

CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of
BALLARAT



DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION

PO Box 576

Ballarat VIC 3353

Ph: (03) 5337 7159

Email: liturgy@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Report from the Diocesan Liturgical Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Members in attendance were Fr Gary Jones (Chair), Bishop Paul Bird CSsR, Dr Susan Crowe, Mr Geoff Martin, Mrs Cathy Prunty, Dr Chris Hadwen and Mr Michael Flagg, who was welcomed to his first meeting of the Commission. An apology was received from Mrs Gabrielle Ewing.

Correspondence

Guidelines for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: These guidelines have been printed and distributed to parishes and schools and are available from the diocesan [website](#). Members of the Liturgical Commission are available to assist schools and parishes with formation for this ministry.

Guidelines for the Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament: These guidelines have been printed and distributed to parishes and are available from the diocesan [website](#).

Additional copies of these documents are available from the Pastoral Ministry Office.

Reports

Reintroduction of communion from the chalice: Last year Bishop Paul distributed some reflections on communion from the chalice. The suggestions for the reintroduction of the chalice at communion included in these reflections was intended for our diocese, but the article has been shared outside the diocese and has been well received.

Update on the new Lectionary: Mr Martin Foster, an experienced editor who previously oversaw the preparation of the Lectionary for England and Wales, will lead this project and work with experts from the Irish, Australian and New Zealand Bishop's Conferences.

General Business

Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope:

- Pope Francis opened The Holy Door of the Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican on December 24, 2024. Bishop Paul celebrated Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat on Sunday, December 29, 2024 to open the Jubilee Year in the diocese. The year has a focus on pilgrimages. St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat has been nominated as a place of pilgrimage in this diocese.
- During this year there are 36 Jubilees being acknowledged. The National Centre for Evangelisation has provided resources for each of these Jubilees. These resources are available for use nationally and can be downloaded from the NCE [website](#).
- The official hymn for the Jubilee Year is "Pilgrims of Hope". The hymn and music can be downloaded from the Jubilee Year [website](#).
- The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network are inviting people to join with and pray for Pope Francis throughout the Jubilee Year via the Vatican's official prayer app, "[Click to pray](#)" to receive a Plenary Indulgence.
- A booklet on the history of the stained glass windows in St Patrick's Cathedral is being reproduced. The booklet will be printed and available for pilgrims visiting the Cathedral in this Jubilee Year.

Rite of Election: Will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 12.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat.

Mass of the Oils: Will be held on Monday, April 14, 2025 at 1.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Afternoon tea will follow in the Hall.

Tony Alonso Tour 2025: Tony will be presenting on May 27, 2025 at the Damascus College Mt Clear Events Centre. More information to follow.

Liturgy Formation / Bishop's Visitation Schedule: Following on from the Diocesan Assembly held last year, feedback indicated that people of the diocese are interested in more adult formation / education, more communication between the diocese and parishes and further visits to parishes by Bishop Paul, similar to his visits to parishes during the 150th anniversary year, that is not in an official visitation capacity. Formation requests from parishes may also be topics other than those offered by the Liturgical Commission. Planning of formation sessions will be coordinated through the Pastoral Planning Panel and the Pastoral Ministry Office, in consultation with the Diocesan Liturgical Commission.

Review of the operation of the Diocesan Sacramental Program: A Working Party will be established to review the operation of the Diocesan Sacramental Program. Members of the Liturgical Commission will be involved in this review, along with members of the DOBCEL Catholic Identity & Mission Team.

Clergy Jubilarians Mass 2025: Mass to celebrate the 2025 Clergy Jubilarians will be held on Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 5.00pm. Clergy Jubilarians for 2025 are Fr Pat Flanagan (60 Years) and Bishop Paul, Frs Eugene McKinnon and Wally Tudor (50 years).

Documents for review

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" and "The Parish Handbook for the Rite of Christian Initiations of Adults with Children of Catechetical Age."

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will meet again in March 2025.