MOST REV BRIAN G MASCORD DD
BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG

Xavier Centre
38 Harbour Street (PO BOX 1239)
Wollongong NSW 2500 Australia

T +61 2 4222 2402
F +61 2 4222 2419
E bishop@dow.org.au
www.dow.org.au

13 November 2026

Dear parishioners, staff, and parents and carers of students of St Michael's Parish Primary School, Mittagong, and St Thomas Aquinas Parish Primary School, Bowral.

Firstly, I want to acknowledge once again that the recent discussions surrounding the proposal from Corpus Christi Parish to amalgamate St Michael's in Mittagong and St Thomas Aquinas in Bowral into a single parish school have made this a difficult time for many of you.

I am aware that there is some uncertainty regarding the parish's proposal and rationale, following community feedback, media reports, and public and private commentary. To ensure a constructive and fruitful consultation process, I have requested that a document be developed to provide a clear overview of the proposal.

This resource was created for anyone seeking further understanding of exactly what is being proposed and why. It is not intended to promote or prosecute the proposal, but simply to ensure parishioners, staff and parents have a shared understanding of what you are being asked to provide your feedback on through the consultation process.

You can download a copy of the proposal document on the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong website.

For those parishioners who are unable to access the document and submission forms online, the proposal document, as well as hard copies of the consultation form, will be available to collect at the parish's Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses. As a result, the previously planned 18 November meeting to provide parishioners with hard copy forms will no longer be required.

It is my hope that after reading the document, you will feel that you can provide considered, informed feedback on the proposal. Your voices, insights, and concerns are essential in helping to faithfully determine the best way forward.

As we continue the consultation process, let us remain steadfast in treating one another with patience, charity, and respect. You remain constantly in my daily prayers.

Yours in Christ,

+Brian Mascord

Most Rev. Brian G. Mascord DD
Bishop of Wollongong