



Report from the Diocesan Liturgical Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Members in attendance were Fr Gary Jones (Chair), Bishop Paul Bird CSSR, Dr Susan Crowe, Mrs Cathy Prunty and Dr Chris Hadwen. Apologies were received from Mr Geoff Martin, Mrs Gabrielle Ewing and Mrs Julie Boyd (Administration Officer).

Correspondence:

- National Centre for Evangelisation booklets: ‘Discovering God’ and ‘Discovering Prayer’: Commission members have taken these booklets to review.
- A Foundation Grant has been submitted to replace missing clergy vestments.

Reports:

- **ACU Centre for Liturgy Podcasts:** Bishop Paul advised of the availability of podcasts ‘The Art of Liturgy’ and ‘Ministry of Healing’ from the ACU Centre for Liturgy website <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/the-liturgy-channel>.
- **Mass of the Oils:** A lovely celebration to begin Holy Week and to pray for and acknowledge all members of the diocese – clergy, religious and lay people. The choir led the Mass beautifully and encouraged participation from the congregation. Many lay representatives from parishes collected the Oils from Bishop Paul at the end of Mass. Thank you to all those who attended and especially those who travelled from various parts of the diocese.
- **Preparing and celebrating the sacraments of healing:** The ACU Centre for Liturgy hosted this Pastoral Formation Day on Saturday, April 29 at St Patrick’s Cathedral Hall and the presenters were Dr Clare Johnson and Paul Taylor. Approximately 30 people attended this positive day, with those in attendance being very engaged in the program. During an interview with Bishop Paul, he spoke of his personal experience of ministering to the sick and this was as an excellent part of the program. Thank you to the presenters and all who attended.

- **Clergy Jubilarians Mass:** Mass to celebrate the Clergy Jubilarians for 2023 will be held on Tuesday, June 27 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 5.00pm. All welcome to attend.

Jubilarians for 2023 are:

- Fr Lawrie O'Toole - 50 years
- Fr Bill Van de Camp - 50 years
- Monsignor Glynn Murphy - 40 years
- Fr Jorge de Chavez - 25 years
- Fr Andrew Hayes - 25 years
- Fr James Kerr - 10 years

Documents for review: Discussion continued regarding the consistency of language in the documents, "Sacrament of Reconciliation for Children" and the "Sacraments of Initiation for Children Policy Statement."

Policies/guidelines for review in 2023:

- Policy for Altar Servers.
- Guidelines for the use of Visual Display Systems in the Liturgy.
- Ritual for the closure of a Church: A national document is being prepared for this ritual. The document will contain options for rituals used when closing churches.

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will meet again in August 2023.