

DECREE OF CONVOCATION

In accordance with the provisions of canons 461,§1 and 462,§2 of the Code of Canon Law, and having discerned that the current circumstances in the Archdiocese of Cape Town recommend it; after consulting with the Presbyteral Council, I hereby decree that I convoke a Diocesan Synod which will meet on a date and at a venue still to be determined.

I hereby further decree the constitution of a Preparatory Commission, the members of which are yet to be announced, and a Synodal Secretariate to be directed by Father Sean Cahill OFM Cap who is with immediate effect appointed as Secretary General of the Synod. He is to propose to me suitable persons, both cleric and lay, to form the Preparatory Commission which, for the moment, shall function under his chairmanship. The role of the Preparatory Commission will be to assist him both in the preparatory phase of the Synod and during the Synod itself. The Commission shall further prepare a Synodal Directory which, among other things, will determine the composition of the Synod and prepare procedural Rules of Order for conducting the daily business of the Synod and to ensure its smooth functioning.

All matters deemed appropriate for discussion at the Synod may be referred to the Preparatory Commission for approval. From these submissions, the Commission shall prepare for my approval a tentative agenda for the Synod.

Given at Cape Town, this 1st day of November, 2005.

+Lawrence Henry
Archbishop of Cape Town

Sister Sheila Bell
Chancellor