

# GOVERNING BODY MEETING

15 & 16 April 2015

## QUESTION TIME

### 1. Mr Dean Roberts (Co-opted)

Will the Bench of Bishops, recognising that current Church policy is to instruct all clergy to use fermented communion wine at the Eucharist, consider in individual and exceptional circumstances, for pastoral reasons, permitting a cleric with the approval of the bishop, to offer a separate chalice of non alcoholic communion wine?

The background to this question is offering communion in both kinds to any individual who has a problem with alcohol in a parish, and while recognising that all the spiritual benefits are present in taking communion in one kind, a cleric may meet pastoral obligations to offer inclusive worship to a person who has a problem with alcohol. The option to receive communion in one kind would continue, and would not allow churches to choose between fermented or non alcoholic wine. Such a dispensation as I am requesting the bishops to consider would be given by the Bishop to a cleric on an individual basis for pastoral reasons.

### 2. The Reverend Chancellor Dr Patrick Thomas (Diocese of St Davids)

April 24<sup>th</sup> this year marks the centenary of the beginning of *Medz Yeghern* ('The Great Crime') - the Genocide in which over a million Armenian Christians lost their lives in Ottoman Turkey. Will the Bench of Bishops once again encourage the use of the special prayers for that day which are included in both Welsh and English on the Church in Wales website? The Welsh Armenian community is donating a memorial by a Cardiff-based Armenian artist to St Davids Cathedral in thanksgiving for the Bishops' action in recognizing April 24<sup>th</sup> as Armenian Genocide Day. Are the Bishops prepared to express their gratitude for this gift, and to endorse its proposed inscription (in Welsh, English and Armenian): 'In Memory of the Victims of the Armenian Genocide 1915' - words which have a profound resonance and depth of meaning for Welsh Armenians as descendants of Genocide survivors (almost all of them having lost numerous family members during the Genocide)?

### 3. The Venerable Peggy Jackson, Archdeacon of Llandaff (Diocese of Llandaff)

1. What information is routinely gathered (a) by dioceses and/or (b) by the Representative Body concerning clergy who leave licensed ministry in the Church in Wales?

2. How many (a) male and (b) female clergy left licensed ministry in the Church in Wales between 1st January 2009 and 31st December 2014?
3. Of those numbers in (2) above, how many leavers of each gender, in each year:-
  - (a) Retired;
  - (b) resigned, in order to take up stipendiary posts outside the Church in Wales;
  - (c) resigned or retired for health-related reasons;
  - (d) resigned from licensed ministry for other reasons.

#### **4. Kathryn Hall (Diocese of St Asaph)**

At each meeting of the Annual Vestry my parish appoints a representative for the Archbishop of Wales Fund for Children. We welcome the annual newsletters of the Fund published on the Church in Wales website. We would also welcome more information on the work and responsibilities of the parish representatives.

How can communications to parishes about the work of the Archbishop's Fund for Children be enhanced to further raise the profile of the Fund with parishes?