

# CONCERNED CATHOLICS TASMANIA INC

## CONSTITUTION

### #4 **BASIC OBJECTS AND PURPOSES**

The **association's** basic objects and purposes are as follows:

- 4.1 To encourage and facilitate the Christian faithful of the Archdiocese of Hobart (**Tasmanian Faithful**) in exercising their right and responsibility to strive “so that the divine message of salvation is made known and accepted by all persons everywhere in the world” especially when “only through them can people hear the gospel and know Christ”.<sup>1</sup>
- 4.2 To encourage and facilitate the **Tasmanian Faithful** in exercising their “particular duty to imbue and perfect the order of temporal affairs with the spirit of the gospel and thus to give witness to Christ, especially in carrying out these same affairs and in exercising secular functions”.<sup>1</sup>
- 4.3 To convince the **Tasmanian Faithful** that our Church should be an inclusive Church, which welcomes all to full participation in the spirit of the Gospels;
- 4.4 To focus our Church on engaging the talents, gifts, and wisdom of the **Tasmanian Faithful** so we are able to participate at all levels of decision making in our Church;<sup>2</sup>
- 4.5 To ensure that the **Tasmanian Faithful** have an effective role and voice in our Church's administration and direction, and an effective means of providing support to one another as we work collaboratively to carry out the mission of our Church;
- 4.6 In a spirit of shared mission, mutual responsibility and genuine collaborative leadership, we seek to advance towards:
  - (a) agreement for a structure and work plan based on mutual partnership with our Archbishop (**Archbishop**) lay people, priests and religious, to achieve a renewal and reform agenda;
  - (b) the establishment of an Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (**DPC**), with a view to enhancing lay leadership, including:

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<sup>1</sup> The Code of Canon Law in English Translation, Canon 225.2,  
[http://www.vatican.va/archive/cod-iuscanonici/cic\\_index\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/archive/cod-iuscanonici/cic_index_en.html)

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. Canon 212.3

- (i) ways and means of ensuring that the membership of the **DPC** is truly representative and reflective of the breadth and depth of the **Tasmanian Faithful** so that the **DPC** has the wit and courage to provide our **Archbishop** with fearless advice; and
  - (ii) ways and means of formulating a rigorous regime whereby the **Tasmanian Faithful** can engage in meaningful dialogue with our **Archbishop** about how best to achieve the outcomes set forth in (a) and (b) above;
- 4.7 To develop new models of church with more meaningful and effective lay participation in employed and honorary positions;
- 4.8 To focus on greater accountability, inclusiveness and transparency in Church governance;
- 4.9 To prioritise greater women's participation in leadership and decision-making at all levels of our Church so that our Church may benefit from their God given talents to advance the mission of the Church and that we fill the void in our Church caused by the exclusion of women from leadership and decision making roles;
- 4.10 To foster a meaningful dialogue with our **Archbishop** so the **Tasmanian Faithful** may play their part in communicating the *sensus fidei* as foreshadowed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church at paragraph 92, which provides:

*"The whole body of the faithful. . . cannot err in matters of belief. This characteristic is shown in the supernatural appreciation of faith (sensus fidei) on the part of the whole people, when, from the bishops to the last of the faithful, they manifest a universal consent in matters of faith and morals."*<sup>3</sup>

A full copy of the Constitution is available on request.

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<sup>3</sup> Lumen Gentium 12