

Prayers for the Election of the Bishop

Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn 2018

For the new bishop

Eternal God, shepherd and guide,
in your mercy give your Church in this diocese
a shepherd after your own heart
 who will walk in your ways,
 and with loving care watch over your people.
Give us a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth.
So may your Church be built up
 and your name gloried;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer Book for Australia p. 212

For the Nominating Committee

Loving and gracious God,
grant your wisdom and grace to the members and meetings of the Episcopal
 Election Nominations Committee:
give them a sure vision of your plan and purpose
 as they interview candidates and support them in the nomination
process.
Encourage their faith, fill them with joy and hope,
 and sustain them as they serve you and your church in this place,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

For the candidates

Good and perfect Father of all,
look with kindness and gentleness on those who accept nomination as bishop:
give them a sure trust in your wisdom and love,
humble hearts,
and surrender to your call,
through and in the strong name of Jesus. **Amen**

For the members of the Diocese and for the members of the Election Synod

Holy and sovereign Lord,
we, your church, wait in hope and trust for your choice of our new bishop.
We thank you for all you have given us through the generations.
We surrender to you our own desires and fears,
and pray with one heart and mind
 ‘Your will be done’.
Give the Election Synod humility, discernment, kindness,
 and listening ears and hearts.
For the sake of your Kingdom, **Amen.**

A prayer for the whole church

Most gracious Father,
we pray for your holy catholic Church:
fill it with all truth
and in all truth with all peace;
where it is corrupt, purge it;
where it is in error, direct it;
where anything is amiss, reform it;
where it is right, strengthen and confirm it;
where it is in want, furnish it;
where it is divided, heal it
 and unite it in your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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For inclusion in Sunday intercessions

Sustain your church in this diocese as we wait for a new bishop.
Bless Bishop Trevor and all who work with him
 through this time of discernment and change.
Guide the work of the Episcopal Election Nominations Committee, and give
 wisdom and grace to members of the Election Synod.
Help us to be honest about who we are, hopeful for who we may become, and
clear about the person you are calling to be our next bishop.

[Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**]

Adapted from Archbishop Election Prayers 2017, Anglican Diocese of Perth