At the same time, it needs to be acknowledged that the Church’s liturgy is also celebrated in other communal contexts where preparation is equally important. Increasingly, liturgy celebrated in Catholic schools is becoming a key experience of the Church’s official prayer for many Catholic teachers and students. The Church’s liturgical rites are also celebrated in hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, university chapels, Catholic tertiary residential colleges, military bases, funeral parlours, retreat houses run by religious orders and other ecclesial communities. Could this reality suggest another way forward? Could these institutions, with their deeper reserves of funding, be better equipped to employ RE teachers, ministers of pastoral care and chaplains who are also trained in liturgy? After formal liturgical training, could these people be asked to offer liturgical formation in their institution and then branch out to other places within their diocese, under the guidance of the Bishop or diocesan liturgical commission/office?

To focus on Catholic schools, would it be beyond the realm of possibility for a Catholic Education Office or a Catholic primary or secondary school to fund a sacramental preparation or religious education teacher to receive specialist tertiary liturgical formation at the ACU Centre for Liturgy with a view to becoming a key resource person for the Office or School, and then the diocese of which they are a part? Strengthening and enriching the liturgical prayer and sacramental rites in schools through increased liturgical formation helps staff and students to focus on core aspects of Catholic identity (i.e. the Word of God and the Eucharistic celebration) and liturgical ministries which are primary sources for the mission to evangelise and live the Gospel.

Liturgical formation is vital for helping all members of the Body of Christ enter fully, consciously and actively into the mystery of the Church’s liturgical prayer. People trained in scripture, patristics, church history, systematics, liturgy, pastoral theology and ministry were vital to the 20th century liturgical movement and some of the most important developments that flowed from the Conciliar liturgical reform (e.g. introduction of the vernacular). How much more so do we need trained liturgical personnel today given the vast challenges the Church currently faces in terms of attendance rates, financial constraints and competition from secular influences (e.g. watching sport and increased shopping/entertainment opportunities on Sundays). Do your diocese, parish, school or institution a favour: help to identify priests, religious and lay people with a charism for liturgical preparation and celebration and invite them to study liturgy and to put their studies at the service of the Church. At present the numbers are small, however, the satisfactions are rich indeed!

Paul Taylor
Director
National Office for Liturgy
National Biennial Liturgy Meeting (24-26 March 2017) - Melbourne

The next Biennial Meeting of the Bishops Commission for Liturgy, National Liturgical Council, National Liturgical Architecture and Art Board, National Liturgical Music Board, NLC Liturgy and Music Consultants and Diocesan Liturgy Representatives will take place at the Catholic Leadership Centre (containing some live-in accommodation), corner of Hoddle St and Victoria Pde, East Melbourne from Friday 24 March until Sunday 26 March 2017 (4th Sunday of Lent). The programme is to be finalised, however, it is very likely that presentations and workshops will be related to unpacking the recently published And When Churches are to be Built and Catholic Worship Book II and the renewal/formation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions/Offices/Contact People in collaboration with the newly formed ACU Centre for Liturgy. More details to follow.

New Australian Bishop on ICEL

Bishop Patrick O'Regan has been appointed to succeed Archbishop Denis Hart as the Australian episcopal representative on ICEL. Bishop Pat earned a Licentiate in Sacramental Theology at the Institut catholique de Paris and is currently Chairman of the Bishops Commission for Liturgy (BCL) and National Liturgical Council (NLC) of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. Congratulations to Bishop Pat on this new appointment and special thanks to Archbishop Denis Hart for his dedicated commitment to the work of ICEL over the past 15 years, including his most recent term as Vice-President.

ACU Centre for Liturgy

"The Centre has begun operations under the directorship of the foundation Professor Clare Johnson, and at the May Plenary, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference approved a motion officially endorsing the cooperative relationship between the ACBC (representing the BCL) and the Centre. The Centre offers academic tertiary-level programs of study and pastoral-liturgical formation for representatives of dioceses, parishes and schools around Australia.

The ACU Centre for Liturgy will welcome a new member of staff in July with the arrival of Dr. Jason McFarland from the USA. Dr. McFarland is joining ACU’s Faculty of Theology and Philosophy as a Lecturer in Liturgical Studies and Sacramental Theology. Jason brings with him a wealth of experience in liturgical studies and liturgical music and ACU is delighted to welcome him to the Faculty and the Centre.

The first meeting of the Advisory Board of the ACU Centre for Liturgy took place on May 12 at ACU in North Sydney. Bishops Paul Bird and Pat O’Regan joined seven local board members and international board members Prof. Paul Bradshaw and Prof. Julia Upton (participating electronically from the USA) to discuss Centre developments and plans. The Advisor Board will meet again in November.

