



Report from the Diocesan Liturgical Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, July 22, 2025

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

Reports

Bishop's Report:

Mass for the Care of Creation:

- The Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments has added a Mass formulary, "Care of Creation" to the Roman Missal. This addition to the Missal has been prompted by the acknowledgement of the Season of Creation during September. This new Mass formulary will be included as part of the Masses for Various Occasions in the Missal. Recommendations for readings and psalms have also been included.
- The text is currently in Latin only. The English translation of this Mass Formulary will be forwarded to clergy and parishes when it is available.

General Business

Diocesan Prayer: Bishop Paul has adapted the prayer written for the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese for use as the diocesan prayer. Prayer cards will be distributed to diocesan parishes, schools and agencies.

Mass of the Oils Start Time: The Liturgical Commission is seeking feedback on the starting time for the annual Mass of the Oils, which is held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. A preference form is available to complete on the [diocesan website](#).

Tony Alonso Liturgical Music Symposium:

- The Diocesan Liturgical Commission hosted a day on liturgical music, presented by international composer, Tony Alonso on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Ballarat.
- A report of day was published on the [diocesan website](#) and in "[Our Diocesan Community](#)".
- Thanks to the [Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation](#) for sponsoring this event.

Liturgy Formation at Buninyong on Sunday, June 1, 2025 and Warrnambool on Sunday, June 15, 2025:

- The Liturgy Formation session at Buninyong was held at Ss Peter & Paul's Church on Funeral Ministry. The sessions at St Joseph's Church Warrnambool were RCIA and Sunday Assembly of Word and Communion.
- Both events were very valuable sessions. Participants reported the sessions as engaging and positive.
- A further Liturgy Formation day will be held in the Hampden Parish on Sunday August 17, 2025 at St Thomas' Church, Terang. The session will be formation for Sunday Assembly of Word and Communion. Further information and registration details are available from the diocesan [website](#).

Pilgrimage of the Migrant Jubilee Cross 2025:

- The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office (ACMRO) are organising a Pilgrimage of the Migrant Jubilee Cross, which will run from October 2025 – October 2026. The Jubilee Cross will journey across Catholic parishes and school communities nationwide, fostering deep spiritual and communal expressions of the Jubilee Year of Hope.
- Dates for the Diocese of Ballarat are to be advised.
- Liturgical resources will be made available on the ACMRO website to assist parishes and schools in celebrating the visit of the Jubilee Cross.

Copyright:

- OneLicense has introduced a new Recorded Audio licence option. This license allows churches and other religious organisations to use pre-recorded music (master recordings and self-produced recordings) in worship services, including embedding them into slides and livestreams, and also includes practice-track permissions. This license can be bundled with a Podcast/Streaming License to cover both recorded audio and online streaming.
- The Liturgical Commission will provide an update to parishes regarding copyright requirements.

Review of the Diocesan Sacramental Program: A working party is being established to review the current diocesan sacramental program.

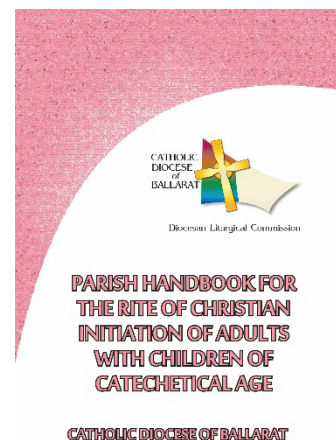
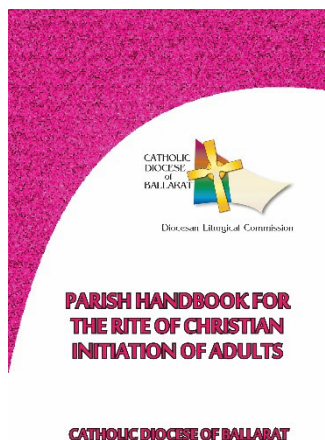
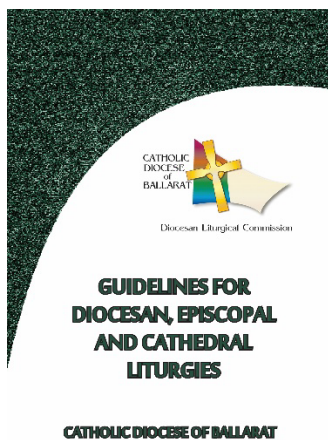
2025 Clergy Jubilarians Mass: Mass to celebrate the 2025 Clergy Jubilarians will be held on Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at St Patrick's Cathedral at 5.00pm. Jubilarians this year are: 65 years - Fr Pat Flangan; 50 years - Bishop Paul, Fr Wally Tudor & Fr Eugene McKinnon.

New Diocesan Website: The new [website](#) for the diocese has been launched. Access to resources from the members area of the website remains the same.

Documentation for Review

The following documents have been reviewed and ratified for use by Bishop Paul:

- Guidelines for Diocesan, Episcopal and Cathedral Liturgies;
- Parish Handbook for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults;
- The Parish Handbook for the Rite of Christian Initiations of Adults with Children of Catechetical Age.



Copies of these documents are available to download from the [diocesan website](#) or printed copies are available from the Pastoral Ministry Office, email liturgy@ballarat.catholic.org.au

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will meet again in September 2025.