

## LITURGICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### REPORT 2002

#### MEMBERSHIP

Rev Canon BT Blacoe	Rt Rev HC Miller (Chairman)
Rev Canon MAJ Burrows (Vice-Chairman)	Mr DB O'Callaghan
Dr AF Carver	Ms S O'Shea
Most Rev RL Clarke	Very Rev JTF Paterson
Rev MJ Elliott	Rev Canon RB Rountree (Secretary)
Rev N Jardine	Lady Sheil
Rev Canon MC Kennedy	Rev Canon D Williams

#### *Co-opted members*

Rev Canon JAB Mayne	Rev S Lowry
Rev S Pragnell	Rev M Janssen

#### *Consultants*

Rev Canon WJ Marshall	Rev Canon RE Turner
Rev Canon C West	Rt Rev EF Darling

The Committee, keeping in mind the expressed intention of providing the whole new *Book of Common Prayer* in 2004, has during this year been preparing large sections for the final book. Its work has therefore dealt with three areas: the processing of last year's Resolutions as Bills; the presentation of this year's Resolutions; and an analysis of what matters still need to be done before 2004. This means that this year's body of resolutions introduces the last tranche of material for the *Book of Common Prayer* in preparation for the final Bill legislation in 2003 leading to publication the following year. A major part of this work has been the revision of the Ordinal. Following the meeting of the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation last summer mentioned below the Church of Ireland finds itself as the first Anglican province to revise the Ordinal in the light of that meeting.

A foretaste of the book has been given during the year with the publication by the Church of Ireland of *The Calendar and Collects*. This has given an indication of the page size and design of the future book and it has been greeted by widespread praise even across the Irish Sea. The question of the size of the future book has been a constant concern in the aftermath of the publication of the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Hymnal. Added to this has been a view expressed repeatedly by some choirs and musicians about our intention to include two Psalters in the BCP. We have been encouraged to think again and to consider printing only one version of the Psalter. For that reason the Committee is proposing to give General Synod the opportunity to withdraw the present Bill for the ECUSA Psalter which it had planned to include as a contrast to the 1926 Psalter, and instead intends to propose the inclusion of the Common Worship Psalter as the only Psalter in the book. This Psalter retains the resonance of the 1926 Psalter in contemporary language and is proving its worth in the Church of England. It would have the added advantage of our being able to use a body of music resources being produced by the RSCM. The 1926 Psalter may continue to be used as it will still be authorized for liturgical use.

Nine Resolutions were passed by the General Synod in 2001. A number of amendments to them were received and about half of these either have been accepted by the Committee or are regarded as editorial matter. Those which are now being proposed by the Committee give credit to their original proposers on the order paper for the first time at General Synod.

The following Bills are therefore being presented this year:

The Form of Solemnisation of Matrimony; The Marriage Service; A Form of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage; The Order for the Burial of the Dead; Funeral Services; Sentences of Scripture; A Psalter; The Ministration of Public Baptism of Infants; Services of Initiation.

The Committee has now prepared the final large group of services and other material for this year's Synod. These will include:

The proposed adoption – as previously promised – of the revised version of common texts now provided by the English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC); The Ordinal; General Directions; Ministry to the Sick; Some Prayers & Thanksgivings; A Service for Ash Wednesday; Daily Prayer; Confirmation (traditional form); Baptism in the context of Morning & Evening Prayer; The Common Worship Psalter and a 'tidying up' Bill (which includes amendments to the Lectionary & Rules for the Burial of Ashes).

The inclusion of a proposal for a further version of the baptismal liturgy reflects the desire of many people to retain aspects of the very popular 1969 Baptism Service, not least its ability to fit easily in the context of Morning & Evening Prayer. This new version seeks to do that while remaining consistent with the more modern wording of the promises in the other services of initiation. We believe we now have a very full provision allowing scope for a complete baptismal liturgy with or without Holy Communion or in a shorter form within Morning or Evening Prayer or a Service of the Word.

Consideration is being given to matters such as the provision of a Preface, an Index of collects and prayers, the future provision of a Book of Resources. The committee is also aware of its remit with regard to education and liturgical formation for the Church of Ireland and the use of the *Book of Common Prayer* 2004.

Inevitably, as happened in 1878 and 1926, a number of inconsistencies arise when different sections of a Prayer Book are being considered in different years. The 'tidying-up' bill is part of the process of dealing with minor matters of errors, omissions, inconsistencies etc.

The Committee received from Bishop Harold Miller and Canon Brian Mayne information about the Berkeley Liturgical Conference, and the emphasis it gave that "ministry emerges out of a baptismal ecclesiology". Canon Ricky Rountree attended the Church of England Liturgical Conference in London in September and noted the forthcoming publication of *Daily Prayer* and that church's attempts to establish an effective Formation Committee for future liturgical education and development.

This is an indication that even when the Church of Ireland achieves its new *Book of Common Prayer* in 2004, there will still be ongoing matters of liturgy and worship which will have to be considered in future by the Liturgical Advisory Committee. Adequate resources will be needed to carry out its task.