

# Take THE Way OF THE Gospel

TOGETHER WE PRAY



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE  
OF MELBOURNE

“ ”

Take  
THE  
Way  
OF THE  
Gospel

“The Way of the Gospel – the path of missionary discipleship – has always been adapted by every generation to fit the local circumstances. How this is arranged has varied according to time and place. Now is our time; here is our place.

As Pope Francis has been reminding us, we must be open to change if renewal is to be possible, and sometimes new structures are required for apostolic spirit to gain momentum.”

**TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL  
RE-IMAGINING OUR LOCAL CHURCH AS MISSION COMMUNITIES**

A PASTORAL LETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP PETER A COMENSOLI - PENTECOST 2021

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# Welcome!

Take  
THE  
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We warmly welcome each of you.

On Pentecost Sunday, in his pastoral letter, Archbishop Comensoli invited us to re-imagine our local Church as Mission communities and called for our participation.

Thank you for joining us as we respond to this call to “Take the Way of the Gospel”.

We begin this journey of listening, learning and walking by uniting in prayer.

We bring ourselves exactly as we are right now **(pause)**.

We call on the Holy Spirit as together we pray...

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# Suggested opening hymn

Take  
THE  
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**Holy Spirit, Come to Us**

YouTube: [www.bit.ly/3iqoYZI](http://www.bit.ly/3iqoYZI)

Spotify: [www.spoti.fi/3w5an9L](http://www.spoti.fi/3w5an9L)

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# Jeremiah 29:11-14

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For I know the plans I have in mind for you –  
declares the LORD – plans for peace,  
not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

When you call to me and come and pray to me,  
I shall listen to you.

When you search for me, you will find me;  
when you search wholeheartedly for me,  
I shall let you find me – declares the Lord.



# Jeremiah 29:11-14

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When you search for me, you will find me; when you search wholeheartedly for me, I shall let you find me – declares the Lord.

**Reflect silently for a few minutes.**

# Jeremiah 29:11-14

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When you search for me, you will find me; when you search wholeheartedly for me, I shall let you find me – declares the Lord.

**Reflect silently for a few minutes about God's presence in your parish and in our Archdiocese at this time.**

**What do you need at this time?**

**What do we need as an Archdiocese?**



# Prayers of Intercession

Take  
THE  
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OF THE  
Gospel

Loving God,  
we humbly seek your wisdom, courage  
and guidance for our Archdiocese  
as we recommit ourselves to  
“Take the Way of the Gospel”.

TOGETHER WE PRAY



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# Prayers of Intercession

Take  
THE  
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**Reader:**

Loving God, your Holy Spirit gave the disciples new eyes, new ears and a fresh heart to form the family of the Church and to proclaim the Kingdom of God. We ask the same for your family in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, as we begin a new conversation about our common mission for the years ahead.

Through Jesus we pray.

**ALL: Come Holy Spirit.**



# Prayers of Intercession

Take  
THE  
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## **Reader:**

Loving God, the mission of the Gospel is at the heart of our life, worship and outreach.

We desire that our local faith communities be arranged to flourish and be effectively resourced – spiritually, ministerially and materially.

Help us to re-imagine our parishes, united with each other, humbly discerning the best way forward.

Through Jesus we pray.

**ALL: Come Holy Spirit.**



# Prayers of Intercession

Take  
THE  
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Gospel

**Reader:**

Loving God, this is a journey that will take time and effort, listening and learning, and we will need to take this journey together.

We ask for the courage and guidance of your Spirit, to help us adapt to current and ever changing realities. Now is our time, here is our place.

Be with us as we “Take the Way of the Gospel” towards missionary renewal in our Archdiocese.

Through Jesus we pray.

**ALL: Come Holy Spirit.**



# Prayers of Intercession

Take  
THE  
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OF THE  
Gospel

**Reader:**

Loving God as we enter this time of ongoing discernment, we turn to you with confidence.

Open our hearts to where you are calling us, help us to reach out to our neighbours in fruitful dialogue, to reframe our thinking and inspire decisions that bring renewed life.

Through Jesus we pray.

**ALL: Come Holy Spirit.**



# Prayers of Intercession

Take  
THE  
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**Reader:**

Loving God, we turn to you with a new depth of trust and conviction in your guiding hand.

May we make this journey with compassionate and humble hearts, come to know your Spirit moving within and among us, and so be transformed.

Through Jesus we pray.

**ALL: Come Holy Spirit.**



# Prayers of Intercession

Take  
THE  
Way  
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Reflect on your own intentions  
for a few moments...

Through Jesus we pray.

**ALL: Come Holy Spirit.**

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# Let us pray for the Archdiocese

Take  
THE  
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Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.

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# Closing Prayer

Take  
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We conclude our prayer today  
with this ancient prayer of the Church:

**ALL: Come Holy Spirit,  
fill the hearts of your faithful  
and enkindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created,  
and you shall renew the face of the earth.**

Holy Mary, Mother of the Church. **Pray for us.**

St Joseph. **Pray for us.**

St Patrick. **Pray for us.**

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. **Pray for us.**



# Suggested closing hymn

Take  
THE  
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## **Open My Eyes**

YouTube: [www.bit.ly/34Z3bQD](http://www.bit.ly/34Z3bQD)

Spotify: [www.spoti.fi/3v57WCG](http://www.spoti.fi/3v57WCG)



# Promoting this time of prayer...

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What opportunities are there for you to use this prayer in your home/parish/community?

How can you invite others into this important time of prayer for the future of our Archdiocese?

Download this resource at:  
**[www.melbournecatholic.org/about/mission](http://www.melbournecatholic.org/about/mission)**

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# Promoting this time of prayer...

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## Who?

Home & family • Parish leadership team  
Parish staff meeting • PPC meeting  
After weekend Masses • Parish prayer groups  
Ministry groups • Small faith-sharing groups  
School staff meeting • School advisory meeting

## How?

Websites • Bulletins • Social Media  
Personal invitation



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