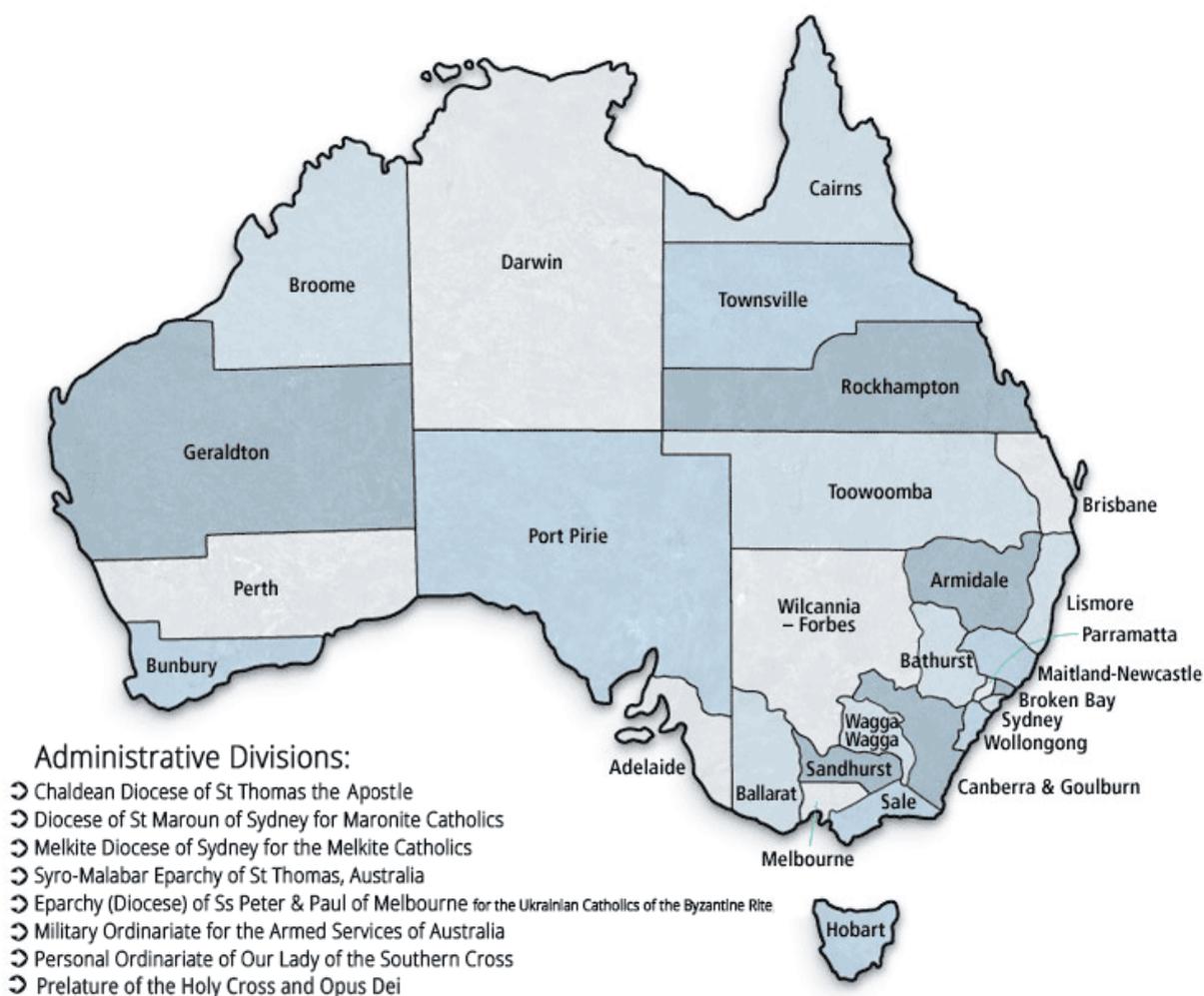


KNOW THE DIOCESES IN 2020

On 3 October 2021 around 260 bishops, priests, deacons, religious and laypersons will assemble in Adelaide's St Francis Xavier Cathedral to celebrate the liturgical Opening of the 5th Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia. These participants, called from the 36 'particular churches' in Australia - 28 territorial dioceses, 5 eparchies and dioceses of the Eastern Churches, the Military and Anglican ordinariates, and the personal prelatry of Opus Dei – will, in their coming together, give witness to the 'communion' between all the churches in Australia and with the Bishop of Rome.

To provide a better understanding of the 28 territorial dioceses among the 'particular' churches, Dr Peter Wilkinson, current President of Catholics for Renewal, is preparing a series of profiles on each diocese (see map of territorial dioceses below) drawn from a variety of official church and government data currently available. Catholics for Renewal will publish these profiles on its website over the next several months commencing with the October Newsletter. We hope that this information will assist the faithful in all dioceses to prepare for the Plenary Council. The diocesan profiles will appear in no particular order.



Source of Map: *The Official Directory of the Catholic Church in Australia 2020-2021*

The territorial dioceses are administratively and geographically divided into 7 archdioceses (state and national capital cities) and 21 dioceses, with 26 organised into 5 'provinces', generally following State/Territory boundaries and named after the Metropolitan Archdioceses of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, and Adelaide (includes NT). While the archdioceses of Canberra & Goulburn and Hobart are not included in the 5

provinces, they collaborate with the Provinces of Sydney and Melbourne respectively. The Eastern Churches, ordinariates, and personal prelature are not included in the provincial structure.

Catholics for Renewal hopes that readers will find the diocesan profiles informative and a useful resource as the Plenary Council approaches.

Peter Wilkinson, September 2020