

GENERAL SYNOD 2026 - HOUSEKEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

- **Attendance** – You may remember that last year, we introduced the use of QR codes to register attendance on a trial basis, with the aim of replacing the old invitation card system. Given the success of this trial, QR codes will be the only method of registering your attendance this year. QR codes will be available to scan both at the Synod reception desk and in the Synod Hall itself. Please ensure you register your attendance each day. Staff will be on hand should you require assistance or if you do not have a device on which to scan the code.
- **Parking** – Parking is available at the Slieve Donard Hotel and there are several public car parks within walking distance.
- **Addressing the House** – Please state clearly your *name* and *diocese* before addressing the House. Members wishing to speak are requested to wait at the reserved seated area at the front until invited to come to the podium. A wireless microphone will be available for anyone who has difficulty in accessing the stage area.
- **Forms for Motions, Amendments, Requests for Information etc.** – These are available on request from the Honorary Secretaries' table.
- **Synod Service** – The service will be held in the Synod Hall at 12pm on Thursday 7th May.
- **Caption Competition** – The General Synod caption competition will return this year with a photo displayed on the first day and a box for suggestions for captions at reception. Results will be announced on the afternoon of the second day. All members are very welcome to take part.
- **Catering Arrangements** – Water, tea, coffee and biscuits will be available, free of charge, for all Synod members during the timetabled breaks. Lunches will be available to buy from the Hotel in the Wolf Bar, the Lighthouse Lounge or in the Percy French Restaurant (located at the entrance to the hotel). Please note that JJ Farrell's restaurant at the hotel does not open to the public until evening time. Should you wish to go off-site for your lunch, there are a range of options available within walking distance.
- **Accessibility** – If you require the Synod documentation in an alternative format, please contact the Synod Office. The Slieve Donard is wheelchair accessible and mobility friendly. You can let the hotel know in advance if you have any specific needs.
- **Quiet Room** – The Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland will be running a quiet room in the hotel for those wishing to take some time away from the hustle and bustle of Synod to think, reflect, and pray.
- **Visitors** – All visitors to the Synod Hall must be signed in by a member at reception and must wear their visitors' badge at all times. Visitors must sit in the Visitors' Gallery at the side of the hall and not in the voting blocks in main body of the hall which is reserved for members only.
- **Voting** – If a vote by show of hands is called for by the President, any members wishing to vote must be seated in a voting block in the main body of the hall. Please do not try and vote from the visitors' gallery or the back of the hall as your vote will not be counted.

- **Disruptions to Synod Proceedings** - In the event of protesters causing a disruption to Synod proceedings, please evacuate the hall immediately without any engagement with those causing the disturbance.
- **Council for Mission Lunch** - After a break of a few years the Council invites everyone at Synod to the Mission Lunch during the lunch break in business of on Friday 8th May in the hotel.
- **Display Stands** – Display stands are divided between two locations as follows:

CHANDELIER ROOM

1	CHURCH OF IRELAND GAZETTE & SEARCH
2	MOTHERS' UNION & GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY
3	ALPHA IRELAND & SPCK PUBLISHING
4	CHURCH OF IRELAND YOUTH DEPT & ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL DUBLIN
5	LITURGICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE & PIONEER MINISTRY
6	AMS
7	CUMANN GAELACH NA hEAGLAISE & CHANGING ATTITUDE IRELAND
8	CHURCH OF IRELAND EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP & FELLOWSHIP OF CONEMPLATIVE PRAYER
9	CITI & THE HUB, BELFAST
10	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY & WATER DROPS

GRAND BALLROOM ANNEX

11	RCB & SAFEGUARDING
12	BOOKSHOP
13	PRIORITIES FUND & BISHOPS' APPEAL
14	FLOURISH & PRIMATE'S ETHNIC DIVERISTY GROUP
15	CHURCH'S MINISTRY OF HEALING & PROTESTANT AID
16	WILSON'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL
17	BOARD OF MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN & FAMILIES
18	ECCLESIASTICAL INSURANCE & BENEFACT TRUST