

Tuesdays with Teresa

I would like to use today's message to encourage each of you to consider attending our Diocesan Gathering on 5th and 6th November at Maitland. Last week I spoke about the ongoing conversations in the diocese as part of the process of *Moving Forward Together*. It would be great to have a good number of voices at our Gathering so that we have spirit-led conversations.

This week, as part of the Diocesan Update, you will find a number of attachments. Please download each of them and consider being with others from around the diocese on the first weekend in November. Please complete the registration form and return to the diocese. We will then send you more information about the Gathering so that you can be fully present when we meet.

I invite each of you to reflect in prayer regarding our understanding of who we are as a church on mission.

The Synod, acting on behalf of the diocesan community, resolved to embrace and promote the Vatican II understanding of the Church's mission contained in the following:

"The Church, because it is the People of God and the Body of Christ enlivened by his Spirit, is called to be a sign and instrument of communion with God and of unity among all people (LG1). The Church exists to promote the Kingdom of God on earth (LG5). This it does by proclaiming Christ - the Good News of God's love for all people - and by working in the world for justice, peace and reconciliation. This mission finds its source and summit in the Eucharist which, when lived in everyday life and celebrated in the liturgy, is both the living symbol of Christ's life, death and resurrection and celebrates the deepest identity of the Church as a communion of life, love and truth (LG9,11). All those who, through Baptism, have been initiated into the community of the Church have the right and duty to participate in its life and mission as a response to the Spirit in their lives (LG3)."

We are called to live out the commandment of Jesus:

'Love one another as I have loved you.' (Jn 15:12)
(Diocesan Pastoral Plan)

I hope you feel called to join with others at the Gathering as we journey together.

Teresa Brierley

Vice Chancellor Pastoral Ministries
28th September 2010



A new
commandment
I give to you,
that you love one
another;
even as I have loved you,
that you also love one
another.

John 13:34