

# Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

## MINUTES OF THE 148<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SYNOD THE SECOND DAY - WEDNESDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2018.

The Worship and Business Sessions of the Synod were held in the Ballroom of the Holiday Inn Resort Hotel, Rose Hall, Montego Bay, St. James.

### **WORSHIP:**

(a). **MATINS:** At 6:30 a.m. the Rev. Dwane Blackwood, Curate at the Cathedral of St. James de la Vega, St. Catherine, conducted the Office of Matins. The first and second lessons were read by Mr. Andrew Hutchinson, Lay Representative of the Cathedral of St. Jago de la Vega, St. Catherine, and Miss Janelle Dalberry Deanery Youth Representative for St. Catherine. The Rev. Leslie Mowatt, Rector of the St. Mary the Virgin Cure, Molynes Road, was the organist.

(b). **THE HOLY EUCHARIST:** At 7:00 a.m. there was a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at which the Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert Thompson, Suffragan Bishop of Kingston presided and preached. The first lesson was read by Mrs. Sandra Swyer Watson, Lay Representative of the Cathedral of St. Jago de la Vega, St. Catherine. The Holy Gospel was read by the Rev. Rory Honeyghan, Rector of Christ Church, Port Antonio. The Prayers of Intercession was led by Sister Molly Walton, Head of the Church Army, assigned to St. Mary the Virgin Cure, Molynes Road. Other assisting Clergy were the Very Rev. Canon Collin Reid, Rural Dean of St. Catherine and Senior Canon of the Cathedral Cure, the Rev. Canon Major Serrano Kitson, Rector of St. Andrew Parish Church, the Rev. Delroy Coley, Priest in the Supplementary Ministry at Holy Trinity and St. Phillip's churches, Old Harbour, the Venerable Patrick Cunningham, Archdeacon of Kingston Region and Rector of the St. Luke's Cure, Cross Roads, the Very Rev. Jean Fairweather-Wilson, Rural Dean of St. Thomas and Rector of St. David's Cure, Yallas, The Very Rev. Franklyn Jackson, Rural Dean of St. Andrew and Rector of the St. Margaret's Cure, Liguanea, and the Very Rev. Canon Charles Manderson, Rural Dean of St. Mary and Rector of the St. Mary Parish Church. The Rev. Leslie Mowatt, Rector of the St. Mary the Virgin Cure, Molynes Road, was the organist. Rev. Douglas Barnes, Director of Christian Education, was the cantor for the service.

### **BUSINESS SESSION:**

The President of the Synod, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Howard K. A. Gregory, Bishop of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, called the Synod to order at 9:35 a.m.

**OPENING PRAYERS:** The Rev. Canon Garth Minott, Warden of Anglican Students at the United Theological College of the West Indies (UTCWI), led the Synod in the opening prayers.

**WELCOME:** The President welcomed all the members to Synod especially those who were attending Synod for the first time.

**APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS:** The President proposed the following persons to be appointed to serve as Scrutineers:

Clergy:	The Very Rev. Richard Tucker The Rev. Michael Allen The Rev. Andrew Reid
Lay:	Mr. Newton Thomas

**THE BISHOP'S CHARGE – PART TWO:** The President gave the second part of his Charge to the Synod.

He welcomed those attending Synod for the first time and invited them to stand. He acknowledged the newly ordained priests and Deacon of the Diocese. He also acknowledged the new Diocesan Secretary, Mrs. Jacqueline Mighty, who took over from the Rev. Canon Denzil Barnes who retired. The Secretary of Synod (Acting), The Rev. Michael Elliott, Rector of the Church of the Holy Spirit, Portmore, and his assistant, the Rev. Olando Gayle, Curate at the St. Andrew Parish Church, Half Way Tree were both welcomed. Thanks was also expressed to the Venerable Winston Thomas, Archdeacon for the Mandeville Region and Rector of St. Gabriel's Cure, May Pen, who retired as Secretary of Synod after serving 25 years.

The President spoke of the launch of Intentional Discipleship by the Diocese and the activities that are being planned for everyone to be involved. Mention was also made of the Methodist-Anglican Dialogue which took place locally, as well as what is happening at the international level. Archbishop John Holder has retired as Archbishop of the Province of the West Indies. The triennial meeting of the Province will take place in November 2018, at which a New Archbishop will be elected.

A plaque honouring the contribution of Bishop Neville deSouza to the diocese was unveiled at the Cathedral of St. Jago de la Vega, St. Catherine. The Auchtembeddie Campsite was opened. The Wortley Home for Girls which was destroyed by fire has now been rebuilt, and efforts are being made to commence the rebuilding of Clifton Boy's Home.

