



Archbishop of Sydney

25 August 2022

A Pastoral Letter from the Archbishop

Dear friends

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

Media reports concerning the Diocese of the Southern Cross have created confusion and concern for some Sydney Anglicans and others.

On Thursday 18 August 2022 I published the following media release which I quote in full:

The Diocese of Sydney is an integral part of the Anglican Church of Australia and we have no intention of leaving.

Parishes, schools and organisations in the Diocese of Sydney are not affected by this development and there will be no change to our structures. We are committed to the reform of the Anglican Church of Australia from within our existing ecclesial structures including the General Synod.

The Diocese of the Southern Cross has been established for those elsewhere who have left their diocese because they cannot in good conscience accept the authority of those who have departed from the teaching of Christ.

It is a sadness that this new Diocese has become necessary but I extend the hand of fellowship to the Diocese of the Southern Cross and may God bless Bishop Davies and his work.

Currently, one clergyman and a few dozen members of his former congregation have left the Diocese of Southern Queensland and established a new congregation in their community. Most of them have been Anglicans all their lives. They are the only church at present that belongs to the Diocese of the Southern Cross. I am very glad to extend the hand of fellowship to them.

This statement may be shared widely, especially with those who are misled by media reports.

The Lord be with you.

In Christ

Kanishka Raffel

The Most Reverend Kanishka Raffel
Archbishop
Anglican Diocese of Sydney

St Andrew's House, Sydney Square. PO Box Q190, QVB Post Office NSW 1230
Telephone: +61 2 9265 1521 Email: archbishop@sydney.anglican.asn.au