

Liturgical Advisory Committee – Report 2011  
**THE LITURGICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**REPORT 2011**

**MEMBERSHIP ELECTED 2010**

The Rt Rev Harold Miller (Chair)	Rev Alan Ruffi
The Rt Rev Michael Burrows (Vice Chair)	Rev Elizabeth Hanna
Rev Canon Gerald Field (Hon Secretary)	Rev Peter McDowell
Rev Canon Michael Kennedy	Mrs Jacqui Wilkinson
Ven Richard Rountree	Mrs Alison Cadden
Rev Dr Maria Jansson	Ms Julie Bell

**Co-opted Members**

Rev Peter Thompson  
Rev Adrian Dorrian  
Rev Sandra Pragnell  
Rev Robert Ferris  
Rev Ken Rue

**Consultants**

Canon Lady Shiel  
Rev Canon Brian Mayne  
Rev Canon Edgar Turner  
Dr Donald Davison

**Church of Ireland Theological Institute Rep**

Mr Jim Conlan

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Liturgical Advisory Committee (LAC) continues to work on behalf of the Church of Ireland in considering the diverse elements which are brought together when a community meets for worship. The sub-committees which have served the LAC so well during the past triennium continue to be the focus of discussion, planning and action. Completed projects and future plans have brought about a revision of the sub-committees, which now function in the areas of Liturgical Education and Formation, Music and Art, with Liturgical Resources and Electronic Liturgy having been amalgamated. The Liturgical Space sub-committee has completed its task.

The objectives for the coming year will be the production of the second volume in the *PRISM Series*, continuing development and enhancement of the worship webpages, consideration of worship resources for Lent, Holy Week and Easter pertinent to the Church of Ireland, and a review of musical resources in the area of hymnody. The involvement of the Church of Ireland continues to be valued and respected within the international and interdenominational liturgical forums. The LAC will once again represent the Church of Ireland at the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation in Canterbury, England in August, and the Four Nations Liturgical Group (an annual conference of representatives from the Liturgical committees of the Anglican churches in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales).

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### **REPORT**

A number of projects which the Committee has been working on came to fruition in the past year, most notably the final edition in the three-year cycle of *Singing Psalms* and the publication of guidelines for those considering the development and use of liturgical space in our churches.

The work of Mrs Alison Cadden and Rev Peter Thompson in producing an alternative to Anglican Chant or simply saying the psalms has been on-going for four years. The publication of *Singing Psalms Year A* in time for Advent Sunday 2010 brings to a conclusion their work on the Sunday Lectionary Psalms, on behalf of the LAC and for the Church of Ireland. The LAC wishes to express its deepest appreciation to Alison and Peter for their generosity of time and talents in enabling this project to reach fruition, both through the printed volumes and their piloting of their work as the publications were launched across the country. The three volumes of *Singing Psalms* will be a lasting testament to their contribution to the liturgy of the Church and a great resource within the Church of Ireland (and beyond) for many years. As a Committee we wish also to express our thanks to Columba Press for their support of this project over the period of its development through their publishing facilities.

Following its presentation to General Synod last year and Synod's authorization for publication, *Liturgical Space and Church Re-ordering: issues of good practice* (produced by Church of Ireland Publishing) was launched in November 2010 and has been made available to all parishes and their clergy for reference.

The Committee also completed its work on a eucharistic prayer which may be used when a significant number of children are present. The final draft was presented to the archbishops and bishops, which approved a seven year experimental use from December 2010.

The final work to be completed, which was highlighted in last year's report, was the guidelines for good practice in the liturgical use of oil.

By its very nature the work of the Committee is dependent not just upon the resources of its membership, but also on suggestions made to it by those within the Church community in highlighting possible areas of liturgical development. We are grateful to all those who over the past year have identified ways in which we may support them in their ministry of worship.

### **LITURGICAL EDUCATION AND FORMATION**

Following on from the success of *Celebrating Communion*, the first in the *PRISM* series of parish based liturgical education programmes, the authors have been working on the second volume in the series looking at baptism. It is expected that we will have this resource available for parish use later in the year and, as was the case with the first volume in the series, the expectation is that this may be used in a variety of ways within the parish setting.

