

Plan for the Reorganisation of the Diocese

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of the recommendations of the General Diocesan Consultation held from 1987 to 1988, was to re-organize the executive and pastoral structures of the diocese with a view to enable our local church to carry out more effectively her mission of spreading the Gospel. Taking due account of this recommendation, further consultations were subsequently held with various groups of lay people, brothers, sisters and priests.

In March 1990 a two-day Workshop was held to discuss how best to go about the re-organization of the diocese. An Ad Hoc Committee was appointed to prepare a model diocesan structure for consideration by the Curia. In May of that year a proposed plan was submitted. Subsequently, I had three sessions with the Workshop participants to discuss that plan; and a committee was delegated to amend it. Then, in December of the same year, the Council of Priests and myself held two meetings to review the amended plan, after which the Chancellor was delegated to re-write the proposed plan.

In April 1991 a Briefing Session was held to clarify the proposed plan. The participants were invited to submit their written suggestions for my consideration. I wish to express my appreciation and gratitude to all those who responded. Their proposals have been duly considered and where relevant have been adopted.

Over the past several months the Council of Priests and the Board of Diocesan Consultors have held a number of meetings to discuss, consider and finalize the Plan. The Plan for the re-organization of the Diocese was finalized in May. It will be presented to the priests, brothers and sisters at a Briefing Session on 10 June and to the members of the Hong Kong Central Council of Catholic Laity on 11 June. It will then be published in the Catholic Weeklies on 12 June.

I ask for your prayers and support for the implementation of this diocesan plan for the greater glory of God and the spread of His Gospel at this historic transition period in Hong Kong. This Plan will be reviewed and evaluated in due course.

May God our Father send us His spirit to enlighten our minds, to inflame our hearts and to strengthen our wills so that we may read the signs of the times, discern God's will and fulfil our pastoral commitment in the challenging years ahead.

+ John Baptist Cardinal Wu

The Bishop of Hong Kong

Pentecost Sunday

7 June 1992