

# MINISTRY WITHOUT BORDERS

*Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with God (Micah 6:8)*

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Dear CCTAS Members

Firstly, thank you for the privilege of the Conversation with you on Saturday May 22 – indeed a manifestation of Synodality! As I reflected with you all yesterday, you are building CCTAS on very solid foundations of Vision and Prayer which manifest the spiritual and inclusive Spirituality which you embody – all focused on the Mission of an inclusive community of faith calling forth the gifts of each person.

In the final session you were invited in groups to address the question: ***What does or could Synodality look like and sound like for Concerned Catholic Tasmania?*** The responses which I captured on the whiteboard are below:

- Openness to be heard without fear
- Listen and be aware of the deep spirituality of the young people – keep endeavouring to engage with them and invite them into Church (the institutional Church)
- Courage for Mission and for Change
- Encouraged by the rising call to be a Synodal Church → the way of the future → the call to being a renewal movement
- We have two voices and two sets of ears
- Be prepared to accept responsibility and insist on being heard and keep being positive
- Be involved with faith formation so that the next generation is encouraged to faith in action and gathering together at Mass
- For Synodality to really work it must be built on charity, acceptance and compassion
- Synodality's foundation is HOPE
- Synodality → is outreach to those who have been hurt for speaking out
- Listening starts with me → Deep Listening
- The importance of addressing Fear ... within ourselves and others with whom we engage.

These responses are very rich and provide clarity of direction for CCTAS and more importantly they provide '*ways of being*'. Daniel O'Leary, a gifted Irish Theologian and author whom I had the privilege of knowing speaks about '***engaging in courageous conversations***' and I have added '***convened in love***'. As we '*scale the mountain of Church Reform*' (Chittister) we are called to continually engage in these courageous conversations with a 'win/win' but resolute approach – being patiently persistent! I am also attaching the PowerPoint for you all as promised.

I wish you every blessing in the journey which is indeed a journey together – I have indeed been enriched by the conversation yesterday – thank you.

*Phil Billington*

22 May 2021