

CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of
BALLARAT



DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION

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Report from the Diocesan Liturgical Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, September 10, 2024

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

Correspondence

Guidelines for Closing Churches: The National Office for Liturgy of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have provided this document to assist parishes coming to the decision of closing a church building. Ritual options for the actual closing of buildings is also included in this document. Before any final decisions are made to close a church building, approval must be given from the local Bishop.

Distribution of ACBC approved list of scripture translations: This document has been forwarded to clergy, parishes and DOBCEL primary and secondary school REL contacts.

Reports

Liturgy Formation - Sunday, August 18 at Donald: The Liturgy Formation session at Donald went very well with approximately 35 people in attendance. The venue was St Mary's Primary School, Donald. Bishop Paul presented the workshop on Formation for Lectors and Susan Crowe presented the workshop on Formation for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Catholic Worship Book II: At the next meeting of the National Liturgical Music Council, the focus will be Catholic Worship Book II. There have been many delays in the publication of both print and digital editions and the new versions will still be some time away.

General Business

Reintroduction of Communion from the Chalice: Further discussion took place regarding the timeline and restrictions for the reintroduction of the communion from the chalice.

Tony Alonso Tour – May 2025: Tony Alonso is available for a workshop in Ballarat on May 27, 2025. A proposed timetable for the day was tabled. This day will go ahead if there is adequate interest in people attending.

Clergy Jubilarians Mass: Mass to celebrate the 2024 clergy jubilarians will be held on Thursday, November 14 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 5.00pm. Clergy Jubilarians 2024 are: 50 years - Frs Eric Bryant, Michael O'Toole, Paddy Mugavin; 25 years - Fr Ed Moloney. All welcome to attend. Members of the parishes of the Diocese of Ballarat are invited to form the choir for this Mass.

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 at 10.30am. All welcome to attend. Members of the parishes of the Diocese of Ballarat are invited to form the choir for this Mass.
- Cay will celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 24 at 5.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. All welcome to attend.

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. Bishop Paul will celebrate Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat on Sunday, December 29, 2024 to mark the opening of the Jubilee Year.

Documents for review

- The Guidelines for Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest & Manual for Lay Leaders of Sunday Assemblies of Word & Communion have been ratified. Copies of these documents are available from the diocesan [website](#) or the Pastoral Ministry Office.
- Guidelines for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion & Guidelines for the Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament were tabled for discussion and changes recommended. These documents will be tabled at the next meeting for ratification.
- The next documents for review are the Guidelines for Diocesan, Episcopal and Cathedral Liturgies & the Parish Handbook for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will meet again in November 2024.