



## Guidelines for the ordering of ExploreChrist.org

Approved by: Diocesan Council

9 June 2011

Amendments:

Revised 8 August 2013

10 July 2014

File #423(a)

### INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to section 14 of the Ordering of Worshipping Communities Statute 2007 (the Statute) Diocesan Council with the assent of the Archbishop may authorise experimental and emerging expressions of Church life that do not meet the full requirements of the Statute for authorisation as Worshipping Communities.

By Resolution made 9 June 2011, Diocesan Council authorised **ExploreChrist.org** pursuant to section 14 of the Statute on the terms and conditions of these Guidelines.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AUTHORISATION

#### 1 Designation

The designation of the authorised expression of Church life is: **ExploreChrist.org**

#### 2 Purpose

ExploreChrist.org is an online community where members meet via the internet and, from time to time, face to face. It seeks to provide a place of belonging for people who are unable or unwilling to meet face to face in a traditional church setting or building.

The stated purpose is: “A space to explore and celebrate Jesus in everyday life”.

#### 3 Membership

Membership of ExploreChrist.org is in 3 categories:

- a) Visitors people who may browse ExploreChrist.org.
- b) Members people who apply to participate in the life of ExploreChrist.org, agree to the Guidelines for Members in the form set out in the Schedule to these Guidelines, and are encouraged to join Life Groups (interest-based small groups that meet online and/or face to face for worship, fellowship and outreach).
- c) Enrolled Members people who apply to participate in the life of ExploreChrist.org, sign a Declaration for Enrolled Members in the form set out in the Schedule to these Guidelines and may be appointed to leadership roles in ExploreChrist.org as set out in these Guidelines.

#### 4 Governance and Management

- a) The Archbishop will appoint and license a priest as **Priest-in-Charge** of ExploreChrist.org to exercise the powers and perform the responsibilities of a Rector of a Worshipping Community under the Statute *mutatis mutandis*. Such priest may be Rector of a Worshipping Community authorised under the Statute.
- b) The Archbishop on the nomination of the Priest-in-Charge will appoint Enrolled Members to a **Core Team** to exercise the powers and perform the responsibilities of a Council of a Worshipping Community under the Statute *mutatis mutandis*.



- c) From among its own number the Core Team will appoint a **Secretary** responsible to record minutes of Core Team meetings and to manage correspondence as required by the Core Team.
- d) From among its own number the Core Team will appoint a **Treasurer** responsible to keep such accounts, maintain a satisfactory system of control, and provide financial statements as required by the Core Team.
- e) The Core Team may appoint a **Project Team** responsible to provide technical and administrative support under the Core Team's control and direction. Project Team members must be Members as defined in 3 above.
- f) With the assent of the Core Team, the Priest-in-Charge may appoint **salaried officers** of ExploreChrist.org who must:
  - be engaged as Diocesan employees and remunerated through the Diocesan payroll
  - be employed in accordance with policies and procedures of the Diocese
  - remain subject to the Priest-in-Charge's control and direction
  - be dismissed in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Diocese.
- g) The Priest-in-Charge may appoint and dismiss **Enrolled Members** to authorised lay ministries subject to his or her control and direction and only in accordance with policies and procedures of the Diocese in relation to screening and licensing by the Archbishop.

### 5 Duration of authorisation and review

- a) Subject to section 14.4 of the Statute, this authorisation is valid until 30 April 2016.
- b) The Archbishop shall review the operation of ExploreChrist.org and report thereon to Diocesan Council before 30 April 2016 with recommendations as to the duration of authorisation and any necessary changes to the terms and conditions of authorisation.

### 6 General provisions

The provisions of the Statute apply *mutatis mutandis* to ExploreChrist.org.



**THE SCHEDULE**

**Guidelines for Members**

As an online spiritual community these Guidelines are provided to ensure your safety and privacy. By signing up to become a Member, you are agreeing to follow these Guidelines. If you violate the Guidelines, moderators may delete the offending material and disable your registration.

- 1 No Abuse** Never post threats, or explicit, offensive, or discriminatory remarks or images. We do not tolerate racism, homophobia, or discrimination on the basis of disability, gender, ethnicity or religious viewpoint.
- 2 Copyright** Do not upload images or texts if you do not own the copyright or do not have the originator’s permission.
- 3 No Spam** Spam and unsolicited marketing posts are forbidden. Do not pass on Virus warnings.
- 4 Privacy** Respect other users in our online public and private spaces. Never disclose personal information about another individual without their consent.
- 5 Public comments** Be aware that *ExploreChrist.org* is a public online space - avoid making comments that you would not want made public (in a newspaper, for example).
- 6 Report infringements** *ExploreChrist.org* is a moderated space. If you see any infringement of these Guidelines, report it using the ‘Report an Item’ button.

**DECLARATION FOR ENROLLED MEMBERS**

*ExploreChrist.org* is an authorised expression of the Anglican Church of Australia, Diocese of Perth. Formal membership of *ExploreChrist.org* allows Enrolled Members to be involved in all aspects of the community. To sign up as an Enrolled Member, sign the following Declaration:

**Enrolled Member of *ExploreChrist.org***

Name: .....

Address: .....

..... Post Code .....

Email:..... Phone:..... Mobile: .....

**I DECLARE THAT:**

- (a) I have attained the age of **sixteen years**
- (b) I have been **baptised**
- (c) I am a communicant member of the Anglican Church of Australia, namely,
  - (i) I have been **confirmed** in the Anglican Church of Australia or am ready and desirous of being so confirmed; or
  - (ii) I have been **received** into communicant membership of the Anglican Church of Australia or am ready and desirous of being so received; or
  - (iii) I am a **communicant member** of a Church that is in full communion with the Anglican Church of Australia
- (d) I am not a member of any church that is not in communion with the Anglican Church of Australia
- (e) I receive communion regularly including normally at Christmas and Easter
- (f) I regularly take part in the public worship of the Anglican Church of Australia
- (g) I understand that in order to be appointed to certain leadership positions I may need to provide a current Police Clearance or Working With Children card.
- (h) I will faithfully perform all the duties of any office to which I am appointed and I accept and will obey the Constitution and Statutes of the Synod of the Diocese of Perth.

Signed by the abovenamed Enrolled Member: .....

in the presence of: .....

Date: .....