



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Bishops Commission for Family, Youth and Life

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP (Chairman)
Bishop Peter Comensoli
Bishop Mark Edwards OMI
Bishop Michael Kennedy

17 August 2017

Important information to help the campaign for marriage

The Australian Government has announced the Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey (Marriage Plebiscite). Ballot papers will be mailed out from 12 September and need to be returned by 7 November 2017. We need your prayers and help to support marriage.

The Catholic Church is represented in the Coalition for Marriage that is leading the Pro-Marriage campaign. That coalition now represents around 70 different pro-marriage groups with representatives from all faiths and many ethnic and other communities.

People can register to volunteer, donate, and to find out the latest information about the vote at www.coalitionformarriage.com.au

I would appreciate your help distributing the enclosed information to parishioners that has been provided by the Coalition for Marriage:

1. **A draft parish notice** i.e. **Act now to defend marriage**. *A change in the marriage law has consequences for all Australians, and particularly for people of faith. It is crucial that you have your say. Ensure you are registered to vote and that your voting registration details are up to date now. Visit coalitionformarriage.com.au/catholic for more information and to make sure you're enrolled*
2. **A pamphlet** to print or to send electronically to your distribution lists. A version is also available should you wish to commercially print a large number for distribution.
3. **A PowerPoint** presentation for those parishes that wish to have a speaker at Mass or at a parish meeting.

I will provide regular updates over the coming weeks of the campaign. Please contact Lucy Warhurst in the ACBC General Secretariat on 02 6201 9845 or at Lucy.Warhurst@catholic.org.au if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely in Christ

(Most Rev.) Anthony Fisher OP
Archbishop of Sydney
Chair, Bishops Commission for Family, Youth and Life