Mention was made of: the Associate Evangelists who were recently COMMISSIONED; Mrs. Jacqueline Mighty and Sister Molly Walton who were APPOINTED Diocesan Secretary and Head of Church Army respectively; and the Very Rev. Robert McLean who RESIGNED from the Diocese and Rev. Stephanie Warner who is on leave from the Diocese.

The different organizations of our church continue to contribute to the development of the diocese. Special mention was made of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, the Women's Auxiliary and the Mother's Union.

Congratulations were extended to persons who recently received degrees, national awards and merits, as well as those who got married.

The Synod was asked to remember to keep the families of Sister Phyllis Thomas, Rev. Marcia Forbes, Rev. James Munroe, Mr. Keith Bryan, and others who have died, in their prayers.

The issue of persons not availing themselves to the ordained ministry was highlighted by the President. The Synod was therefore asked to pray for such persons to avail themselves to the ordained ministry, as well as to the commissioned and non-stipendiary ministries of the church. He also mentioned the need for us to encourage members to recognize the need to prepare wills and to bequeath gifts to the church.

The President expressed thanks to all persons who have contributed to the leadership and management of the diocese.

The Synod approved the appointment of The Rev. Michael Elliott, as the new Secretary of Synod, and the Rev. Olando Gayle, as the new Assistant Secretary of Synod.

The President also pointed out that Mrs. Anne Spence Morris is now the new Director at Hillcrest Diocesan Retreat Centre, and Sister Claudette Marshall has been appointed General Secretary of Jamaica Church Missionary Society and the Director of Mission and Ministry for the Diocese.

(The full text of the Charge – Part two (2) is to be found elsewhere in this Journal.)

**THE REPORT OF THE SCRUTINEERS:**

The Rev. Michael Elliott, Secretary of Synod, gave the Scrutineers' Report, which declared that there were two hundred and eleven (211) members of Synod, comprising eighty six (86) members of the Clergy and one hundred and twenty five (125) members of the Laity in attendance at Synod. (Details are to be found elsewhere in the Journal)

**DECLARATION THAT SYNOD WAS PROPERLY CONSTITUTED:**

The President, based on the Report given, declared that the Synod was properly constituted and that the Business of Synod could proceed.

**APPROVAL OF THE HOURS OF BUSINESS:**

The President tabled the proposed agenda outlining the Hours of Business. The Hours of Business, were approved.

**APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE:**

The President proposed and Synod approved the appointment of the following persons to form a Select Committee to which matters could be referred from time to time during the Synod:

The Hon. Dr. Vincent M. Lawrence, OJ	Member - Incorporated Lay Body.
Mr. Vivian Crawford	The Bishop's Nominee.
	The Venerable Winston Thomas Archdeacon of the Mandeville Region and Rector of St. Gabriel's Church, May Pen.

**NOTICE OF RESOLUTIONS AND QUESTIONS:**

The following notices of resolutions were given.

- #2 Concerning the use of corporal punishment in schools.  
Moved by Rev. Canon Garth Minott, Warden of Anglican students,  
UTCWI  
Seconded by the Rev. Fr. Michael Allen, Rector of Church of the  
Ascension, Mona.
- #3 Concerning the observance of 150 years of disestablishment.  
Moved by Rev, Michael Allen, Rector of Church of the  
Ascension, Mona.  
Seconded by Mr. Vivian Crawford, Bishop's Nominee.
- #4 Concerning the re-election of representatives to Synod after 5  
years.  
Moved by The Hon. Dr. Vincent M. Lawrence, OJ – Member of the  
Incorporated Lay Body.  
Seconded by the Rev. Canon Major Serrano Kitson, Rector of St.  
Andrew Parish Church.
- #5 Concerning Mrs. Bromley's faithfulness to JCMS and Diocese of  
Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.  
Moved by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert Thompson. Suffragan Bishop of  
Kingston.  
Seconded by the Rt. Rev. Leon Golding, Suffragan Bishop of  
Montego Bay.
- #6 Concerning the recognition of the Hon. Barbara Gloudon, OJ OD

Moved by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert Thompson. Suffragan Bishop of Kingston.

Seconded by the Rev. Leslie Mowatt, Rector of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Molynes Rd.

No questions were tabled.

