



The Right Reverend Stuart Robinson
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Pastoral Letter – The Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey

Beloved in Christ,

Greetings!

Should the plans for a postal vote on same-sex marriage survive a raft of legal challenges, then we'll be called upon to express an opinion in the 'Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey'. My own view is that our full cooperation in this activity will enable law makers to understand the mind of the electorate more fully. You must be correctly enrolled to vote. The expiry date for registration is one week hence, August 24th. See <http://www.aec.gov.au/enrol/>

A range of organisations, Christian and secular, are diligently canvassing opinions on a matter which could easily (further) divide our community. To this end, and in response to Synod dialogue, debate and resolution, we have provided resource material, through our Public Issues Commission, that seeks to foster careful, informed dialogue on what is a complex and emotive issue that very often pertains to people we know and love.

Here is a direct link to that material

<http://www.anglicancg.org.au/data/BCBRelease1CompleteFINAL.compressed.pdf>

And to be clear, beloved: the formal position of the Anglican Church of Australia, well articulated in the Primate's letter a year or so ago and attached again for your reference and perusal, is a lifelong union between man and a woman. You will also recall from my Synod presentations and pastoral letters over the years, that I personally endorse this historic definition.

That said, as a matter of conscience and conviction, a great many fellow believers hold views which are nuanced from or significantly at variance with mine. It is incumbent upon me (and us all) to lovingly and graciously - and in all humility- listen carefully to our friends and loved ones whilst seeking the Lord's direction for the decision we must take.

Prayerfully,
Yours in Christ,

The Right Reverend Stuart Robinson
Diocesan Bishop of Canberra & Goulburn
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