
Hearing the History
Preparing to Participate
Responding to Reality
Transforming for Tomorrow

August Seminars: *Christchurch, Palmerston North, Dunedin, Wellington, Hamilton, Auckland*



Congregational Leaders'
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Objectives for this Seminar



1. Provide an **overview of the Inquiry** into Abuse
2. Hear of **the work Tautoko** is undertaking
3. Discuss the **flow of information**
4. Discuss **communication**
5. Share **concerns and opportunities**



Provide an overview of the Inquiry into Abuse



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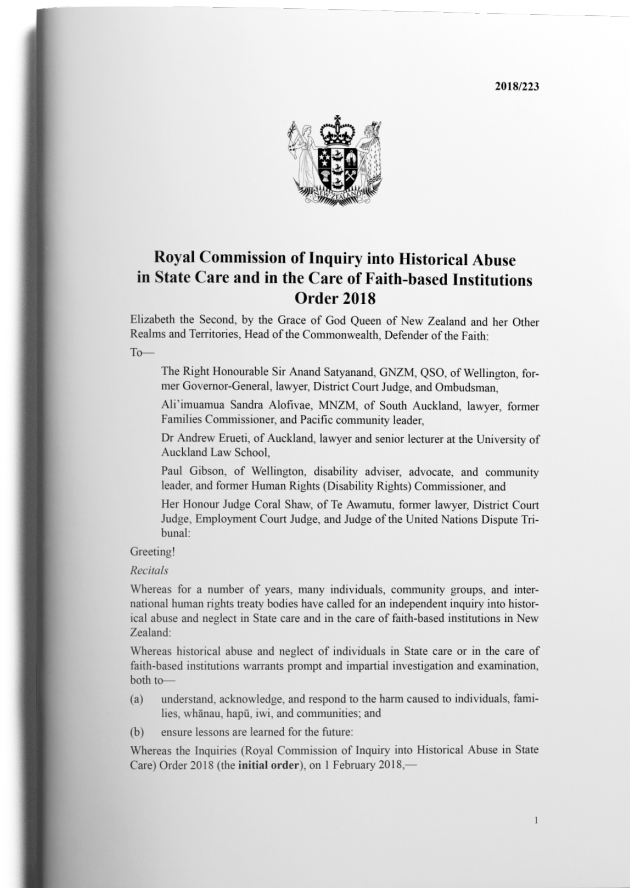
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The Royal Commission has two settings for Inquiry

State Care

and

Care of Faith-based
Institutions



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From the Commissioners:

*“This Inquiry is unlike any other ever
established in Aotearoa New Zealand*

The Inquiry has a very clear survivor-focus

The Commissioners have a vision to transform care

Expectation that recommendations from the Commission will be considered
and implemented **as and when they are made.**



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Keywords

- Survivor-focused
- Trauma informed – first do no harm
- Commissioner-led
- Non-adversarial inquisitorial process



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Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Royal Commission? What are its goals?

Why did the Bishops and Congregational Leaders ask to be included in the Royal Commission of Inquiry?

What will happen during the Inquiry?

Who will be required to give evidence?

What is the definition of abuse? Of care?

What is the extent of abuse in the Church?

How much of the focus of the Inquiry will be on the Church?

What are we doing to ensure survivors come forward?



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Commission Timeline

3 January 2019 - Commission work begins

25 June 2019 – “Preliminary” Hearing

19 August 2019 – “Procedural” Hearing

Late October/early November 2019 - First public Hearing – “Contextual”

2020 - Further hearings (4 or 5)

December 2020 - Interim report due

2021-2022 - Further hearings (4 or 5 p.a.), round table and private sessions are expected to be held in the period between the interim report and the final report, due in January 2023.



Is the Inquiry simply a legal process?



*A necessary **tension**
of the Inquiry process*



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Hear of the work Tautoko is undertaking



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What are the Principles that the Tautoko processes are based on?

The Bishops and Congregational Leaders believe that every person has an innate human dignity (te tapu o te tangata), therefore:

- regard all forms of abuse as unacceptable and indefensible
- accept the responsibility to continue to act to stop abuse in the Church
- listen to, learn from, and support survivors
- act swiftly on complaints and follow them through
- ensure action on accountability is followed through for those who are proven responsible for abuse
- support the need for the Inquiry and actively cooperate with the Commission
- commit to ensuring transparency



What will Te Rōpū Tautoko do?

Coordinate and manage cooperation between the Commission and the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Bishops and the Congregational Leaders in Aotearoa New Zealand are represented on Tautoko along with others who can lead and support the work.

Tautoko will walk alongside both the Commission and the Catholic community.



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2019 Tautoko Focus – HEARING THE HISTORY

*Information gathering, collation, research, and presentation
in response to the Inquiry's Terms of Reference*

1. Initial Information Gathering

- Who we were
(1950-1999)

March to June

2. Detailed Information Gathering and Analysis

- What we did
(1950-1999)

July to September

3. Likely Evidence Gathering

- What went wrong
(1950-1999)

July to October

4. Safeguarding, Reporting and Healing in the Church today

- Who we are now
and who we are
becoming

July to November

5. Specific Case Studies

- Preparing for what
the Commissioners
want to focus on

August to December



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Case Studies



Australian Commission

- **Case Study 8:** Examined the abuse of and the response of the Archdiocese of Sydney to the complaint made by John Ellis under Towards Healing.
- **Case Study 11:** Examined the experiences of men who were resident at Christian Brothers' residences in Western Australia.
- **Case Study 50:** Inquired into Catholic Church Authorities in Australia in relation to child-protection and child-safety standards, including responding to allegations of child sexual abuse.



Discuss Communication



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*A necessary **tension**
of the Inquiry process*

Communications
(external and internal to the Church)
are at the heart of the tension,
therefore requiring special focus.

All communication should be based on
listening and learning.

This listening and learning process is
ongoing and extends beyond the
Inquiry.



Discuss...

What had you heard about the Commission prior to today?

What was your expectation of the Commission process?

What do you think others have heard?

- In parishes,
- In schools,
- In the general public?

Knowing what you now know:

- What communications are needed from Tautoko?
- For whom?
- In what form?



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Share concerns & opportunities



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Discuss...

What questions are you left with?

What concerns do you have?

What growth or opportunities do you see coming out of the Commission?

How do you feel about dealing with this process?

Any comments.....?



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Conclusion



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“We can no longer stand at the end of something we visualized in detail and plan backwards from that future.

Instead we must stand at the beginning, clear in our mind, with a willingness to be involved in discovery...

...it asks that we participate rather than plan.

- Margaret Wheatley and Myron Kellner-Rogers



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Prayer for those healing from abuse



E te Atua o te Tūmanako, God of Hope.
listen to the prayers of your people.



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Prayer for those healing from abuse



Hear our cries
over the harm done to those
who should have been safe in our care.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers,
Show us the way to justice and wholeness,
enlightened by truth and enfolded in your mercy.



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Prayer for those healing from abuse



E Hehu, ko te Heparā. Jesus, the shepherd.
Join to your own suffering
the pain of all who experience suffering
in body, mind, and spirit.
May we continue on the path
of following your example



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Prayer for those healing from abuse



E te Wairua Tapu. Holy Spirit.
Grant us courage and wisdom, humility and grace,
so that we may act with justice
and all may find peace in you.
Strengthen us for the journey ahead,
as we venture along paths unknown,
as you call us all into communion.



Prayer for those healing from abuse



Leader: E te Ariki

Response: Whakarongo mai ra ki a mātou

All: Amene.



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