



## CONCERNED CATHOLICS CANBERRA GOULBURN MEDIA RELEASE

### **Susan Sullivan to attend the Final Assembly of the German Synodal Way**

**Sunday 26 February 2023**

The Church in Australia is fortunate that Susan Sullivan has accepted an invitation to be an official observer at the Final Assembly of the German Synodal Way in Frankfurt from 9-11 March.

The German Synodal Way is a striking international example of synodality at work in a national church.

The invitation, from Bishop Dr Georg Baitzing and Dr Irme Setter-Karp, co-chairs of the German Synodal Way, followed informal advice from members of the church reform movement in Australia.

We understand that Bishop Shane Mackinlay of Sandhurst will also be an official observer.

Susan Sullivan has held a variety of positions within the Church, recently including Director of Mission Strategy at Catholic Health Australia and then Manager of the Ministry Leadership Program at Australian Catholic University.

For the past six years she has been an active member of Concerned Catholics Canberra Goulburn.

We look forward to learning from Susan about the German Synodal Way in the months leading up to the Synod of Bishops' First Assembly in October.

**Bio:** Susan commenced her professional life in Perth, Western Australia, as a high school teacher in the Catholic system. Following the completion of a Masters in Religious Education at Loyola University, Chicago, Susan worked as a Senior Education Consultant at the Catholic Education Office, Perth, and moved to Canberra in 1993. Susan has worked in executive mission roles over the past two decades. She has designed and implemented innovative mission-focused initiatives at a national level. She led a strategy to engage Australian health, aged care, and social services organisations in a range of collaborative leadership formation initiatives.

Susan has been a board member for Meaningful Ageing Australia, and is currently a board member of Marymead CatholicCare in the Canberra and Goulburn Archdiocese, and of Campfire in the Heart located in Alice Springs. She is a contributing member of Concerned Catholics Canberra Goulburn and committed to nurturing opportunities for deeper engagement by lay people in the spiritual and theological tradition of the Catholic faith.

Susan also has a keen interest in issues that contribute to social inequality and entrenched disadvantage and is an active member of Canberra's refugee support and advocacy network. Susan is married with three adult children.

**Contact: Mark Metherell 0417 603 697**