

REVISED LITURGY FOR THE BLESSING OF A RELATIONSHIP MOTION 6

MOVED BY: THE VEN CAROLE HUGHES

SECONDED BY: THE RT REV'D JIM WHITE

"Recognising that:

- (a) over many years, Anglican clergy have prayed and celebrated with couples, including couples in same gender relationships, who wish to mark their commitment to each other in church; and
- (b) in 1992 the then Provincial Liturgical Commission prepared a liturgy for the Blessing of a Relationship, although this is not an authorised form of service for use in the Church; and
- (c) the Template for Worship authorised by General Synod/Te Hinota Whanui also offers opportunities for the creation and use of different liturgies; and
- (d) Motions passed at last year's Diocesan Synod and General Synod/Te Hinota Whanui and events since (Hermeneutics Hui, Ma Whea, Diocesan Nature of Marriage working group, Listening Process and DVD resource, etc), including the passing of the Definition of Marriage Amendment Bill, provide us with the opportunity to respond to the present situation in our society, therefore

this Synod:

- (1) commends the *Liturgy for the Blessing of a Relationship* for possible use for blessings of same gendered relationships;
- (2) asks Diocesan Council to appoint a group to work on further developing the liturgy in light of recent events; and
- (3) asks the working group to liaise with the Diocese of Auckland's General Synod representatives and to present a revised liturgy to Diocesan Council for approval and for this to be done in time to then present the revised liturgy to General Synod/Te Hinota Whanui seeking approval to work toward authorising a liturgy for blessing same-gendered relationships."