

# Liturgy Office

## Annual Report 2008

### Staff

Martin Foster was appointed as Acting Secretary in January 2008. Grace Applewaithe began as Administrator for the Office and the Department for Christian life and Worship in February 2008. She also works with the Departments for Catholic Education and Formation, and Evangelisation and Catechesis. The lack of a third team member has meant that the volume of work undertaken by the office or its ability to support projects has been reduced.

### Information

#### Liturgy Newsletter

The *Liturgy Newsletter* is produced 4 times a year and is distributed via diocesan liturgy contacts as well as on the website. As well as highlighting news items connected with liturgy a key aim of the Newsletter is to keep people informed of the progress of the translation of the Roman Missal through the Bishops' Conference.

#### Website – [www.liturgyoffice.org.uk](http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk)

The website is a significant part of the work of the Office providing access to information and resources. It generates both a high number of visitors and email enquiries. The leaflets to support the Year of St Paul were completed in December – we are grateful to Nicholas King SJ for his contribution to this series. The leaflets have been well received around the globe and gained this comment from St James' Cathedral, Seattle, 'Explore the wonderful catechetical resources offered by the Bishops of England and Wales'. The primary intended user of the website is currently someone with an interest and some knowledge of liturgy, for example, a member of a parish liturgy group. In the coming year it is intended to develop materials more aimed at individuals or those with less knowledge such as prayer material and introductions to preparing funerals etc. However it should be noticed that with the reduced staff the content of the website has developed less than might have been hoped.

#### Magazine Subscription Service

The Office continues to manage a service making available subscriptions to many of the excellent English language liturgical periodicals available around the world.

#### Diocesan Liturgy Contacts

There is one such Contact in each diocese and they form the primary conduit for information to diocesan liturgy commissions and others. The annual meeting is noted in Formation Subcommittee report. The contacts and other members of diocesan commissions also meet in North and South groupings twice a year which the Office tries, where possible, to attend. These meetings often provide a valuable opportunity to raise matters of concern and to share different approaches.

#### Spirit of the Season

A half-termly liturgy bulletin for schools that is distributed via dioceses and the website. The current year's issues look at aspects of Eucharistic practice, ideas for Classroom Prayer and Assemblies, Year of St Paul, Processions and Saints of the Season.

## **Formation**

Working with dioceses and organisations

In January Martin was invited to facilitate the liturgies at the International Forum on Adult Religious Education in Santiago, Chile; he also involved in the national consultation on Adult Formation. Martin worked with or in the following dioceses and organisations in the last year: Cardiff, Northampton, Southwark, RCIA Network, Society of St Gregory.

Martin Foster

5/2/09