



LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC PARISHES
WOLLONGONG

A Message from the Dean of the Cathedral & Administrator of the Pastoral Region

On Wednesday 8th March at Saint Brigid's Hall, Gwynneville, seventy parishioners gathered to discuss the proposal that the three parishes of our Lumen Christi Pastoral Region merge into the one parish. For seven years, the parishes of Saint Francis Xavier, Wollongong, Saint John Vianney, Fairy Meadow/Mater Dolorosa, Balgownie and Saint Brigid, Gwynneville have operated as a "pastoral region". There was overwhelming support at the Assembly for the process of consultation with parishioners to go to the next step. Church law mandates that parishioners have to be consulted when such a proposal is being considered. There must be a period of consultation and, it needs to be emphasized that this proposal is not a done deal!

Members of each of our four church communities, families of our parishes enrolled in our two local Catholic Parish schools (Saint Brigid's and Good Samaritan), our local Catholic Secondary Schools (Holy Spirit, Edmund Rice and Saint Marys) and, families of our parishes who have children attending the local State Primary and Secondary Schools, are invited to participate in the Consultation Meeting for your parish:

- SJV Parish: Tuesday 16th May at 7pm; Saint John Vianney Hall, Fairy Meadow.
- SBG Parish: Wednesday 17th May at 7pm; Saint Brigid's Hall, Gwynneville.
- SFX Parish: Wednesday 24th May at 7pm; Xavier Centre, Wollongong.
- Pastoral Region Plenary: Wednesday 28th June at 7pm; Saint John Vianney Hall, Fairy Meadow (parishioners from each parish are invited)

More information can be obtained from our Office in Wollongong. I urge everyone to be an active participant in this discernment process. If you are unable to come along, then please send a written response to office@lumenchristi.org.au to register your views.

We hold our period of discernment in prayer asking our patrons to pray for us – Our Lady of Sorrows, Saint Francis Xavier, Saint John Vianney and Saint Brigid.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the consultation meetings and/or the plenary meeting.

Yours in Christ

Fr Ron D Peters

Dean of the Cathedral, Administrator of the Pastoral Region

9th March 2017