



*Speaking the truth in love*

*Eph 4:15*

13 November 2019

**STATEMENT FROM MOST REV. ANTHONY FISHER OP  
ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY**

I welcome today's decision of the High Court that it will hear the appeal of Cardinal George Pell against his conviction.

The Cardinal has always maintained his innocence and continues to do so, and the divided judgment of the Court of Appeal reflects the divided opinion amongst jurors, legal commentators and within our community.

Many questions remain, and it is appropriate that these will be examined by our highest court.

For the sake of all involved in this case, I hope that the appeal will be heard as soon as possible.

The Church will continue to offer pastoral support to the Cardinal while he remains in prison awaiting the hearing of this appeal, and for all others affected by today's outcome.

Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP, DD BA LIB BTheol DPhil  
Archbishop of Sydney