

Salta, 21 de abril 2022

To whom it may concern.

The primate and house of bishops of the province of South America are aware of the division within the diocese of Peru, and wish to address it in the following terms:

We understand that some members of the English-speaking church of the Good Shepherd in Lima are in disagreement with the decision of the diocesan bishop of Peru to revoke the license of Rector, Rev'd Mark Ewbank.

In addition to questioning the decision on its own terms, they have chosen to question the validity of the bishop's authority on the basis of allegations about the circumstances surrounding his marriage and a previous relationship.

Having received letters from members of the congregation, studied the testimonies, and also entrusted further dealings with the congregation to Archbishop emeritus Greg Venables, we can affirm that-

- There is nothing new in the accusations which has not already been studied by the relevant authorities, both civic and ecclesiastical, which might lead to undermining or reconsidering the valid election and consecration of Jorge Luis Aguilar as diocesan bishop.
- In common with all Christians, including leaders, the bishop is a sinner, redeemed and forgiven by God in Jesus Christ. His repentance and recognition of this, his years of family life, and his legal standing, have all been accepted and validated by the episcopal and synodal leadership of both diocese and province.
- The accusation of senior leaders is a serious matter (1 Tim 5.19), and is taken seriously, as are the concerns of the congregation. We support the prerogative of the bishop to revoke licenses of clergy at his discretion, and nothing in the above accusations invalidates this. As pointed out by previous rectors of the parish, this is not conditional on the good standing or not of the bishop.
- The question of whether the dismissal is unfair is a matter for the diocese of Peru. The subsequent actions of the rector and his supporting group have not worked in favour of their case.
- The Anglican church of Peru is responsible to the Province of South America. The attempted defamation of the bishop, including racial slurs against the Peruvian church, is reprehensible, and we urge the members of the English congregation who have been involved in these activities to desist from any further action of this sort, and for Rev'd Ewbank to accept the diocese's offer of passage to UK in accordance with the Transition Agreement presented to him by the church council.

Rt Rev'd Nick Drayson, Primate



**IGLESIA ANGLICANA  
DE SUDAMÉRICA**  
CON ALEGRÍA Y SENCILLEZ DE CORAZÓN

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Nick Drayson', is written over a light blue circular stamp.