

Ad Clerum May 2021

News from the Plenary Council Working Group

October Assembly

At the meeting with the National Team for the Plenary Council Working Group Co-ordinators on April 20, we were given an update that there will be five hubs across Australia for the October Assembly. Sydney will be the biggest hub with about 130 members from all NSW dioceses and Canberra Goulburn, the Military Ordinariate, the Maronites and Religious Leaders living in Sydney.

Kathy Campbell has been appointed the hub coordinator for Sydney and will oversee the arrangements. The venue for the October Assembly will be the CES building at Leichhardt.

The liturgies are being prepared in Perth and will be distributed to the hubs. The Opening Mass for the Plenary Council will be held in the Cathedral in each of the hubs and will be a public Mass.

There will be a prayer campaign for the Plenary Council commencing on Pentecost Sunday. Parishes will receive prayers for the Plenary Council, Prayers of Intercession and reflections on the Sunday Gospels throughout the year. Notices for bulletins will also be distributed to parishes.

Reflection Days for Sydney

Priest representatives from the parishes across the archdiocese have been invited to attend a gathering to discuss ways in which to best reengage with the parishes. This will take the form of a working lunch at Polding House on May 26.

Following this gathering, parish ambassadors will be invited to attend a day reflection on *Instrumentum Laborum*, (Continuing the Journey) on July 3 at the Ron Dyer Centre, North Sydney. Br Ian Cribb SJ will lead the day. The goal will be to provide a framework for the ambassadors to lead the parishioners in reflection on the working document.

A second reflection day is planned for September 11 for the members (formerly called delegates) based in Sydney, together with the representatives of religious congregations living in Sydney. The theme for the gathering will be Synodality led by Sister Monica Cavanagh RSJ.

It is important that the Plenary Council is at the forefront of the parishioners' minds at this time. To engage the parishioners the parish bulletins could provide the details of the Plenary Council website, links for the videos and podcasts on the Plenary Council website within the Archdiocesan website. Where possible a prayer for the success of the Plenary Council should be included in the Prayers of the Faithful and the Plenary Council Prayer could be included in parish meetings. There will be more activity around the Plenary Council following our ambassadors' gathering on July 3.

Bishop Terry Brady and Prof Sandra Lynch

Co Chairpersons of the Sydney Archdiocesan Plenary Council Working Group