

Liturgical Advisory Committee – Report 2005

LITURGICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REPORT 2005

MEMBERSHIP ELECTED IN 2004

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|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Rt Rev HC Miller (Chairman) | Rev MP Jansson |
| Very Rev MAJ Burrows (Vice-Chairman) | Rev Canon MC Kennedy |
| Rev Canon RB Rountree (Hon Secretary) | Ms J Martin |
| Rt Rev PF Barrett | Ven DA Pierpoint |
| Very Rev SH Lowry | Rev SA Pragnell |
| Mrs A Cadden | Lady Sheil |
| Mr G Fromholz | Rev Canon D Williams |

Co-opted members

Rev Canon JAB Mayne
Rev AJ Ruffli
Rev CM Woods

Consultants

Rev TW Gordon
Rev Canon RE Turner

1. LAUNCH OF BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER (2004)

The 2004 edition of the Book of Common Prayer was introduced at the last meeting of the General Synod. The official launch was held on Trinity Sunday, 6 June 2004 and celebrated in parishes throughout the Church of Ireland. Most dioceses held a diocesan launch on Ascension Day, 20 May either in their diocesan cathedrals or in other large venues. BCP (2004) has been well received throughout the Church of Ireland and is in wide use. The inclusion of both traditional and contemporary language services within the one cover has allowed for a widespread welcome. To date 115,000 copies have been distributed and a third print of the pew edition has been arranged.

The Irish Language edition of the BCP (2004) was launched in Down Cathedral on Saturday, 18 September 2004. Cumann Gaelach na hEaglaise, and in particular Canon Gary Hastings, are to be congratulated on the achievement of this fine production for the worshipping life of the Church of Ireland. The Liturgical Advisory Committee is also very appreciative of the work of the Braille department in Maghaberry Prison for their work in making the Braille edition of the Book of Common Prayer available.

2. CENTRAL & DIOCESAN LITURGICAL OFFICERS

The appointment of the Central Liturgical Officer, Canon RB Rountree, in August 2003 allowed for good preparation to be made for the launch of the new BCP. A number of seminars for clergy and laity were held throughout the Church of Ireland facilitating the easier introduction of the book at parish level. The post of CLO comes to an end in April

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2005 when the continuing role of liturgical formation and education will be brought forward by the Diocesan Liturgical Officers, resourced by the Liturgical Advisory Committee. The appointment of the DLOs has been one of the main tasks of the Central Liturgical Officer in conjunction with the diocesan Bishops. Over the past year the DLOs have met on a number of occasions at a provincial level guided by the CLO and the new Electronic Liturgy Officer, Rev Alan Rufli. The future role of the Diocesan Liturgical Officers will be vital to the ongoing liturgical formation and education of the Church of Ireland. It is very important that each diocese gives the support needed to their officer(s) so that the work being done by the LAC can reach through to parish level.

The present team of Diocesan Liturgical Officers are:-

Rev Shane Forster – Armagh
Rev Robin Wakely – Clogher
Rev Raymond Fox & Rev David Ferry – Derry & Raphoe
Rev Peter McDowell & Rev Kevin Brew – Connor
Very Rev Stephen Lowry – Down & Dromore
Ven George Davison – Kilmore
Very Rev Alistair Grimason – Tuam
Rev Alan Rufli – Dublin & Glendalough
Very Rev Robert Jones & Rev Gerald Field – Meath & Kildare
Rev Canon Dermot Dunne & Rev Roy Byrne – Cashel & Ossory
Very Rev Michael Burrows – Cork, Cloyne & Ross
Rev Jane Galbraith – Limerick & Killaloe

The Liturgical Advisory Committee records its grateful thanks to Rev Canon Ricky Rountree for his work as Central Liturgical Officer from August 2003 to April 2005.

3. LAC NEW METHOD OF WORKING

The LAC has embarked on a new phase of activity since the publication of the BCP (2004). Since the committee no longer needs to expend such an amount of energy on devising forms of liturgy it can now concentrate on the other part of its role in fostering liturgical formation and education. The committee has welcomed a number of new members who come with a variety of skills. The committee now meets on fewer occasions but for longer sessions. In the intervening time the work is continued by smaller working groups under four headings:

- (a) Liturgical Formation, Education, and Theology: working on a parish education programme for liturgical renewal based on the Holy Communion service and the liturgical year;
- (b) Electronic/Internet: whose role is to disseminate liturgical resources by electronic means (WEB and CD/DVD etc.);
- (c) Liturgical Resources: to make available a range of liturgical resources to enliven the church's worship;

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- (d) Music, Art, and the Use of Liturgical Space: to advise parishes at individual and diocesan level on how best to use the musical and artistic resources at their disposal and to consider how best to use their liturgical space.

These groups call in extra consultants as the need arises facilitating more concentrated work. This new way of working has made for a new dynamic which is being much appreciated by those involved and promises to be very creative for the church and its future worship.

4. ELECTRONIC LITURGY OFFICER & VISUAL LITURGY 4

While some prayer book material has been available from the Church of Ireland website it was decided after much thought that the best way of making the BCP available in electronic form was by the production of an Irish version of Visual Liturgy 4. This was promoted at last year's General Synod, when the ELO provided an information stand and a presentation of VL4. Visual Liturgy 4 for the Book of Common Prayer has been produced in cooperation with the Church of England's Church House Publishing and takes the form of an add-on module to the C of E version which when loaded together defaults to being a fully Irish version, while still retaining all the resource material from the C of E. VL4 is a computer programme allowing for easy access to all the prayer book services with service building facilities as a tool to save worship leaders much time and gives guidance for appropriate variation. It includes ready access to a range of resource materials which will be continually updated. To date over 160 copies of the programme have been distributed to clergy and worship leaders.

The Electronic Liturgy Officer is running a number of teaching seminars on the use of Visual Liturgy 4 for both beginners and more advanced users. We are very grateful to Rev Alan Ruffli for not only undertaking this educational role but also for the enormous task of programming the Irish Module for Visual Liturgy 4.

5. COPYRIGHT

The issue of copyright is an increasingly important one in an era when more and more printed services are produced at parish and diocesan level. New guidelines for copyright have been published in the past year giving straightforward direction for copyright rules in the Church of Ireland. The printing of services for repeated use (more than one occasion) needs approval by the Copyright Secretary and the issuing of a copyright licence number which should be printed in the booklet. The LAC nominates a Copyright Consultant each year to assist in this task. The Copyright Secretary for the past year has been Canon Brian Mayne, formerly Editor of the BCP (2004).