

# Annual Strategic Overview

## Diocesan Liturgy Council, 2021

### PROFILE: *Diocesan Liturgy Council*



Updated June 21, 2021

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**Diocesan Vision**     *“To live the joy of the Gospel and share it with the world.”*

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**Vision and  
Mission  
Statement**

**Vision**

The full, conscious and active participation of the faithful in liturgy,  
the source of the true Christian Spirit and all missionary endeavour.

[Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (SC) a. 14, 10]

**Mission**

To be of service to the diocesan community by engaging in dialogue that promotes  
a passion for the spirit of the sacred liturgy and an understanding of its principles and practice  
such that the celebration of the liturgy is appropriate for the community who gathers.

(SC a. 14, 17, 43-45)

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**Guiding  
Principles**

1. The liturgical life of the Church is comprised of a rich feast of rites, ordered with Eucharist and the sacraments at the centre. (CSL a. 6)
  2. Christ is always present in the Church, especially in its liturgical celebrations. (CSL a. 7) Liturgy is the work of Christ which takes place through the power of the Spirit. (CSL n. 6)
  3. Every liturgy is a proclamation and celebration of the Paschal Mystery. (CSL n. 6, 26)
  4. Liturgy is formational - The liturgy is the primary and indispensable source from which the faithful are to derive the true Christian spirit. (CSL n. 14, 33)
  5. Liturgy is a communal activity: the whole public worship of the Church, a celebration (action) of the whole Church. (GIRM a. 5) Its nature therefore is both communal and hierarchic. (CSL a. 7, 26-32)
  6. People must be called to faith and conversion before they can come to the liturgy. (CSL a. 9)
  7. The very nature of the liturgy requires the full, conscious and active participation of all the faithful as their right and responsibility by virtue of their baptism
  8. Liturgy is sacramental in nature (CSL a. 33)
  9. The liturgy achieves its intention (glorification and sanctification) through symbols (signs) perceptible to the senses and in ways proper to each of these signs. This work is signified through the liturgy's symbols (signs). (CSL n. 7)
  10. Sacred Scripture is essential to the celebration of liturgy. (CSL n. 24)
  11. Liturgy is the summit and the source of all the activity and power of the Church. (CSL a. 10) AND Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life. (LG a. 11)
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12. The Bishop is the chief liturgist of the diocese. (SC a. 41 and 45) The liturgical life of the diocese is centred around the bishop, especially when he presides at eucharist in the Cathedral. (SC a. 41)

And the theological principles as included and outlined in the *Diocesan Pastoral Plan*

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## Protocols and Practices

The *Diocesan Liturgy Council* (DLC) operates under the direction of the Bishop, according to the requirements of the relevant Church documents and in the light of its Statutes. The Council has developed its Stewardship Plan to support and enhance its particular form of service

- The Executive is elected in the middle of the year at the June or July meeting.
- The Council usually meets monthly from February to December inclusive
- The agenda is prepared by the Manager of Worship and Prayer in consultation with the Executive.
- All Council members may submit agenda items.
- The agenda and meeting papers are distributed one week prior to the meeting.
- Minutes are distributed within a week of the meeting.
- Minutes, or sections thereof, will be sent to non-Council meeting participants as appropriate.
- As appropriate council members participate in Diocesan Liturgy Forums, Working Parties and other groups the council establishes, and assist with formation opportunities
- All groups established by and accountable to the DLC are provided with appropriate documentation which outlines their mandate and responsibilities.

The Diocesan Liturgy Council -

- Maintains links with state and national liturgical Councils
- Consults with professional liturgists as necessary
- Pursues ongoing formation
- Maintains realistic expectations based on the skills and availability of its members and office staffing

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## DLC Profile

The *Diocesan Liturgy Council* has 8 appointed members: Allen Brierley (Assistant Master of Ceremonies), Monique Crick, Fr. Andrew Doohan (Master of Ceremonies), Fiona Duque, Uta France, Louise Gannon rsj (Diocesan Manager of Worship and Prayer), Anne Millard (Cathedral Director of Music), Cathy White, and an associate member – Ed Wright.

The Council works with the support of Liturgy Office which includes Louise Gannon rsj and Sharon Murphy who provides administrative support.

