

## **A MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF THE A.C.T.**

### **TO ALL IN THE A.C.T. DURING THIS CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC**

**24 March 2020**

Religious leaders in the A.C.T. met today to consider the current situation regarding the Coronavirus (Covid-19).

First, we offer our sincere solidarity with all our people and the entire A.C.T. during this extraordinary situation enveloping us all. Our prayers are extended especially to those who are sick, anxious, isolated, lonely and financially distressed. Also, we encourage and sincerely thank all who are helping practically to relieve the suffering of people and to ensure that essential services continue to be provided to the community.

Respecting fully and totally supporting the government's regulations to minimise the spreading of the virus, especially pertaining to social distancing and personal hygiene, we wish to implore religious people to reach out to those most in need with practical help, words of encouragement, and a genuine concern for the well-being of all.

Secondly, our faiths lead us to see others as brothers and sisters to be encountered with love and support. Believers are to share the joys and sorrows and concerns of our society in this Coronavirus pandemic. We are to engender hope, healing, peace and practical help inspired by our respective religious traditions animated by our beliefs in the all-merciful and loving God.

May all religious people in the A.C.T. do their part alongside others to make a valuable contribution to our common home in our present troubles.

Be assured of our prayers and loving service within our A.C.T. community and beyond in the most challenging times ahead.

**(MEDIA ENQUIRIES: REV. DAVID CAMPBELL 0438.292.857)**