



We proclaim a crucified Christ

1 Cor 1.23

John Kennedy
7 Ilford Road
Frenchs Forest NSW 2086

Thursday 26 May 2016

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 5 April regarding various concerns with the sacramental programs in use in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

As a general observation, it occurs to me that your concerns are of particular interest in this Year of Mercy in light of Pope Francis' call to make the Sacrament of Penance more widely available, mercifully shared, and better presented in teaching and catechesis.

I appreciate the depth of your concerns, along with others, and your willingness to have met with Peter Hamill, Director of the Catholic Schools Office (CSO) in Broken Bay.

Now that you have spent some time with the various materials shared with you, this might be a good opportunity to follow up directly with Peter Hamill and to continue your conversation with him concerning Catholic Schools matters.

I understand you have also written to Alison Newell of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) and hope to meet with her, and I would be pleased for you to do so. I understand from Alison that the modules in the current Special Religious Education (SRE) curriculum are based upon the Catechism of the Catholic Church and Sacred Scripture, and that they have been designed to be taught in an age-appropriate manner, as per Department of Education requirements.

I am open to reviewing the sacramental program booklets, mindful of your concerns, among other matters, into the future, given my commitment to providing quality and faithful resources for sacramental preparation, but am unable to give a clear timeframe on that at this stage.

I make no comment on the sacramental programs in use elsewhere.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Bishop of Broken Bay