

Listening to the Spirit:  
Towards the 2020 Plenary Council  
*What do you think God is asking of us in Australia?*  
The future of Catholic Education/Institutions

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We are not living an era of change, but a change of era!

Pope Francis  
10 November, 2015

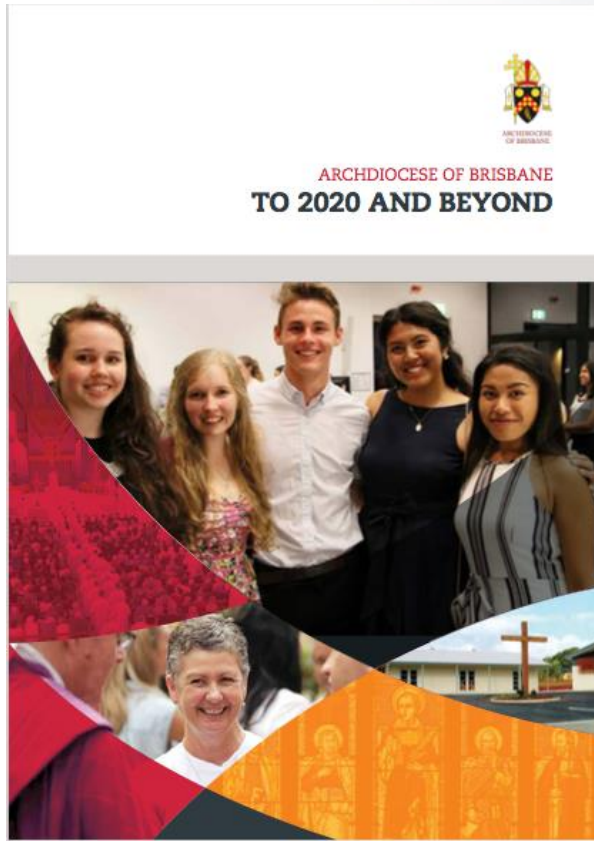
This is not a golden age, but it is a golden opportunity.

Archbishop Coleridge  
BCEO Staff Gathering  
February 2018

We live at a time when we must set out on a journey into the future along paths that are not altogether clear.

Archbishop Coleridge  
Foreword  
To 2020 and Beyond  
19 January 2017





On a Journey led by the Spirit.....

## “ON A JOURNEY LED BY THE SPIRIT”

*A synodal Church is a Church which listens, which realises that listening “is more than simply hearing”. It is a mutual listening in which everyone has something to learn. The faithful people, the college of bishops, the Bishop of Rome: all listening to each other, and all listening to the Holy Spirit, the “Spirit of truth” (Jn 14:17), in order to know what he “says to the Churches” (Rev 2:7).*



# OUR FUTURE

## **A listening Church**

A people of faith, listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit and discerning what action this requires.

## **A worshipping Church**

Celebrating the sacred mysteries in a way that nourishes and strengthens the life in the Spirit of all who gather with us.

## **A communicating Church**

Delivering a simple effective message with consistent communication of the Good News which we have heard in listening to the Spirit.

## **A serving Church**

Supporting those in need by Archdiocesan agencies seeking to work with parishes to give impetus to the Church's mission as the Spirit prompts.

## **A healing Church**

Protecting and advocating for those who are vulnerable and bringing the healing power of the Spirit to those who have been subjected to Church related sexual abuse.

## **An inclusive Church**

Being attentive to all members of the community, believing that the Spirit speaks and moves through all.

## **A well-led Church**

Developing and forming current and future leaders who are able to discern the ways of the Spirit and help others to do the same.

## **An innovative Church**

Enhancing governance structures and systems so that they are responsive and innovative, open to the surprises of the Spirit.

## **A responsible Church**

Ensuring sustainable and effective use of resources in a way that respects creation, builds community and looks to the sovereignty of God.



**Plenary Council 2020**  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

***What do you think God is asking of us in Australia?***



The vocation of Catholic education is to **hear the whispers amid the noise**, to see the invisible within the visible, and to imagine the seeds of the possible already growing within the horizon of the reality of things.

What is **that** reality of things?

...schooling as it was set up 150 years ago is no longer suited for the present times.

...at least a third of students are actively disengaged and ... students in Grade 11, for example, are substantially less connected to learning than Grade 5 students.

The current generation has a hard time imagining the pathway to a desirable future.

Fullan, Quinn and McEachen (2018)

*Deep Learning: Engage the World Change the World*

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Admittedly, we can't easily predict the future. It might end up being fantastic, or it might sometimes be problematic. But here's a really important point:

**The future is not just something that happens to us. It's something we create.**

So start thinking about the sort of future you'd like for yourself and for others up ahead, and then begin to make it happen.