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### **ART**

This is a process of continuing exploration under three headings: building, liturgy and publicity. The LAC will consider the material presented relating to these areas during the coming year.

### **MUSIC**

Under this heading a new sub-committee has been formed to consider the subject of hymnody. As reported last year, it is over ten years since Church Hymnal 5 was published and over fifteen years since the original committee began its work on its composition. During that time significant new hymnody resources have been produced which have led to particular areas of consideration by the sub-committee, including material which is suitable for worship with children, 'new' material that has emerged in recent years, liturgical resources and popular hymns which are absent from Church Hymnal 5. The sub-committee welcomes the involvement of the Dublin and Glendalough Church Music Committee, and appreciates the suggestions already submitted from across the wider Church of Ireland and would welcome further suggestions for items that might be included in a modest, low-cost supplement to the hymnal.

### **LITURGICAL RESOURCES & ELECTRONIC LITURGY**

It has been the intention of the LAC that, wherever possible, new liturgical resource material be made available to parishes and clergy via the worship pages of the Church of Ireland website. To facilitate this, the Committee decided to amalgamate the Resources and Electronic Liturgy Sub-committees. The first task of this group was to upload the content of the previously circulated green folder *The Book of Common Prayer Resource Manual*. This was completed in November 2010 and all future additions to those resources will be added via the Resources section of the website.

After extensive revision Canon Michael Kennedy has completed the updating of his *Commentaries on the 2004 Edition of the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of Ireland*. The Commentaries are in five sections, Morning and Evening Prayer and the Litany; the Eucharist; Christian Initiation; the Pastoral Offices; the Ordinal.

It is envisaged that this work will be made available through electronic publication, in collaboration between the General Synod's Literature Committee and the Liturgical Advisory Committee.

As noted in last year's report, the work of this sub-committee is largely dependent upon the needs of parishes and worship co-ordinators being identified and communicated to it. Once again we would encourage those involved in planning worship to advise the Committee, through the Diocesan Liturgical Officers, of any resources they feel the LAC may be able to help provide.

The work of this sub-committee in the area of Electronic Liturgy has continued to focus upon the worship pages of the Church of Ireland website. The Sunday lectionary readings are available via the Calendar, with the Daily Lectionary linked to the order for Daily Prayer having come on stream in autumn 2010.

As reported last year, discussions with the author have taken place to make available on line Bishop Edward Darling's valuable resource *Sing to the Word*. Now that the book is unfortunately out of print, Bishop Darling has generously given permission for *Sing to*

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*the Word* to be included initially in the Sunday Lectionary resources of the worship page. The suggested hymns for each Sunday (relevant to the Readings) appear below the Post-Communion Prayer.

Following last year's advice to registered users of the electronic liturgy software *Visual Liturgy 4* was to continue using VL4 without the upgrade to VL Live whilst talks were undertaken with the new publishers (Hymns Ancient and Modern) we can report that an agreement has been reached whereby an updated Irish module calendar for Visual Liturgy is available. Those wanting information on how to access the update are invited to contact Rev Alan Rufli.

### **FUTURE PLANS:**

Our future plans include:

- looking toward the development of future programmes in the *Prism* series;
- developing liturgies for Lent, Holy Week and Easter, supplementing for use in the Church of Ireland the Church of England's recent publication *Times and Seasons*;
- gathering of supplemental Hymn Resources;
- further developing the worship section of the website;
- continuing to represent the Church of Ireland in the wider national and international liturgical forums, so that resources and ideas which might be of value in the celebration of our liturgy are available for our use from the wider Church.

### **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

Following his ordination last year Rev Paul Arbuthnot (formerly the CITC observer on the LAC) was replaced on the Committee by Mr Jim Conlon. In recent years the LAC has recognised its limitations with regard to marketing the work it produces. We are most grateful to Mr Richard Ryan for agreeing to act as a consultant to the LAC in regard to this matter.