During May and June, the ACU Centre for Liturgy presented a range of professional development seminars and workshops on liturgy and liturgical principles for emerging religious leaders in Sydney Catholic Schools; on the sacramentality of religious leadership for emerging principals in Sydney Catholic Schools; on the revised translations of Confirmation and Matrimony for clergy in Melbourne, Parramatta, Broken Bay and Sydney; and on the revised translation of Confirmation for religious education coordinators and parish sacramental coordinators in Parramatta, Broken Bay and Sydney. The Centre will provide further workshops and formation sessions on a range of topics throughout the remainder of 2016 and is willing to help other dioceses upon request. For further information, contact Prof. Clare Johnson, Clare.Johnson@acu.edu.au.

Work is proceeding on the Centre’s website and liturgical education and formation programs, and an official launch of the Centre will take place during the ACBC meeting in November."

http://public.liturgyhelp.com.au

Revised Orders of Celebrating Matrimony and Confirmation

Revised ritual books for Confirmation and Matrimony were published by St Pauls for use in Catholic parishes in early 2016 and are being taken up by school and parish communities. The revised Order of Celebrating Matrimony is a revision of the ritual and translation of the former Rite of Marriage (1969; revised in Latin in 1990/1) whereas the revised Order of Confirmation is a revision of the translation only in the Rite of Confirmation (1971). In both cases the translation conforms with principles in Liturgiam Authenticam (2001). Electronic copies are also available through:

Creative Ministry Resource’s liturgyhelp.com

Catholic Worship Book II

Following the successful national launch of CWBII in Melbourne on Friday 8 April 2016 (for video, see https://www.catholic.org.au/cwb2/national-launch), local launches of CWBII are currently underway in various state capitals. CWBII is intended for use primarily in Catholic parishes. It is anticipated that the resource will provide an essential core repertory of ministerial chants from the Roman Missal (2010), “Mass settings,” service music, liturgical hymns and songs for the Mass and other sacramental rites for use in Catholic schools, seminaries, theological colleges, religious and ecclesial communities around the country. Following the tradition adopted by parishes and publishers overseas, families could be encouraged to consider donating one copy of the people’s edition ($34.95ea) to their parish as an investment in the parish’s music ministry for the next 20 years. Donor plates could then be placed inside the front cover to honour those families who made the donation. With over 650 items, CWBII provides excellent value for money. A second print run of the Full Music Edition is due in July! Orders for copies can be placed with the publisher, Morning Star Publishing, www.morningstarpublishing.net.au

Extracts from the Roman Missal: For Use at the Chair

St Pauls Publications in Strathfield NSW is currently working on reformatting the draft of the “Book of the Chair” following changes required by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. Once the draft is finalised, it will be re-presented to the CDWDS for recognitio. It is hoped this worship aid for presiding celebrants will be ready around Advent 2016

NATIONAL LITURGICAL COUNCIL  cont’d

NATIONAL LITURGICAL ARCHITECTURE AND ART BOARD

During recent meetings, the NLAAB has been discussing the important areas of cultural patrimony and sacred art. In 2105, the Board invited Fr Robert Cross (Geraldton Diocese) and Dr Ursula de Jong (Deakin University) to participate and provide specialist advice on cultural patrimony and heritage with a view to writing guidelines to assist dioceses, parishes and other Church communities. Earlier year the Board invited Dr Angela McCarthy (Univ. of Notre Dame, Freemantle) to take part in a conversation about the present state of the sacred and liturgical arts in Australia, fostering excellence in these arts, and promoting the commissioning of same by Church communities. With significant shifts in the focus of the Blake Prize, the Board discussed the role of the Mandorla Art Award, currently chaired by Dr McCarthy.

Having completed six years since its inception, the NLAAB has reviewed its work, notably the guidelines document And When Churches are to be Built … and the symposium God is in the Detail, and most recently the task of finalising its statement on data projection in churches and has identified key initiatives for its next three-year term. These initiatives include: writing a complementary guidelines document to And When Churches are to be Built that will deal with cultural patrimony, heritage, preparing inventories, and liturgical reordering and renovation of churches; compiling a directory of architects and artists for church projects; creating a visual record online of new liturgical architecture and art projects; and further consideration of the place for celebrating the Rite of Penance.

