

Department for Christian Life and Worship

Liturgy Committee **Annual Report 2008**

Introduction

The Committee has met three times in the last year in London.

Membership

Rt Revd Alan Hopes

Chairman

Ms Ann Blackett Moynihan

Revd Dr Andrew Cameron-Mowat SJ

Revd Philip Gillespie

Revd Tim Menezes

Revd Dr Peter McGrail

Revd John Meredith

Mgr Philip Moger

Revd Michael O'Boy

Mrs Gillian Ambrose

Church of England Observer

Committee Projects

Following the process of reflection at the September and December 2005 meetings of the Committee a number of areas of work had been identified for development.

- Formation for bishops and other clergy (initial and on-going)
 - Liturgical Spirituality — Mystagogy
 - Presiding — leading the assembly in worship
 - Preaching
- Sunday
 - Sunday's liturgy as Source and Summit, as 'fountain of grace' for the week
- RCIA
 - Basic understanding of what the Church expects of its initiatory processes
 - Celebrations
- Prayer of the Faithful

Different members of the Committee have taken responsibility for the projects. Members have produced a short guide to the Prayer of the Faithful which is available on the Liturgy Office website. The work on Spirituality is being developed in liaison with the Spirituality Committee. The project on RCIA has been remitted to the Formation Subcommittee. The other projects members are beginning to address the issues and finding time to develop them within the constraints of their current positions.

Projects

Translation of the Roman Missal

Bishop Hopes has invited the Committee to send comments to him on the sections of the translation of the Roman Missal as they have been received. These include: Grey Book — Order of Mass II, Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children, Ritual Masses, Masses for Various Needs and Intentions, Proper of Saints, Commons, Votive Masses and Masses for the Dead, Antiphons, Introductory Documents and Appendices.

Working Groups

The Committee has a number of working groups:

Marriage Rites

A form for use at a Convalidation and also proposed the availability of the alternative Civil words in the Marriage Rite was presented for approval to the bishops; subsequently a letter about the texts was written to the Congregation for Divine Worship.

Celebrating Endings and Beginnings

Services for the Installation of a parish priest have been a focus of recent work. Examples were collated from dioceses and other sources and considered. The Committee have proposed that a model text for dioceses would be welcome.

Directory of Texts for Singing

The Working Group has reviewed the results of the consultation with dioceses and has prepared collection of model texts arranged according to various categories. For each category there is an introductory note. There is now a complete draft of this material which has been reviewed by the Liturgy Committee. The Working Group is now developing an introductory document.

Review of Department papers

The Committee commented on the following Department papers and issues: Burial of Ashes, Adaptations for England and Wales to be made to GIRM. The Committee also had the opportunity to discuss formation issues connected with the Norms for the distribution of Holy Communion and the possible need for a Lectionary for use with children.

Reports

The Committee received reports from people representing the Department at the *Churches Funeral Group*, and *Joint Liturgical Group*. Mrs Gillian Ambrose keeps the Committee up to date on the current work of the Church of England Liturgical Commission.

Formation Subcommittee

Introduction

The Subcommittee has met 4 times in the last year in Leeds and London.

Membership

Mrs Caroline Dollard

Mr Paul Inwood

Revd Martin Jakubas

Revd Peter McGrail

Chair

Mr Mike Stanley

Ms Nicky Stevens

Network Meeting

The 2008 meeting of diocesan liturgy contacts in Leeds looked at the impact of pastoral change in parishes on the liturgical life of a parish.

Projects

Formation for Lay Liturgical Ministers

With the input from the pilot dioceses the Subcommittee is near to completion on drawing up the Syllabus. The Bishops' Conference agreed that support for the Syllabus should be one of the projects included in the current fundraising initiative.

DVD for liturgical formation

The Subcommittee has been exploring in the last year how they might move this project forward through downloadable video.

