

DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS CANON 1994 - 2003

Preamble

Whereas it is expedient to provide for the contribution by parishes to the Diocese for the purposes of providing funds for defraying the expenses of Diocesan administration and maintaining the Bishop and for the provision and maintenance of buildings used for Diocesan purposes and for the training of candidates for Holy Orders and for outreach ministry by the Diocese and for such other purposes as Synod may from time to time determine.

BE IT THEREFORE DECLARED AND ESTABLISHED by the Bishop Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of Rockhampton in Synod assembled as follows:

Short Title

1. This Canon may be cited as “The Parish Contributions Canon 1994 - 2003”.

Commencement

2. This Canon shall come into operation the first day of January 1995.

Repeal

3. The “Assessment Canon 1932-1965” is repealed as from the thirty-first day of December 1994.

Interpretation

(Amended 2003)

4. In this Canon unless the context otherwise requires or indicates:

“**Bishop-in-Council**” means the “Bishop-in-Council” established by the “Bishop-in-Council Canon 1989”.

“**Budget**” means the Budget adopted by Synod.

“**Expenses of the Parish**” means all of those items of expenditure classified as “General Parish Purposes, Special Parish Purposes, and Extra Parish Purposes” in the form of Parish Return approved by Bishop-in-Council for the purposes of Section 8(1) of this Canon.

“**Ordinary Session of Synod**” means the Session of Synod required to be held by Section 21 of “The Synod Canon 1893-1989”.

“**Parish**” has the same meaning as provided by the “The Parish Canon 1974-1990”.

“**Parish Annual Meeting**” means the Annual Meeting of a parish referred to in Section 47 of “The Parish Canon 1974-1990”.

“**Parish Contribution**” means the amount to be contributed by a parish for the purpose of this Canon.

“Parish Priest” means and includes Rector, Parish Priest, Priest in Charge or in the case of a vacant parish the Bishop.

“Repealed Canon” means the “Assessment Canon 1932-1965”.

Diocesan Budget

5. (1) The Treasurer shall in each year at least six (6) weeks before the ordinary Session of Synod prepare and submit to Bishop-in-Council a proposed budget for the financial year next following such session.
- (2) Bishop-in-Council may adopt such proposed Budget without amendment or may adopt it with such amendments as it thinks expedient.
- (3) The proposed Budget as so adopted shall be presented by the Treasurer at the ensuing Session of Synod.
6. (1) The proposed Budget shall include a recommended Schedule of Parish Contributions;
- (Amended 2003)(2) The Parish Contributions for each Parish shall be assessed by the Treasurer and the Registrar in accordance with the terms of a resolution of Synod.
- (3) The aggregate of the Parish Contributions is to be assessed having regard to the amount which is required in addition to any other income of the Diocese for defraying the expenses of Diocesan administration and maintaining the Bishop and for the provision and maintenance of buildings used for Diocesan purposes and for the training of candidates for Holy Orders and for the outreach ministry of the Diocese and for such other purposes as Synod may from time to time determine.
7. Synod shall in each year consider and adopt with such amendments as it shall determine the proposed Budget and Schedule of Parish Contributions and when so adopted it shall be deemed to be the Diocesan Budget for the ensuing financial year.

Parish Returns

8. (1) The Parish Priest and Churchwardens of each Parish shall not later than seven (7) days after the holding of the Parish Annual Meeting in each year submit to the Registrar a return in a form approved by Bishop-in-Council which shall include full particulars of all of the income of the Parish and the expenses of the Parish for the last financial year of the Parish.
- (2) The term “income of the Parish” shall without limiting the generality of the term, include –
 - (a) All moneys or donations received by the Churchwardens on behalf of the Parish from any source whatsoever; and
 - (b) All moneys received from any source whatsoever by any Parish group or organisation and which are intended to be used to defray or meet any of the expenses of the Parish or for any other Parish purpose whatsoever and whether or not such moneys are received or held by the Churchwardens but in any such case the expenses incurred by such Parish group or organisation in acquiring any such moneys shall be deducted therefrom.

- (c) The income of any Parish shall in the case of gifts or donations be classified in the return referred to in subsection (1) according to any intention indicated by the donor as to the purpose for which any money or donation is to be applied. In the absence of any such indication by the donor any such money or donation shall be classified as income received for general Parish purposes.

(3) to (9) (Repealed 2003)

Payment of Contributions

9. (1) Parish contributions adopted by Synod shall be payable by Parishes by monthly instalments or in such other manner as Bishop-in-Council may determine;
- (2) Parish contributions shall be paid to the Registrar within thirty (30) days after despatch by the Registrar of a Notice setting out the amount or amounts of Parish contributions payable by the Parish;
- (3) In the event that the Churchwardens of any Parish are unable to pay the Parish contribution in the manner provided by this section they and the Parish Priest shall within the period referred to in subsection (2) hereof consult with the Registrar as to the payment of the Parish contribution;
- (4) Upon receipt of the Parish Contributions the Treasurer shall cause them to be appropriated in accordance with the provisions of the Budget.
- (5) Bishop-in-Council may remit or defer payment of the whole or any part of a Parish Contribution payable by a Parish upon such terms and conditions as Bishop-in-Council may think fit.

Regulations

10. Bishop-in-Council may from time to time make amend or repeal Regulations not inconsistent with this Canon for the provision of parish returns and the payment of parish contributions.