



Diocese of Armidale

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MEDIA RELEASE

DIOCESE OF ARMIDALE WELCOMES THE SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATA

The Sisters of the Immaculata are preparing to establish a presence in the Diocese of Armidale based at the Cathedral Parish in Armidale.

As an Association of Christ's Faithful, with a mission for spiritual renewal through Eucharistic Adoration and faith formation particularly in Parishes and with young people, the Sisters of the Immaculata began in 2008 in Sydney under the guidance of then Auxiliary Bishop Julian Porteous. Since 2013 the Sisters have primarily undertaken ministry in the Archdiocese of Hobart. Earlier in 2021 they made the decision to return to the mainland.

Bishop Michael Kennedy said that he was delighted when the Sisters approached him seeking to set up a house within the Diocese. "I have seen from afar," he said "the work of the Sisters in Tasmania and I have been impressed by their devotion to the Lord Jesus and His mother and with their missionary spirit and outreach in particular to youth".

The Sisters establishment of a house in the Diocese of Armidale has the blessing of Archbishop Julian Porteous who remains the competent authority for the Association. His Grace said "Whilst I was sad that the Sisters left Tasmania, I wish God's blessing upon them as they seek new directions for their life and ministry including in the Diocese of Armidale."

Mother Mary Therese hopes that the Community will be able to establish a house in Armidale before Christmas and that their Mission School will take place in January 2022. "There were disruptions to our normal mission programmes in 2021 due to COVID restrictions and uncertainties" Mother Mary Therese said, "we pray that the NSW government roadmap will allow us to reengage in this important avenue of spiritual renewal for young people and their families. In the meantime we look forward to coming and being part of the Cathedral Parish and serving in the Diocese of Armidale."

11th October, 2021