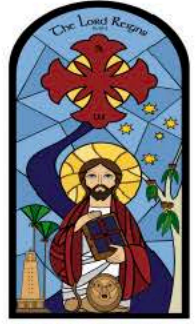
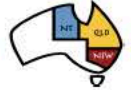


## **Statement from the Board of Trustees – Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney and its Affiliated Regions**



COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH  
+ DIOCESE OF SYDNEY +  
& AFFILIATED REGIONS  
NSW • QLD • NT



To the blessed congregation of our Sydney Diocese.

Greetings in the powerful and victorious name of our Lord and Saviour.

With a sombre but faithful heart, the Board of Trustees of the Diocese of Sydney and its Affiliated Regions wishes to inform the congregation that His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos has, as per his pastoral message today, requested of His Holiness Pope Tawadros II that he be excused from the role of Papal Legate to the diocese of Sydney. This decision now brings the Clergy Council and the Board of Trustees under the direct care of His Holiness. His Eminence has been in constant dialogue regarding this handover and as such the Board of Trustees will report directly to His Holiness the Pope.

This announcement is declared with the deepest of thanks and gratitude to His Eminence for his dedication, sacrifice, and wisdom over the last 18 months in his role as Papal Legate.

As a collective group of servants, we have been blessed to serve under the experience and blessed shepherd-hood of His Eminence during a most challenging time for our Diocese. It has not been an easy task; however, the burden was made lighter by His Eminence's spirit of peace and wisdom which continued to sustain us. His leadership, encouragement and support blessed us in the most mammoth of tasks.

Our own collective spirit has been enriched and strengthened as we traversed the rebirth of our Diocese and we shall remember these days serving with His Eminence as a time of deep prayer, fellowship in Christ and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Board of Trustees extends its appreciation, love, and prayers to His Eminence as he continues his service within his own Diocese but also as a dedicated representative of the Coptic Orthodox Church worldwide.

Dearest Sayedna, we pray always for your service and may our Lord reward you for your diligence and service to His people.

Board of Trustees – Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney and its Affiliated Regions.