Welcome!

Welcome to the first issue of the National Liturgical Office Newsletter. Due to the changeover in the role of Executive Secretary and the relocation of the NLO from Parramatta to Melbourne at the beginning of 2012, I thought it would be timely to adopt a new title for this twice-yearly communique. Following in the footsteps of Ad Libitum, this newsletter is an attempt to keep all engaged in the liturgical apostolate around Australia up to date with the work of the Bishops Commission for Liturgy (BCL), the National Liturgical Council (NLC), the National Liturgical Art and Architecture Board (NLAAB) and the National Liturgical Music Board (NLMB), in addition to the work of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) and the Congregations of the Holy See. I hope you will find the information helpful. Please feel free to contact me or Janine Hardwick with information for inclusion or suggestions about how this newsletter might be of better service to you.

Paul Taylor

Two substantial sessions at the conference was spent reflecting upon the implementation of the revised Roman Missal (2010) and also hearing from Archbishop Mark Coleridge about the revision of the Lectionary for Mass. Minutes of these sessions were distributed to conference participants in June.

Virginia for all that they have done to effect such a smooth transition during the first half of 2012, especially their thoughtful and efficient transfer of the NLC files from the Office of Worship in Parramatta to the Cardinal Knox Centre in Melbourne. I am also very appreciative of the wonderful administrative support provided by Janine Hardwick and Nicky Kitson in Archbishop Denis Hart’s Office, particularly during these initial months of transition.

Apart from serving as an opportunity to commission Paul Taylor as the new Executive Secretary of the Bishops Commission for Liturgy, the Conference provided the BCL via Bishop Peter Ingham with the opportunity to pay fitting tribute to Father Peter Williams, who recently concluded 11 years as Executive Secretary of the BCL and National Liturgical Council, and to Virginia Knight who served as Peter’s very capable administrative assistant, compiling Ad Libitum, and collating numerous minutes of meetings and documents for the NLC during this time. Let me add my own personal thanks to Peter and Virginia for all that they have done to effect such a smooth transition during the first half of 2012, especially their thoughtful and efficient transfer of the NLC files from the Office of Worship in Parramatta to the Cardinal Knox Centre in Melbourne. I am also very appreciative of the wonderful administrative support provided by Janine Hardwick and Nicky Kitson in Archbishop Denis Hart’s Office, particularly during these initial months of transition.

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National Liturgical Council

Summary of Meeting held in Hobart on
Wednesday 29 February 2012

Chair: Most Reverend Mark Coleridge
Minutes: Ms Virginia Knight, Dr Paul Taylor
Present: Most Reverend Mark Coleridge, Most Reverend Peter Ingham, Reverend Dr Barry Craig, Dr Clare Johnson, Mrs Sophy Morley, Reverend Brian Nichols, Adm, Mrs Jenny O’Brien, Reverend Monsignor Patrick O’Regan, Dr Paul Taylor, Very Reverend Peter Williams

Apologies: Most Reverend Denis Hart, Most Reverend Max Davis, Reverend Dr Christopher Willcock, SJ.

Welcome
Welcome to Father Barry Craig and Mrs Sophy Morley as new members of the National Liturgical Council. Welcome and congratulations to Dr Paul Taylor on his appointment as Executive Secretary to the National Liturgical Council. Sincere gratitude to outgoing Executive Secretary, Father Peter Williams for his magnificent service to the National Liturgical Council during the past 11 years and to Ms Virginia Knight for her sterling service as administrative assistant during the same period.

1.0 The Lord’s Prayer
Discussion of the use of The Lord’s Prayer noted that the ICEL version in the Roman Missal (2010) is slightly different from the local AELC version arranged by Reverend Dr Percy Jones (c. 1965). The ACBC has decided that local parishes will continue to use the AELC arrangement and that this will be included in the NLMB Resource and, where possible, local worship aids with the ICEL doxology (2010) that follows it.

2.0 Australian Consultation on Liturgy (ACOL)
It has been suggested in some quarters that the ELLC texts have been widely used across the Christian traditions. Is this the case? Father Peter Williams contacted the other member churches to survey their usage of the common texts. It was clear from discussions that a number who had originally adopted them have, over the years, changed the texts to suit themselves. Therefore, the claim that Catholics are responsible for the demise of the ELLC texts is not accurate, as they had already been altered by members of other traditions. The ecumenical aspects of the new translation could have been handled better, although it is unclear how realistically this could be done differently. The text used in common at the grass roots level is the Our Father and that is the one which has been changed by most other denominations.

