

spread the good news
of Jesus

Going Forward Together:
**Pastoral Care for
Evangelisation
2006-2010**



**DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY**

**Vision and Pastoral Directions for the
Diocese of Broken Bay 2006 to 2010**



DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

Mission Statement

*We the Catholic Church of Broken Bay are,
through Baptism, a community of disciples of Jesus.
Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are
committed to work together
to extend the Kingdom of God.
We will.*

Proclaim

Proclaim the Good News of Jesus in our words and actions

Respond personally

Respond personally to God's unique love for each of us

Love each other

Live with each other in the love of Jesus

Celebrate

Celebrate and share our Catholic faith and life experience

Educate

Educate our people in our Catholic story and beliefs and their implications for our lives

Serve

Serve each other, the community and all creation in justice and love

Seek unity

Seek unity with our fellow Christians and meaningful dialogue with people of all faiths

Message from Bishop David Walker



During the next 5 years I believe we need to continue to build on the foundations provided by our first Diocesan Pastoral Plan "**Going Forward Together**" so that many of the positive innovations will continue and grow.

This document outlines our **Diocesan Vision for 2010** and the pastoral directions we plan to pursue. It is the product of extensive consultation with the clergy, the curia and the parishes.

My hope is that we will continue the positive initiatives that we have under way and to develop new ways to spread the message of Jesus Christ to the people of our Diocese.

The Diocesan Vision has been influenced by the Apostolic Letter of Pope John Paul II – *Novo Millennio Ineunte*. He reminds us to "*put out into the deep*" for a catch – "*Duc in altum*" Luke 5:4.

He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break.

Luke 5:3-6

Our direction calls on us to develop the best possible pastoral care for the people of the Diocese, enabling us to spread the word of God.

This document "**Going Forward Together: Pastoral Care for Evangelisation 2006-2010**" has drawn from two key sources. The first is *Novo Millennio Ineunte* which focuses our thinking on holiness.

Holiness is:

- * a share in the life of the Trinity, and Jesus is the presence of the Trinity
- * a central tenet of faith
- * a gift but also a task and a duty

The *gift* is given in Baptism, it is not acquired by us. The *task* is to let this holiness transform our life and human situation.

The *duty* calls us to be disciples of Jesus.

The second source is our Diocesan Mission Statement which calls us to work together to extend the kingdom of God. What we have been given is for others, as Pope Benedict XVI reminds us: "**The entire activity of the Church is an expression of love that seeks the integral good of all people: it seeks their evangelisation through Word and Sacrament, an undertaking that is often heroic in the way it is acted out in history; and it seeks to promote them in the various arenas of life and human activity.**" (*God is Love* 19)

Our previous pastoral plan was focused around collaboration, the living out of the communion in Jesus we share. Now we must direct this collaboration to a pastoral care that has mission as its focus.

The **Diocesan Vision for 2010** has been circulated to all our parishes, and many have already conducted meetings to discuss what the Vision means to our Diocese and to each parish community. Many of the views have been accepted and I am grateful for the time and effort given to these responses.

Our pastoral directions call for action. News of diocesan initiatives will be in Broken Bay News on a regular basis. I ask parishes, agencies and other groups to develop local plans in line with these directions, and to share the richness of your enthusiasm so that your light may shine on others in Broken Bay.

Diocesan Vision for

2010

During the next 5 years our Diocese will need to continue to build on the foundations provided by "Going Forward Together" so that many of the positive innovations will continue and grow.

Our Vision calls for Pastoral Care for Evangelisation. To achieve this we continue to build the base of pastoral care:

1. Develop practices and structures which will ensure that all Catholics within Broken Bay Diocese have access to and receive the best possible Pastoral Care available within their individual parish situation.

Pastoral Care is the ministry of personal, spiritual and sacramental support of all in a parish or within the diocese. It consists of any activity that sustains, guides and heals members of the faith community and the community itself. It takes its name from the saving and shepherding care of Jesus Christ for us all. Ministries are essentially collaborative. All are called to share responsibility for pastoral care in particular ways, with ordained ministers having special responsibilities.

