



Office for Worship

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Diocesan Liturgical Commission

The new appointed Diocesan Liturgical Commission met for the first time on Wednesday 6 April, 2011. The Chairman of the DLC is Fr Walter Fogarty, Parish Priest of Richmond. Other members of the Commission are Fr Peter Connolly, Parish Priest of Springwood, Deacon James Phelan, Chaplain to Auburn and Mt Druitt Hospitals and Deacon at St Oliver Plunkett at Harris Park, Mrs Louise Debeck of the Parish of Glenbrook, Ms Judy Kendall of the Parish of Wentworthville, Mr Robert Bardin, REC at St Anthony's

Toongabbie, Mr Bernard Kirkpatrick, Director of Music at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. The staff of the Office for Worship attend the meetings in an 'ex officio' capacity. The meeting focused on the forthcoming implementation of the new translation of the Roman Missal, and considered various strategies to assist Parishes in this process. Already three music workshops have been held around the Diocese to explore the new Mass settings. Over 150 musicians and singers attended these

sessions that were facilitated by Bernard Kirkpatrick. The Office has now received the laminated Mass cards and the Presider's book. Some of the cards have already been distributed to Parishes and the Presider's book will be distributed at the clergy gathering before the Chrism Mass. The Commission also reviewed preliminary plans for the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Diocese which will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral on Thursday 19th May commencing at 7.00 p.m.

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Gathering of Funeral Directors

Over seventy funeral directors representing a number of different firms attended afternoon tea in the Cathedral Hall on Wednesday 30 March, 2011. Presentations were made by Bishop Anthony, Fr Peter Williams and Fr John Boyle. It was a very useful exercise and a number of funeral directors raised questions about Catholic practices associated with the Order for Christian Funerals. Fr John Boyle outlined the importance of communication and establishing a good working relationship with the parish and in particular the Parish Priest. The funeral directors did identify that trying to contact local priests can at times be difficult and when they are trying to arrange funerals and fit in with schedules at the cemetery and the crematoria. Parish clergy are requested to provide a ready contact number to the local funeral director to help expedite the process of planning funerals.

From the Director:

Given that the date for the commencement of the new translation of the Order of Mass is only several weeks away, parishes are encouraged to choose one or two of the new Mass settings (if they have not already done so) and introduce them during Easter time. Some parishes have already begun this part of the implementation as provided for by the Bishops Commission for Liturgy from 1 January, 2011.

In order to assist with a smooth transition parish clergy are asked to “retire” the current settings and collaborate with their parish musicians as to how the new setting(s) might best be introduced to the assembly. (It might be convenient to retire the current settings at the end of Lent and embrace the new settings as part of Easter renewal).

The National Liturgical Council website has many resources in it which can be downloaded and used in the lead up to the implementation on Sunday 12 June, 2011.

There is a PowerPoint of the people’s parts of the Order of Mass if you use electronic data projection in your church

to display hymn/song texts etc. In projecting texts it is advised that you only put those texts up that the people either respond to, or recite, otherwise they will be distracted during the celebration by focusing continually on the screens).

At the clergy gathering before the Chrism Mass advice for the proposed method of implementation will be presented to the clergy as well as an analysis of the collects and how they might best be proclaimed.

Publication of the Missal

The Catholic Truth Society in London has the contract to publish the Missal on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. The proofs of the entire Missal are now in the hands of the printers and it is expected that they will be available either late October or early November this year.

The ACBC is yet to determine the date of full implementation (ie: to use the new Propers and other elements of the Missal) but a commencement date of the 1st Sunday of Advent is not unrealistic. It is projected that the cost of the altar size of the Missal will be somewhere around \$375 and the smaller edition about \$165. When the prices are confirmed they will be published in the bulletin. The distributor of the Missal in Australia is St Paul’s Publications. Both St Paul’s and Brisbane Liturgical Commission will publish their Sunday and Daily Missals and several other publishers have indicated an interest in publishing people’s Missals. It is not anticipated that a people’s Missal will be published containing the Sunday readings as the process leading to a new version of the Lectionary based on the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible is ongoing.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Rite of Election and the Penitential Service for catechumens and candidates have been celebrated in St Patrick’s Cathedral on the 1st Sunday of Lent and on Friday 1 April, 2011. Once again many parishes were represented at both celebrations with seventy four catechumens at the Rite of Election and forty eight candidates at the Penitential Service. RCIA coordinators are reminded that the Neophytes Mass for those receiving the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil and those being received into the Church will be held in St Patrick’s Cathedral on Friday 10 June, 2011 at 7.30 p.m.