

Liturgy Committee Report 2019

Liturgy comes from the Greek word meaning *the work of the people* and translates idiomatically as *public service*. In secular terms, it is the customary public worship performed by a religious group according to its beliefs, customs, and traditions.

I became chairperson of our Parish Liturgy Committee in October 2016. Our Liturgy Committee is made up of representatives from our four faith communities. We now have a coordinator for liturgy in each community: Julie McCracken at St Peter Chanel, Bernadette Avison at Sacred Heart, and Kathy Kavanagh at Our Lady of Lourdes. I would like to acknowledge Hera Ferris at Immaculate Conception and also Charles Ropitini who are always available to help. These people are the key personnel who will co-ordinate the people in each community for the various liturgical activities.

Some examples of the work we do as a committee:

- Preparing liturgy for Christmas, Easter, many Feast Days as well as days of significance for Aotearoa.
- Responsible for decorating our Churches in relation to the liturgy being celebrated.
- Responsible for the training and organization of the Ministers of the Word and Eucharistic Ministers
- Responsible for organizing Rite II Reconciliation liturgical services.
- Organizing Anointing Masses.
- Helping and supporting Sacristans in their work.
- *Most importantly* -working in close relationship with our priests. I would like to take the opportunity on behalf of our committee to thank Frs Vince and Brian for all their guidance and support.

Our main professional focus this year has been working through the papers "Guidelines for Liturgical Committees" which was published by the Auckland Diocese. We called a special meeting to discuss these guidelines as we needed plenty of time to assimilate the ideas that were put forward. We intend to put more time aside to continue our development on these Liturgy Guidelines. Over the past year I have lead two meetings for our musical coordinators which have proved very worthwhile with people helping as well as sharing ideas and resources.

If you have any ideas or concerns about liturgy, please don't hesitate to contact me as we all want to work together for the benefit of our parish.

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