

MEDIA RELEASE

Francis Sullivan: What the Royal Commission reveals about our Church: The challenges that face us

15 November 2017

A group of Catholics in the Archdiocese of Perth is calling for greater participation in their Church.

Community of the Way will meet at Trinity College next week in conversation with Francis Sullivan, CEO of the Truth Justice and Healing Council. The Council was established five years ago by Church leaders to engage with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse on behalf of the Church.

During the talk he will air concerns about emerging issues for the Catholic Church in Australia today, in light of the findings so far from the Royal Commission.

Community of the Way, is a group of Catholics in the Perth Archdiocese concerned about the future of their Church, and of the faith journey of many especially since the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s.

Chris Flamer, spokesperson for the group said the hope and energy from Vatican II is a dim and distant memory for many and that he hoped the evidence from the Royal Commission would be a wakeup call signalling that things have to change dramatically if the church is to recover from this crisis.

‘We seek accountability and transparency from our church leaders and a greater participation for all people, including women, in the key decisions affecting the life of the Church,’ Mr Flamer said.

‘We are looking forward to the Plenary Council in 2020, which provides some hope that Church leaders are willing to listen to the broader Catholic community. We will be making contributions to the Archdiocese in the hope that all voices might be heard in this historic process,’ he said.

The public event is open to all.

Time: 7:30pm
Date: Thursday 23 November 2017
Venue: Gibney Hall, Trinity College, 2 Trinity Avenue, East Perth
Parking: Ample parking is available

Entry is by gold coin.

A light super will be provided.

Media are welcome to attend.

Contact: Mr Chris Flamer 0413 679 211