Working Groups

Christian Initiation of Children of Catechetical Age

The Working Group is chaired by Fr Martin Jakubas. The group has nearly finished its work drawing up guidelines and offering examples of best practice.

Other Work

The Subcommittee received an annual report on the work of the RCIA Network. It is looking at collaboration with the Network in the provision of formation resources.

Martin Foster

5/2/09



PATRIMONY COMMITTEE and PATRIMONY SUB-COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Meetings: Three Committee meetings have been held during the year, in June, October and November. The meeting scheduled for February was taken up with a viewing of the rough-cut of the DVD of 'Glimpse of Heaven' to enable committee members to see how the film was developing and to comment on the content. The Patrimony Committee and Patrimony Sub-Committee continued to be run in tandem.

Membership:

The membership of the Committee remains the same: Bishop Thomas McMahon (Chairman); Sophie Andreae (Vice-Chairman and Chairman Sub-Committee); Emma Bassett; Fergus Brotherton; John Cowdall; Andrew Derrick; Martin Goalen; Canon Alan Griffiths; Fr Peter Harris; William Salvin; Mike State; Abbot Geoffrey Scott and Tricia Brooking (Hon. Secretary). Michael Fitzgerald QC - Secular Planning Lawyer and Mgr Richard Moth - Canon Lawyer, give legal advice as necessary. Fr Allen Morris joined the committee in November. His former position in the Department of Christian Life and Worship remains to be filled, therefore there has been no Department representative at meetings. Martin Foster has given advice and support upon request and copies of the minutes are sent to him.

Help and Advice:

This is given on request to HCCs. Where necessary additional advice is sought from other professionals with regard to problems or issues relating to specific churches or other more general issues. HCCs are circulated with any relevant information that comes to the Committee from outside bodies such as the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), English Heritage and the like. English Heritage has been keen to encourage more applications for repair grants from Catholic cathedrals and churches and the Committee alerted HCCs accordingly.

The Committee welcomes initiatives from individual HCCs (e.g. the paper on Church Organs produced by Birmingham in 2007) and is always willing to offer advice.

Publications:

Following the great success of the illustrated book *A Glimpse of Heaven: Catholic Churches of England and Wales*, the author, Christopher Martin, produced a DVD based on the book. This DVD makes use of many more of Alex Ramsay's outstanding photographs. The DVD was launched on 19th November 2008 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London, and is being distributed by the Catholic publisher, Gracewing. It is very much hoped that this will be of interest to parishes and to individuals interested in the heritage of the Church. English Heritage is publishing a paperback version of the book in the spring.

HCC Conference:

This year's Conference was held in April at the Wheeler Hall in Leeds. There was the biggest attendance to date. Of the 93 delegates, 61 were HCC and Patrimony Committee members. Others were from different Catholic organisations and representatives of bodies with an interest in the future of historic churches in England and Wales. The theme was 'Looking to the Future'. Speakers included John Minnis whose new book, *Religion and Place in Leeds*, had just been published by English Heritage. Sarah Brown outlined English Heritage's emerging policy for churches following the successful Inspired! Campaign. This campaign has led directly to increased government funding being made available to English Heritage for the churches sector. Andrew Derrick, a member of the Patrimony Committee, reported on the progress of the Taking Stock initiative (see below).

During the afternoon there was a discussion about the major refurbishment and reordering work that has recently been completed at St Anne's Cathedral. This was led by Richard Williams, the architect of the scheme and by Ken Powell, the architectural writer and critic who is also a member of the Leeds HCC. They discussed how the plans had evolved, the challenges that had emerged and how the HCC had helped to guide and support the scheme through to its final implementation. A tour of the Cathedral followed. All agreed that the refurbishment and reordering was exemplary and had significantly enhanced this important cathedral.

