

THE RECOGNITION OF PARISHES (PASTORAL DISTRICTS) ORDINANCE 2001

An Ordinance to Provide for the recognition, reconstitution and withdrawal of recognition of parishes and pastoral districts

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the recognition, reconstitution and withdrawal of recognition of parishes by the Synod **NOW** in pursuance of Chapter IV of the Constitution **THE SYNOD HEREBY DETERMINES-**

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| <p>1. This Ordinance may be cited as “The Recognition of Parishes (Pastoral Districts) Ordinance 2001”</p> | <p><i>Title</i></p> |
| <p>2. The Registrar shall cause the said Register of Parishes to be amended from time to time in accordance with the recognition and withdrawal of recognition from time to time of Parishes by the Synod, and the recognition by the Synod of the reconstruction of existing Parishes.</p> | <p><i>Registrar to
amend Register
of Parishes</i></p> |
| <p>3. The Synod shall not recognise a new Parish unless</p> <p>(a) Whether before or after the receipt by the Registrar of the Certificate in the form of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution, the Diocesan Council shall have enquired into and considered-</p> <p>(i) The requirements for and the proposed method of providing for the pastoral care of the persons who will constitute the Parish,</p> <p>(ii) The requirements for the pastoral care of the whole diocese,</p> <p>(iii) Whether the proposed Parish can be an effective functioning unit of the Church in worship, service and extra-parochial responsibility,</p> <p>(iv) The financial viability of the proposed Parish and,</p> <p>(v) The view of the Clergymen and the Churchwardens of existing Parishes which would be directly affected by the recognition of such Parish.</p> <p>(b) Notwithstanding the criteria (a) (i)-(v) above nothing in these requirements shall prevent the possibility of the development of new styles of Parish (such as those within an Ecumenical Mission) under such terms and conditions as may be negotiated between the Bishop, the Diocesan Council, the Parish or Parishes concerned and such other parties as may be needed to be involved.</p> <p>(c) The Diocesan Council shall have reported to the Synod the result of its enquiry and consideration as aforesaid together with such recommendations (if any) as it may choose to make concerning the proposal.</p> | <p><i>Conditions
for
recognition</i></p> |

4. Upon the recognition by the Synod of any new Parish the Parish or Parishes from which members are thereby transferred shall continue to be recognised by the Synod and the Synod shall be empowered to rename

***Renaming of
Parishes***

5. The Synod shall not terminate the recognition of any Parish unless the Diocesan Council shall have considered any proposal for such termination and shall have reported thereon to the Synod. Any such proposal shall be submitted to the Diocesan Council by a member of the Synod.

***Conditions for
termination of
recognition***

6. The Synod shall not recognise the reconstitution of existing Parishes unless-

***Procedure for
reconstitution***

(a) A proposal for the reconstitution of such Parishes shall have been submitted to the Diocesan Council by a member of the Synod.

(b) The Diocesan Council shall have enquired into and considered the proposal and the views of any member or members of the Parishes affected.

(c) The Diocesan Council shall have reported to the Synod the result of its enquiry and consideration as aforesaid together with such recommendations (if any) as it may choose to make concerning the proposal.

7. Upon the recognition by the Synod of the reconstitution of any existing Parishes the Synod shall be empowered to rename such Parishes.

***Renaming of
reconstituted
parishes***

8. Pastoral Districts

Pastoral Districts

(1) Before the establishment of a pastoral district the Bishop and the Diocesan Council shall make such inquiries and in such manner as they see fit, including consultation with any priests or Parishes that may be affected.

(2) The Bishop of his own volition may, and any layman or Clergyman of the Diocese may request the Bishop and Diocesan Council to investigate the establishment of a pastoral district.

(3) A pastoral district established under this section may, after due investigation by the Bishop and the Diocesan Council, be terminated.

9. The Diocesan Council may conduct any enquiry pursuant to this Ordinance in such manner as it may from time to time determine.

Enquiry

10. In this Ordinance the reconstitution of existing Parishes includes the uniting of two or more existing Parishes and the transfer of the whole or portion of the membership of a Parish to one or more other Parishes.

Interpretation

11. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Ordinance the Bishop and the Diocesan Council may establish from time to time a Pastoral District for the betterment of the pastoral care of the Diocese or any part of it.

*Establishment
of Pastoral
Districts*

(2) Such Pastoral District may comprise any existing Parish or Parishes or any part thereof or any extra-parochial place or places.

(3) The Bishop and the Diocesan Council shall not create a Pastoral District unless it has formed the opinion that it is impractical for any congregation or congregations to be incorporated in or to form a Parish, or a Parish has ceased to be an effective functioning unit of the Church in worship, service and extra-parochial responsibility.

(4) A Pastoral District shall be established for such a period not exceeding 4 years as the Bishop and the Diocesan Council shall determine but may be re-established again at the expiration of such period if the Bishop and the Diocesan Council continue to form the opinion referred to in Section 11 (3).

(5) When establishing a Pastoral District or at any time thereafter the Bishop and the Diocesan Council may provide for the following matters:

- i) the definition of its boundaries;
- ii) its name;
- iii) its Synod representation;
- iv) such adaptations or modifications of enactments or ordinances as may be necessary or expedient;
- v) the sharing of any facilities;
- vi) patronage;
- vii) the financial arrangements for its operations; and
- viii) such further or other matters as the Bishop and Diocesan Council may from time to time deem appropriate.

(6) Consideration will be given by the Bishop and Diocesan Council to the Priest.