











# **ANNUAL REPORT 2020**









# LIVING THE DREAM:

# Sawtell Catholic Care complete their independent living accommodation development

"Having your own piece of paradise" is how Michael Darragh, Chief Executive Officer, Sawtell Catholic Care describes living at Marian Grove, Sawtell Parish's recently built independent living accommodation.

"Marian Grove Retirement Village has completed the development of 51 independent living apartments, and in June our first residents moved in," said Mr Darragh.

The apartments are mainly two- and threebedroom, with beautiful contemporary finishings and the latest beachside living spaces. The complex also features a modern office suite and a gymnasium.

"One of the key goals of the Sawtell Catholic Care mission is to grow and sustain a community of Christian Care.

"One of our strategic activities is to grow our support for older people who are living in our community, and by providing modern, contemporary accommodation that they can own gives people a safe and comfortable retirement lifestyle," said Mr Darragh. The independent retirement living complex at Marian Grove has also created an ongoing income source to support the Sawtell Catholic Care's goals and Sawtell Parish ministries such as benevolence projects.

"This development enables us to both grow and support our community and sustain our Parish. "Sawtell Catholic Care is a major employer in the region and along with our other recent Parish projects, including extensions to our Mary Help of Christians Primary School, this development extends our impact into the community," said Mr Darragh.

Mr Darragh says that the loan from the Diocesan Investment Fund was \$25 million.

"We are supporting all our community, from our children to our older people, and without the finance from the Diocesan Investment Fund this and many other projects in the Sawtell Parish could not have been realised, and for that we are very grateful."



# A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Dear Friends.

This has been an interesting year for all of us. The beginning of March saw the outbreak of COVID-19 in Australia, resulting in radical changes to our daily lives. COVID-19 has had a devastating impact upon many throughout the world, and I would like to express the importance of staying safe during this time of pandemic. In your prayers I ask that you pray for those who are ill, those who care for them (especially our health-care workers), for those who have died, and for their families.

It has now been over three years since I was appointed as Bishop of the Diocese of Lismore. Over this time, my love for the people and ministries of the Diocese has grown. The Diocesan Investment Fund (DIF) is an important and historical institution of the Diocese, which has paved the way, through the provision of low cost loans,

for the quality of ministries and facilities we enjoy today - our Parishes, the schools system, aged care, child care, and the St Vincent's Private Hospital, to name a few.

I wish to thank each and every investor in the DIF. Your investments continue to support the ministries of the Diocese. Trusting the DIF with your hard-earned finances during this time of economic uncertainty is very much appreciated. Rest assured, we are committed to looking after our investors by delivering stable returns and quality service.

Although global outlook appears uncertain, let us draw encouragement from the knowledge that Jesus is always with us. I wish you all a happy Christmas and a blessed 2021.

With my prayers and good wishes, Bishop Greg.



# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The year to 31 March has been another successful year for the DIF. It seems like such a long time ago since things were normal for all of us though. The Covid pandemic has certainly changed so many aspects of our lives and has certainly hit life, our community and businesses hard. "Social Distancing" was a phrase we were just becoming accustomed to as our year ended and back then we would not have imagined just how much this pandemic was going to change our lives and the world around us. Whilst the future is uncertain as to when things will return to 'normal', or the new 'norm', I am pleased to report that, through the work of the Diocese of Lismore, support for our Parishes throughout this difficult time has been maintained.

Last year I commented on the historical low interest rate environment we are working within. At that time the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) had official cash interest rates at 1.5%. During the year the RBA cut official interest rates by 0.25% five times (totalling 1.25%) resulting in the cash rate now stable at 0.25%. This significant reduction has certainly reduced the return able to be achieved by the DIF, and therefore the return that we are able to return to our investors.

We finished the year with funds under management over \$560 million. During the year new loans totalling over \$40 million were approved which allows the Catholic parishes and institutions of the Lismore Diocese to access a stable source of long-term finance at affordable rates of interest. Despite our lower investment returns, the DIF continues as an important part of the Diocesan Finance structure for which it was created.

On behalf of the board I would like to thank Bishop Greg for his guidance and encouragement, the Priests of the Diocese, Clergy, Religious and other organisations within the church for their wonderful ongoing commitment to the DIF. A very special thank you must go to our wonderful local agents who freely give their time and staff to provide our investors with additional access for their DIF transactions. Also, to our local loyal investors without whom we would not exist.

