



Report from the Diocesan Liturgical Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024

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

Reports

Mass of the Land of the Holy Spirit

- Bishop Paul reported that the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have approved a liturgy which incorporates elements of Aboriginal language and culture.
- The Mass is permitted for use in the Diocese of Broome and some areas of the Northern Territory only.
- The Mass is awaiting approval from Rome.

Mass of the Oils – Monday, March 25, 2024

- The Mass of the Oils this year incorporated acknowledgement of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat.
- The procession of symbols from parishes at the beginning of the Mass worked very well.
- The participation of diocesan secondary school students in the ministries of the Mass and the combined schools choir contributed to a wonderful celebration.
- A report from the Mass of the Oils is available from the diocesan [website](#).

Fr Tom Brophy's Funeral Mass – Monday, May 6, 2024: Fr Ed Moloney was the Main Celebrant for Fr Tom's Funeral Mass, which was a lovely celebration of Fr Tom's life. A report from the Mass is available from the diocesan [website](#).

General Business

Liturgy Formation

- Sunday, June 16 at Hamilton. Workshops – Sunday Assembly of Word & Communion and Formation for Lectors.
- Sunday, August 18 at Donald. Workshops – Scripture Reflection and Formation for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Draft Norms regarding Lector and Acolyte: Installation of people into the ministries of Lector and Acolyte formalises practices that are currently in place informally in parishes. These norms are still awaiting approval from Rome.

Diocesan Sacraments of Initiation: The Diocese of Ballarat Sacraments of Initiation for Children Policy states that the order of Sacraments is Confirmation and then First Holy Communion. This ensures consistency in the celebration of the sacraments in all parishes across the diocese.

Clergy Jubilarians Mass: Mass to celebrate the 2024 clergy jubilarians will be held on Thursday, November 14 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat, 5.00pm.

Diocesan Assembly: The Assembly will be held on Friday, November 16 & Saturday, November 17, 2024 at Federation University, Mt Helen.

Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood for Cay Xuan Trinh: Mass to celebrate Cay's Ordination to the Priesthood will be held on Saturday, November 23, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat, 10.30am.

Year of Prayer for 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope: December 24, 2024 – January 6, 2026: Pope Francis will open the Jubilee Year of Hope on December 24 in Rome and on the first Sunday following Christmas, each diocese will mark the year.

Documents for review

Changes were discussed and wording finalised for the Guidelines for the Use of Visual Display Systems in the Liturgy and the Policy for Altar Servers. Both documents are to be presented to Bishop Paul for approval.

The next documents for review are the Guidelines for Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest and the Manual for Lay Leaders of Sunday Assemblies of Word & Communion

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will meet again in July 2024