We seek to achieve "A Pastoral Ministry with holiness at its core, and parishes that live out of a 'spirituality of communion' and can provide for their people 'training in holiness' and 'education in prayer'." (Pope John Paul II)

And we work from that base to spread the word of God:

2. That we focus as a diocese through our parishes and agencies on reaching out to others through **Evangelisation and using the already established programs to encourage the welcoming back of those Catholics who do not participate in a full way in the life of the church.**

Evangelisation is spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. It is the Church's foremost task and belongs to all its members. A particular focus in these pastoral directions will be the evangelisation of the many baptised Catholics who are disaffected from the life and worship of the Church.

of Jesus
spread the good news

By building on our strong foundation, by providing the best possible pastoral care and reaching out, we will become stronger witnesses of Christ to our local communities and society in general.

To achieve these goals our Pastoral Directions are:



Parishes:

❖ There are a smaller number of well resourced, vibrant and welcoming parishes which are able to support the current local faith communities.

The term 'smaller number' recognises that some parishes will join together to form one parish, whilst the Vision calls for all parishes to be supported by adequate resources of people and finances. The 'vibrant and welcoming' comment envisions parishes growing and encouraging the active involvement of all Catholics, and others, who are seeking to satisfy their spiritual needs.

❖ Each parish will have a Parish Priest to lead these communities.

❖ Each parish will have an appropriate number of ordained ministers (priests / deacons) to work in collaboration with the Parish Priest and the community.

❖ There will be more clearly defined lay leadership roles with well formed and trained people to fill them.

❖ Each parish will have a support structure made up of paid staff and volunteers who

can minister to the community and work with the parish priest and other ordained ministers.

❖ Each parish will have a vibrant Stewardship Program which calls people to use their gifts for Christian mission.

Stewardship is a way of bringing forward offers of time, talent and gifts from parishioners so that there are sufficient resources to support the parish and reach out to others.

❖ Each parish will promote vocations and call forth their members to lay and ordained ministry and religious life.

❖ Each parish will implement significant evangelisation projects which reach out to those who do not participate in a full way within our communities.

❖ Each parish will engage Catholics with other Christian communities and other faith communities.

❖ Each parish will welcome and engage our young people using contemporary methods of communication.

Bishop, Priests and Deacons will:

❖ Minister from a personal holiness, in fraternity with each other and in collaboration with and accountable to their people and the diocese.



The Diocesan Curia will:

The Curia is the team which supports the Bishop and comprises his Vicars and Deans, the staff of the Bishops Office, the Catholic Schools Office, Centacare, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and Broken Bay Institute.

❖ Continue to carry out their duties in a spirit of Pastoral Charity

The Curia supports the Bishop in his exercise of 'Pastoral Charity' which is described by Pope John Paul II as the virtue by which we imitate Christ in his self-giving and service. It is not just what we do, but our gift of self, which manifests Christ's love for his flock. Pastoral charity determines our way of thinking and acting, our way of relating to people.

❖ Promote and model collaborative ministry.

❖ Be responsive to the needs of parishes and local communities.

❖ Promote effective and efficient communication between all parts of the diocese.

❖ Provide support programs for parishes and parish pastoral councils in such areas as faith formation, stewardship, leadership training and administrative support

❖ Provide effective sacramental programs from Baptism to Eucharist and diocesan rituals for secondary school students

❖ Develop processes which will aid in the management of parish infrastructure including finance, stewardship, property maintenance and risk management.

- ❖ Develop and provide effective systems for collaborative ministry to handle difficult situations, complaints and tensions.

Centacare will:

- ❖ Develop specific programs designed to link into parish life, supporting and developing staff and volunteers throughout the diocese.
- ❖ Work closely with the disabled with specific reference to long term accommodation needs.



Educational Agencies - Broken Bay Institute (BBI), Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD), Catholic Schools Office (CSO) and Catholic Schools will:

- ❖ Develop strategic plans which support these directions.
- ❖ Develop accessible opportunities for adult faith formation at parish, diocesan and academic levels.
- ❖ Develop more effective ways of proclaiming the Gospel Message to students in Catholic diocesan and congregational schools and in Government schools.
- ❖ Implement significant evangelisation projects which reach out to those who do not participate in a full way within our communities.
- ❖ Continue collaborative opportunities for resource sharing including use of Information, Communication and Learning Technologies (ICLT).



spread the good news of Jesus

In 2010 a test of this vision could best be summed up by

“and they knew they were Christian by their love.”

If this is how we are seen, then by any measure we have achieved our goals.



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We ask that all parishes and groups now build their local plans which support these pastoral directions. For continuing assistance with your local planning, and for any matter related to the diocesan plan, please contact our Diocesan Planning Officer on 02 9847 0430 or pastoral@brokenbay.catholic.org.au

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