

Department for Christian Life and Worship Liturgy Office — Annual Report 2009

Staff

Martin Foster was appointed Acting Secretary in 2008 and is the sole full-time member of staff serving the work of the Department. The work is supported by Grace Applewithe, who also works with the Departments for Catholic Education and Formation, and Evangelisation and Catechesis, as well as the Marriage and Family Life project. Fr Allen Morris, the former Secretary, left in 2006. 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 greatly reduced.

Paul Moynihan has been engaged to work on two projects: diocesan calendars and propers, and services in the absence of a priest.

A significant change in the last year has been the refurbishment of the Bishops' Conference Secretariat in Eccleston Square. This has meant improved space for meetings but also reduced space for the office and any resources.

Work

A key area in the last year has been the Roman Missal: the managing of the process through the bishops, the work on publication and the preparatory discussion information. It is a concern how current staffing and structures will provide, enable and sustain the necessary work of formation for England and Wales that needs to be done.

The website continues to get many visitors even though development has slowed down considerably. Three new contributions were the provision of material from *Jubilate Deo* for download, the initial development of a Prayer section and information on the expected Swine 'Flu epidemic.

A casualty of the last year has been the infrequent or non appearance of both *Liturgy Newsletter* and *Spirit of the Season*, This has fundamentally been due to overriding work priorities.

The Conference agreed to the establishing of regular meetings with officers of the Latin Mass Society by Bishop Hopes, the General Secretary and myself. The idea is to provide a forum where issues can be raised by both sides.

Work was done with the dioceses Arundel & Brighton, Plymouth and Westminster, the RCIA Network and Scottish Liturgy Commission. I was invited to represent the Department at the Joint Liturgical Group and attended the Society of St Gregory Summer School and the meeting of the European Network on the Catechumenate.

Martin Foster
2/2/10