



VOTING OUTCOMES FOR THE FIFTH PLENARY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

GENERAL INTRODUCTION AND PARTS 1 AND 2
OF THE [MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS DOCUMENT](#)

Announced on July 5, 2022

***Voting Guide: Placet (Assent); Placet Juxta Modum (Assent with Modification);
Non Placet (Dissent)***

MOTION 0.1

That the Plenary Council adopt the general introduction.

Consultative vote

<i>Placet</i>	142
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	58
<i>Non Placet</i>	5

The motion did not achieve a qualified majority on the consultative vote.

Deliberative vote

<i>Placet</i>	37
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	7
<i>Non Placet</i>	1

A qualified majority was achieved. The motion was passed.

MOTION 1.1

That the Plenary Council adopt the introductory statement of Part 1 shown in paragraphs 18-22, with Paragraph 22 amended as marked in red below.

22. THEREFORE, this Plenary Council:

- a. says sorry to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in and beyond the Church for the part played by the Church in the harms they have suffered;

- b. commits to **walk with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in** continuing to work towards recognition, reconciliation and justice;
- c. joyfully receives and accepts the recommendations contained in the NATSICC position paper “Embracing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the Life of the Catholic Church”;
- d. endorses the Uluru Statement from the Heart and encourages engagement with processes for implementing the statement, including local, regional and national truth-telling efforts.

Consultative vote

<i>Placet</i>	185
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	20
<i>Non Placet</i>	4

The motion achieved a qualified majority on the consultative vote.

Deliberative vote

<i>Placet</i>	44
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	1
<i>Non Placet</i>	0

A qualified majority was achieved. The motion was passed.

MOTION 1.2

That each Catholic school, parish, diocese, eparchy or organisation respond to the recommendations contained in the NATSICC position paper “Embracing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the Life of the Catholic Church” in at least the following ways:

- a. acknowledging in a prominent and appropriate manner the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which their buildings stand;
- b. including the online Cultural Competency in a Catholic Context course developed by NATSICC and approved by the Bishops Commission for Relations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in the orientation and/or ongoing formation of staff and volunteers to enable more effective and appropriate ministry;
- c. ensuring that any retreats and other formation activities offered are culturally appropriate;
- d. working actively to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on its committees, boards and decision-making bodies.

Consultative vote

<i>Placet</i>	176
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	28
<i>Non Placet</i>	5

The motion achieved a qualified majority on the consultative vote.

Deliberative vote

<i>Placet</i>	42
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	1
<i>Non Placet</i>	2

A qualified majority was achieved. The motion was passed.

MOTION 1.3

That the advisory councils of the Bishops Commission for Liturgy, in partnership with NATSICC, develop options for the liturgically and culturally appropriate use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander symbols and rituals in Catholic liturgical contexts, with respect for the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

Consultative vote

<i>Placet</i>	187
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	15
<i>Non Placet</i>	12

The motion achieved a qualified majority on the consultative vote.

Deliberative vote

<i>Placet</i>	41
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	2
<i>Non Placet</i>	2

A qualified majority was achieved. The motion was passed.

MOTION 2.1

That the Plenary Council adopt the introductory statement of Part 2 shown in paragraphs 26-32 with paragraph 32 amended as marked in red below.

32. That the Plenary Council:

- a. says sorry to the victims and survivors of abuse, their families and communities;
- b. recommits the Church to respond with justice and compassion to those who have suffered from the trauma of abuse, **including, where appropriate, ongoing pastoral and spiritual support and accompaniment;**
- c. encourages the practice, where appropriate, of local memorials in various forms, as a tangible recognition of the harm done through abuse and the need for special care for children;
- d. reaffirms the commitment of the Church in Australia to the work of implementing and improving safeguarding standards and practices;
- e. calls on all Catholics to commit to ensuring that Church environments are safe and respectful; **and**
- f. **requests the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Catholic Religious Australia, and the Association of Ministerial PJPs, with assistance from appropriate experts, to study, acknowledge and address systemic factors which have facilitated abuse within the Church.**

Consultative vote

<i>Placet</i>	168
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	27
<i>Non Placet</i>	14

The motion achieved a qualified majority on the consultative vote.

Deliberative vote

<i>Placet</i>	32
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	6
<i>Non Placet</i>	1

A qualified majority was achieved. The motion was passed.

MOTION 2.2

That, to express more fully the aims of the annual “Safeguarding Sunday”, in consultation with those who have been harmed by abuse:

- a. a new name be adopted; and
- b. the Bishops Commission for Liturgy develop appropriate rituals and liturgical resources to be offered to parishes for use on the day.

Consultative vote

<i>Placet</i>	174
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	27
<i>Non Placet</i>	10

The motion achieved a qualified majority on the consultative vote.

Deliberative vote

<i>Placet</i>	38
<i>Placet Juxta Modum</i>	6
<i>Non Placet</i>	1

A qualified majority was achieved. The motion was passed.