

THE COMMON LIFE LITURGICAL COMMISSION REPORT

TO GENERAL SYNOD TE Hīnota Whānui 2026

The Common Life Liturgical Commission has had a challenging two years. The 2024-2025 work was delayed due to the vacant positions for Tikanga Māori after GSTHW 2024. It wasn't until July 2025 that a meeting could be scheduled when, with delight, the Commission welcomed the May 2025 appointment of Rev'd Ruihana Paenga (returning) and Ven Michael Tamihere (new).

At that first meeting in 2025, the Chairing of the Commission, due to rotate around Tikanga, was discussed and left unresolved as two members had apologised. The outgoing chairperson the Most Reverend Sione Uluilakepa agreed to chair until a replacement was nominated. The Commission attempted but failed to meet again in 2025, when several members had to apologise at late notice for a planned meeting, and so did not meet again until March 2026, when, with the Chairing still unresolved, the General Secretary chaired what was an inquorate meeting, when three members were unavailable at late notice.

MEMBERS OF CLLC

Tikanga Māori: The Venerable Ruihana Paenga
 The Venerable Michael Tamihere

Tikanga Pakeha: The Reverend Jean Malcolm
 The Venerable Nick Mountfort

Tikanga Pasefika: The Most Reverend Sione Uluilakepa
 The Venerable Orisi Vuki

The General Secretary: The Reverend Canon Michael Hughes

The Commission has sought to engage as a priority with the Motion 13 of GSTHW 2024, below, which referred several liturgical matters to the Commission (calendar/ collects/ bible translations), while also continuing oversight of our Prayerbook, liturgical issues, questions and queries from across our 3 Tikanga Church.

Our Church, through the CLLC, continues to respond and engage in liturgical conferences at the wider Anglican Communion level, as in an online IALC on Inculturation, and a WCC led webinar on the Season of Creation.

PRAYER BOOK REPRINT

Since the last GSTHW, the stock of the **last edition**, with the new Translations, has largely sold out, and so a further reprint with 2024 revisions noted below is underway.

The Commission, through the General Secretary continue to maintain the **copyright** management and permission for use of the Prayerbook material.

ONLINE PRAYER BOOK

It remains encouraging that there is wide use of the **online prayer book** all around the 3 Tikanga Church and internationally around the wider church. We average between 6000 and 9000 unique visitors online each month.

The continuing success of the **TUIA App** is a further example of how our Prayer Book becomes a tool for worship not just within our Anglican families but also ecumenically and for private devotions, both here and abroad, with over 3000 users. Explorations are underway around adding further material and translations to this App.

2024 STATUTES PASSED

4 Confirmation Statutes for earlier changes assented to:

Statute 763 The Calendar Te Maramataka Amendment Statute 2022

Statute 766 The Liturgies of the Eucharist Amendment Statute 2022 (All Saints Day Prayer)

Statute 767 The Liturgies of the Word Amendment Statute 2022 (Gloria Alternatives)

NB now that the one year for possible appeals passed in 2025 these changes are being made to the Prayerbook online and will appear in future reprints/ editions

4 new changes:

Statute 776 to amend the Constitution/Te Pouhere – to clarify Prayerbook and Formularies.

Statute 777 to repeal a Disabled rubric in: ‘Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child’.

Statute 778 for a new Sovereign’s Prayer.

Statute 779 to add 4 Bible Translations of Title G Canon V schedule.

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Being Proposed for GSTHW 2026:

4 Confirmation Statutes

For the above 2024 new changes.

Possible new changes (yet to be submitted at time of writing)

- 1 Report back and any recommendations in response to Motion 13 matters below.
- 2 Work to be done on possible revision re communion rubrics/guidelines with specific interest in whether our church permits or does not permit distribution of wine in “small cups”, use of gluten free ‘bread’, and managing intinction.

2024 MOTION:

Motion #13 Liturgical Matters

Mover: The Rt Rev’d Dr Peter Carrell **Seconded:** The Most Rev’d Dr Don Tamihere

That this General Synod/Te Hīnota Whānui

requests the Common Life Liturgical Commission to give consideration to the following matters raised in discussions at our meeting in Hastings in 2024:

1. Calendar
 - A. The challenge of honouring local saints when the celebrations in our calendar occur on the same day as a saint such as an apostle (and a current rubric says, “These days, and the liturgical provision for them, are not usually displaced.” [Appendix B, Notes on the calendar, per Motion 10, GSTHW 2024.]);
 - B. Whether, consequently, any changes might be proposed to the dates of celebrations of local saints, noting that celebrations of other saints are appropriately set down for dates common to churches around the world;
 - C. Guidance given in our rubrics to precedence of celebrations.
2. Collects
 - A. Consistency in literary, theological qualities of collects, including qualities as collects (compared to other forms of prayer) proposed for printing in A New Zealand Prayer Book – He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa;

B. Accessibility of other collects authorised for use in our church but not to be printed in A New Zealand Prayer Book – He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa.

3. Bible Translations

Sharing with the General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui the assessment criteria used when the Commission proposes versions of the Bible to be authorised for use in our church.

Two Small Working Groups were established to explore and respond to the matters around 'Calendar' and 'Collects'.

The 'Calendar' SWG is working on a desk top review of our current calendar provisions, planning consultation on any dates to be considered for change or for new inclusion, developing appropriate guidelines for use and education around the calendar, toward making recommendations to General Synod/ Hīnota Whānui.

The 'Collects' SWG is working to develop a list of principles and guidelines, to understand what is or is not a collect, and a template and guidelines to use when writing a collect, or choosing to use a prayer not already authorised for use.

These guidelines will include collect form and prompts for discerning appropriate theological and literary quality. The group will also create a living list of links to collects authorised for use in our church but not printed in A New Zealand Prayer Book – He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa. This work will come back to General Synod/ Hīnota Whānui for approval.

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The Commission as a whole considered and summarised the criteria it uses for consideration of new Bible Translations.

These criteria are:

If an **updated version** of a translation already authorised under G/V.

If an **additional translation** – translated by a recognised authority, based on sound scholarship, and already in wide usage (i.e. with proven reception).

Nb 'sound scholarship' to include, where appropriate, questions around – faithfulness to original texts, clarity of understanding, avoiding doctrinal bias, reliability for study and teaching, preserving nuance and context, and empowering believers.

THE LECTIONARY / TE MARAMATAKA

The Commission continue to oversee and work with an Editor to publish the annual Lectionary as a key liturgical resource for this church. This is made available online as well as continuing a significant (though decreasing) hard copy print run.

A significant change noted, in 2026, was Consultation on Common Texts, who manage the RCL, adoption of the Ecumenical 'Feast of Creation in Christ' into the RCL. The RCL is a Formulary of this church so this change will be reflected in future Lectionaries.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to convey my gratitude to the Members of the Common Life Liturgical Commission for their hard work during the challenging 2024-25 (and into 2026) journey.

Rev'd Canon Michael Hughes,

General Secretary - for the CLLC