



from *The Diocese of Saldanha Bay*

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Diocesan News, Pastoral Care and Prayer

10<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**THE SACRED SYNOD  
OUTCOMES and FOLLOW UP**

Dear Diocesan Family

The Bishop writes:

**(1) HISTORICAL SACRED SYNOD**

A very successful Sacred Synod was held in the Diocese on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June (Pentecost Eve) at the Church of St Michael and All Angels, Edgemead.

Over sixty Clergy in the Diocese attended and participated creatively and imaginatively in the Full Days' proceedings.

We explored the Relationship between the Self-Supporting Clergy and Full Time Stipendiary Clergy and the Process of Theological Education and Spiritual Formation in the Diocese (T.E.S.F)

**(2) INFORMATION! INFORMATION!  
COMMUNICATION! COMMUNICATION!**

The cry goes up how long ...?

This is was the mantra for the matter before us ... where is the INFORMATION and how can we have better communication.

We have pledged ourselves to continue with this firm foundation of COMMUNICATION that we have laid and more Reflective Meetings and Sacred Synods for the future.

**(3) IMMEDIATE OUTCOMES**

Some of the immediate outcomes.

(i) The Diocesan Vocation Manual

This must be distributed again and read and studied and applied. It is being applied, but the perception is that “not everybody knows it, and sees it, and understands it”.

We pledge ourselves to receive it, and where necessary adapt and change it

(ii) The Diocesan Self-Supporting Ministry Manual and all the Supporting Documents

This booklet too, needs to be disseminated in the Diocese, read, studied and applied. Adapted and changed where required.

(iii) Full Time Dean of Studies

We all say “Yes” to this ... it is simple a question of:

(a) Discerning the call ... who will go for us?

(b) Finding the Resources for fully stipend and support the ministry of a Full Time Dean of Studies.

Please pray.

In principle we ALL AGREED. Let us find the Full Time Dean of Studies, for the Bishop to appoint.

(iv) The Involvement of Rectors of F.O.V Candidates, Ordinands, Deacons, Assistant Priests

Again, it is clearly understood and accepted that:

**(v) Rectors from the very beginning of the process of Discernment to it's conclusion with Ordination and indeed beyond with P.O.T and C.E.M are pivotal and fundamental.**

Yes, we must amply this. Yes, we must make this clear that Rectors are to be kept totally informed and empowered to play their pivotal role in the formation of the Ordinands and Clergy in their care.

(vi) The Transitioning from Self-Supporting to Full Time

This process was thoroughly discussed, and the guidelines must be captured in print, applied and developed.

This is the first of many more OUTCOMES and FOLLOW UPS to be published.

The Official Report from the Sacred Synod is due within the next TWO WEEKS or so

With love and care

**Lizel Carelse** (on behalf of the Bishop)