



**The Archbishops and Primates
of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia**

8 March 2021

To the Community of the College of St John the Evangelist
and to the bishops, clergy and people of this Church

Tēnā koutou katoa e te whānau,

Nei rā te mihi atu ki a koutou i runga i Te Ingoa Tapu a tō tātou Ariki a Ihu Karaiti. Greetings in the name of Christ.

The Primates, with the support of the General Synod Standing Committee of Te Hīnota Whānui, and having taken careful advice, have initiated a review into the culture at St John's College. This follows the receipt of a number of complaints over a considerable period of time.

We have concluded that there needs to be a thorough and independent examination of the claims and a consideration of the extent to which the culture, life and ministry of the College needs to respond to, and to adapt as a result of these complaints.

The College of St John the Evangelist is a unique and wonderful gift to the whole Church. It is important that it is a strong, healthy and life-giving community. While the presenting issues must be addressed the focus will be on the future and a community in which learning and vocational formation can flourish.

To this end we have appointed Miriam Dean QC to undertake an independent high-level review. Miriam is widely experienced and held in high regard for her ability to undertake such reviews and will be supported in some aspects of the review by Doug Martin.

Miriam and Doug will work primarily through face-to-face interviews wherever possible and the anonymity of persons interviewed, unless they direct otherwise, will be protected. Personal information, legal privilege, and confidentiality will also be protected and maintained.

Interviews can be arranged directly with the reviewers by contacting a confidential email address established for this purpose reviewteam@kahuilegal.co.nz and can take place on site at Tuia, at an offsite venue or via Zoom.



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We encourage people to come forward; this review will be robust, independent and fair. We cannot stress too strongly that its will be dependent on the full cooperation of all of us who are involved in the life of the College.

In the Terms of Reference we have developed the reviewer has been asked to:

- Examine the nature and extent of the current and past complaints;
- Examine how the College has responded to past complaints;
- Review the health and safety of staff and students at the College;

In the light of the three items above, to comment, where appropriate on

- the extent to which the College is achieving its educational and ministry training objectives;
- ways in which the educational and ministry training objectives of the College can be met in the future through alternative education and ministry training models and strategies which may meet the changing needs of the Church over time.

We have asked that the review be completed no later than 31 August 2021. Finally, we wish to reiterate the importance of full participation and cooperation with this review. It will be robust, independent and confidential.

Kei roto nei i a Te Karaiti,

++Philip Richardson

++Fereimi Cama

++Donald Tamihere

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