**REPORTS ON RESOLUTIONS OF SYNOD 2017.**

**RESPONSE TO RESOLUTION #6 RE: THE HUMAN RESOURCE DEPT. OF THE DIOCESE**

Mrs. Jacqueline Mighty, Diocesan Secretary shared with the synod an update of the progress that has been made as it relates to establishing a Human Resource Department(HRD) for the Diocese. She reported that the job description has been developed as well as the method of assessment. The position will require the individual having a first degree in HR or other related areas, 5 years experience, and sound knowledge of HR policies, among other criteria. Monetary allocation has been made in the 2018 Budget. (Further details of this Report is recorded elsewhere in this Journal)

**RESPONSE TO RESOLUTION # 2 RE: DEVELOPMENT OF A BOOK ON THE HISTORY OF THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JAGO DE LA VEGA, ST. CATHERINE.**

The Rev. Canon Garth Minott, Warden of Anglican students at UTCWI, presented a report that was compiled by historian, Dr. James Robertson. As it relates to the publication, they are considering doing a partnership with University Press and UWI. The book would be done in four parts, and it is being considered to mention other institutions which helped to shape the history of this significant site. A pictorial guide is being proposed, and the only cost so far is five hundred pounds (£500.00) for researchers to access the archives, and the need to provide affordable accommodation. The President suggested that a more detailed budget be prepared and presented for the proposal to be moved forward. (Further details of this Report is recorded elsewhere in this Journal)

**AUDIT REPORT ON THE 2017 ACCOUNTS:**

The President welcomed and introduced the Chairman of the Diocesan Financial Board (DFB) – the Hon. Michael Fennell, OJ. Mr. Fennell then welcomed and introduced Mrs. Lisa Cousins of the Accounting firm of Crowe Horwath (Incorporating Paul Goldson and Company (Chartered Accountants)). Accompanying her was Miss Prunella Vassell. Mrs. Cousins gave the Audit Report in respect of the 2017 accounts. Mrs. Cousins stated that proper accounting records had been kept for year ended 31 December 2017. (Text of this Report is recorded elsewhere in this Journal)

Following questions from the floor of Synod, the Hon. Michael Fennell thanked the Auditors for their Report. He also thanked the accounting staff at Church House for their work in preparing the Books for auditing and their assistance during the period of the audit.

The Audit Report was adopted by the Synod on a motion moved by the Hon. Michael Fennell, OJ and seconded by Mrs. Jacqueline Mighty.

**REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2017**

The Chairman of the Diocesan Financial Board, the Hon. Michael Fennell, OJ gave a review of the Budget performance for the year 2017 as follows:

	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2017 Budget</b>
	,000's	,000's
Episcopal Stipend Fund	20,417	21,317
Diocesan Expenses Fund	159,611	172,448
Theological Education Fund	<u>7,459</u>	<u>9,831</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>187,487</u></b>	<b><u>203,596</u></b>

The Hon. Michael Fennell emphasized that the difference of \$16,109 million between the actual and budgeted expenditure for 2017 was not a saving as such, but rather an under-expenditure, and some commitments already made would be included in the 2018 Budget.

**TABLING OF THE ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR 2018**

The Chairman then tabled the Estimates of Income and Expenditure for the year 2018. He outlined the factors that influenced the crafting of the Estimates for 2018, giving a review of the national environment as well as the Diocesan environment. The estimates represented a 10.5% increase over the 2017 actual expenditure.

The Estimates would be funded in the following manner:

	,000's	
Mission Share (Assessment)	178,772	
Diocesan Resources	6,933	
Income earned by the Diocese	16,651	<u>202,356 mil</u>

The President at this time asked the Chairman of the Diocesan Financial Board to pause in order to accommodate the presentation by Prof. Frederick Hickling via the ZOOM video conferencing platform.

**PRESENTATION: PROF. FREDERICK HICKLING CD AS MAIN SPEAKER;  
'UNDERSTANDING PERSONALITY DISORDERS IN JAMAICA'**

Professor Hickling gave a very insightful presentation which revolved around understanding complex trauma and, emotional and psychological pain in Jamaica, including its impact on the disciplining of children. He emphasized that parents should love their children more, in order to remove or reduce the trauma they face. After his presentation, Bishop Gregory chaired the panel discussion. The panel consisted of The Rev. Mary Graham, Rector of the St. George's church, Grand Cayman; Mr. Vincent Guthrie, the Bishop's appointee and Mario Samms, Lay Representative of the Christ Church, Morant Bay Cure, St. Thomas. The panel discussion emphasized the need for parents to love, be supportive and have a loving relationship with their children from their infancy. (Further details of this presentation is recorded elsewhere in this Journal)

**LUNCH:**

The adjournment for lunch was taken at 1:00 p.m. The Grace before meal was led by the Venerable Hollis Lynch, retired Archdeacon of the Montego Bay Region.

**RESUMPTION:** Synod resumed at 2:08 pm.

The Hon. Michael Fennell then resumed his presentation on the non-recurrent budget for 2018.

