



DIOCESE OF WILCANNIA-FORBES

New South Wales, Australia

DECREE OF CONVOCATION

of the Second Diocesan Synod of Wilcannia-Forbes

COLUMBA MACBETH-GREEN, OSPPE D.D

Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes

To the clergy, religious, and lay faithful of the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes: to all who share in the one baptismal calling to holiness and mission in this vast and beloved corner of God's vineyard — grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

WHEREAS

Having announced and called for a Diocesan Synod for Wilcannia-Forbes to be held in 2026 in My Easter Message of 2025, and having consulted the Presbyteral Council in accordance with Canon 461 §1, I now, by this Decree and in virtue of the authority entrusted to me under Canon 462 §1, formally convoke the Diocesan Synod, to be conducted in accordance with the law of the Church and the Instruction on Diocesan Synods (19 March 1997).

NOW THEREFORE

By virtue of the authority vested in Me as Diocesan Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes and in accordance with the provisions of Canons 460-468 of the Code of Canon Law:

I HEREBY FORMALLY CONVOKE

The DIOCESAN SYNOD OF WILCANNIA-FORBES, to be held in the year 2026.



ARTICLE I — PURPOSE

The Synod is convoked for the pastoral good of the Diocese of Wilcannia–Forbes. Its purpose is to discern, with the assistance of the clergy, religious, and lay faithful, the pastoral priorities and missionary direction of the diocese in fidelity to the Gospel and in response to the particular circumstances of our remote and rural communities.

ARTICLE II — AUTHORITY

In accordance with Canon 462 §1, the Diocesan Bishop alone convokes this Synod and alone presides over it. In accordance with Canon 466, the Diocesan Bishop is the sole legislator at the Synod; all other members of the Synod possess only a consultative vote. The authority to sign and publish any synodal declarations and decrees rests with the Diocesan Bishop alone.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERS

The following are called to the Synod as members in accordance with Canon 463 §1: Vicar General and Episcopal Vicars and Deans; members of the Presbyteral Council; and lay members of the Christian faithful chosen by the Pastoral Council or, in its absence, in a manner to be determined by the Diocesan Bishop.

ARTICLE IV — INVOCATION

We commend this Synod to the intercession of Our Lady, of Perpetual Help, Patroness of our Diocese; and above all to the Holy Spirit, the principal guide of every authentic ecclesial gathering, without whose breath no synod bears fruit.

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Given at Forbes, New South Wales, this 14th day of April, in the Year of Our Lord 2025.



† **COLUMBA MACBETH-GREEN OSPPE DD**
Bishop of the Diocese of Wilcannia–Forbes