3.0 Bishops Commission for Liturgy Report
Archbishop Mark Coleridge spoke to the following motion which appears in the BCL Report (November 2011), and which was withdrawn from vote by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. “That the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference approves the English Translation of the Rite for Blessing the Oil of Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick, and for Consecrating the Chrism. (See appendix 2).” Vox Clara and the CDWDS produced a version at the request of the United States Bishop Conference in order to go into the Roman Missal. It was rejected by the US and subsequently redrafted by ICEL. This was circulated to all English-speaking conferences and again rejected. ICEL will in due course probably prepare the text and it will go through the normal preparation processes. For the Chrism Mass, the recommendation is to use the current approved text in the Sacramentary (1985).

4.0 ICEL
Documentation from Archbishop Denis Hart was tabled, namely, a letter and media release from ICEL. The following points were noted:
- ICEL is made up of eleven bishops, each a representative of a different country. Several members of this commission are stepping down and successors will be named in the coming months.
- The newly elected office-bearers are:
  - Chairman: Bishop Arthur Serratelli, Bishop of Paterson
  - Vice-Chairman: Archbishop Denis Hart, Archbishop of Melbourne
  - Treasurer: Archbishop Albert LeGatt, Archbishop of St Boniface
  - Secretary: Archbishop Dominic Jala, Archbishop of Shillong
- Two draft translations (green books) will be distributed for consideration to English-speaking conferences: the Rite of Marriage and the Rite of Confirmation. Grey books are expected in 2013.
- ICEL has sought permission from the Congregation to proceed on other texts.

5.0 National Liturgical Music Board Resource
Father Peter Williams (Chair)
The process of compiling this comprehensive hymnal/worship book has been extremely complex and tedious. The work is proceeding. Full credit to those doing this work, in their own time and without remuneration. Extra credit is due to Mr Bernard Kirkpatrick and Dr Geoffrey Cox for their hours of work in arranging music, editing and scanning scores. Thanks also to Father Bill Jordan and Father Tom Knowles SSS for checking the choice of texts. A question was raised as to whether more “contemporary” liturgical music ought to be included. It was noted that the NLMB resource does contain a substantial number of compositions published after the release of Together in Song in 1999, including the ACBC recommended Mass settings. It was suggested parishes in remote communities could benefit from recordings, as they have sometimes have few or no musicians. See, also, more recent NLMB report below. (See later report, page 3, for update.)

6.0 Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children
The directive from the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments is that each Bishops Conference may produce texts for their own needs. EPS for Masses with
Children in their current form are to be amended to reflect the new translation. It was proposed that Archbishop Mark Coleridge consolidate the three EPs for Masses with Children into one text. The NLC felt that as Eucharistic Prayer No.2 is the most widely used, it should be taken as the basis. The Memorial Acclamations need to be based on those in the Missal. Archbishop Mark Coleridge will produce a draft Eucharistic Prayer for Masses with Children for use in Australia and distribute to NLC members and consultants for comment.

7.0 National Liturgical Architecture and Art Board – Father Stephen Hackett, MSC (Chair)

The NLAAB report focussed upon the original mandate of the NLMB which arose out of the 2008 colloquium in Darwin whereupon a request was made for a national body to advise on church architecture and art. The statutes were approved by the ACBC in 2009 and the board was established in 2010. Its members have been meeting biannually since that time. At present, there are two NLMB projects in the pipeline. The first is to produce some national guidelines on liturgical art and architecture. The second is to hold a national conference, possibly next year (e.g. 13, 14, 15 November 2013) at ACU in Melbourne. (See later report below for update.)

8.0 Tertiary Education in Liturgy in Australia

Discussion was held over till next NLC Meeting (5 September 2012) due to lack to time.

9.0 Tertiary Education in Liturgical Music in Australia

Discussion was held over till next NLC Meeting (5 September 2012) due to lack to time.