The fund is blessed to have Mr. Greg Isaac as our Diocesan Business Manager and Mr Scott Patch as our Fund Manager to lead our exceptional customer service team. Finally I would like to thank my fellow board members who have contributed enormously to the success of the Fund. Thank you for giving so freely of your time and expertise.

Stay Safe,

MICHAEL G. SHAY Chairman

The Diocesan Investment **Fund is a Religious** charitable development fund that operates under ASIC Corporations (Charitable Investment **Fundraising) Instrument** 2016/813. The Australian **Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) has** exempted the DIF from certain requirements of the Banking Act as described in Banking exemption No. 1 of 2017. The DIF issues debentures to promote it's charitable purpose of the advancement of religion by providing proceeds for loans to parishes and institutions of the Lismore Diocese.

CHARTER: TO PROVIDE
A STABLE SOURCE OF
LONG TERM FINANCE
AT AFFORDABLE RATES
OF INTEREST, FOR
CATHOLIC PARISHES AND
INSTITUTIONS OF THE
LISMORE DIOCESE AND TO
PROVIDE A STABLE STATED
RETURN TO INVESTORS.

# DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL



Most Reverend Greg Homeming BISHOP OF LISMORE



Michael Shay CHAIRMAN



Mark Dougherty DEPUTY CHAIRMAN



Peter Liddy



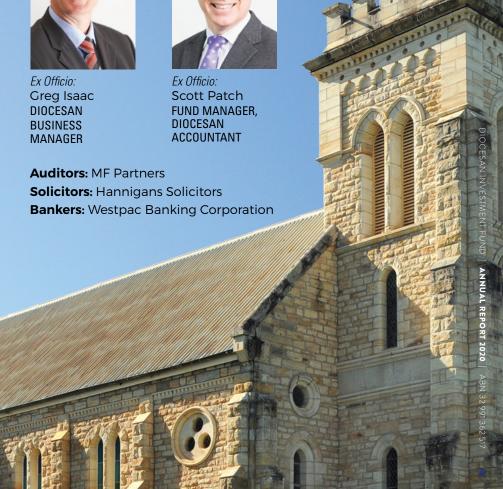
Fr Paul Gooley



Fr Peter Slack









# DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# Information on Diocesan Investment Fund Concise Financial Report

The financial statements and disclosures in the concise financial report have been derived from the 2020 Financial Report of the Diocesan Investment Fund.

A copy of the full financial report and auditor's report will be sent to any member, free of charge, upon request.

The discussion and analysis is provided to assist members in understanding the concise financial report.

# Profit and Loss and Statement of Comprehensive Income

The Fund recorded a profit from ordinary activities after income tax for the year of \$4,810,728 (2019: \$5,075,594).

During the year the official cash interest rate as determined by the Reserve Bank of Australia was cut by 1.25% which reduced the return achievable on Bank Term Deposits. A reduction in interest earned of \$2,518,291 was offset by a reduction in interest paid to investors of \$2,241,286.

# **Statement of Financial Position**

Debentures issued increased by \$37,036,164 (2019: \$8,131,782). Loans receivable increased by \$26,080,448 whilst Held to maturity financial assets (bank term deposits) increased by \$11,972,000.

Total assets increased by \$38,259,273 (2019: \$5,889,825). Equity at 31 March 2020 totalled \$33,831,409 (2019: \$32,471,222). Net Assets increased by \$1,360,187 (2019: \$1,501,153) with a provision being made at year end for a distribution to the Lismore Diocese of \$3,450,541 (2019: \$3,574,441).

#### Statement of Cash Flows

Cash held at the end of the year increased by \$1,254,593 (2019: Decrease of \$744,195). Cash flows provided by operating activities totalled \$5,845,318 (2019: \$4,922,006).

Net cash flows provided by financing activities was \$1,181,183 whilst cash flows used in investing activities was \$5,771,908.

# REPORT BY THE DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL

The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Lismore (AFSL 503537) acting as Trustee of the Diocesan Investment Fund ("the Fund") submit their report for the year ended 31 March 2020.

# **Diocesan Finance Council**

The names of the members of the Diocesan Finance Council in office during the financial year, and until the date of this report, unless otherwise stated are:

Mr Michael Shay (Chairman), Mr Mark Dougherty, Rev Fr Peter Slack, Mr Peter Liddy and Rev Fr Paul Gooley.

