

***“To be a strong and faith-filled Catholic fraternity committed to serving our Church throughout Australia.”***

### **Theme: Our ‘Place’ in the Landscape**

Each and every person, created in the image of God, and fruit of the Father’s love, has a place in the whole of creation. That ‘place’ is certainly not static – it is very dynamic and so vastly different from all the other elements in the scene. We are very complex beings. Not only do we form part of the scene but we also form it or shape it, and we constantly make changes. Certainly each one of us leaves a footprint, a mark, a contribution. Just as we are influenced by those who have gone before us, inevitably our presence will become a legacy for those that come after us and will influence them. As we continue to celebrate the centenary of the Knights we are constantly reminded of those who have preceded us. Our ‘place’, therefore, is itself a reflection of the ongoing act of our Creator and is motivated by the same selfless and dynamic love.

**Step 1: Opening prayer:** from the Order’s Prayers

### **Step 2: READINGS ON THE THEME**

The first and most important task of the disciples of Jesus – the Church – is to proclaim Jesus and His Good News. This is called *evangelization* a word which comes from the Greek word for the Gospels. This is the mission, and in the words of Pope Saint Paul VI: ‘Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize’. Not surprisingly this was identified in the initial process of the consultation of the faithful in preparation for the Plenary Council as a major theme: “How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is: Missionary and Evangelizing”. That presents some challenges for us today. We must address those – faith demands it (‘a strong and faith-filled Catholic fraternity’) – as opportunities to be true disciples of Jesus through immersing ourselves in history of today and by participating in the mission.

“We find ourselves living at a time when change is no longer linear, but epochal. It entails decisions that rapidly transform our ways of living, of relating to one another, of communicating and thinking, of how different generations relate to one another and how we understand and experience faith and science. Often we approach change as if were a matter of simply putting on new clothes, but remaining exactly as we were before.

The more healthy approach is to let oneself be challenged by the questions of the day and to approach them with the virtues of discernment, *parrhesia* (boldness, freedom of speech) and *hypomoné* (to bear up under, endure). Seen in this light, change takes on a very different aspect: from something marginal, incidental or merely external, it would become something more human and more Christian. Change would still take place, but beginning with man as its centre: an anthropological conversion.” (Pope Francis to the Curia 21 Dec 2019)

**Step 3:** *Allow a few moments reflective silence.*

### **Step 4: SCRIPTURE READING**

Then he said to his disciples, ‘That is why I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Think of the ravens. They do not sow or reap; they have no storehouses and no barns; yet God feeds them. And how much more you are worth than the birds! Can any of you, however much you worry, add a single cubit to your span of life? If a very small thing is beyond your powers, why worry about the rest? Think how the flowers grow; they never have to spin or weave; yet I assure you, not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of them. Now if that is how God clothes a flower which is growing wild today and is thrown into the furnace tomorrow, how much more will he look after you, who have so little faith! But you must not set your hearts on things to eat and things to drink; nor must you worry. It is the gentiles of this world who set their hearts on all these things. Your Father well knows you need them. No, set your hearts on

his kingdom, and these other things will be given you as well. There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.” (Luke 12: 22-32)

**Step 5: REFLECTION (5 Mins)**

**Step 6: SHARING (10 Mins)**

How do I measure “success”?

What influence does faith have in addressing “stress”?

What are some of the real-life challenges that I can identify in my community?

In what ways should I respond?

**Step 7: CONCLUSION**

We pray together;

Lord Jesus Christ, I believe in You as my God and my Saviour. Make me more faithful to Your Gospel and commandments. By sharing in the Eucharist, may I come to live more fully in the life You have given me. Keep Your Love alive within my heart and soul so that I may become worthy of You. Teach me to value and be thankful for all of Your Gifts. Help us to strive for eternal life.

**Step 8:** *The meeting proceeds*

**Step 9: CLOSING PRAYERS – FROM THE ORDER’S PRAYERS**