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Catholics For Renewal Inc.

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NEWSLETTER, July 2019

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PLENARY REMINDER

Applications for 'Plenary Council Discernment and Writing Groups' Chairs and Members close on Monday 22 July.

The Bishops Commission for the Plenary Council is seeking people who are willing to be key partners and leaders in the process of discernment as the Church in Australia continues to prepare for the Plenary



Council in October 2020. The roles advertised are for Chairs and Members of groups who will each reflect on one of the National Themes of Discernment announced at and since Pentecost 2019:

A Christ-centred Church that is:

1. Missionary and Evangelising;
2. Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal;
3. Prayerful and Eucharistic;

4. Humble, Healing and Merciful;
5. A Joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community; and
6. Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform

Each group will engage in a process of communal discernment; they will reflect on one of the themes in order to draft a working paper by March 2020. The working papers will help form the agenda for the first session of the Plenary Council. The bishops have described this as *"a unique opportunity for visionary and open-hearted, faith-filled people who are committed to the faith, life and ministries of the Catholic Church in Australia and the mission of God."*

The role of these groups is paramount to the development of the Plenary Council agenda, which in turn will be critical to the adequacy of discussion at the Plenary Council. It's important that a wide cross section of voices contribute to this process. Bishops will hopefully appreciate and benefit from the quality of advice available from **thoughtful** and **discerning** people of God.

Applications both for Members and Chairs of these groups close **5.00pm next Monday 22 July 2019**. The requirements appear quite detailed but will hopefully not discourage nominations. For details see the following linked documents:

Member Role Description 'Plenary Council Discernment and Writing Group Members' [HERE](#)

Chair Role Description 'Plenary Council Discernment and Writing Group Chairs' [HERE](#)

The Application Form is available [HERE](#)

The Plenary Council website has progressively published 'snapshots' of Plenary themes [HERE](#), and foreshadows a comprehensive report based on the voices of participants by 28 July 2019.

**Sydney-based supporters of
Catholics for Renewal**



Saatchi Art Artist Soo Beng Lim, New Media

Prompted by our last Newsletter a new Catholic renewal group VOCAL (Voice of Catholic Australian Laity) has been established in Sydney. For details contact Michael Gill, at: mjg60@internode.on.net



The following 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.*

Catholic traditions are not all sacrosanct, says cardinal

The priesthood is being crucified on the cross of celibacy

Ballarat's Bishop Paul Bird meets Pope Francis

Brisbane archdiocese preparing to host massive discernment event for Plenary Council 2020

Judge questions church priorities after it moved guilty priest around

General secretaries share perspectives on Church life

Can laypeople lead a parish? Look to Louisville for a thriving example

Parish Renewal expert addresses youth and leadership in Perth

Secrecy of Confession to be defended at all costs, Vatican says

Australia's bishops are presently visiting the Pope. What are they telling him and will Australia's ordinary Catholics ever find out?

Pope tells world's archbishops to never feel 'better' than those they serve

Give me a break! (Paul Collins)

Plenary Council 2020: Joint Parish Statement

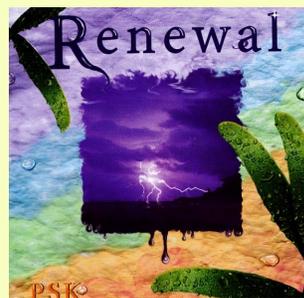
Curia reform project nears completion

Fr Frank Brennan farewells Canberra home cautioning Church against becoming a 'museum'

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(thanks to those who have responded)

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