

## A STATEMENT FROM ARCHBISHOP TIMOTHY COSTELLOE SDB, PRESIDENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

The death of Queen Elizabeth II, after a long reign marked by extraordinary constancy, fidelity, courage and service, will bring great sadness to many people in Australia, including members of the Catholic community.

As the Queen enters into the great mystery of eternal life with the Lord, we will pray for the repose of her soul and for the support and comfort of her family, her nation and the wider community of the Commonwealth.

Queen Elizabeth was never reticent about acknowledging her Christian faith. Her annual Christmas message invariably focused on Jesus Christ as a model of humble and generous service. It was a model she strived to emulate throughout her long life. May she rest in peace.

September 9, 2022