Following recommendations by the Bishops Commission for Liturgy, the following people were endorsed at the ACBC May 2016 Plenary as new members of the NLAAB for 2016-2019: Dr Phil Cooper (Sculptor, Woodend, VIC), Rev. Fr Robert Cross (Archaeologist, Diocese of Geraldton, WA) and Dr Ursula de Jong (Architectural Historian, Deakin University, VIC). They join existing members: Rev. Dr Stephen Hackett MSC (Chairman), Mr Harry Stephens (Secretary), Rev. Dr Tom Elich PP, Very Rev. Peter Williams EV, Most Rev. Philip Wilson DD and Dr Paul Taylor (ex officio). The BCL gratefully acknowledges the expertise and advice of Sr Rosemary Crumlin RSM, Rev. Deacon Andrew Kirkbride, Mgr Charles Portelli PP who have generously served the NLAAB over the past 6 years and who have agreed to step down to provide the NLAAB with both continuity and change of membership for the next three-year term.
NATIONAL LITURGICAL MUSIC BOARD

Following the official launch of CWBII in April 2016, the foundation members of the National Liturgical Music Board appointed in 2005 stepped down following a very fruitful period of collaboration. The Bishops Commission for Liturgy is very grateful to the following members for the generous contribution of their professional time (much of it voluntary) and the valuable provision of their liturgical, musical, pastoral and editorial expertise: Very Rev. Fr Peter Williams EV (Chairman), Mr Bernard Kirkpatrick (Executive Secretary), Dr Geoffrey Cox, Dr Bill Griffiths (continuing member), Fr Ken Howell PP, Rev. Dr William Jordan (1935-2013), Mrs Cathy Murrowood, Mrs Jenny O’Brien, Dr Paul Taylor and Rev. Dr Christopher Willcock SJ.

Special thanks are also due to the following consultants who contributed their voluntary time and expertise via the various subcommittees: Mr Tom Knowles (text subcommittee), Mr Justin Ankas, Mr Paul Mason, Sr Elizabeth Murray SGS and Mrs Donrita Reefman (new music subcommittee) and Sr Ursula O’Rourke SGS (liturgy/pastoral subcommittee) and all who contributed critical comments to the NLMB during the editorial process.

Following recommendations by the Bishops Commission for Liturgy, the following people were endorsed at the ACBC May 2016 Plenary as new members of the NLMB for a three-year term (2016-2019): Prof. Clare Johnson (NSW) (NLMB Chair) (Director of ACU Centre for Liturgy), Dr Andrew Cichy (ACT) (Lecturer in Music at ANU), Mr Paul Mason (NSW) (Liturgy Coordinator, Diocese of Wollongong), Mr Anthony Young (QLD) (Director of Music at St Laurence’s College, Brisbane), Dr William Griffiths (SA) (NLMB Exec. Secretary) (continuing member), Ms Fiona Dyball (VIC) (Director of Music, Marcellin College, Bulleen), Mrs Donrita Reefman (VIC) Chair of RSCM Australia Victoria Branch, Ms Jacinta Jakovec (WA) Director of Music, St Mary’s Cathedral, Perth and Dr Paul Taylor (VIC) (ex officio). NLMB priorities for 2016-2019 include: national promotion of CWBII; production of ACBC guidelines on liturgical music; supplementary resource of Responsorial Psalms for Sundays (Yrs A, B & C) and production of recordings for CWBII

CONGREGATION FOR DIVINE WORSHIP AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE SACRAMENTS

- **Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper – The Washing of Feet**
  The CDWDS has issued a decree in response to a request from Pope Francis that the ritual of Washing of Feet be open to all members of the congregation present at the liturgy (men and women, young and old, rich and poor, healthy and sick). The powerful ritual embodies Christ’s command to love others as Christ has loved us. For further information, please see [http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccdds/documents/rc_con_ccdds_doc_20160106_decreto-lavanda-piedi_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccdds/documents/rc_con_ccdds_doc_20160106_decreto-lavanda-piedi_en.html)

- **22 July: St Mary Magdalen - Memorial to Feast**
  On the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pope Francis decreed that the Memorial of St Mary Magdalen will now be observed as a Feast.

  For further information, please see [http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccdds/index.htm](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccdds/index.htm) A proper Preface is currently being prepared by ICEL.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ENGLISH IN THE LITURGY (ICEL)

Comments on the ICEL Green Books, distributed to the Australian Bishops via the ACBC Secretariat, are due for return to the National Office for Liturgy by the following dates:

- Liturgy of the Hours (USA), Blessing of Oils and Consecration of Chrism (due date: 1 Aug 2016)

- Order of Christian Initiation, Order of Baptism of Children and Liturgy of the Hours (Ordinary & Psalter) (due date: 16 November 2016)

IN MEMORIAM

Sr Clare Tobin RSJ (1931-2015)
(Josephite sister, musician, liturgist and educator)


Rev. Dr Patrick Negri SSS (1935-2016)
(Blessed Sacrament Father, liturgist and artist).