

**Statement from Archbishop Mark Coleridge RE:  
the verdict in the Cardinal Pell case:**



The news of Cardinal George Pell's conviction on historical child sexual abuse charges has shocked many across Australia and around the world, including the Catholic Bishops of Australia. The Bishops agree that everyone should be equal under the law, and we respect the Australian legal system.

The same legal system that delivered the verdict will consider the appeal that the Cardinal's legal team has lodged. Our hope, at all times, is that through this process, justice will be served.

In the meantime, we pray for all those who have been abused and their loved ones, and we commit ourselves anew to doing everything possible to ensure that the Church is a safe place for all, especially the young and the vulnerable.



Those affected by abuse and misconduct by Church personnel need to be supported and encouraged to speak their truth. Their voices need to be heard. Disclosures of this nature should be made to the Professional Standards Office Qld, either by:

**Email** Fill in a [\*\*\*Professional Standards disclosure form\*\*\*](#) (accessed via our website [psoqld.catholic.net.au](http://psoqld.catholic.net.au)) and email it to [\*\*\*psoqld@catholic.net.au\*\*\*](mailto:psoqld@catholic.net.au)

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**Post** Fill in a [\*\*\*Professional Standards disclosure form\*\*\*](#) and post it to us at: ***PO Box 3264, Brisbane Qld 4001***

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**Phone** 1800 337 928 OR (07) 3324 3070  
Office hours 9.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday  
(excepting public holidays)