

To the People of God in the Diocese of Broken Bay

Friday 18 June 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

## **Pastoral Discernment Project - Central Coast**

At this week's Clergy Conference, and as part of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Diocese of Broken Bay, I invited the region of the Central Coast to engage a process of pastoral discernment, recognising its particular pastoral circumstances, opportunities and challenges. This project of pastoral discernment envisages a sustained and prayerful study of the various factors which give the region of Central Coast its unique character. These identify the region as a specific territory for pastoral mission, and as a particular context for a renewed proclamation of the Gospel, for evangelisation and catechesis, and for pastoral creativity.

The aim of this initiative is to renew the life of the Church in this region of the Diocese, ensuring a sustainable and thriving ecclesial community. In initiating this work, the project and its process may provide a future template for discernment in other regions of the Diocese.

I'm pleased to announce that Mrs Patti Beattie has been seconded from Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) as the Pastoral Facilitator to coordinate and animate the project. Patti is an experienced leader with exceptional organisational, technology and communication skills with over 25 years of teaching experience in Broken Bay Diocese.

This is a major strategic pastoral initiative, to be conducted over several phases. It will require the support and commitment of a range of persons and agencies across the Diocese and the integration of several existing planning processes.

The pastoral discernment will be launched in the second half of 2021 with a timeline of 12 months to complete. In the coming months I will formally launch the project and communicate with you further the various processes that the project envisages to engage the People of God in the region of the Central Coast throughout this discernment.

Please join me in praying for the success of this important initiative.

Sincerely yours in Christ,