



## ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

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### Vicar General

18 March 2016

Dear Father,

#### 2016 National Church Life Survey

On behalf of Archbishop Mark Coleridge and the Australian Catholic Bishops, I write to encourage you to consider participation by your parish in the **2016 National Church Life Survey (NCLS)**. This survey is scheduled to take place during October and November and will require all Mass attenders over the age of 15 years to complete a 4 page questionnaire. This questionnaire will take approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete at each of the Masses on a weekend of your choice during the survey period.

This is a vital project in the life of our Christian churches across Australia and involves over 20 denominations in approximately 7,000 churches. The results provide a snap-shot view of the life and mission of your parish community as well as helpful comparisons with other Catholic parishes and other Christian denominations.

The coordination of this project across the Archdiocese is provided by Sr Kari Hatherell *osu (Evangelisation Brisbane)* with some part-time assistance from Chris Ehler (*NCLS Research Project Officer*). In the near future you will receive communication about the 2016 NCLS including details of participation costs and options for ordering surveys by the end of June. Parishes will have the freedom to select any weekend in October or November in order to conduct the survey at all Masses. Detailed instructions and support resources will be available prior to the survey period.

The *Australian Catholic Bishops* will again fund a random national sample of about 250 parishes across all Australian Catholic dioceses to participate in the *2016 NCLS*. This Archdiocese has been allocated nineteen parishes for participation in this national sample.

There is a special NCLS Research website where there is a wealth of information about all aspects of this project: [www.2016ncls.org.au](http://www.2016ncls.org.au) . Additional local information about the role of this Archdiocese in the 2016 NCLS is available on the website: [www.evangelisationbrisbane.org.au](http://www.evangelisationbrisbane.org.au) .

I encourage you to give serious consideration to this opportunity to participate in the 2016 NCLS and use the results for your effective pastoral planning process in building stronger parishes.

With every best wish and blessing,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Rev Monsignor Peter J Meneely VG