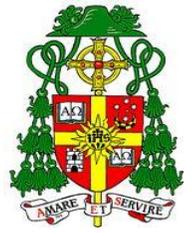


Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide
Apostolic Administrator
Diocese of Port Pirie - Bishop



23rd April 2020
20/170

Dear Sisters and Brothers

As I welcome you to Term 2, I send my Easter blessings to you and assure you that you are in my prayers, especially during this blessed Easter Season. At this time, our Catholic community is called to reflect on how we can be Easter people, full of joy and hope, in the midst of the suffering and changed circumstances, COVID 19 has brought into our lives and communities.

As Term 2 begins for our schools we recognise the way Catholic schools model Christian communion and identity and are places of connection and learning. We look forward to transitioning students back to our schools based on the advice we have received from Premier Marshall and the SA Chief Public Health Officer, Nicola Spurrier, who stated that parents should plan to send their children back to school. Dr Spurrier has repeated health advice that schools continue to be safe places for students and staff.

I know that the experience of community is highly valued by families in Catholic schools so I warmly welcome students back to school. I particularly welcome and encourage senior students to be at school to maximise their learning and connection during their final year of school education.

I am proud of the way our Catholic schools have responded to the pandemic and I know they will continue to offer excellent education in welcoming, inclusive, and connected communities. Together we are an expression of being a people of hope, a living and thriving Easter community through our prayers, our words, our actions and our solidarity.

Yours in Christ

+ Gregory O'Kelly SJ
Bishop of the Diocese of Port Pirie
Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Adelaide