

Diocesan Liturgy Contacts

Background

The Network of Diocesan Liturgy Contacts was set up in 1999 by the Formation Subcommittee to establish a named link with diocesan liturgical commissions.

Appointment

The Contact should be a member of the diocesan liturgy commission and is appointed by the Chair of the Commission.

Role

The contact receives information from the Liturgy Office of the Bishops' Conference in the following areas:

- News from Bishops' Conference/Department for Christian Life and Worship
- Information from Liturgy Office (e.g. Calendar Notes)
- Invitation to Network meetings
- Invitations to meetings/conferences organised by the Liturgy Committee/Formation Subcommittee.
- Liturgy Newsletter (see below)
- Spirit of the Season (see below)

The Contact is expected to disseminate the information to the Liturgy Commission (Chair or members as necessary) and to other diocesan agencies/people as appropriate.

Sometimes the Liturgy Office will send information to others in a diocese, for example, the Calendar Notes goes to list of diocesan Ordo compilers. In such cases the Liturgy Office will endeavour to note to whom a document has been sent in the accompanying information.

Liturgy Newsletter

The Liturgy Office produces a Newsletter 4 times a year. The main method of distribution is through the Diocesan Contacts. The Liturgy Office does not take subscriptions for the Newsletter and individual enquiries are referred to the diocesan contact and the Liturgy Office website. It is expected that the Contact will organise the distribution of the Newsletter with the diocese.

It is recommended that the Newsletter is sent within the diocese to:

- Liturgical Commission and Subcommittees
- Diocesan Priests
- Religious Houses
- Diocesan Agencies, for example Diocesan Adult Education Teams, Directors of On-Going Formation, Directors of Permanent Diaconate
- Schools
- Ecumenical contacts
- Interested Parties, for example Diocesan Liturgy Networks, Renewal Groups, Retreat/Conference Centres. If you are working collaboratively with bodies for Liturgical Formation in other churches you might also like to circulate it to them.

Ways of distributing it include:

- Ad Clerum
- Insert with diocesan Liturgy Bulletin or mailing of other diocesan agency.
- Made available at Training Days.
- Made available at diocesan Pastoral Centres/Offices

The Newsletter is also sent by the Liturgy Office to:

- Bishops
- Members of the Liturgy Committee/Formation Subcommittee
- Seminaries
- Catholic Press
- Liturgical Organisations
- Liturgy Offices of other Bishops' Conferences
- Congregation for Divine Worship

Spirit of the Season

The Liturgy Office produces a Bulletin on Liturgy and Schools six times a year. The Bulletin is sent by the Liturgy Office to both the diocesan contact and the diocesan RE Centre.

The recommended distribution list is the same as the Newsletter:

- Liturgical Commission and Subcommittees
- Diocesan Priests
- Religious Houses
- Diocesan Agencies
- Schools
- Interested Parties

Ways of distributing it include:

- Ad Clerum
- Insert with diocesan Liturgy Bulletin or mailing of other diocesan agency.
- Made available at Training Days.
- Made available at diocesan Pastoral Centres/Offices

Annual Meeting of the Network

The Formation Subcommittee organises a meeting of the diocesan contacts once a year. It is an opportunity to share information, to look at projects in greater detail and hear about diocesan developments in a given area.

It is expected that the Contact will attend. Where a Contact is unable to attend he/she should arrange that another representative from the diocese to come in their place. If the venue has enough accommodation the diocese is invited to send a second person.

Regional Meetings

The Liturgy Commissions of the Northern Province have been meeting together twice a year for many years. Since the establishment of the Network the group has welcomed any diocese which is able to travel to Leeds for the meeting.

The Southern Group meets twice a year and the venue rotates between Birmingham, Bristol and London.

The Liturgy Office attends both North and South meetings.

Northern Dioceses Liturgical Consultation

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Southern Diocesan Liturgy Contacts

Convenor Paul Inwood
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Development of the Network

At present the direction Network is predominantly top-down. Though the meetings allow for sharing of information from dioceses to diocese. It is hoped that in the development of the Network Contacts would distribute to the Liturgy Office and other contacts: diocesan newsletters, diocesan liturgical publications or guidelines etc.

Also for consideration is Network as a publicly available list (for example on website) so that the Contact is a point of information for diocesan liturgical activities..

Liturgy Office

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