10.0 NLC Consultants: Appointment and Role

Discussion was devoted to the role of NLC Consultants. Documentation is currently sent to them for comment and some supply valuable replies on the material. Many, however, are not actively involved. A number contributed excellent work on the recent NLC website project and GIRM implementation. It was felt that in the future, the NLC Consultants’ role should be expanded to have them regularly engaged in NLC projects, utilising their skills and energies more fully.

National Liturgical Architecture and Art Board
– Rev Dr Stephen Hackett MSC PP, Chair

Since its inception two years ago, the NLAAB has had as its two main projects to develop national guidelines for church art and architecture, and to host a national symposium on the church design process. The guidelines project is ongoing, with a meeting of the working party indicated for November in Brisbane. The symposium proposal is well advanced, but has faced a number of obstacles. The recent NLAAB meeting reviewed the proposal in the light of emerging difficulties and adopted a new framework for the symposium. Once dates, venues and keynote speakers have been confirmed, a ‘date claimer’ will be circulated. It is clear, though, that the initially preferred dates in late 2013 are not going to be possible, with early 2014 more likely.

Other current NLAAB work includes consideration of the reconciliation chapel and places for music ministry in churches, surveying academic programs in church art and architecture, and data projection in churches.

NLC Possible Priorities: 2012-2014

A special session of the Hobart Liturgy Conference was devoted to discussion of possible NLC priorities during the next 3 years. In addition to the existing international and national projects (i.e. revision of the Lectionary for Mass, NLAAB Conference in Melbourne, NLAAB Guidelines on Liturgical Art and Environment, NLMB Resource Part I and NLMB Guidelines on Liturgical Music), the following projects were also identified as additional possible priorities:

♦ “Powerful Points” style resource on liturgical rites of the Church

♦ Survey and promotion of national tertiary education in liturgical studies and liturgical music

♦ Development of national guidelines on the following issues: order and theology of sacraments of Christian initiation; Rite of Marriage in Australian context; homiletics

♦ Liturgy of the Hours: adaptation for parish use

♦ NLC/ACBC Office for Research - research into reception and pastoral needs arising from implementation of Roman Missal (2010)

♦ National Liturgical Council website enhancement.

The next NLC meeting will take place at James Goold House, 228 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne on Wednesday 5 September 2012, from 9:30 – 4:30pm.

National Liturgical Music Board Update – Father Peter Williams (Chair)

The NLMB is currently meeting via Skype to discuss comments from consultants (including liturgical musicians in city and country parishes, some RE teachers in Catholic schools and members of the Australian Pastoral Musicians Network) in relation to the draft Order of Contents of the NLMB Music Resource. Many of the accompaniments for the service music, hymns and liturgical songs have been scanned into editable (non-PDF) files to facilitate preparation for publication. It is anticipated that final decisions regarding the Order of Contents will be made in the coming months. Some detailed editorial work is currently being undertaken by the liturgical, textual and musical committees in relation to choices of translations and textual variants, musical settings and new arrangements/accompaniments. Future tasks include preparation of various liturgical indices and negotiations with publishers regarding copyright. Both electronic and hard-copy versions of the resource are being planned and it is hoped that a local publisher will be approached in the very near future. A second part of the resource containing Lectionary material (e.g. Responsorial Psalms, Gospel Acclamations, Sequences, etc.) will be prepared once the translation of the Lectionary for Mass is finalised.
Bishops Commission for Liturgy: Summary of Meeting at ACBC Conference, Sydney 3 May 2012

Present: Most Reverend Mark Coleridge (Chair), Most Reverend Denis Hart, Most Reverend Peter Ingham, Most Reverend Max Davis & Dr Paul Taylor (Executive Secretary).

Lectionary for Mass: Revision
Archbishop Coleridge provided an update on the revision of the Lectionary for Mass (including the ESV translation and revised Grail Psalter), and addressed issues raised in a letter from Bishop Peter Ingham. Bishop Ingham’s letter addressed concerns about the possible use of the ESV Translation and thepastoral implications - and ramifications for composers - if there is a change of translation to the Responsorial Psalms, particularly the responses. In addition, a letter (and accompanying research) from Mr Paul Mason to Archbishop Coleridge was also noted, which highlighted the value of keeping the translation of the current ICEL Responses the same in the revised Lectionary for Mass. The retention of the ICEL responses would enable congregations to continue to sing psalm responses they know. Moreover, composers of existing settings would be required to adapt the verses only to the revised Grail Psalter. Paul Mason’s letter has been passed on to Father Henry Wansborough OSB for reference.

