs to contribute to its overall budget; and

**WHEREAS** there is now a level of frustration both on the part of the management of the Diocese and on the part of the indebted congregation; and

**WHEREAS** it has been accepted that the presented situation cannot continue; and

**WHEREAS** a number of congregations responded positively and through special efforts increase the level of their payment in 2015;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** this 146<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Church acknowledge with gratitude the efforts of the congregations in 2015 and to encourage the sustaining of such effort to facilitate the work of the Diocese.

Moved By: Christopher Givans

Seconded By: Sterling Soares

**PASSED**

**Resolution #6 Re Change of status of the St. Stephen's Church, St. Margaret's Bay**

**WHEREAS** a settled Congregation in this Diocese is required to have at least fifty members on the Electoral Roll and to be financially self-sustaining; and

**WHEREAS** St. Stephen's Church, St. Margaret's Bay, in the Deanery of Portland has not met the required standard, the number presently on the electoral role twenty-four (24), and the income from the Church cannot meet its financial obligations;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the status of the said St. Stephen's Church, St. Margaret's Bay Cure, be reclassified to that of a Mission.

Moved By: Ven. Patrick Cunningham

Seconded By: Very Rev. Franklyn Jackson

**PASSED**

**Resolution # 7 Re Change of status of the St. Peter's Church, Hope Bay**

**WHEREAS** a settled Congregation in this Diocese is required to have at least fifty members on the Electoral Roll and to be financially self-sustaining; and

**WHEREAS** St. Peter's Church, Hope Bay in the Deanery of Portland has not met the required standard the number presently on the electoral role being thirty-two (32), and the income from the Church cannot meet its financial obligations;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the status of the said St. Peter's Church, (Hope Bay) St. Margaret's Bay Cure be reclassified to that of a Mission.

Moved By: Ven. Patrick Cunningham

Seconded By: Very Rev. Franklyn Jackson

**PASSED**

**Resolution # 8 Re Change of status of the St. Jude's Church, Battersea**

**WHEREAS** a settled Congregation in this Diocese is required to have at least fifty members on the Electoral Roll and to be financially self-sustaining; and

**WHEREAS** St. Jude's Church, Battersea, in the Deanery of Manchester has not met the required standard the number presently on the electoral role being thirty-two (32), and the income from the Church cannot meet its financial obligations;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the status of the said St. Jude's Church, Battersea be reclassified to that of a Mission.

Moved By: Very Rev. Barrington Soares

Seconded By: Rev. D. Antonio Martin

**PASSED**

### **Resolution # 9 Re Change of status of the St. Paul's Church, Spalding**

**WHEREAS** as required by the Canons of our Church, a settled Congregation is required to have a minimum of fifty (50) members on its Electoral Roll and to be financially self-supporting; and

**WHEREAS** St. Paul's Church, Spalding, in the Deanery of Manchester has not met the required standard the number presently on the electoral role being thirty-five (35), and the income from the Church cannot meet its financial obligations;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the status of the said St. Paul's Church, Spalding, be reclassified to that of a Mission.

Moved by: Very Rev. Barrington Soares

Seconded by: Rev. Dr. Antonio Martin

**PASSED**

### **Resolution # 10 Re Change of status of the St. James' Church, Grange**

**WHEREAS** a settled Congregation in this Diocese is required to have at least fifty members on the Electoral Roll and to be financially self-sustaining; and

**WHEREAS** St. James' Church, Grange, in the Deanery of Westmoreland has not met the required standard the number presently on the electoral role being twenty-five (25), and the income from the Church cannot meet its financial obligations;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the status of the said St. James' Church, Grange, be reclassified to that of a Mission.

Moved by: Rev. Michael Solomon

Seconded by: Very Rev. Canon the Hon. Hartley Perrin

**PASSED**

**Resolution # 11 Re Gratitude to God for the life and contribution of the late the Rt. Rev. & Hon. Dr. Neville Wordsworth deSouza**

WHEREAS the Rt. Rev. Dr. The Hon. Neville Wordsworth deSouza served the Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands as Deacon in 1958, Priest in 1959, first Bishop Suffragan of Montego Bay in 1973 and as Diocesan Bishop from 1979 to 2000;

AND WHEREAS his service to Church and Nation saw him giving extra-ordinary leadership as a Prophetic voice championing the cause of the poor and voiceless;

AND WHEREAS his leadership extended to the Ecumenical front – first serving as President of the Jamaica Council of Churches and served at the level of the World Council of Churches, as also President of the Caribbean Conference of Churches;

AND WHEREAS his visionary leadership saw him guiding the Church towards the accepting of women in the Ordained Ministry in the Province of the West Indies;

AND WHEREAS his contribution to Nation Building was recognised by the Government of Jamaica by conferring on him the Order of Jamaica in 1991 and the Doctor of Laws from the University of the West Indies in 1991;

AND WHEREAS his need to see to the spiritual growth of the members of the Church led to the establishment of the Hillcrest Diocesan Retreat Centre;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Diocese, at its 146<sup>th</sup> Annual Synod of the Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands in the Province of the West Indies records its deep appreciation and gratitude to God for his service as Deacon, Priest and Bishop;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this 146<sup>th</sup> Annual Synod asks the Lord Bishop to express our deep sympathy to his widow Iona and family:

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Synod asks the Lord Bishop in Diocesan Council to see to a tangible memorial to him.

Moved by : Rt. Rev. Leon P. Golding

Seconded by: The Ven. Patrick Cunningham/The Very Rev. Franklyn Jackson  
PASSED

Moved by; The Rt. Rev. Leon P. Golding

Seconded by: The Venerable Patrick G. Cunningham **PASSED**