



Diocesan Synod 2021

DIOCESE OF WAIKATO AND TARANAKI

20 September 2021

Greetings

Synod 2021

Welcome to our Diocesan Synod 2021, the first session of the forty first Synod of the Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki.

As you will know, the synodical form of governance in the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia began in Auckland in 1857 with a General Conference, called by Bishop Selwyn, of Bishops and certain clergy and laity, the first time that a Bishop in the (then) Church of England had shared governance of a Diocese. That conference approved the Constitution for our Church, which Bishop Selwyn had prepared, instituting a new form of Church governance, a synodical structure. The principle of governance by Bishops in Synod is encapsulated in Bishop Selwyn's words:

"It remains then to define by some simple principle the terms of our co-operation. They are simply these; that neither will I act without you, nor can you act without me".

So this is why we describe the model of leadership and governance in this Church as "episcopally-led and synodically-governed" where the house of Bishop calls the Houses of Laity and Clergy to join the Bishop in the governance of the Diocese.

In accordance with the Standing Orders Statute 1972, the Bishop will, no later than Friday 1 October 2021, post his summons to you to attend Synod. All other Synod papers and communications will be sent electronically. If you know of a Synod representative in your ministry unit who does not have access to email, would you kindly ensure that that representative sees a copy of this letter.

We gather as Synod members
to worship together
to participate in the governance of our Diocese
to strengthen our Diocesan community through our experience of fellowship and trust.

SYNOD ADMINISTRATION

SYNOD MAIL: "Synod 2021", PO BOX 21, HAMILTON, 3240 NEW ZEALAND
TELEPHONE: 64 7 857 0020: Email: synodinfo@wtanglican.nz

Synod Dates Times and Venues

Synod 2021 will be held on:

Saturday 30th October and will be a one-day virtual event using Zoom (a link will be made available to all participants nearer the time). Synod will run from 9.30 am – 4.30 pm.

Most Synod representatives will be able to join from their own computer at home. We will also be using Charlotte Brown House in Hamilton for the Bishop, Chancellor and chairs of committees and Tikituterangi House in New Plymouth for the Diocesan Manager and Synod Manager. There will be a few spaces available at each of these centres for people concerned that they may not have reliable internet connectivity at home. If the alert level remains at 2 or above, social distancing may reduce these available spacings.

In addition, we are working to try and find Parishes that may serve as Synod Centres where people could gather (we need fast and reliable internet connectivity and access to audio visual equipment that allows a number of people to view and participate in the meeting). Potentially these centres will also need to manage required social distancing and hygiene measures, We shall update participants about these options as soon as we can.

Please contact the Diocesan manager on manager@wtanglican.nz if you do not have access to a reliable internet connection or would be interested in one of the places at either Charlotte Brown House or Tikituterangi House.

Registration

Registration is open. As the date has been changed, could you please re-register using the form on the diocesan website [here](#), or at the end of this letter.

If you need to post the registration form, please post it to:

**Diocesan Office
PO Box 21
Hamilton 3240, and mark the envelope Synod 2021.**

Telephone enquiries may be made on **(07) 857 0020**

Registration closes on Friday 15 October 2021.

Standing Orders

Please note that due to the Zoom based Synod this year the President has moved that “Standing Orders will be suspended for the duration of Synod, but the business of Synod be conducted in a manner as consistent with Standing Orders as circumstances permit.” We shall re-instate relevant Standing Orders as needed during Synod.

As we require the suspensions to be passed by a 2/3 majority, if you have any issues with the changes, please bring these to the attention of the Diocesan Manager immediately.

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Synod Meals

Due to the virtual nature of Synod, we will not be organising meals this year other than lunch and light refreshments for Charlotte Brown House and Tikituerangi House (and any Parishes we organize as venues).

Costs of Attending Synod

This year we are not anticipating costs for attending Synod as it is a virtual event.

Any additional charge for lunch and refreshments at venues will be advised as a lump sum as soon as those costs are known.

The costs of running the Synod are covered by the Diocese.

Pre-Synod Documents

As 14 September 2021, was the last date for receipt in the Diocesan Office of Bills, Motions and Reports, members will receive an email notice outlining the business for Synod 2021. From Friday 1 October 2021, all pre-Synod documents will be available online, and may be accessed via the website wtanglican.nz/synod.

Pre-Synod Meetings

Archdeaconry meetings are being organised and please liaise with your Archdeacon for details. However, there is a possibility that these meetings may be held in a virtual session.

Timeline

Please note the following important dates:

1. **1 October 2021**

Summons posted to Synod Members and first documents available online.

2. **15 October 2021**

Last date to **register** for Synod attendance

3. **15 October 2021**

Last date for receipt of requests for leave of absence.

Such requests must be in writing. Letters should be addressed to the Diocesan bishop, include your reason for seeking leave of absence and preferably emailed to synodinfo@wtanglican.nz .

4. **15 October 2021**

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This is an **election year** for Synod members. Synod will be appointing people to both General Synod Standing Committee and to the Diocesan Standing Committee. It has been decided that, due to the virtual nature of this year's Synod, the nominations for General Synod Standing Committee need to be in to the Diocesan Manager by 15 October 2021 so that Synod representatives have advanced notice of nominations. This is a change to our usual procedure, and there is a Bill to be passed to enable this to happen. The nominations will be available on the diocesan website as soon after the closing date as we can get them posted. The **nomination forms** will be available on the diocesan website from 1 October.

Synod Contact Details

Any of the contact methods listed below are available for giving, requesting or accessing information:

1. The Synod email address is synodinfo@wtanglican.nz . This email address will be monitored Monday to Friday.
2. Telephone: 07 857 0020
In the event your call is not answered, you may leave a message on this number.
When leaving a message please:
 1. **Begin with your name and contact number.**
 2. **Leave a short message about the query you have.**
 3. **Conclude your message by repeating your name and contact number**
3. Information will be posted regularly on the Synod website: <https://www.wtanglican.nz/synod/>.
4. Synod mailing address: **Synod 2021, PO Box 21, Hamilton 3240**

Further information will be provided in accordance with the timeline above.

Jill Schumacher
Synod Administration

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Registration Form

If you do not have access to the internet, where online registration is open at <https://www.wtanglican.nz/synod/>, you are welcome to fill in and post this form to the address below or email it to synodinfo@wtanglican.nz.

If you do post the form, please do **not** include payment as Parishes or Ministry units will be invoiced directly.

Name:

Parish or Ministry Unit:

Internet: please indicate here if you are concerned that you do not have a reliable internet connection.

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