

## **Special Considerations for a Virtual Synod**

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### **Credentialing and Registration**

- The first and last name of each member must be displayed at all times during the synod.
- The Zoom waiting room will be open as of 8:00am and members of synod are asked to join the videoconference no later than 8:45am.
- A synod support team will assist members to change their name, if necessary.

### **Consent Agenda**

- A consent agenda allows for non-controversial resolutions to be considered collectively, by consent of the members, thus freeing up valuable time for consideration of matters which might require more rigorous discernment by synod.
- The six items listed on the consent agenda will be considered in one resolution.
- Any one member can write to the Secretary of Synod, no later than Friday, November 6 at 5pm, to request the removal of an item listed on the consent agenda. If this happens, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately by members of synod.
- When the resolution to adopt the consent agenda is brought to the floor of synod, any member may speak to it or ask questions for clarification about any of the consent agenda items, through the chair, as is the case for any resolution.
- When the resolution is carried, all consent agenda items are deemed to have been approved.

### **Voting**

- Voting will be primarily be via the polling feature embedded in Zoom.
- To vote in a poll, each member will need to be logged into Zoom on their own device (if devices are shared, only one vote can be cast).
- The chair will call the question on all synod resolutions after which the Secretary of synod will activate a poll for members to vote. After an appropriate amount of time, voting will end, and the results will be shared. The chair will declare whether the resolution has been carried or not.
- For matters requiring a vote by order, for instance canon changes, the chair will indicate which order is voting on the resolution, and then only those members will vote. Results will be shared. Subsequently the members from the other order will vote on the resolution. Results will be shared. Then, based on the results of both houses, the chair will declare whether the resolution has been carried or not.
- That chair may also, at their sole discretion, call for a vote by voice and invite all participants to unmute and indicate their vote when the asked if they are 'in favour' or 'opposed'.

### **Speaking to a Motion**

- Members of synod wishing to speak to a resolution shall indicate their desire to do so using Zoom's chat feature, by typing "I wish to speak to the resolution".
- The bishop will call upon members wishing to speak to matters before synod, after which they will be invited to unmute themselves and if not already doing so, turn their video on, then state their name and parish, before speaking to the resolution.