The Council's strength lies in the wide liturgical knowledge and experience shared by its members and the variety of perspectives they bring to the work of the Council including clergy and lay, male and female, city and country, parish and school, academic and pastoral.

The Liturgy Council also has responsibility for Christian Initiation (RCIA) in the diocese.

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# 2021 Ministry: Council and Office

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## **Formation:** (DLC)

Ongoing formation for the College of Assistant Masters of Ceremonies (AD & LG)

Introduction to RCIA with the Pastoral Placement Participants (LG)

Initial Formation Process for the 'Diocesan Liturgy Forum: Christian Initiation' (DLF:CI). (LG and AD)

Christian Formation course – Liturgy Unit. (DLC)

Remaining Faithful refresher for Maitland Pastoral Region (LG, CW and UF)

Stepping Stones with Myall Coast Parish. (LG and UF)

sacraments of Initiation conversation (cf. confirmation). (DLF)

CSO Secondary Ministry Co-ordinators Assembly Day. (LG and Adam Frost)

## **Liturgy Preparation support** (Manager and DLC)

Diocesan Liturgies/rituals

Installation of parish leaders (MC)

Catechists Mass (Faith Formation and Education Office and LG)

Chrism Mass – (Chrism Mass Standing Committee)

RCIA:

Rite of Election (AD, Anne Millard and Diocesan Liturgy Forum: Christian Initiation)

Neophyte Gathering with Bishop Bill

Synod prayers and liturgies (Working Party)

Dedication of St. Christopher's Oratory Medowie. (LG and AD)

Parish Liturgies

Confirmation liturgies

Agency Liturgies

CSO Liturgies:

Called to Serve liturgy – celebrated locally (CSO RE/Spirit Team and LG)

Celebration of 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia (CSO RE/Spirit team and LG)

CatholicCare:

Blessing and Opening of the Rosewood Centre (LG)

School Liturgies

Opening School Liturgy: Catherine McAuley College (School and LG)

Blessing and Opening: St. Patrick's Lochinvar (School and LG)

Clergy Liturgies: (MC with LG )

Funerals: Frs Paul O'Neill and Lex Levey

Ordination (Deacon) Solomon Okovido

## **Developing and supporting the liturgical life of the diocese** (DLC and others)

Diocesan Liturgy Forums

Christian Initiation

Stepping Stones – Initial gathering.

DLC Working Parties

Synod Liturgies

St Josephine Bakhita

DLC Standing Committees:

Chrism Mass

Perpetual Day of Remembrance

Liturgical and prayer response to COVID 19 (AD and LG)

Penance Project - ongoing

Revision of the Pastoral Guidance for the Preparation and Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation - Pending

Participation in various conversations as required to bring a liturgical perspective (LG)

Engagement with parish and school liturgy teams in response to enquiries (LG)

Conversations with CSO RE/Spirit team re liturgy in schools (AD and LG)

Conversations between the DLC and CSO RE/Spirit Team

Promoting Paschal Candles in schools

Conversations with parish bereavement teams (LG)

**Engagement with Bishop**

Conversations scheduled as needed.

**General Business** (Mainly Office)

Meeting preparation and follow up

- Diocesan Liturgy Council

- Diocesan Liturgy Forum: Christian Initiation

- College of Assistant Masters of Ceremonies

- Perpetual Day of Remembrance Standing Committee

- Chrism Mass Standing Committee

Copyright issues (Sharon)

Diocesan website (LG and Sharon)

Promotions of events (Sharon)

Communication (Sharon)

- Liturgy Matters in Dio Update (LG and others)

- Ordering Annual Liturgical Resources

- Ordering and collecting Paschal Candles

**National networking** (LG)

National Liturgy Council Meetings (LG)

Australian Academy of Liturgy (AD)

**Council Formation** (DLC)

Based on Readings – via a process of Mystagogical and Theological Reflection (LG)

Various courses, lectures and webinars offered by a range of providers via ZOOM

Reviewing Council membership and forms of belonging and association.

**Christian Initiation - RCIA**

Responding to existing RCIA ministers and enquirers (LG)

Planning Formation opportunities for the diocesan community.

**Diocesan – Pastoral Ministries**

Participating in the Pastoral Ministries team, including providing a liturgical perspective and general support.

Combined Committee for Child Protection Week and Perpetual Day of Remembrance. (LG)