



Speaking the truth in love

Eph 4:15

21 February 2016

To the Priests and People of the Archdiocese,

My dear people,

During my time of convalescence I have been reflecting on the suffering of many people. All of us will have been touched during these months of the Royal Commission by the dignity and bravery shown by many witnesses, particularly the survivors of child sexual abuse. They want the truth at last to be heard; they want it to be heard with compassion and a clear commitment to justice for all.

As we approach the third appearance of Cardinal Pell before the Royal Commission I hope that the Cardinal will be heard respectfully, as I hope and pray all witnesses will be. We can all be tempted to jump to conclusions after media headlines but it is always better to withhold judgement until we have heard all the facts.

It is everyone's right to a fair and transparent process free of particular agendas, other than truth.

I ask you to join me in praying to Jesus Christ - the Suffering Servant - for the work of the Royal Commission and for all men, women and children who suffer.

+Anthony Fisher op

Archbishop of Sydney

Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP, DD BA LIB BTheol DPhil
Archbishop of Sydney

Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia
• Tel: (+61 2) 9390 5188 • Fax: (+61 2) 9261 0045 • archbishop@sydneycatholic.org