

28 April 2017

A message from the Bishopric Electoral Board

To Clergy, Secretaries, Wardens. For open parish distribution.

The Bishopric Electoral Board has recently held its second meeting.

Key outcomes to advise are;

- **An open Diocesan meeting will be held in Bendigo on 27 May following Synod at 1.45pm at St. Mary's Kangaroo Flat.** This will be the first open meeting to be held where we will explain the process for the appointment of the Bishop and seek parishioners feedback.
- Everyone is welcome to attend the session on the 27th. It is not limited to Synod attendees. We will provide more information about how this session will be conducted closer to the time. Please make this date and invitation widely known within your parish, as we are seeking a large attendance and input from as many people as possible.
- This will not be the only opportunity for parishioners to have their say on the Qualities and Requirements that they believe we should be seeking in our new Bishop. The Board is working on a number of other means to get feedback, including online surveys, or extra meetings. More information will be provided in due course.
- It is critical we hear parishioners thoughts on the desirable Qualities and Requirements of our new Bishop. The outcome will be used as a basis for people to make informed nominations. It will also be used to guide our assessment of shortlisted candidates.
- **Formal nominations will be called for once all feedback from parishioners has been collated, summarised and publicly presented. This is likely to be mid July.** By following this process, people can nominate candidates that suit the specific needs of our Diocese as informed by our parishioners.
- A special page on the Diocesan website has been created to provide all information relevant to our search process. The webpage will be available from next week and the our page can be found under the “News and Events” tab, which can be found on the main drop down menu. The webpage address is www.bendigoanglican.org.au. Further information will be added to this section of the website over time.
- We are blessed to have strong participants on the Electoral Board who have shown thus far to be considered, wise and collegiate.
- A prayer to guide this process throughout the Diocese will be distributed shortly.

- The board is required to appoint an independent consultant to assist our process. We are currently negotiating with a preferred Consultant who has extensive experience in this area. We will notify who the successful Consultant is once formal agreement is reached.

I am always happy to take any questions in relation to the process we are following.

I can be called on 0408 384 805.

Jenny Dawson
Chair, Electoral Board