

## **Department for Christian Life and Worship**

### **Annual Report 2009**

Rt Revd Michael Campbell

Rt Revd Alan Hopes

Rt Revd David McGough

Rt Revd Thomas McMahon

Rt Revd Brian Noble

Rt Revd Arthur Roche            *Chairman*

Mr Martin Foster                *Acting Secretary*

## **Liturgical Texts**

### **Roman Missal**

At the Easter meeting of the Bishops' Conference the following texts were approved:

- Proper of Saints
- Commons
- Votive Masses & Masses for the Dead
- Antiphons
- Appendices
- Introductory Documents

The bishops also considered and approved the adaptations to the text of the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* for use in England and Wales.

In November the bishops approved the Supplement. The main text for consideration was the Vigil for Pentecost which has now been included as an appendix in the *Missale Romanum*.

A number of adaptations to the Order of Mass and the Proper of Seasons were also agreed. These include the provision of model texts for the 3<sup>rd</sup> form of Penitential Rite and the repetition of the renewal of Baptismal Promises on Easter Day. It is also proposed that the texts for the Blessing of Oils from the Pontifical is included in place in the Chrism Mass. This text has been now been reviewed as a Green Book.

### **Formation Plans for the Roman Missal**

The Department has spent time looking at how the translation of the Roman Missal might be best introduced. It has considered a number of schemes and presented an overview to the whole Conference. A key element is the need to provide information and materials well ahead of implementation.

### **National Propers**

The Conference has approved texts for the National Calendar for England. It is hoped that the texts will be incorporated within the Proper of Saints within the Missal. The Department has also facilitated a revision of the Welsh Proper.

### **Lectionary**

The bishops had a presentation on the Lectionary and, in particular, the revised Grail Psalter at the November meeting of the Conference. To help familiarise

them with the revised Grail text it was used for the singing of the Office during the week.

The Department also had a discussion about scripture versions used at Masses with Children.

### **Rite of Marriage**

*Recognitio* has been received for the use of the alternative Civil Words in the Rite of Marriage and for a form of the text that might be used at a Convalidation. The bishops have decided to wait until after the publication of the Missal before considering a re-publication of the Rite of Marriage.

## **Music**

### **Missal**

The Department has looked at draft provision of music for inclusion within the published Altar Missal by ICEL. Views on the draft were wide ranging.

### **Publication of Liturgical Music**

In line with GIRM 393 the Department have set up a process for the review of musical settings of liturgical texts and asked Bishop Hopps to have oversight of this. To provide guidance the Department has approved a revised text of the *Composer's Guide to the Roman Missal* which includes both the approved texts as well as information about the process.

### **Directory of texts for singing**

The work on the directory is three-fold: a list of model texts for liturgical seasons, rites and parts of the Mass where a choice of text is permitted; for each of these categories an introductory note drawn from the liturgical documents; an introduction providing an overview of music in the liturgy.

The Department has received and welcomed the work on the first two parts and the draft text of the Introduction is now complete.

## **Syllabus for the Formation of Lay Liturgical Ministers**

The Department approved the core Syllabus which has been worked on by the Formation Subcommittee at its September meeting. Work continues providing resources to assist with the delivery of the Syllabus.

## **Patrimony Presentation**

Members of the Patrimony Committee have an informative presentation to the bishops at the Easter meeting looking at the relationship between care for heritage and pastoral planning.

## **Spirituality Position Paper**

At the November meeting of the Conference a position paper from the Spirituality Committee was well received by the bishops who asked the Committee to develop the proposal for a document on Spirituality and Prayer.

Martin Foster  
2 February 2010