Tony Ryan (2018)

*The Next Generation: Preparing Today's Kids for an Extraordinary Future*

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# The Fourth Industrial Revolution

- Emerging challenges ... tremendous benefits that this revolution offers.
- With the right understanding, people and skills, this fourth industrial and technological revolution could **radically improve our lives**.
- To do this will take an equally radical revolution in how we develop and handle the technologies involved responsibly and beneficially develop **responsible innovation**.

[Risk Bites](#), You Tube. Jan 16, 2018. *What is the Fourth Revolution? And what has it to do with ensuring safe and beneficial technology innovation?*



# The Fourth Industrial Revolution

- Need to shift to a new system that will allow us to **meet the basic means of every human on the planet**, live within the planetary means, will be **fairer** and will be focused as its key goal, not on growth per se, but on **maximising human well being**.
- History tells us that a values shift is triggered by the **creation of a new story about how we want to live**.

Stewart Wallis, New Economics Forum, UK

You Tube: World Economic Forum. Published on Jul 18 2016. *What is the Fourth Industrial Revolution?* At <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpW9JcWxKq0>

# The Fourth Industrial Revolution

- The prediction of **5 million jobs lost** by 2020 to technology is serious but it is not the main question.
- Construction, manufacturing, services, public health and education - these industries will still exist.
- The **main question** is what will be the **future of work**? How will we define work? How will we share the wealth?

Sharan Burrows, International Trade Union Confederation, Belgium

You Tube: World Economic Forum. Published on Jul 18 2016. *What is the Fourth Industrial Revolution?* At <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpW9JcWxKq0>

# The Fourth Industrial Revolution

- We dearly need a **new education a new training.**

Hiroake Nakanishi, Hitachi, Japan

You Tube: World Economic Forum. Published on Jul 18 2016. *What is the Fourth Industrial Revolution?* At <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpW9JcWxKq0>





# The Fourth Industrial Revolution

The Fourth Industrial Revolution has the **potential to make inequalities visible and to make them less acceptable** in the future and hopefully to garner political support to make the necessary decision to **reduce the gap**.

Peter Maurer

International Committee of the Red Cross, Switzerland

You Tube: World Economic Forum. Published on Jul 18 2016. *What is the Fourth Industrial Revolution?* At <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpW9JcWxKq0>

# The Fourth Industrial Revolution

In the face of profound and epochal changes, world leaders are challenged to ensure that the coming “fourth industrial revolution”, the result of robotics and scientific and technological innovations, **does not lead to the destruction of the human person** – to be replaced by a soulless machine – or to the **transformation of our planet into an empty garden for the enjoyment of a chosen few.**

[MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS](#)

*To Professor Klaus Schwab, Executive President of the World Economic Forum*

*World Economic Forum Annual Gathering in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland 30 December 2015*



# The Fourth Industrial Revolution

The present moment offers a precious opportunity to guide and govern the processes now under way, and to **build inclusive societies based on respect for human dignity, tolerance, compassion and mercy.**

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One of the **key implications for religious education** is to **focus more on what it means to educate young Australians spiritually, morally and religiously for life in an increasingly challenging culture.**

Studying the Catholic tradition and other religions is essential; the importance and relevance of these two areas of study is presumed and not in question.

But a stronger contribution is needed from content and pedagogy that reflect the following:- More issue-oriented content, including what people see as some of the **principal spiritual and moral issues of the day**

*Graham Rossiter: Life to the Full The changing landscape of contemporary spirituality – Implications for Catholic school Religious Education*

School can and must be a catalyst, it must be a place of encounter and convergence of the entire educating community, with the sole objective of training, and helping develop mature people who are simple, competent and honest, who know how to love with fidelity, who can live as a response to God's call, and their future profession as a service to society.

Pope Francis: Address to the Students of the Jesuit Schools of Italy and Albania (7 June 2013)



The young people we are educating today will become the leaders of the 2050s. What will religion's contribution be to educating younger generations to peace, development, fraternity in the universal human community?

Pope Francis  
EDUCATING TODAY AND TOMORROW:  
A RENEWING PASSION  
Instrumentum laboris  
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How are we going to educate them to faith and in faith? How will we establish the preliminary conditions to accept this gift, to educate them to gratitude, to a sense of awe, to asking themselves questions, to develop a sense of justice and consistency? How will we educate them to prayer?

Pope Francis  
EDUCATING TODAY AND TOMORROW:  
A RENEWING PASSION  
Instrumentum laboris  
2014

A beautiful bright light shines at the end of this path and a few more windings will bring us to it.

(Mary MacKillop, 1907)





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