The non-recurrent Budget (The Capital Budget) would amount to \$171.100m made up of the following components:

	\$ ,000's	
The Bishops' Lodges, Offices & Cars	4,971	
Hillcrest Diocesan Retreat Centre	3,604	
Other Diocesan Properties	13,760	
Other Diocesan Programmes	500	
Church House	<u>10,999</u>	<u>33,834 mil</u>

After discussions from the floor of Synod, the Estimates of Expenditure for 2018 were approved following a motion moved by the Hon. Michael Fennell and seconded by Mrs. Jacqueline Mighty. The President expressed thanks to the Chairman for the work that he had done over the year for the benefit of the Diocese.

**ELECTION OF AUDITORS:**

The Hon. Michael Fennell nominated and Synod elected the firm of Crowe Horwath, to be the Auditors for the year 2018.

**RESOLUTION # 1**

This resolution concerning General Banking Facilities was moved by the Hon. Michael Fennell, OJ and seconded by Mrs. Jacqueline Mighty, and was approved by the Synod.

**ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DIOCESAN FINANCIAL BOARD:**

The President nominated and the Synod elected the Hon. Michael Fennell, OJ, to continue to serve as Chairman of the Diocesan Financial Board.

**THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF NOMINATIONS:**

The Secretary of Synod, the Rev. Michael Elliott, presented the Report of the Board of Nominations for 2018. He indicated that the Report constituted the nominations made to fill the vacancies on the several Boards, Councils and Committees of the Synod. These were shared with the Synod, after which he invited members of Synod to make additional nominations if they so desired. They were to be done on the prescribed form and returned to him by the end of supper the same day. (Further details of the Report is recorded elsewhere in this Journal)

**EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEPARTMENT: An Update**

Mrs. Ena Barclay, Director of Schools, provided an update of the work of the Department of Schools. She explained that the department will have a focus on early childhood education/facilities this year, because of the importance of a child's development and growth within the first three years. Mention was made of a pilot project which will be starting in September 2018 at the St. Michael's Infant, Central Branch Infant and Albert Town Infant schools. In addition, teachers in regions 1, 5 and 6, have received training.

At the primary level, she mentioned that the Grade Six Achievement Test will be replaced by a new programme, the Primary Exit Profile. She also added that primary institutions are experiencing financial challenges.

A meeting was held with principals from Anglican high schools at Church House so as to allow for the sharing of best practices. The Anglican high schools are still acclaimed for producing well rounded students.

Church Teachers' College continues to excel in producing quality teachers. Thanks was expressed to Dr. Garth Anderson, Principal, for the role he has played in enhancing the standards of the school. He was also congratulated for his appointment as Jamaica Teachers' Association President Elect. (Further details of the Report is recorded elsewhere in this Journal)

**PERSPECTIVE ON CRIME AND VIOLENCE IN TODAY'S JAMAICA:**

A panel discussion on the given topic was chaired by the President, subsequent to the presentations made by Colonel Daniel Pryce, Colonel and General Staff of the JDF and Superintendent Kirk Ricketts, Joint Commander of Zones of Special

Operations (ZOSO), Mount Salem. The rest of the panel consisted of The Very Rev. Sean Major-Campbell, Rural Dean of Kingston and Rector of Christ Church Vineyard Town, Deaconess Elaine Cunningham, Principal of the St. Hugh's High School for Girls and Mr. Adrian Wallace, Lay Representative to Synod of the St. Michael's and All Angels Church, Victoria Avenue and Mr. Vincent Chen, Lay Representative to Synod of the St. Luke's Church, Cross Roads.

Colonel Daniel Pryce presented on the crime situation in Jamaica, while Superintendent Kirk Ricketts used empirical data to highlight the state of crime in our country. In summary, the members of the panel suggested that what Jamaica needs is a change of heart, social interventions and improved relationships between police and citizens.

**EVENSONG:**

At 5:42 p.m. the Service of Evensong was led by the Rev. Paul Sharp, priest in the Supplementary ministry attached to the Church of the Transfiguration, Meadowbrook/Merrivale Cure. He also read the lesson and led the Psalm.

**SUPPER:** The adjournment for Supper was taken at 6:12 p.m.

**RESUMPTION:** Synod resumed at approximately 7:15 pm.

**VIDEO PRESENTATION: 'WAR ROOM'**

The Rev. Douglas Barnes, Director of Christian Education provided a brief introduction of the movie within the parameters of Intentional Discipleship. This was complemented with the distribution of a worksheet to guide the Synod's reflection on Intentional Discipleship based on the experiences presented in the movie.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Synod adjourned at 9:35 pm with the Benediction.

MICHAEL G. ELLIOTT (The Rev.)  
SECRETARY OF SYNOD.

Confirmed and approved on Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> 2018.

HOWARD K. A. GREGORY (THE RT. REV. DR.)  
BISHOP OF JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS  
PRESIDENT.