



The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, the first document produced by the Second Vatican Council in 1963 directed that each diocese is to have a Liturgical Commission. “By way of advancing the liturgical apostolate, every diocese is to have a commission on the sacred liturgy under the direction of the bishop.” (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, par 45).

BALLARAT DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION

This Commission is an active group in the diocese and undertakes the following tasks:

- Advises the Bishop on liturgical matters.
- Keeps abreast of the liturgical situation in the diocese.
- Promotes liturgical development in the diocese.
- Liaises with Parish Liturgy Groups throughout the diocese.
- Provides diocesan and regional seminars and workshops in liturgical issues and practice.
- Liaises with other Diocesan Liturgical Commissions and the National Liturgical Council.

MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS

Membership of the Commission includes the Bishop and representation from priests, religious and laity from throughout the diocese. Membership is for an initial term of three (3) years. The Commission meets at least five times per year.

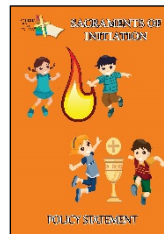
ACTIVITY OF THE COMMISSION

- Assumes responsibility for Diocesan Liturgical Celebrations – The Rite of Election as part of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children, the Chrism Mass (Mass of the Oils), Episcopal Ordinations, Ordinations to the Priesthood and Ordinations to the Diaconate.
- Provides support for other Diocesan celebrations, including funerals for Diocesan Clergy.
- All works of the Commission are undertaken at the direction of the Bishop of the Diocese.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

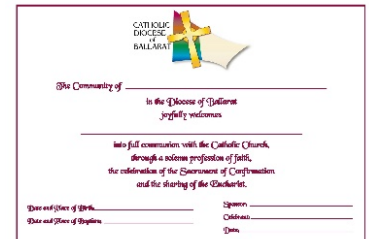
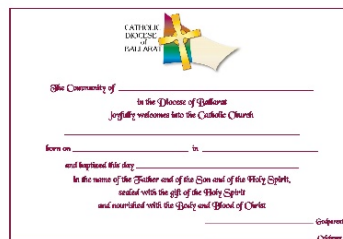
The Commission provides the following resources to assist parishes in their liturgical life:

- ❖ Sacraments of Initiation for Children Policy Statement
- ❖ Catechetical Resources for preparing children for Sacraments
 - Reconciliation:*
 - Forgiveness Is (Junior)
 - Turn Around (Senior)
 - Let the Children Come Series*
 - Confirmation
 - Eucharist
 - Combined Confirmation & Eucharist
 - Parent Handbook
 - Catechist Handbook



Diocesan Sacramental Certificates for:

- ❖ Sacraments of Initiation for Children (tri-fold certificate)
- ❖ Initiation of Adults
- ❖ Reception into the Church



Sacramental stoles and accompanying symbols for the Sacraments of Initiation



The above resources are provided for Ballarat Diocesan parishes only. Catechetical resources are available to purchase through the Pastoral Ministry Office (orders to be collected from the office). Sacramental certificates, stoles and symbols are available to purchase through the Catholic Development Fund.

POLICIES & GUIDELINES:

- ❖ Altar Servers
- ❖ RCIA in parishes
- ❖ Diocesan, Cathedral and Episcopal Liturgies
- ❖ The Use of Visual Display Systems in Liturgical Celebrations
- ❖ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- ❖ Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest
- ❖ Manual for Lay Leaders of Sunday Assemblies of Word and Communion
 - Provision of resource material for Sunday Assemblies of Word and Communion (available from the diocesan website)
- ❖ Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament
- ❖ Pastoral Care & Funeral Ministry
 - Funeral Ministry resources (available from the diocesan website)
- ❖ Proper Care and Use of Holy Oils

- ❖ Ritual for Closure of a Church (available from the diocesan website)
- ❖ Proclaiming the Liturgy of the Word (available from the diocesan website)
- ❖ The Sacrament of Penance for Children (currently under review)



Copies of diocesan policies and guidelines have been distributed to all parishes (in folder pictured). Additional copies are available from the Pastoral Ministry Office.

All policies, guidelines and other resources are available from the members' area of the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au. Registration is required to access the members' area and is available to those in the Ballarat Diocese via the website.



LITURGICAL FORMATION

The Liturgical Commission has undertaken a continual program of liturgical formation, offering workshops for ongoing education in various centres throughout the diocese. The Commission has offered formation for:

- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- The Order of Christian Funerals
- The Ministry of Lector
- Liturgical Music
- Sunday Assemblies of the Word with Holy Communion
- Scripture and Liturgy
- Music in the Liturgy
- The Use of Visual Display Systems in the Liturgy
- Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

CONTACT INFORMATION

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