



MEDIA OFFICE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 6.00pm (AWST) - Monday, 14 October 2024.

Date: Monday, 14 October 2024

Subject: Announcement of the Appointment of the Third Bishop of Broome, Western Australia.

On Monday, 14 October 2024 at 6.00pm AWST, Pope Francis appointed the Most Reverend Timothy Norton SVD, Auxiliary Bishop of Brisbane, as the third Bishop of Broome, Western Australia.

The Bishop of Geraldton and Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Broome, the Most Reverend Micheal Morrissey, expressed his delight with the appointment of Bishop Tim Norton as the third Bishop of the Diocese of Broome.

He said, *“Bishop Tim is a member of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) in Australia and has served well the Archdiocese of Brisbane as its Auxiliary Bishop. Many people in the Diocese of Broome were afforded the opportunity of meeting Bishop Tim at our diocesan gathering held in March 2024.*

Bishop Tim will bring to the Diocese of Broome tremendous experience from his time as Director of Courses for the Society of the Divine Word ‘Sabbatical Programme’ at their International College on Lake Neri near Rome, Italy, for eight (8) years.

Previously, Bishop Tim was the Provincial of the Society of the Divine Word in Australia for nine (9) years, strengthening their mission outreach in Australia and beyond Australia to remote places of ministry.

Bishop Tim currently serves as a member of the Bishops Commission for Relations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. In the Diocese of Broome, where 61 percent of Catholics identify as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, his commitment to strengthening relationships with Aboriginal community members will be greatly valued.

All of us wish Bishop Tim every blessing and prayer as he begins his ministry as Bishop of Broome. The date and time of his Installation will be decided during this coming week and the information shared with everyone.” said Bishop Morrissey.

This evening, the Most Rev Timothy Costelloe SDB, Catholic Archbishop of Perth (and President, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference) released a statement welcoming Pope Francis’s appointment of Bishop Norton SVD. The Archbishop’s statement is/will be accessible on the website of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

End Statement.

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