




Regional Consultation Workshops

An Opportunity To Engage Together in a Process of Discernment: 22- 24 June 2017

Consultation Purpose:

-  To provide a consultation forum to give voice to the prayerful reflections and wisdom of lay people and clergy across the breadth of the Diocese
-  To contribute to the shaping of the selection process and criteria for the election of the 14th Bishop
-  To inform the Bishop Nomination Board of views broadly held across the Diocese

Instructions as you Prepare in Advance

You'll find it helpful to allocate 45-60 mins for this exercise 

To ensure that all views can be considered during the workshop, we request that you prayerfully reflect and prepare in advance. This will involve responding to the questions on page 2 prior to your arrival at the workshop. Your contributions will enrich our conversations and enable us to maximise our capacity to achieve the purpose of the consultation.

Thank you in anticipation for your assistance.

- Please organise a sticky note pad. You will require it to complete this exercise.
- There are 6 questions in each section. For each question, you're welcome to generate as many ideas / answers as you prefer.
- Please only **record one thought per sticky note**. So for question A1, you might come with 4 different ideas written on 4 different sticky notes.
- If you struggle to think of an answer for a question, that's fine. Simply move on to the next question. The idea is to draw upon the insights and wisdom of people's collective thinking and experience. Others may have views to share on that question, which you'll have an opportunity to interact with.
- Include the question number (e.g. A1, B2) in the top corner of your sticky note.
- Be aware you may end up with a large number of sticky notes. It is these ideas that will form the framework for our conversation. Please be encouraged to remember that our interaction will be in 'brainstorm' 'blue sky thinking' mode, therefore be inspired to 'dare to dream' as you prayerfully discern ideas.
- Your contribution will enable us to canvas a broader range of perspectives and experiences.
- Please allow sufficient time to place your contributions on the 'wall of ideas' when you arrive at the workshop. Your support in this respect will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

As a hint:

If you end up with lots of sticky notes, you might find it helpful to arrive a little early so you don't feel rushed.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ'.

Practical Information

- Upper Hunter:**
Thursday 22 June, 1pm-4pm
Venue: St. Alban's, Brook St, Muswellbrook
- Newcastle / Lake Macquarie:**
Thursday 22 June, 7pm-10pm
Venue: St. John The Baptist, 18 Morehead St, Lambton
- Manning:**
Friday 23 June, 9.30am-12.30pm
Venue: St. John The Divine, 294 Victoria St, Taree
- Maitland & Paterson:**
Friday 23 June, 6.30pm-9.30pm
Venue: St. James', 136 High St, Morpeth
- Central Coast:**
Saturday 24 June, 1.30pm-4.30pm
Venue: Holy Family, 2 Ronald Ave, Wyoming

Words of Encouragement

As we pray and prepare ourselves for the Bishop Election Synod later this year we encourage you to contribute to this Diocesan wide consultation.

This as a great opportunity for members of the Diocesan community to add their voices to building up a picture of life of the diocese today, as well as our hopes and dreams for the future.



You are invited to participate in person and/or online. This brochure includes details that will tell you how you can participate.

The Bishop Nomination Board

A. BUILDING UPON FOUNDATIONS

Celebrating & Reflecting On Insights The Past Era

Drawing upon your observations and experience of leadership of Bishops in your community and across the Diocese:



-  **A1** What **key milestones, achievements or fruitfulness** do you give thanks to God for under Bishop Greg's leadership?
What have been the highlights?
-  **A2** What **long standing traditions and recent innovations** of the last decade have you come to appreciate?
-  **A3** What **strengths** in the leadership of Diocesan Bishops have you observed and most value?
-  **A4** Reflecting on some of the major of issues experienced over the last decade, what **learnings** would you highlight to draw upon in the discernment process?

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13






B. WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Exploring The Reality of Our Current Strengths, Concerns, Opportunities & Challenges Across the Diocese

-  **B1** What do you consider to be the most **significant strengths** of the Diocese?
-  **B2** What do you consider to be the most **significant areas of concern** in the Diocese?
What are the key things we struggle with?
-  **B3** What **significant opportunities** would you love to convey to potential Nominees?
-  **B4** What are the most **significant challenges** that confront our Diocese ~ either currently or will have an impact over the next 5 years?
What key factors could potentially block growth or effect the sustainability of mission and ministry initiatives?



C. SHAPING A HEALTHY FUTURE

Expressing Hopes As We Embrace Our Future

-  **C1** What gives you a sense of **hope and optimism** as we look to the future of the Diocese?
-  **C2** Alongside the critical area of ensuring the protection of children and vulnerable people, what else will be important in **shaping a healthy future**?
-  **C3** What **initiatives, steps or new directions** do you see contributing to signs of growth, health and sustainability across the diocese?
-  **C4** What creative ideas or practical changes in 'how things are done' would help to **nurture a strong and effective partnership with the next Diocesan Bishop**?
What could we begin to think about now?
-  **C5** Given our unique context and needs, what are the **highest priorities** in identifying the criteria to select candidates to present to Synod?

D. EXPLORING SELECTION CRITERIA

The Desired Strengths, Qualities & Experience in an Bishop To Lead in a New Era of Mission & Ministry. Inspiring us to Faithfully & Fruitfully Live Out the Great Commandment & the Great Commission

-  **D1** What do you see as the **key ministries of the Diocesan Bishop**?
-  **D2** What are the **key gifts and strengths** we need in an Diocesan Bishop to lead our Diocese through the challenges, complexities, joys and opportunities of the season ahead?
-  **D3** What are the most important **leadership qualities** for a Diocesan Bishop?
-  **D4** What are the most significant and essential **areas of experience and expertise** to identify?
-  **D5** If you were to ask **one question of the candidates**, what would your question be?