

Diocese of Antigonish Liturgical Commission
Annual Report September June 2019 – June 2020

MEMBERSHIP: Bishop Wayne Joseph Kirkpatrick, Regina Tate, Pat Gillis, Debbie Aker, Cathy Walsh, Cathy MacInnis, Sandra Haley, Joan Bona, Margie Gillis, Sr. Sandra Cooke, csm, Deacon Berkley Guthro, Fr. Bedford Doucette, Fr. Bill Burke, Fr. Conrad Edwards, Director.

RCIA WORKSHOP, OCTOBER 2018: Held a day-long workshop for parishes hosting and RCIA process and parishes interested in revising this ministry in their community. Fr. Mark Gatto, Diocese of Hamilton facilitated the day.

PSALM & CANTOR WORKSHOPS: Two workshops were held in New Glasgow and Sydney, facilitated by Rosemary McGhee.

ONGOING FORMATION for LITURGY COMMISSION: The Commission completed study of the *Our Place of Worship* document and began discussion on the use of so-called “praise & worship” music for Mass.

RECONCILIATION SERVICES for ADVENT & LENT: Provide complete liturgies for parishes that wish to celebrate a Rite II Reconciliation Service during Advent and Lent.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER: Weekly distribution of intercessions for weekend liturgies to help create a better sense of diocesan unity as we all pray for upcoming events, or particular diocesan circumstances.

MINISTRY WORKSHOPS: Respond to requests for ongoing training/workshops for liturgical ministries, including Music, Reader, Altar Server and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. We provide material from the office, answer questions, offer suggestions and guidance and continue to offer workshops for parishes upon request.

LICENSING FOR MUSIC IN ONLINE LITURGIES: Information was provided from the National Liturgy Office to all dioceses in Canada that for those presenting online liturgies and using music that no music can be used (apart from those pieces in the public domain) unless the presenting parish has a Podcast/Streaming License. The Liturgy Office has worked to provide this for our parishes to comply with licensing standards and legal requirement.

FALL NEWSLETTER: A newsletter was sent to all pastors (with the hope that they share it with their parishioners) in November, in preparation for Advent.

LITURGICAL PREPARATIONS for MAJOR EVENTS: The Liturgy Office and Commission were asked to assist with several large events: Diocese 175th Anniversary Celebrations (Day for Clergy at Marguerite Bourgeois Parish, Sydney, Day for Catechetics at St. Joseph Parish, Port Hawkesbury and the Anniversary Mass at St. Ninian Cathedral), the farewell celebrations for Archbishop Brian Dunn, and the welcome liturgies (Evening Prayer and Mass) for Bishop Wayne Joseph Kirkpatrick, the preparation for the Chrism Mass (cancelled), as well as the planning and preparations for the Eucharistic Congress that was to be held in June 2020, but cancelled due to the pandemic. The Liturgy Office was asked to help coordinate the diocesan protocols as we continue to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic.

MUSIC WORKSHOP: A music workshop attended by 50 people, led by Rosemary McGhee, was held Saturday, November 23 at St. Joseph Church, Port Hawkesbury. Items covered included Psalms (the history of Psalms and why do we do them), role of Cantor, liturgical best practices, some information on Praise and Worship Music, and the Heritage Mass will be introduced as our new Mass setting for the diocese, as well as an introduction to a couple of the hymns from the proposed new national hymnal.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Conrad Edwards, Director, Liturgy Office
August, 2020.