

# A CANON TO REMOVE DOUBTS AS TO THE POWERS AND PREROGATIVES OF THE BISHOP AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

(Assented to and Passed 2nd August, 1900, Amended 1953)

## Preamble

WHEREAS doubts have arisen as to whether having regard to the status of the Church of England in Queensland and in view of the Constitution and Canons of such Church in the Diocese of North Queensland there be inherent or vested in the Bishop of the said Diocese such powers and prerogatives of an Ordinary as are inherent or vested in a Bishop of the Diocese of the Church of England in England and such other powers and prerogatives as hereinafter mentioned.

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to remove such doubts in manner hereinafter provided.

BE it therefore declared and established by the Bishop Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of North Queensland in Synod assembled as follows

Amended 1953

1. **Powers of the Bishop.** When a Bishop of North Queensland shall have been duly appointed and installed or enthroned he shall be "the Bishop" within the meaning of "The Canon Interpretation Canon" and as Ordinary and Chief Pastor of the Diocese shall be deemed to have and may exercise within the said Diocese of North Queensland all and singular the powers and prerogatives which are inherent or vested in a Bishop of a diocese of the Church of England in England and such other powers as hereinafter mentioned and more particularly in relation to the following matters (amongst others) that is to say:

- (I) **Licences to Clergy.** The granting and revoking of licences to Clergy to officiate in the Diocese subject to any Canons regulating the same.
- (II) **Process of an Ordinary.** The exercise of all such powers of an ordinary as are created or instituted by the provisions of the Book of Common Prayer and the power to put forth or sanction additional services and to adapt the services in the Book of Common Prayer and to direct or sanction the use of additional prayers.

Provided that such additional services or prayers shall be subject to such limitations as may be imposed by Provincial or other lawful authority and shall not affect the doctrinal teaching or value of the services contained in the Book of Common Prayer. Provided always that in case any manner of question or dispute shall arise touching the nature of such doctrinal teaching contained in such adaptation or additional service an appeal shall lie to the Archbishop of Canterbury until a Provincial Court of Appeal shall have been established and thereafter shall lie to that Court.

- (III) **Visitatorial Power.** The exercise either by himself or his Archdeacons or any of them of such visitatorial powers in respect of all Church Officers as are exercised by a Bishop or by his Archdeacons in England.

(IV) **Approval of Plans, etc.**

- (a) The approval of plans for the erection of churches and other building used for the purpose of public worship to be erected on any site vested in the Corporation of the Diocesan Synod of North Queensland or in any other person or persons upon trust for the benefit of the Church of England.
- (b) The approval of plans for the erection and alterations of Rectories, Clergy Houses, Church Halls and Buildings four Institutions to be erected on any site vested in the Corporation of the Diocesan Synod of North Queensland or in any other person or persons upon trust for the benefit of the Church of England.

- (V) **Issue of Faculties.** The issue of faculties for alterations in and additions to or the rebuilding or enlargement of any Church or other building used for the purpose of public worship erected on any site so vested as aforesaid.

Provided that nothing herein contained shall be deemed or taken to limit or curtail the rights powers or privileges of the Bishop to exercise within the said Diocese all or any

of the duties or functions or to perform within the said Diocese all or any of the acts peculiar or appropriate to the office of a Bishop of the Church of England which may be exercised or performed by a Bishop of a Diocese of the said Church of England within his Diocese in England.

2. **Access to Churches.** The Bishop shall have free access to all Churches or other buildings used for the purpose of public worship in the Diocese whenever he may require the use of the same for any purpose in fulfilment of his office as Bishop and on such occasion he shall have full control and ordering of the services.
3. **Representation at Parish Meetings.** The Bishop or his representative shall have the right to attend and take part in any meeting of the Parishioners of any Parish or district and shall be ex officio a member of all Parochial Councils. And further notwithstanding anything in Clause 17 of "The Parishes Regulation Canon of 1896" the Bishop or his representatives may, during the vacancy in any Cure preside at any meeting of the Parishioners in the Parochial Council.
4. **Short Title.** The short title of this Canon shall be "The Bishop's Prerogative Canon of 1900 to 1953".