

## Diocese of Wagga Wagga

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Memorial of St. Philip Neri

26TH May 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

In these days before the great Solemnity of Pentecost, in joy I convey to you all that the Holy Father has appointed <u>Most Reverend Mark Stuart Edwards OMI</u>, presently Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, as Bishop of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

Our long wait and perseverance in prayer for a new Bishop is now over. We are delighted to welcome our new Bishop and assure him of our prayers.

In offering prayers of thanksgiving to the Lord and His Mother, Mary, for the upcoming 6th Bishop of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga, I sincerely thank the priests and people of the diocese for their incessant prayers for a new bishop and their patience in this long time of transition. In a special way I thank Fr Kevin O'Reilly and Mons. Doug George for their pastoral service to the diocese over these intervening years as my Delegates.

Bishop Mark Edwards OMI succeeds Bishop Gerard Hanna who faithfully served this diocese as Bishop from 2002 till his retirement in 2016. We renew our thanks for his pastoral zeal over those years.

The Office and responsibilities of the Apostolic Administrator continue until the installation of the new bishop. Further details will be made known soon.

Yours sincerely in Christ.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn

Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga