

CathFR supports

The Australian Catholic Coalition Call for Church Renewal

“Jesus inspired his disciples to form a community to proclaim and live the Good News of love, justice, equality, self-giving and hope. The institutional Church has failed to listen to its people thus alienating many through an emphasis on power, hierarchy and discrimination, with a lack of transparency and accountability. Australian Catholics have a responsibility to act now in ways that reflect the values of the Gospel, the vision of Vatican II and the best values of Australian society.”

Our Call as disciples is to be a Catholic church:

- that reflects Jesus’ message of love, justice, equality, peace and forgiveness
- in which all people are directed by their informed conscience and assume their responsibility for the mission of the Church
- which inspires its people to recapture an experience of the mystical and the spiritual
- where God-given authority is used wisely and justly to propagate the teachings of Christ, and respects the role of the People of God
- where all people, men and women, single and married minister in a spirit of co-responsibility for the Church
- that influences Australian society to be ever more just, compassionate and egalitarian

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Catholics For Renewal Incorporated

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Support

Details on supporting Catholics For Renewal can be found on the website. Meetings are held regularly and are open to those interested in the work of CathFR

www.catholicsforrenewal.org.au

Inquiries
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Catholics For Renewal



“Christ’s faithful have the right, indeed at times the duty, in keeping with their knowledge, competence and position, to manifest to the sacred pastors their views on matters which concern the good of the church.”

(Canon 212 par 3)

“...Let there be unity in what is necessary, freedom in what is doubtful, and charity in everything...”

(Gaudium et Spes 92)

Catholics for Renewal stands for:

Renewal of the Church
in the likeness of Christ

Authentic collegiality and subsidiarity
in Church governance

A just and compassionate response
to victims of clerical sexual abuse

Reforming the governance structures of the
Church that permitted the abuse of children

Inclusion of women
in the full life of the Church

Listening to and trusting the *sensus fidelium*
by engaging every level of the Church in
decisions affecting its life and governance

Co-responsibility
in every facet of mission and ministry

A compassionate and tangible response to the
rights of the oppressed and disadvantaged

Commitment to justice and peace

Commitment to ecumenism
and interfaith dialogue

Rejection of every form of discrimination

Background

Catholics for Renewal began in Melbourne
in April 2011, as a small gathering of people
committed to the Church we love,
but which we recognized as falling short
of the spirit and mandate of Vatican II.

Vatican II set forth a vision
for a truly collegial Church.

But 50 years on, it still appears
to be an institution dependent on
centralism, legalism and control
– with few structures
for listening and dialogue,
and often more concerned
about its corporate image and self-interest
than with the spirit of Christ.



CathFR seeks renewal
of the governance,
teachings and practices
of the Catholic Church, the Body of Christ,
which is called to bring forth
God's loving reign of justice, peace,
and good news for all people.

**Catholics for Renewal has acted to
address the growing disconnect
between the magisterium & the
faithful in matters of ministry,
authority & the following
of Christ's teachings by:**

Issuing an Open Letter and Petition to
Pope Benedict XVI and the Bishops of the
Australian Church at the time of their 2011
ad limina visit, calling for reform of the Church.
The Petition was signed by some
10,000 Australian Catholics

Proposing a national synod/plenary council
for the Australian Church in 2015

Making a submission to the Victorian
Parliamentary Inquiry into the handling
of child abuse by religious and other
non-government organizations, and providing
evidence to that Inquiry in January, 2013

Developing a Call for Church Renewal
with other groups committed to renewal
and reform of the Australian Church

Issuing a statement of our purpose, the
outcomes we are seeking from Church renewal
and the values which guide our work.

Making submissions to the
Royal Commission on Child Sexual Abuse.

Collaborating with other members of the
Australian Catholic Coalition for Church
Renewal, (*Statement printed on this brochure*)
and Catholic Church Reform International