Taking Stock Projects:

These are the studies which are being jointly funded by individual dioceses and by English Heritage. The studies provide a detailed assessment of the architectural and historic value of all churches and chapels in a particular diocese. The aim of these studies is to provide decision-makers in dioceses with the necessary information in order to 'factor in' heritage considerations into their deliberations. In addition to the first two studies carried out in Lancaster and Arundel and Brighton a few years ago, Taking Stock studies have now been completed in the following dioceses: Portsmouth, Middlesbrough, Leeds and Liverpool. Further dioceses have contacted English Heritage to discuss support funding namely Plymouth, Northampton Westminster, Clifton, Shrewsbury and Southwark. It is very much to be hoped that the remaining dioceses in England (similar funding is not available in Wales unfortunately via Cadw) will also submit applications. Having authoritative information about the heritage value (or not, as the case may be) of all churches and chapels in a particular diocese together with an indication, in the case of listed churches, of the scope for adaptability provides dioceses with an essential tool for future planning. Dioceses - and in particular diocesan Trustees - increasingly need to understand the wider policy context in which issues, particularly in relation to possible church closures, are likely to be considered by the statutory authorities as this will inevitably impact on the quality of decision making.

Archives: Abbot Geoffrey Scott continued to keep the Committee informed of the work of the Catholic Records and Archives Societies and other issues relating to archives.

Vatican Documents:

The Vatican Information Service continues to be monitored for relevant information.

Endangered Churches and related patrimony matters:

The future of a number of historic churches is causing concern following closures. This is particularly an issue in the north west of England. There have been a number of articles in the press, both in the Catholic press and the national press.

There is increasing public criticism of the perceived lack of meaningful consultation by the Church prior to some church closures. The Patrimony Committee is increasingly concerned that dioceses may not fully grasp the implications of closing listed churches both in terms of the impact on parishioners but also in terms of the future of the buildings themselves. Failure to engage with the statutory authorities and other interested parties at an early enough stage has to some extent fuelled this criticism. Also, the difficulties of seeking appropriate alternative uses for churches no longer needed for worship presents real challenges because if listed, demolition is these days unlikely to be a realistic option. In addition, a closed church is a building at risk and dioceses need to appreciate that there can be significant costs involved in protecting closed church buildings as they can become a magnet for vandals. Derelict and vandalised churches give the impression that dioceses do not take their responsibilities for their heritage assets seriously.

There is also the issue of churches which have been closed in the past which have since been converted to uses which many people feel are inappropriate. One of the oldest churches in Liverpool, St Peter's, Seel Street, is now a restaurant. Many artefacts with religious connotations remain, however, inside the building making many Catholics who go there feel distinctly uncomfortable. The restaurant itself actively promotes a 'religious' feel as part of its marketing, filling the place with ecclesiastical style candles and at Halloween this year promoting "Dracula's Wedding" style events. This unease was articulated by Andy Burnham MP, Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport, in his major heritage speech given at English Heritage's launch of their 2008 Heritage Counts report at the end of October.

The Patrimony Committee is increasingly concerned at the level of criticism the Church is receiving about church closures. The Patrimony Committee is itself always available to offer help and advice to dioceses. It is also keen to encourage dioceses to apply for the new funding stream that English Heritage is making available for Support Officer posts. This is a three year grant programme to help fund new posts in dioceses to help, support and advise dioceses on all areas on all matters concerning heritage but most particularly to advise on problem churches or on churches threatened with closure, to build positive relationships with statutory and grant making bodies and with local communities. The background to this new initiative were the pilot projects run in a number of Anglican dioceses (Manchester, London and Chichester) a few years ago. In each case the posts proved so successful and the dioceses themselves felt the investment in the posts provided such good value for money that each diocese has continued with the posts after the initial pump priming public funding ended. The Patrimony Committee believes there is enormous scope within Catholic dioceses for similar Support Officer posts and is keen to see dioceses taking up the English Heritage offer of 50% funding. Whilst recognising that many dioceses are very stretched financially at the present time, investment in such posts is more than likely to prove a sound investment (as the Anglicans have found) both in terms of sound advice on difficult issues, in bridge building with the statutory authorities and other partners and thus in the unlocking of new funding streams for church buildings.

