October 7th 2011

Dear Clergy, Pastoral Associates, Catholic School Staff and Parishes,

'EVERYTHING FOR THE GOSPEL' DIOCESAN FORUMS

As you know, the Diocese is in the process of discerning its pastoral priorities for the future. Following on from my 2010 Pastoral Letter Finding Home in Jesus, the four regional forums held earlier this year and my July 2011 Pastoral Letter Everything for the Gospel, I am pleased to invite you to the next round of gatherings in the Diocese to reflect on the points made in the July 2011 Letter and to discuss diocesan pastoral priorities in the light of these. The family seems to be emerging as a pastoral key to the way forward.

I have met with the Diocesan Pastoral Council and we have made arrangements for three diocesan forums:

DIOCESAN FORUM 1 7.30 pm – 10.00 pm Friday 4th November 2011
St Patrick’s Parish Centre, Pakenham

DIOCESAN FORUM 2 11.00 am – 2.00 pm Saturday 5th November 2011
St Mary’s Parish Centre, Pyke St, Bairnsdale

DIOCESAN FORUM 3 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm Saturday 19th November 2011
Lumen Christi Primary School, Williams Ave, Churchill

Please note that people can attend the forum of their choice. If one date is not suitable they may wish to attend another forum.

As with the regional forums, I would ask parishes to discuss the pastoral letter and prepare responses for displaying on the venue walls. Please encourage your parishioners, pastoral councils, and your other parish groups to spend time responding to the Pastoral Letter. Mr Dan Hession (Diocesan Pastoral Council) has prepared some questions for parishes to consider and respond (see attachment).
Please prepare and send your parish responses on A3 sized paper in large font to your Diocesan Pastoral Council representative:

**EAST (Bairnsdale, Lakes Entrance Orbost):**
Mr Dan Hession, St Mary’s Parish, Pyke St Bairnsdale.

**SOUTH (Foster, Leongatha, Korumburra, Wonthaggi, Yarram):**
Mrs Anne Vaughan, c/o St Lawrence’s Parish, Leongatha.

**HEART (Heyfield, Maffra, Sale):** Mrs Christa Dwyer, c/o St Mary’s Parish, Maffra.

**VALLEY (Churchill, Moe, Morwell, Newborough, Traralgon):**
Mrs Pat Still, c/o St Michael’s Parish, Traralgon.

**CENTRAL (Drouin, Trafalgar, Warragul):** Mrs Joan Robertson, c/o St Joseph’s Parish Warragul.

**WEST (Berwick, Cranbourne, Iona, Koo Wee Rup, Narre Warren, Pakenham):**
Sr Christina Scannell RSJ, c/o St Patrick’s Parish Pakenham.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop Christopher C Prowse
Bishop of Sale