



From the Bishop

Sunday, 10 November 2019

PASTORAL LETTER TO THE DIOCESE: GRAND TOUR

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I write this letter to you all at the conclusion of the “Grand Tour” which I commenced on the 2nd of October. I have travelled from Renmark, down to Lameroo, Keith and Bordertown, Naracoorte, Kingston, Penola, Mount Gambier, Goolwa to Victor Harbour, McLaren Vale, and then to the Southern Suburbs. I have had a wide variety of experiences seeing you all, and I cannot thank the clergy and the laity enough for your hospitality and your willingness to engage with me, as I seek to discover what is going on in your part of the world, and what are your issues, challenges, and the excitement of ministry where you are.

It is true there are real issues in the diocese, but I am confident they can be amicably resolved. I will be relentless in this endeavour. What has impressed me is the resilience of the laity and the commitment of the clergy to bringing about the gospel in the diocese but let us not kid ourselves there is still much to be done.

I still must visit the Hills area, and I will do that early December and the Murraylands at a time to be determined. When I have done that, I will be able to move to the next stage, planning what to do. I have a pretty good idea, about what needs to happen, I simply need time to reflect, pray and carefully consider all I have seen and heard. I ask you all to be patient. I expect to have some ideas by the end of February, to mid-March.

Tomorrow, Monday, I will, after attending a Remembrance Day Service at Tyndale Christian School here in Murray Bridge, I will then be travelling back to Sydney to collect Alice and tidy up our affairs there. We will be heading back by the 22nd and hope to be back home by the 25th. Please keep us in your prayers as we travel.



Again, my thanks to you all for your kindness and hospitality to me, for putting up with the caravan in odd places in the diocese but most of all thank you for inviting me into your part of the world and letting me have albeit brief, a glimpse into your world and the mission and ministry you are endeavouring to engage in for our Lord.

With every blessing to you all,

+  The Murray

The Right Reverend Keith Dalby
Bishop of The Murray