Heritage Protection Bill:

This anticipated Bill was not included in the Queen's Speech and thus will not come before Parliament this session. However, the Secretary of State has written to reassure interested parties that the Government remains committed to the Bill. Some of the changes proposed,

including the proposed changes to the Ecclesiastical Exemption, do not require primary legislation and it is likely that these will be taken forward by the DCMS. On behalf of HCCs the Patrimony has expressed its concern at the possibility of additional costs if new procedures are introduced that add to the bureaucratic load and will be keeping the situation under review.

Other organisations:

Sophie Andreae continued to be the Catholic representative on English Heritage's Places of Worship Forum. This committee advises EH on policy matters relating to the heritage of both Christian and non Christian places of worship. She is also the RC representative on English Heritage's new Working Party that is currently reviewing the fabric needs of Cathedrals in England and Wales.

Planned Work:

HCC Conference. The 2009 Conference will be held at St Paul's Cathedral in London on Thursday 7th May.

Other matters will continue to be dealt with as they arise and when requests are received from HCCs and other bodies.

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales
Department of Christian Life and Worship

SPIRITUALITY COMMITTEE - Report to the Department Meeting : February 2009

Membership

Bishop Brian Noble (Chair), Jenny Bond*, Susy Brouard, Mark Davis, Mgr Kevin McGinnell (Secretary), Martin Foster, Fr David O Malley sdb, Sr Diane Reynolds ssa. (*Jenny Bond resigned in December 2008)

Meetings

Since January 2008 the Committee has met three times in the last year, in Milton Keynes, Hinsley Hall (residential), and Shrewsbury.

The Committee has engaged in the following areas of concern and projects :

1. Liturgical Spirituality

This is an ongoing task with the Liturgy Committee, to develop a paper in this area. This links to questions about the place spirituality will have in the catechesis introducing the new translation of the *Missale Romanum*.

2. Consultation 2008 - March 6 - St Andrew's, Waterloo.

Our third meeting of diocesan representatives and promoters of spirituality was led by Abbot Christopher Jamison (Worth Abbey). He was asked to engage people in reflecting on our spirituality, church practice and the interface with modern. The quality of input enriched the conversation and people affirmed the continuation of these meetings. There was good response from across the dioceses.

3. Consultation 2009 - June 3 - St Andrew's, Waterloo

The theme is *Taking the Incarnation seriously - creativity within prayer and liturgy*. It will be facilitated by Mark Davis and other members of the Committee.
Consideration is being given to moving the venue for 2010 outside London.

4. Hinsley Hall Residential Meeting

The overnight gave time for a reassessment on the work of the Committee, reflection on the Consultation and a review of our plans, structures and processes.

Margaret Siberry (CAFOD Diocesan Manager for Leeds) and Maria Clara Bingemer (Pont. University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil – theology/Ignatian spirituality) spoke with the Committee about their work in their two very different contexts.

The venue gave the opportunity to invite people from local dioceses to dialogue with the Committee about various local initiatives and how the Committee could serve them more. Bishop John Rawsthorne (Hallam), Josephine Stow, Dannie Firth, Pat Brown, (Leeds) spoke about different projects and expectations. While it was a small meeting it was positive and fruitful. It established a precedent we wish to repeat by holding the residential days in different parts of England and Wales and using the opportunity to speak with people working in spirituality in the local dioceses.

5. Spirituality Coordinator Rôle

We hope to draft a paper with various elements constitutive of such a role at differing levels within the life of the Church. This will be developed in the light of work currently being done by other churches and organisations such as CAFOD.

6. The Committee exchanges minutes and information with CASE and Churches Together in England Spirituality Co-ordinating Group.

Kevin McGinnell
February 2009

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

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