



Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

MEDIA STATEMENT

12 June 2015

Over the course of this week, the Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn, Christopher Prowse, made the decision to distribute the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference Pastoral Letter "Don't Mess with Marriage" to Catholic families in the Archdiocese through Parishes and the Catholic School system.

This was an effective way to reach a large number of Catholic families in the region.

The Archbishop wanted families to have access to the Pastoral Letter in order to reflect and discuss the importance of marriage today.

"I understand that this is an emotive, hot button issue and we believe, like most civilizations over the millennia and all major religions, that marriage is at the very centre of good living and good life." The Archbishop said.

"To re-define what marriage means is not an inconsequential moment in our history. We wanted to make a contribution to this discussion."

"We wanted to be able to make a statement that says 'let us really protect that which humanity has given us'," he said.

The Archbishop also said that to have a one sided debate is unsatisfactory: "While I understand that the same-sex marriage debate has an array of complexities surrounding it, our intention is for our students and their families and communities to be informed as much as possible."

Media Enquiries
Erin Gordon
02 6313 4314