



# AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

## Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service

24 October 2022

Dear Bishops,

### Re: Prison Sunday – 6 November 2022

During the Year of Mercy in 2016 Pope Francis announced a [Jubilee for Prisoners](#), and since that time the Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service, (and prior to that, the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life), has continued to encourage dioceses and parishes to mark the first Sunday in November in recognition of those in prison and those who provide pastoral support to them.

As the bishop delegate with responsibility for prisoners' pastoral care, I am pleased to advise that a second online meeting for this year of the National Network of Catholic Prison Chaplains will take place on Wednesday 26 October 2022. These meetings provide opportunities at a national level for prayer, formation, networking and support among prison chaplains. I am looking forward to meeting the chaplains, albeit online.

A news article will follow shortly after the gathering to communicate some of the matters discussed and to help raise awareness of the important role of prison chaplains.

For your reference I **attach** a prayer that was developed last year, with the prison chaplains in mind. I encourage your creative use of this prayer to raise awareness around the many issues facing prison communities and those who support them.

As Pope Francis noted on 6 November 2016, *"...when violence is met with forgiveness, even the hearts of those who have done wrong can be conquered by the love that triumphs over every form of evil. In this way, among the victims and among those who wronged them, God raises up true witnesses and workers of mercy."*

We appreciate your ongoing support of prison chaplains in your diocese. If you wish to raise any matters with me concerning my area of delegation within the Commission, I would welcome your contribution.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

**Bishop Tim Norton SVD**

**Bishop Delegate, Prisoners' Pastoral Care  
Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service  
Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Brisbane**

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