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Catholics For Renewal Inc.

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Newsletter 25 June 2020

A larger text .PDF version of this Newsletter is available [\[HERE\]](#)

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Stay safe and well, blessings to all, Catholics For Renewal.

EDITORIAL

Implementing the principle of Subsidiarity, without delay



"Participation", Aubrey Williams (70s), Tate Gallery

Read full Editorial [Here](#)

Limited extract:

Will dioceses and the Plenary Council itself be guided by the Church's 'principle of subsidiarity', a principle endorsed by Vatican II and every recent Pope?

Subsidiarity calls for dialogue and decision-making as close as possible to those impacted by what is decided..... **Read full**

Summary Document No.7 now available:

"Subsidiarity: extending participation"



Extract:

The term 'subsidiarity' is a clumsy word for a simple principle, derived from the Latin for 'help' or 'support': 'subsidium': that decisions on any matter should be informed by the people affected; and that decisions should be taken by an appropriate authority as close as possible to the people affected. It is a principle of effective leadership and good decision making, reflecting respect for the rights of people affected by decisions.

Subsidiarity is well entrenched in Catholic teaching but, ironically, not well adopted in Catholic church governance. The term was first used in a 1931 papal encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno* (no. 79) by Pope Pius XI when the Church was trying to resist authoritarian ideologies, particularly Soviet communism and Nazism.

Subsidiarity is.....**Full Summary Document available [HERE](#)**

**Set of
Summary
Documents**

An Incremental set of 2021/2022 Plenary Council terminology and related issues Summary Documents as listed below, now available at 'Document 93' [HERE](#)

- 1) Sensus fidelium (sense of faith of Christ's faithful) [Dec. 2019]
- 2) Synodal governance for a pastoral church [Jan. 2020]
- 3) Co-responsibility: sharing in church governance [Feb. 2020]
- 4) Clericalism [March 2020]
- 5) Women and Ministry [April 2020]
- 6) Priests, Celibacy & Marriage [May 2020]
- 7) Subsidiarity (June 2020), and
- 8) *Signs of the times* [due July 2020]

**Australian
Coalition
for
Catholic
Church
Reform**

**Catholic Lay Groups harness energy
for national reform**

Full Media Release [HERE](#)

Extract from Media Release, Australian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform, 23 June 2020.

Catholics from reform groups across Australia and New Zealand met via Zoom late last week to support the growing movement for reform of the Catholic Church.

Participants representing 17 reform groups and other invitees joined the forum of the Australian Coalition for Catholic Church Reform to discuss the way ahead for Church decision making, especially in the lead up to the Plenary Council now scheduled for October 2021.

The 80 participants represent many thousands of Catholics who share deep concern about the state of the Church in Australia.

At the forefront of those concerns are issues of good governance and the culture of clericalism in the church, particularly the need for inclusion and gender equality.

Speaking shortly after the forum, ACCCR Convener, Peter Johnstone, said that the coalition is increasingly harnessing the energy for renewal Australia-wide.....

Full Media Release [HERE](#)

The following listing of recent Catholics For Renewal website News & Opinion items provide a snapshot of current Church issues and may be accessed [HERE](#)

(Note that publication of links to these items does not necessarily indicate editorial support.)



Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Plenary Meeting.

Catholic Lay Groups harness energy for national reform.

In an interview with EWTN, Trump hails ‘tremendous letter of support from the Catholic Church’.

Bishop-designate Daisuke Narui to head Niigata Diocese.

Let's get physical.

The two assemblies for the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia will be held in Adelaide from October 3-10, 2021, and in Sydney from July 4-9, 2022.

At five-year mark for ‘Laudato Si,’ Vatican offers a ‘users guide’.

A Plenary of Broken Promises?

New leader of German bishops signals no retreat from progressive line.

Final version of governance report to be published by mid-August.

Plenary Council may be delayed but the thematic papers show the fruits of communal discernment.

Australia’s bishops, religious consider proposals for change in governance.

Leaked report needs ‘due consideration’ say bishops.

Detroit Archdiocese to shift to ‘family of parishes’ over next two years.

The Light From the Southern Cross. A Report on Catholic Church Governance.

Papers from ‘Shaping the Future of the Church’ Governance Symposium in March 2020.

Review as an instrument of change in the Australian Catholic Church

Responses to the 6 Plenary Council Discernment themes available.

Getting Back On Mission

Getting Back on Mission is forward-looking and founded on trust in the Spirit – it is about hope. The book focuses on Jesus’ mission for the Church;

Getting Back on Mission: Reforming Our Church Together - “... a realistic, hopeful and authentically Catholic roadmap for the forthcoming Australian Plenary Council.....” (Frank Brennan SJ, AO)

This book is available from Garratt Publishing at A\$29.95

Free Call: 1300 650 878 or online [HERE](#)



Donations, Comments, Inquiries;

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(thanks to those who have responded)

Our work is a labour of love - much labour and much love for our Christ-given Church. Please help support our intensive voluntary and mostly self-funded ongoing work. Purchasing a copy of Get Back on Mission ([here](#)) will also help.

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