

GENERAL SYNOD 2017

Liturgical Advisory Committee Report Proposer: The Very Revd Nigel Dunne

Embargoed Against Delivery
Check Against Delivery

Your Grace,

The Liturgical Advisory Committee has again had several major projects at the heart of its work over the last year.

As noted in our report, the most significant piece of work brought to completion was that of the new Morning and Evening Prayer for Use on Sundays. The idea was originally tabled by our Chairman, Bishop Harold Miller, as there seemed to be widespread feeling that Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer in their traditional forms, designed to be daily offices rather than principal Sunday services, do not always make for meaningful Sunday worship.

Some people, particularly from the background I come from, might say that we have plenty of provision for Sunday use and isn't the Eucharist the primary Sunday service anyway?

Well maybe so, but the reality is that most parishes have long established patterns of Sunday worship which include Morning Prayer anything from once to three times a month. Since the Service of the Word is designed for only occasional use (and with permission of the ordinary) we felt that the time had come to provide something a lot more 'user friendly' for use on Sundays.

Following extensive discussions on what shape the new service might take, our Resources Group worked on several drafts and you have before you today the finished product in the Schedule to Motion No. 3. One of the key principles behind the format of this service was to echo some of the already familiar patterns embedded in the principal services in Book of Common Prayer. And so we have a clearly defined structure to the service with The Gathering of God's People, Proclaiming and Receiving the Word, The Response to God's Word, The Prayers of the People, and Going Out as God's People.

Another new and significant element of this service is the inclusion of the Collect of the Word either before or after the Sermon. This is designed to give prayerful focus to the Proclaiming and Receiving of the Word tied in to the readings of the day.

We wish to put on record our thanks to the Revd Ken Rue for the enormous amount of work he did in compiling these collects, which are the subject of Motion No. 4 today.

It is important to note that while the new service is laid out in full and can be used 'as is' there is significant scope for appropriate seasonal material to be used throughout the year.

We will be producing an extensive library of seasonal resources on the Church of Ireland website to coincide with the publication of the new service next year.

This new service, alongside the other relatively minor legislative interventions on behalf of the committee, if passed, will allow for the urgently needed reprint of *The Book of Common Prayer* to take place in late 2018.

The other piece of work that was brought to completion, this time by our Hymnal Committee, in the last year was the recording of the music CDs containing 169 hymns from *Thanks & Praise*. This was the final piece of work on this project and we hope that it is enriching worship throughout the island.

The seconder of this report will speak about some of the other projects which are either under way or have just begun. Your Grace, I have pleasure in proposing that the report of the Liturgical Advisory Committee be received.