

ORDINATION AMENDMENT ACT 2005

BE IT ENACTED by the Bishop, the Clergy and the Laity of the Anglican Church of Australia within the Diocese of Bendigo duly met in Synod according to law as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the "Ordination (Amendment) Act 2005".
In this Act the Ordination Act Shall be referred to as "The Principal Act".
2. There is hereby established a committee to be known as "The Ordination Candidates Committee" (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee").
3.
 - (1) The Committee shall consist of three clerical and three lay members and a chair.
 - a) The Bishop shall appoint the chair of the committee
 - (2) At the first session of each Synod there shall be elected two clerical and one lay member of the Committee.
 - (3) The Bishop shall appoint one clerical, one lay member and the Chair of the Committee.
 - (4) Lay members of the Committee need not be members of the Synod.
4.
 - (1) All members of the Committee shall remain as members of the Committee until the first day of the first session of the next Synod of the Diocese or until their earlier resignation or death.
 - (2) Any vacancy in the membership of an elected member of the Committee shall be filled by the Council of the Diocese.
 - (3) Any vacancy in the membership of an appointed member of the Committee shall be filled by appointment by the Bishop.
5.
 - (1) After the first session of each Synod the Bishop shall appoint a member of the Committee to be the chairman.
 - (2) The chairman shall convene a meeting of the Committee after the first session of each Synod.
 - (3) Thereafter the Committee shall convene as and when it is necessary to do so and shall set its own procedures.

6. The responsibilities of the Committee shall be as follows:
 - (a) to advise the Bishop of the suitability or otherwise of candidates offering for ordination as deacons or as priests;
 - (b) to make recommendations to the Bishop concerning such candidates in relation to matters of their education and training;
 - (c) to support the candidates during their training;
 - (d) to receive reports from appropriate persons and institutions concerning the education and training of candidates;
 - (e) to advise the Bishop whether the candidates satisfy the requirements of the Church for ordination as a deacon or as a priest, as the case may be;
 - (f) to formulate and institute such post-ordination programs as it may consider desirable;
 - (g) to prepare a budget for its annual operation, including the costs of training candidates for ordination;
 - (h) to report to the Council of the Diocese on the matters set out above;
 - (i) to present a report to each session of the Synod;
 - (j) such further or other matters as the Bishop shall request of the Committee.

7. The Bishop may ordain a person to the office of deacon or the office of priest in accordance with the form appropriate to that office set out in the Ordinal included in the Book of Common Prayer or in the Ordinal included in An Australian Prayer Book or in accordance with any other form appropriate to that office and approved for use within the Anglican Church of Australia, with such adaptations to the language contained in such Ordinal as may be necessary.

8. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as a restriction or impediment upon the rights of the Bishop in relation to the ordination of persons to the office of deacon or priest provided such rights are exercised pursuant to the laws of the Anglican Church of Australia within the Province of Victoria.