The Roman Pontifical (Vox Clara/CDWDS, 2012) – local status?
The BCL has decided to use the current 1978 ICEL Roman Pontifical until such time as the BCL has reviewed the merits or The Roman Pontifical from Vox Clara/CDWDS.

A brief update was provided about the time-frame for release of the St Pauls Sunday Missal and St Pauls Daily Missal and General Instruction of the Roman Missal (AUS edition) containing the translation in the Roman Missal (2010) which differs somewhat from the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (Strathfield, NSW: St Pauls, 2007) interim translation. The latter are due by c October 2012

Roman Missal: “Book of the Chair”
Some discussion took place about a possible book of the chair to assist priests at Mass. On the one hand, such resources are not officially approved. On the other hand, enquiries have been made about whether it might be possible to produce a resource under a different title. A supplement to the Roman Missal, called Companion, has been approved by the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference, for example, containing texts for use at the Chair during the Proper of Time (i.e. En- trance Antiphon, Collect, Prayer after Communion); the Order of Mass (Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Concluding Rites, Blessings at the End of Mass and Prayers Over the People, Solemn Blessings) and Prayers of Saints. After some discussion, it was agreed that St Pauls Publications, Strathfield, NSW, be invited to make a proposal to the BCL. The BCL indicated that the resource needs to contain: Introductory Rites (including Penitential Act and Alternative Invocations, Gloria (possibly on inside cover), Collect), Creed (possibly on inside cover), Post-Communion Prayer, Solemn Blessings & Prayers Over the People.

Liturgical Texts: Permission to Produce Electronic Versions
After tabling requests from individuals who wish to make available not-for-profit electronic versions of liturgical texts, it was agreed that BCL permission for applications needs to wait until ICEL has developed a policy on copyright on electronic texts.

Sacrosanctum concilium (1963) 50th Anniversary: Commemorative Events
It was noted that a number of publications and diocesan events have been discussed in different quarters to mark the 50th Anniversary of Sacrosanctum concilium (1963). More details will be passed on when they come to hand.

Mass Settings & “Permission to Publish” process
It was suggested that the NLO in collaboration with the NLMB might develop an expanded process for “permission to publish” whereby composers of Mass settings can receive professional guidance about their musical setting of the liturgical texts. Such a process might refer to processes developed overseas (e.g. Scotland National Liturgical Commission). At present, the “permission to publish” approval acknowledges that the liturgical texts (e.g. Glory to God, Memorial Acclamations, etc.) are accurate in terms of word order, punctuation and capitalisation. No judgement is implied regarding the musical quality. However, some promotional initiatives can be taken to infer that “permission to publish” approval does imply ACBC endorsement of the musical quality.

Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop: Submission to become a Patron of Australia
In response to the request for the ACBC to resubmit a request to the CDWDS for Saint Mary of the Cross to become a patron of Australia, the BCL suggested Bishop James Foley be asked to prepare a draft “relatio” and that this be forwarded to Archbishop Coleridge for final revision.

Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments
In June 2012, ICEL Chairman, Bishop Arthur Roche (Leeds, UK) was appointed to succeed Archbishop Augustine Di Noia, OP as Secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments in Rome. We wish Archbishop Roche every blessing in his important role.

ICEL: Proposed Secretaries Meeting
ICEL has proposed that secretaries of National Liturgical Commissions/Councils will gather in Washington DC for a 3-4 day meeting in February 2013. The agenda is likely to include discussion of the following issues: appraisal of texts and music in the Roman Missal, ICEL’s future schedule of translations and national Conferences’ input; dealing with ‘hybrid books’ of liturgical rites; and electronic media in the digital age and copyright.
News from ICEL - Revision of Liturgical Books

The Executive Director of ICEL, Monsignor Andrew Wadsworth, has indicated (24 May 2012) that the schedule of ICEL’s future work in revising liturgical books, in order to accord with the Roman Missal and the requirements of *Liturgiam Authenticam* will be as follows:

