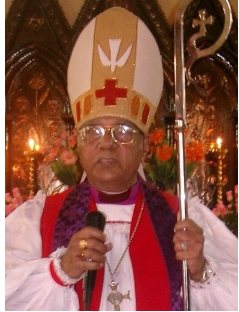




Traditional Anglican Communion

The Most Rev. Samuel Peter Prakash
Acting Primate, T.A.C.
Metropolitan: **Anglican Church of India**



Ad Clerum from Archbishop Samuel Prakash, Acting Primate of the Traditional Anglican Communion to all our clergy and people



I greet you all most warmly in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that the Holy Season of Pentecost and Trinity may fill you and your communities with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.



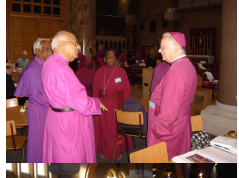
The Holy Scriptures exhort the people of God to live at peace with one another, and although this ad Clerum contains some issues that may appear to be of conflict, in reality, we are fully engaged in the process of restoring the “Peace of God that passes understanding” to the people and parishes of the Traditional Anglican Communion. Already, since the College of Bishops meeting in Johannesburg at the end of February, we have restored order and peace to many areas. Our Heavenly Father will enable us to conquer those who remain determined to sow discord within the Church of Christ Jesus Our Lord. We aim to prayerfully restore the church as a place of spiritual comfort and tranquillity.



As Acting Primate, it is my privilege and pleasure to address you on behalf of the College of Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Communion. Our vision is clear and our sense of purpose strong and The Traditional Anglican Communion is poised for a time of growth and stability. I am confident, both in my fellow Bishops and Vicars General, but most particularly in Our Lord Jesus Christ, whose Death and Resurrection have brought us such a blessed and costly Salvation.



1. The College of Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Communion



At the end of February 2012, Bishops and Vicars General from throughout the Traditional Anglican Communion met in Johannesburg, South Africa to discuss issues that have been long overdue. Members came from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Guatemala, The United States of America, Canada, Southern Africa, Ireland, Australia, Japan and India. Apologies were received from England and Kenya. Nine of our twelve TAC churches were represented. The College of



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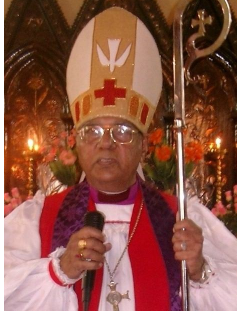
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Bishops had been called and cancelled on a couple of occasions prior to this, and it had become vital for us to meet. The meeting was formally constituted as a full meeting of the College of Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Communion, in accordance with the provisions as set out in the Concordat of the TAC. All active Bishops and Vicars General were invited to this meeting, although a few (most noticeably Archbishop Hepworth, Bishop Entwistle and Bishop Moyer) declined to attend. Bishop Nona, Bishop Garcia and Bishop Kajiwarra were not able to be contacted, although subsequently, Bishop Kajiwarra had been contacted and has given his full support to the College of Bishops meeting and the resolutions emanating there from. Retired Bishops were also invited, in the capacity of observers and advisors. Apologies were received and minuted from Bishop Falk, Bishop Campese and Bishop Stewart. There have been some detractors that have attempted to dismiss this pivotal meeting by referring to it as a meeting of a “few Bishops” of the TAC. It was, in fact, a fully constituted meeting of the College of Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Communion, and was held in a prayerful and deeply spiritual atmosphere, with all present aware of the gravity of their decisions.



The College of Bishops in session, Johannesburg, February 2012

There were three main items for discussion at the meeting of the College of Bishops. Firstly, the matter of the careless lack of leadership from Archbishop Hepworth and his intended decision to resign as announced by the blogs and media; secondly, the issue of Anglicanorum Coetibus (2009) and the impact on our Communion, and lastly the focus of the work and witness of the

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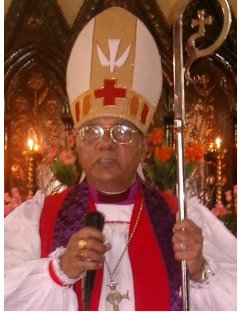
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Traditional Anglican Communion going forward.

a) **Archbishop John Hepworth:** The College of Bishops unanimously accepted the resignation of Archbishop John Hepworth with immediate effect. He is therefore as of 28 February 2012, no longer Primate of the Traditional Anglican Communion, and has no locus standi to act or to speak in any way on behalf of the College of Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Communion. His resignation also affected appointments he had made of Episcopal oversight, and the College of Bishops meeting allocated Bishops to various vacant jurisdictions within the Communion. His resignation, furthermore, nullified any and all ex officio appointments held by him on inter alia the Board of the International Anglican Fellowship and on the Steering Committee of the Anglican Catholic Church of Canada.

The College of Bishops then appointed me as Acting Primate, unanimously and with immediate effect. I am humbled by their confidence in me and will endeavour to serve you all to the best of my ability. I undertake to uphold the integrity of our Anglican heritage. I am pleased to announce that Bishop Michael Gill (Southern Africa) will be the Secretary to the College of Bishops.



Acting Primate Archbishop Samuel Prakash, Metropolitan of the Anglican Church of India

b) **Anglicanorum Coetibus (2009) and the TAC response.**

As you are aware, the Roman Catholic Church made this document public in October of 2009 to enable disaffected Anglicans to enter the Roman Catholic Church. It was not a TAC-specific document. Although we had petitioned for an arrangement of intercommunion in 2007, this answer, although welcomed by some, left others disappointed. It does not recognise existing Anglican Orders or Sacraments. This was not acceptable to many members of the TAC.

