



MEDIA STATEMENT

JUNE 5, 2025

Melbourne priest takes on national liturgy role

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has appointed Fr Anthony (Tony) Doran as Executive Secretary for Liturgy.

Bishops Commission for Liturgy chair Archbishop Patrick O'Regan welcomed the appointment on behalf of the commission.

"He has a unique set of qualities that qualify him for this role: a lived faith; a deep understanding and love for the liturgy; a knowledge of its history and theology and his many years of experience as a pastor," Archbishop O'Regan said.

"All these qualities stand him in good stead to assist the commission in its work."

The Melbourne priest will support the work of the Bishops Commission for Liturgy and its three advisory councils: the National Liturgical Council, the National Liturgical Music Council, and the National Liturgical Architecture and Art Council. Fr Tony is currently a member of the NLAAC.

Prior to entering the seminary, Fr Tony was a secondary school teacher, teaching in country and suburban schools in Victoria.

Ordained in 2003, he has held various appointments in suburban and country parishes.

He completed further studies in liturgy, focussing on the Rite of Dedication of a Church.

He has written for various Australian Liturgical journals (*Liturgy News*, *The Summit*, *Pastoral Liturgy* and *The Australian Journal of Liturgy*), is a past president of the Australian Academy of Liturgy, and a member of *Societas Liturgica*, the international society for liturgical study and renewal.

"This new role offers me a unique opportunity to bring together my lifelong interest in the liturgical life of the Church with my experience as a presbyter, leader, and educator to support the work of the Church across Australia," Fr Tony said.

A major project over the next few years will be the production of a new Lectionary for Mass. This is a joint project with the bishops' conferences of Ireland and New Zealand.