

Memorandum

To: All Archdiocesan Clergy, Staff and Catholic Centre Tenants, Parishes, Schools, BOA, APC, Te Kahu o Te Rangī

From: Cardinal John

Date: 13 December 2021

Re: Update on the Royal Commission of Inquiry Into Abuse

Throughout this year the Royal Commission has continued its hearings and witness statements into abuse suffered in both State and faith-based care.

The Royal Commission has also been finalising its findings into redress for survivors and is due to release its final report this month. The Church and other stakeholders contributed submissions to the report which will likely provide recommendations on implementation of redress for survivors.

In early 2022, the Royal Commission will hold public hearings into the St John of God Brothers (in relation to Marylands, Christchurch) and survivor accounts of abuse in care of Māori.

Attached for your use is an information pack provided by Te Rōpū Tautoko with further details of the work of the Royal Commission and that of Te Rōpū Tautoko. It also includes information on the Church's Roadmap which sets out how the Church is working proactively to do what it can do now, rather than wait for the Royal Commission's final recommendations in 2023.

Key contacts for any queries you may have during this time:

- Any/all media enquiries during this time should be referred to: David McLoughlin, the Communications Advisor for the New Zealand Catholic Bishops' Conference.
 - Ph: 021 611 052
 - Email: dmcloughlin@nzcbc.org.nz

- ADW contact staff:
 - Lesley Hooper Email: l.hooper@wn.catholic.org.nz
 - Elizabeth Berry Email: e.berry@wn.catholic.org.nz
 - John Prendergast Email: j.prendergast@wn.catholic.org.nz

Whilst challenging, we should remember that our bishops and congregational leaders requested that churches and faith-based organisations be included in the Royal Commission process so that we have this important opportunity to acknowledge the past, listen and learn from the experiences of survivors, and participate in seeking justice.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Cardinal Dew". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Cardinal John Dew