

**LITURGICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**REPORT 2007**

**MEMBERSHIP ELECTED IN 2004**

Rt Revd HC Miller (Chairman)	Revd Canon D Williams
Rt Revd MAJ Burrows (Vice-Chairman)	Revd MP Jansson
Revd Canon RB Rountree (Hon-Secretary)	Revd SA Pragnell
Rt Revd PF Barrett (until 25 January 2006)	Lady Sheil
Very Revd SH Lowry (until 25 September 2006)	Mrs A Cadden
Ven DA Pierpoint	Ms J Martin
Revd Canon MC Kennedy	Mr G Fromholz

***Co-opted members***

Revd Canon JAB Mayne  
Revd CM Woods (Asst Hon Secretary)  
Revd AJ Ruffli

***Consultants***

Revd TW Gordon  
Revd Canon RE Turner

***Student Observer***

Mr B O'Reilly

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

For a great part of its history the Liturgical Advisory Committee has been engaged in the production of liturgical texts, sometimes intensively, as, for example, during the periods leading up to the appearance of the *Alternative Prayer Book* (1984) and *The Book of Common Prayer*. This still remains an important part of its remit as seen in the proposals for a revision of the Institution Service to be brought before Synod this year for their second and third reading. However, during the past three years the emphasis has shifted from producing forms of worship to encouragement of their proper use. Four areas of significance have been focused on: liturgical education and formation; music art and liturgical space; liturgical resources; and electronic liturgy. During the past year much work has been done by the sub-committees concerned with these particular areas.

**LITURGICAL EDUCATION AND FORMATION**

With regard to liturgical education and formation a two-day session in Wexford proved most fruitful in moving on a project to supply an education programme for parish groups involving Holy Communion Two in *The Book of Common Prayer* and relating the main headings of this to the seasons of the Church's year. It did not prove practicable to have a pilot scheme ready (as had originally been intended) for use by selected parishes from the beginning of Advent 2006 but it is hoped that it will be available in 2007 so that the whole programme may be finalised in the following year.

## LITURGICAL RESOURCES

The liturgical resources group has a double task: to produce particular resources required specifically for the Church of Ireland and to make these available and to help people to be aware of material compatible with the 2004 edition of *The Book of Common Prayer* which has been produced elsewhere. During the year a ring binder entitled *The Book of Common Prayer: Resource Manual* was circulated to the clergy and containing a wide variety of material ranging from forms of Holy Communion for use in home ministry to advice on creating orders of service for single occasions. It is intended that, as more material is produced, it will be sent out and can be included in the ring binder.

In September 2006, an A4 size large-print presentation edition of the Holy Communion was published in conjunction with Columba Press to add to the suite of editions of *The Book of Common Prayer* and to assist those clergy with particular sight difficulties. The committee arranged for the publication of the table of Sunday and weekday readings in a separate edition. It was felt that this would be of help to those leading worship and for coordinators of readers. During the year the *Oxford Guide to The Book of Common Prayer* was published with sections written by Bishop Harold Miller and Canon Brian Mayne.

The committee would wish to draw attention to the availability of excellent resource material from the Church of England and other parts of the Anglican Communion, notably *Common Worship: Times and Seasons* which incorporates and updates much that was familiar previously through such publications as *Lent, Holy Week, Easter* and *The Promise of His Glory*. Explanatory literature such as that by David Kennedy, *Using Common Worship: Times and Seasons, All Saints to Candlemas* has also begun to appear. A visit during the year from Mr Andrew Sweeney who spoke to the committee on behalf of Church House Publishing, helped to keep members abreast of what was likely to become available.

## MUSIC, ART, AND THE USE OF LITURGICAL SPACE

The area delineated under the heading of Music, Art and the Use of Liturgical Space is so comprehensive that consideration was given to some kind of sub-division of personnel. Work on new ways of singing the psalms has continued during the past year and it is intended that in due course this will be made widely available. It is hoped that the complete cycle of psalms for the principal Sunday service in the lectionary will be ready for Advent 2007. Work on this is time-consuming for those concerned and has also required financial backing (for example for the Sibelius computer programme and the production of CDs).

## ELECTRONIC LITURGY

The issue of liturgy in electronic form is an important development. Progress is being made on an electronic version of the *Church Hymnal* which would be separate from *Visual Liturgy* but would link in with it and would be made available on CD.

### **CHURCH OF IRELAND WEBSITE**

The redesign of the Church of Ireland website is of significance to the LAC. Arrangements for liturgical material to be made accessible on the web are being undertaken.

### **VISUAL LITURGY LIVE**

The Church of Ireland has been actively involved in the production of the latest version of *Visual Liturgy*, the worship planning software. A significant update for the Church of Ireland will be available later this year.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

A wide variety of matters was considered by the committee in the course of the year including the Daily Lectionary, Children and Communion, Holy Communion by Extension, and problems (for example for coeliacs) over eucharistic food:

#### **(a) Copyright**

The use of computer generated resources for ‘printed’ church services has highlighted the need for copyright compliance by individual parishes. To this end the LAC instigated discussions with Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI) in regard to copyright issues concerning the reproduction of Hymns and worship songs. Following a presentation to Standing Committee in April 2006, Standing Committee set up a sub committee to progress discussions between the Church of Ireland and CCLI to provide a block copyright licence scheme for the whole Church of Ireland.

#### **(b) Eucharistic Food**

There is growing concern over the nature of the type of bread and wine being used for the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The committee considered how best to promote the use of gluten-free bread for those people who are coeliac; and considered if it would be doctrinally permissible to use non-alcoholic wine where there are known to be members of a congregation with alcohol-related problems. The discussions continue.

#### **(c) Methodist Observer**

In the light of the ecumenically significant covenant between the Church of Ireland and the Methodist Church, the committee discussed the ways and means of having a Methodist observer at its sessions.

#### **(d) Resignations and Farewells**

During the year the resignations of two members of the Committee were received with regret, the Very Revd Stephen Lowry and the Revd Canon Brian Mayne. The immense contribution of Canon Mayne as a former Honorary Secretary of the Committee, as the editor of the 2004 edition of *The Book of Common Prayer* and as one of the Church of Ireland’s representatives on the Inter-Anglican Liturgical Consultation was acknowledged by the Committee.

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