



30 March 2026

Dear People of the Diocese,

I write to invite you to join me in celebrating the dedicated and faithful ministry of my Executive Assistant, Elizabeth Doyle.

After an extraordinary 33 years of service to the Chancery and to the people of the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, Elizabeth will be concluding her remarkable tenure. Throughout these decades, Liz has offered steadfast support to one Diocesan Administrator (Fr Greg Barker) and four bishops (Leo Clarke, Michael Malone, William Wright, and most recently myself). She has served with humility, professionalism and an unwavering commitment to the mission of the Catholic Church.

Elizabeth has played an integral role in the life of our Diocese, contributing to countless initiatives, parish life and ministry, pastoral planning, synodal processes and community engagement. She has carried out her work with grace and dedication, even as our Diocese and the wider Church have navigated many significant challenges.

As her final working day approaches, we look forward to recognising and giving thanks for Elizabeth's exceptional service, and to honouring the many ways she has enriched our diocesan community. Please find the details for this occasion below:

Date: Friday 1 May 2026
Time: 9:30am Mass
Location: Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West
Details: Following Mass, attendees are invited to gather in the Southern Cross Hall for a celebration honouring Elizabeth's 33 years of service.
Morning Tea will then be served to conclude the event.
RSVP: By 24 April, [here](#)

I hope you can join us for this special event.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Michael Kennedy