# **Principal Activities**

The DIF has a charitable purpose of the advancement of religion. It achieves this by providing a stable source of long term finance at affordable rates of interest, for Catholic parishes and institutions of the Lismore Diocese. The Fund issues debentures to provide the proceeds for these loans and proceeds held in excess of loan requirements are invested at a margin to provide a distribution to the Diocese of Lismore to assist with the ongoing financial needs of the Diocese.

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

# **Fund Information**

The Fund was established in 1964. The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Lismore operate the Fund and obtained an Australian Financial Services Licence (AFSL) to allow it to continue to offer debentures to investors as retail, non-associated clients from 1 January 2018. The principal place of business is 10 Orion Street Lismore NSW 2480.

# Operating Results and Review of Operations for the year

The Fund made a profit of \$4,810,728 for the year ended 31 March 2020 (2019: \$5,075,594). There was a distribution to the Diocese of \$3,450,541 (2019: \$3,574,441). The decrease in profit was due to a lower margin on invested funds. The investments of the Fund as at 31 March 2020 included only loans to Catholic parishes and institutions of the Lismore Diocese (20%) and cash plus bank term deposits (80%).

# **Significant Changes in State of Affairs**

There has been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund during the year ended 31 March 2020.

# Significant Events After Balance Date

The Covid-19 pandemic has occurred subsequent to the end of the financial year. The impact of this on the Fund is unknown at the date of signing the report. No other matters have occurred since the end of the financial year which would require disclosure in this financial report.

# **Likely Developments and Expected Results**

The Fund will continue to allow for the investment of funds from associated and non-associated retail clients, and wholesale investors, in order to continue it's mission to assist with the ongoing financial needs of the Diocese of Lismore.

# **Environment Regulation and Performance**

The operations of the Fund are now subject to the requirements of the ASIC Corporations (Charitable Investment Fundraising) Instrument 2016/813 and APRA's Banking exemption No.1 of 2017. There have been no known significant breaches of any environmental requirements of the Fund.

# **Indemnification and Insurance of Directors and Officers**

The Fund indemnifies its officers (not including auditors) for costs incurred in defending civil and legal proceedings in which judgement is given in that persons favour, or they are acquitted, or any other proceeding which the court grants relief to the person. During the year, the Fund paid an insurance premium in respect of a contract insuring each of the members of the Diocesan Finance Council and officers of the Fund. The amount of the premium for the insurance was \$8,500. The auditors are not included as part of this policy.

# **Auditors' Independence Declaration**

An independence declaration has been provided to the Diocesan Finance Council by the auditor of the Diocesan Investment Fund, MF Partners Chartered Accountants and is attached to the Report by the Diocesan Finance Council.

Michael Shay - Chairman

Mark Dougherty - Deputy Chairman

And Out

Dated this 15th day of May 2020

# **AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION**

# Under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 to the members of the Diocesan Finance Council

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 31 March 2020 there have been:

- a. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to this audit; and
- b. No contraventions of any Code of Professional Conduct of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand in relation to the audit.

**MF PARTNERS - MARK CHARTER (Partner)** 

Dated at Ballina this 15th day of May 2020. Address: 95 Tamar Street Ballina NSW 2478



# PROFIT & LOSS AND STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the year ended 31 March 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenues from investing activities	2	13,934,229	16,452,520
Other revenue	2	-	-
Interest incurred		(8,612,710)	(10,853,996)
Employee benefits expense		(183,639)	(178,780)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(1,305)	(1,305)
Other expenses from ordinary activities		(325,847)	(342,845)
Changes in fair value of financial assets and investment properties at fair value	2	_	_
Profit/(loss) from ordinary activities before income tax expense	2	4,810,728	5,075,594
Income tax expense relating to ordinary activities		-	-
Net profit /(loss) for the year after income tax expense attributable to Trustees of the Fund		4,810,728	5,075,594
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Change in net assets attributable to Trustees of the Fund		4,810,728	5,075,594

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

As at 31 March 2020

	2020	2019
ASSETS	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	16,478,203	15,223,610
Financial assets – at amortised cost	458,642,000	446,670,000
Loans and advances	121,824,764	95,744,316
Accrued interest	1,454,082	2,500,545
Property plant and equipment	4,468	5,773
TOTAL ASSETS	598,403,517	560,144,244
LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	3,597,171	3,733,497
Financial liabilities	560,954,739	523,918,575
Provisions	20,198	20,950
TOTAL LIABILITIES	564,572,109	527,673,022
NET ASSETS	33,831,409	32,471,222
EQUITY		
Accumulated Funds	33,831,409	32,471,222
TOTAL EQUITY	33,831,409	32,471,222



# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 March 2020

	Accumulated Funds	Total
Balance at 1 April 2018	30,970,069	30,970,069
Profit attributable to the entity	5,075,594	5,075,594
Sub-total	36,045,663	36,045,663
Distribution to Diocese paid or provided for	(3,574,441)	(3,574,441)
Balance at 31 March 2019	32,471,222	32,471,222
Profit (loss) attributable to the entity	4,810,728	4,810,728
Sub-total Sub-total	37,281,950	37,281,950
Distribution to Diocese paid or provided for	(3,450,541)	(3,450,541)
Balance at 31 March 2020	33,831,409	33,831,409

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 March 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Ÿ	v
Interest received	14,980,692	16,278,674
Dividend received	-	51,624
Interest paid	(8,612,710)	(10,853,996)
Other receipts	-	-
Payments to suppliers and employees	(522,664)	(554,296)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	5,845,318	4,922,006
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Movement in loans - loans advanced	(17,812,519)	(20,622,342)
- loans repaid	24,012,611	29,176,191
Movement in financial assets – at amortised cost		
Purchases	(742,954,000)	(626,487,000)
Proceeds on maturity	730,982,000	602,172,000
Payment for plant and equipment	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(5,771,908)	(15,761,151)
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Investor debentures received	487,152,134	454,939,217
Investor debentures repaid	(482,396,510)	(437,507,763)
Grant paid	(3,574,441)	(7,336,504)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,181,183	10,094,950
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	1,254,593	(744,195)
Cash at beginning of year	15,223,610	15,967,805
Cash at end of year	16,478,203	15,223,610
The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.		

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.





# NOTES TO THE CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2020

# Note 1: Basis of Preparation of the Concise Financial Report

The concise financial report has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports.

The financial statements, specific disclosures and other information included in the concise financial report are derived from and are consistent with the full financial report of the Diocesan Investment Fund. The concise financial report cannot be expected to provide as detailed an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities of the Diocesan Investment Fund as the full financial report. A copy of the full financial report and auditors report will be sent to any member, free of charge, upon request.

The Diocesan Investment Fund is a not-for-profit entity as any profits generated are distributed back to the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Lismore.

The accounting policies have been consistently applied by the Fund and are consistent with those of the previous financial year except where otherwise stated.

The Diocesan Investment Fund has prepared financial statements in accordance with the Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

Note 2: Revenue	Note	2020	2019
		\$	\$
Operating activities			
- Interest Earned	2a	13,934,229	16,452,520
- Other income		-	-
		13,934,229	16,452,520
Total revenue		13,934,229	16,452,520
a. Interest from			
- other persons		13,934,229	16,452,520

# **Note 3: Segment Reporting**

The Fund operates predominantly in one business and geographical segment being the Finance sector principally in the Roman Catholic Church Diocese of Lismore. The fund produces monthly management reports based on this one segment and as such all significant operating decisions are based upon the fund as one segment. The financial results from this segment are equivalent to the financial statements of the Fund as a whole.

# Note 4: Events Subsequent to Reporting Date

The Covid-19 pandemic has occurred subsequent to the end of the financial year. The impact of this on the Fund is unknown at the date of signing the report. No other matters have occurred since the end of the financial year which would require disclosure in this financial report.

# **Note 5: Distributions**

There was a distribution accrued of \$3,450,541 (2019: \$3,574,441) to be paid to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lismore. A distribution of \$3,574,441(2019: \$7,336,504) was paid during the year.

# **Note 6: Change in Operations**

There has been no change in operations during 2020 with the Banking Exemption No 1 of 2017 issued by APRA, and ASIC Corporations (Charitable Investment Fundraising) Instrument 2016/813 issued in the 2018 financial year.



# **DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF THE DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL**

In accordance with a resolution of the members of the Diocesan Finance Council:

- 1. The financial statements and notes, as set out in pages 6 to 8:
  - a. complies with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports; and
  - b. has been derived from and is consistent with the full financial report of the Diocesan Investment Fund.
- 2. In the members' of the Diocesan Finance Council opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the members of the Diocesan Finance Council and is signed for and on behalf of the members by:

Chairman - Michael Shay

Deputy Chairman - Mark Dougherty

And Our

Dated this 15th day of May 2020.

# INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT To the Bishop and the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lismore

# **Opinion**

We have audited the concise financial report of the Diocesan Investment Fund for the financial year ended 31 March 2020 as set out on pages 6 to 8, in order to express an opinion on it to the Bishop and the Trustees of the Diocese of Lismore. The concise financial report does not contain all disclosures required by the Australian Accounting Standards.

In our opinion the concise financial report of the Diocesan Investment Fund complies with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports.

# **Basis for Opinion**

We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Diocesan Investment Fund in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration given to the Members of the Finance Council, would be in the same terms if given to the Members' as at the same time of this auditor's report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

# Other Information

The members of the Finance Council are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Diocesan Investment Fund's annual report for the year ended 31 March 2020, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Responsibility of the Members of the Finance Council for the Financial Report

The members of the Diocesan Finance Council are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the concise financial report in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), statutory and other requirements. In preparing the financial report, the Members are responsible for assessing the Diocesan Investment Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Members intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the concise financial report based on our audit procedures. We have conducted an independent audit, in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, of the financial report of the Diocesan Investment Fund for the year ended 31 March 2020. Our audit report on the financial report for the year was signed on 15th May 2020 and was not subject to any modification. The Australian Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report for the year is free from material misstatement.

Our procedures in respect of the concise financial report included testing that the information in the concise financial report is derived from, and is consistent with, the financial report for the year, and examination on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts, discussion and analysis, and other disclosures which were not directly derived from the financial report for the year. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the concise financial report complies with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports and whether the discussion and analysis complies with the requirements laid down in AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

MF PARTNERS - MARK CHARTER (Partner)

Dated at Ballina this 15th day of May 2020. Address: 95 Tamar Street Ballina NSW 2478

# **Customer Service Team**

The team in our DIF Office plus our agents across the Diocese are equipped to help you with any questions, receive investments, organise withdrawals or change any aspect of your investment.

Visit our website for more information or contact us via phone or email. We are here to help you.

# www.dif.org.au







**Bronwyn Bodley** 



Scott Patch



Adam Huggins

10 Orion Street Lismore NSW 2480 1800 802 516 dif@lismore.catholic.org.au www.dif.org.au

The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Lismore

ABN: 72 863 788 198 AFSL: 503537

# **Our Agents**

The Diocesan Investment Fund is represented in various towns within the Diocese by the following Agents.

# **ALSTONVILLE**

Bruno Ivan & Co, Chartered Accountant

#### **BALLINA**

L J Hooker Real Estate Crowley Memorial Retirement Village

# **CASINO**

Hannigan Solicitors Parish Office

# **COFFS HARBOUR**

Good Price Pharmacy Warehouse Parish Office

# **EVANS HEAD**

L J Hooker Real Estate

# **GRAFTON**

Westlawn Investments Parish Office

#### **KEMPSEY**

Paul Stubbs Law Office

# **KINGSCLIFF**

Parish Office

# **KYOGLE**

Hannigans Solicitors

# **LAURIETON**

Parish Office

# **LISMORE**

Parish Office

# **MULLUMBIMBY**

Healthcare Pharmacy

# **MURWILLUMBAH**

Australian Law Group

# **NAMBUCCA HEADS**

Roberts First National Real Estate

# **PORT MACQUARIE**

DIF Office

# **SAWTELL**

Parish Office Marian Grove Retirement Village

# **TWEED HEADS**

Parish Office

#### **YAMBA**

Yamba Soul Pattinson Pharmacy

Diocesan Investment Fund (the Fund) is required by law to make the following disclosure:

The Fund is not prudentially supervised by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority nor has it been examined or approved by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. investor in the Fund will not receive the benefit of the financial claims scheme or the depositor protection provisions in the Banking Act 1959 (Cth). Investments in the Fund are intended to be a means for investors to support the charitable, religious and educational works of the Diocese of Lismore and for whom the consideration of profit are not of primary relevance in the investment decision. The investments that the Fund offers are not subject to the usual protections for investors under the Corporations Act (Cth) or regulation by Australian Securities and Investments Commission. Investors may be unable to get some or all of their money back when the investor expects or at all and any investment of the Fund are not comparable to investments with banks, finance companies or fund managers. The Fund's identification statement may be viewed at www. dif.org.au or by contacting the Fund.