



9 February 2016

A LENTEN MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER PROWSE

Dear Friends,

At the commencement of Lent 2016, may I humbly ask your prayer support for the following four intercessions.

1. MAJOR ECUMENICAL ENCOUNTER

Pope Francis and Patriarch Kirill of Moscow will meet next Friday, 12th February. This is truly an historic ecumenical encounter! It marks the first ever such meeting between a Roman Pontiff and the head of the Russian Orthodox Church. We pray it will be a significant step towards healing the 1,000 year old divisions between East and West Christianity.

2. 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

In the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has requested every Diocese in the world to implement **"24 Hours for the Lord"** prayer vigils in the churches of the world. The request is that for 24 hours, between 4th and 5th March 2016, the churches be left open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, prayer vigils and confessions. If at all possible, please see if this can occur throughout the Archdiocese. I am sure various groups in parishes would assist.

3. TWO NEW SEMINARIANS

Two young men have recently joined our other seminarians on a pathway, please God, to the priesthood in our Archdiocese. Please pray for Eden Langlands and Adrian Chan.

4. R.C.I.A.

Let us encourage adults to join, or return to the Catholic Church at this time via the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)

God bless you always as our pilgrimage to Easter begins.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse
Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn

The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn