



## Report from the Diocesan Liturgical Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023

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

### **Correspondence:**

- The “Guidelines for the Sacrament of Reconciliation for Children” and “Sacraments of Initiation Policy Statement” have been distributed to parishes and schools.
- Parishes have been provided with new folders for the Diocesan Liturgical Commission guidelines and policies.

### **Reports:**

#### **Combined APMN & NLC Conference:**

- Bishop Paul reported that the combined Australian Pastoral Musicians Network and National Liturgical Council conference, “Mystery and Mission: The Art of Liturgical Celebration” that was held in Brisbane from September 28-30, 2023, was a very successful event.
- Bishop Paul led a presentation at this conference and received positive feedback.
- Dr Susan Crowe is a member of the APMN Conference organising group.
- Timothy O’Farrell was the keynote speaker and his presentation was virtual as he was unable to attend in person.
- The liturgies were well prepared and the indigenous input was moving.
- Planning has commenced for the next combined conference in 2025.

**Lectionary update:** A new publisher has been sourced. The delay on the publication of the new Lectionary continues.

**Liturgy Formation at Ballan:**

- This day was well attended with representatives from the parishes of Bungaree, Creswick, Daylesford, Gordon and Wendouree.
- Bishop Paul introduced the day and led the session on the liturgical formation of the People of God. Dr Susan Crowe led the session on Sunday Assembly of Word and Communion and Fr Justin Driscoll led the session on Scripture Reflection. Susan and Fr Justin's sessions were offered twice so people had the opportunity to attend both.
- The day provided good information for people to develop confidence in leading Sunday Assemblies of Word and Communion.

***General Business:***

**Ordination to the Diaconate Mass for Cay Trinh: December 16, 2023:** Planning has commenced for this Mass

**Mass of the Oils – March 25, 2024 & 150 Years of the Diocese 2024:** At the Mass of the Oils next year, parishes have been invited to bring forward a symbol or a photo that best represents their parish to acknowledge the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the diocese.

**Liturgical Dance:** There was discussion regarding the place of liturgical dance in the liturgy.

**Liturgy Formation 2024:** Parishes will be invited to host Liturgy Formation next year, with a focus on Funeral Ministry.

***Documents for review:***

**Guidelines for the use of Visual Display Systems in the Liturgy and the Policy for Altar Servers:** Updates to these policies were discussed and will be tabled at the next meeting.

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will meet again in January 2024.