2012: Green Books for Marriage and Confirmation  
2013: Grey Books for Marriage and Confirmation  
        Green Books for Supplement to the Liturgy of the Hours, Dedication, Exorcism  
2014: Grey Books for Supplement to the Liturgy of the Hours, Dedication, Exorcism  
        Green Books for Baptism and Christian Initiation  
2015: Grey Books for Baptism and Christian Initiation  
        Green Books for Ordination and Ceremonial of Bishops  
        Green Books for Supplement to the Liturgy of the Hours, Dedication, Exorcism

The ACBC secretariat has forwarded the Green Books for Rites of Marriage and Confirmation to the Australian bishops and the NLO has sent copies to NLC Members whose comments are due back to NLO by 1 October 2012. Comments will be collated for BCL to return to ICEL by 15 December 2012.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Bishops Commission for Liturgy

We thank Archbishop Denis Hart (Melbourne) and Bishop Peter Ingham (Wollongong) for their dedicated and pastoral service to the Bishops Commission for Liturgy. We also warmly congratulate Archbishop Hart upon his election as President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, a wonderful expression of esteem and a national honour for him in his ministry. We thank him for sharing his liturgical expertise and administrative experience at both international and local levels. Archbishop Hart continues as the Australian episcopal representative on ICEL and is the current Vice-Chairman. Bishop Ingham has concluded a nine-year term, and we thank him, too, for his pastoral inspiration and encouragement. In their place, we welcome and look forward to working with Bishop Peter Elliott (Auxiliary Bishop and Director of the John Paul II Institute for Marriage and the Family in the Archdiocese of Melbourne) [his publications include *What God Has Joined: The Sacramentality of Marriage* (Alba House) and *Ceremonies of the Modern Roman Rite* (Ignatius)] and Bishop Geoffrey Jarrett of Lismore. Archbishop Mark Coleridge continues as BCL Chairman for a three-year term and Bishop Max Davis (Military Ordinariate) continues as the fourth episcopal member.

National Liturgical Council

We also thank Sister Ursula O’Rourke, SGS (Brisbane) and Bishop Paul Bird, CSSR (Ballarat) for their dedicated contribution to the NLC over the past two decades, particularly their work on the revision process of liturgical books, formulation of liturgical policies and position papers and contributions to committees associated with implementation of the revised Roman Missal (2010). Bishop Bird has also been one of the Catholic representatives at the Australian Consultation on Liturgy (ACOL), contributing alongside Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Mrs Elizabeth Harrington and Father Christopher Willcock SJ. We welcome one new NLC member, Father Stephen Hackett MSC, PP (Camp Hill, Brisbane), Chair of the National Liturgical Art and Architecture Board who recently completed a PhD dissertation (Univ. of NSW) entitled *The Architecture of Liturgy: Liturgical Ordering in Church Design; The Australian Experience in Perspective.*

NLC Consultants

We thank especially Father Pat Flanagan PE (Red Cliffs, Ballarat Diocese) who has resigned as an NLC Consultant after more than thirty years of valued service. “Flags” has provided perceptive pastoral feedback and scholarly advice to the BCL on English translations of liturgical books, particularly the recent revision of the Roman Missal. He has also provided a variety of reflections on liturgical renewal and possible pastoral-liturgical adaptations from the perspective of a Parish Priest working in a country diocese. We welcome as NLC Consultants Dr Margaret Smith SGS (currently a Lecturer in Liturgy at Yarra Theological Union, Box Hill and Catholic Theological College, East Melbourne) [her publications include *Facing Death Together: Parish Funerals* (LTP) and *Children’s Daily Prayer: Under the Southern Cross* (Spectrum)] and Father John Fitz-Herbert, PP (Lutwyche Parish, Brisbane) who is also completing a doctorate at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, specialising in liturgy.

Bishops

Warm congratulations to Archbishop Mark Coleridge, BCL Chairman, as successor to Archbishop John Bathersby, as the new Archbishop of Brisbane; and Bishop Paul Bird, CSSR, former member of the National Liturgical Council, who has been appointed to succeed Bishop Peter Connors as the new Bishop of Ballarat. We wish them all God’s blessings in their new roles.