

-----Original Message-----

From: Edward S. Little [mailto:bishop@ednin.org]  
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2013 3:03 PM  
To: Meyers, Ruth  
Subject: Re: Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music

Dear Ruth,

Thank you for the e-mail and for your request for input regarding the implementation of Resolution A049 in this diocese. I appreciate the SCLM's desire to listen to the church and its experience of the liturgy that General Convention authorized. I'm grateful as well that the resolution includes the recognition that leaders in the church respond to this authorization in very different ways. Thus the resolution includes clear and generous provisions for the exercise of conscience.

Here is the text of my pastoral letter regarding Resolution A049, issued last summer -

[http://www.ednin.org/ednin/file.php/1/eBeacon/html/docs\\_forms/bishop/2012GCPastoralLetter.pdf](http://www.ednin.org/ednin/file.php/1/eBeacon/html/docs_forms/bishop/2012GCPastoralLetter.pdf)

As you can see (on the third page - it's a long letter!), I have not authorized the liturgy in the Diocese of Northern Indiana. I have, on the other hand, made arrangements with all of my neighboring bishops, who have most graciously invited Northern Indiana priests who wish to use the liturgy to cross into their dioceses in order to do so. This latter provision is an attempt to provide space for those whose conscience and pastoral convictions lead them to wish to bless same sex unions. It's far from a perfect solution, but it is a good-faith effort to give pastoral space for all.

Because the liturgy is not going to be used in the diocese itself, there is really no one to serve as contact person beyond myself. I suspect that priests who travel to neighboring dioceses to use the liturgy will let me know and will report in on their experience. I'm happy to share whatever I hear with you.

With blessings on your ministry, and all best wishes from chilly South Bend -

Yours in Christ,  
Ed