

## 2017 IGNITE GROWTH



# The WAY ahead is exciting indeed!

**DIOCESAN HYMN** – In this year of 2017 – Ignite Growth we believe that God is calling each of us in The Murray to be sent out as evangelists in our time and place in an effort to grow God’s Church. To enthuse us even more in this great mission the hymn “Facing a Task Unfinished” has been chosen as our Diocesan hymn for the year. The lyrics and the sheet music are attached, but you can also follow this link to hear it: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKJpPIQnEfc>

**DIOCESAN PRAYER** – By now all Parishes and Pastoral Districts will have received prayer cards with our Diocesan Prayer for the year. I encourage you to publish and pray this prayer regularly. A PDF version of the prayer card is attached for your resources.

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY NETWORK** – A number of educators around the Diocese are in the process of exploring this valuable ministry providing support, resources and inspiration.

**PREFACES** – Also attached are four Eucharistic Prefaces, written especially for our Diocese. Each of these prefaces speak of all of us as members of God’s family being equipped with a multitude of God-given gifts which need to be utilised for the mission and ministry of the Church.

**FORMATION WEEKEND** – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April at Keith as per information sent out. This is a weekend where people will be trained by the Bishop in evangelism and equipped with various tools that assist us in being brave and proclaiming the faith. Those who attend this weekend will then assist the Bishop with various evangelism workshops around the Diocese.

**WORKSHOPS** – The Bishop and a team will be making their way around the whole Diocese offering a workshop entitled: **GROWING GOD’S CHURCH WITH BOLDNESS**. This workshop will be most valuable in equipping both laity and clergy for the great mission ahead. Dates will be announced in coming weeks.

**THANKSGIVING SUNDAY** – On the 21<sup>st</sup> May, the week before Synod, each and every worship centre around the Diocese is encouraged to celebrate Thanksgiving Sunday. This is a day to give thanks to God for all that is so good in our lives, to pray for the Church and for our way ahead as God's family, seeking to be his missionaries in the mission-field of daily life. Some exciting and creative resources will be sent out before this important event.

**SYNOD EUCHARIST – 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY** – As a Diocese we will come together at the altar and creatively celebrate what it means to be God's family giving thanks for all our gifts and blessings. Representatives from every Parish and Pastoral District will be actively involved in this worship, and again resources will be sent out in the coming weeks.

**LAUNCH OF *The Year of Growth*** – On 26<sup>th</sup> November on the Feast of Christ the King right across the Diocese we will launch our new mission focus: *The Year of Growth*. 2017 is a time to be equipped, learn new skills, explore our gifts, and train in evangelism with the intention that next year we put it all into practice. It goes without saying that we don't have to wait until next year to grow God's Church but next year it will be our focus.

**FACEBOOK** – Want to know what is happening around the Diocese of The Murray? Want to let us know what your Parish or Pastoral District is up to? Why not friend us on Facebook.



[www.facebook.com/The-Diocese-of-The-Murray-139301872905418/](http://www.facebook.com/The-Diocese-of-The-Murray-139301872905418/)

**WEBSITE** – At Synod this year we will launch our brand new, really catchy, Diocesan website with new logos and art depicting the Murray River and vines. Our new website will provide each of us with ongoing resources, forums, access to networks and inspirational material. We also have someone who has taken on the valuable ministry of managing both our website and Facebook page which is a huge blessing.

If you want any information about any of the above please contact  
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