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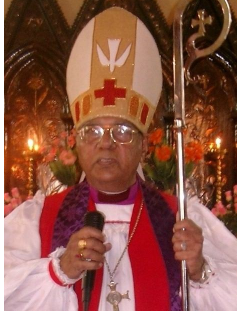
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Some of our members have taken the step to be admitted as members of the Roman Catholic Church as per the terms and conditions outlined in Anglicanorum Coetibus. Bishops Mercer, Reid and Wilkinson have left the TAC for the Roman Catholic Church and we wish them every blessing on their journey.



The meeting of the College of Bishops took the decision that although we are most grateful for the offer made in Anglicanorum Coetibus, we will, for the foreseeable future, continue as Anglican Christians. We remain fully committed to positive dialogue with the Roman Catholic Church into the future, and will make every effort to foster strong relationships with all Christian denominations.



c) **The future of the Traditional Anglican Communion:**

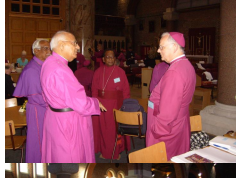
Two full sessions of the meeting of the College of Bishops were devoted to this important topic. Firstly we explored a new and more efficient structure for the TAC to allow for greater regional autonomy and faster communication at local church level. This model was received with enthusiasm by the College of Bishops and will be presented at future Synods. Secondly, the members of the College of Bishops committed themselves and all the member churches to renewed efforts in the areas of Mission and Evangelism. The call of Our Lord to take the message of the Gospel to all people was embraced by all present with great passion and determination.



As the College of Bishops meeting drew to a close, there was a wonderful sense of brotherhood, of optimism and of unity of purpose in our calling as Christians.



Our thanks go to the people of the TAC in South Africa for hosting such a good and successful meeting of the College of Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Communion.



2. **The current situation within The Anglican Catholic Church in Australia.**



a) **Bishop John Hepworth:** following lengthy communication with Bishop Hepworth, I have taken the very serious decision of suspending Bishop Hepworth as Ordinary to the ACCA. He is no longer in control of the ACCA, and may take no decisions concerning its management and may make no appointments of any sort whatsoever. It is with deep regret that I have to



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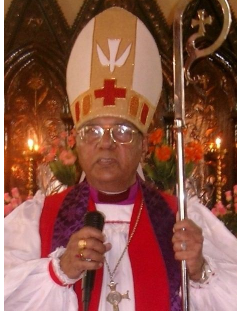
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inform you that further steps against Bishop Hepworth are being considered in the light of a document sent out by Bishop Hepworth openly advocating schism within the TAC. These steps are deemed necessary in the best interests of the church in Australia and indeed the whole of the TAC.



b) Vicar General Owen Buckton: is appointed as Administrator of the ACCA with the full confidence of the College of Bishops of the TAC and is mandated to take control of all matters material to the management of the church in Australia as of 18 May 2012. All clergy and laity in the ACCA are urged to give Fr. Buckton their full and prayerful support. This is mentioned as a result of a message to me with the copy of an ad Clerum from Bishop Hepworth, sent out after his suspension, and in defiance of the respectful instruction that he steps aside as Bishop Ordinary of the ACCA. Fr Kinmont is NOT the recognised Vicar General of the ACCA.



c) Bishop David Roberts: An attempt was made by Bishop Hepworth to have Bishop Roberts suspended in Australia for daring to seek clarification on serious matters pertaining to the management of finances in the ACCA. No due process for the removal of a Bishop, as set out in the TAC Concordat was followed, and at the College of Bishops meeting in February 2012, it was confirmed that Bishop David Roberts is and will remain a full and active member of the College of Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Communion. He continues to minister with our full support and blessing.



It is our understanding that an Ordinariate will be set up in Australia on 15 June 2012 in Australia, and that Bishop Harry Entwistle will be departing the ranks of the TAC on that date. Matters in Australia will proceed under Fr Buckton, and he is mandated to do all that would be required to address areas of grave concern within the ACCA.



3. General:

- Ordinariates have now been erected by the Roman Catholic Church in North America, England and Australia. Some of our people have joined an Ordinariate, but by far the majority have declared their intention to continue their journey of Faith as Anglican Christians. The Traditional Anglican Communion will continue to exercise Anglican faith and praxis, and will remain committed to dialogue with all Christian people. We envisage a strong period of growth for the TAC into the future.



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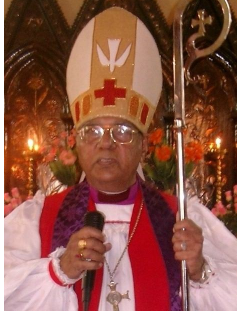
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- A new Traditional Anglican Church website has been setup. The address is - <http://traditionalanglicancommunion.org/>
- The International Anglican Fellowship has a new Board of Directors. They will function together with Mr. Peter Thomas, the Executive Director of the IAF. We urge you and your parishes to support the work of the IAF in enabling Mission and Evangelism worldwide. We have included people from throughout the TAC on the Board, including businessmen from Africa and the USA.



In closing, I remind you of the words of St Paul, writing to the Church in Ephesus. He says:

“I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge -- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:16-19 (NIV)

May God in His Mercy bless and keep you all in His care. May He have His hand upon you and your families. Please pray for me and for all the Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Communion as we seek to do God's work.

Your servant in Christ Our Lord



Archbishop Samuel Prakash
Acting Primate - The Traditional Anglican Communion

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