CATHOLIC EDUCATION
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

30 October 2026

Dear Colleagues,

On this World Teachers' Day, I wish to celebrate the contribution of the thousands of teachers working in all Catholic schools across Western Australia.

Last year, Pope Leo said students look up to teachers as *'models: models in life, models of faith. They'll look to you particularly as to how you teach and how you live. I hope that, each day, you will nurture your relationship with Christ, who gives us the pattern of all authentic teaching so that, in turn, you may guide and encourage those entrusted to your care to follow Christ in their own lives.'*

Pope Leo's words remind us that teaching is about far more than the sharing of knowledge. Every day, through your words, your actions and the way you care for your students, you have the opportunity to shape the lives of the young people entrusted to your care. In a world that can sometimes feel uncertain and overwhelming, our students look to us to walk alongside them, listen to them, encourage them and help them recognise their own dignity and potential. We are privileged to have the chance to leave a lasting impression, often in ways we may never fully see or appreciate.

On World Teachers' Day, I acknowledge the profound difference you make in the lives of young people and for the generosity with which you embrace the vocation of teaching. I want to celebrate the vital role you play in fostering integral human development, nurturing not only the intellectual growth of students but also their spiritual, emotional, social and moral wellbeing. Inspired by the Catholic tradition, our teachers accompany each student on their journey to becoming the person God calls them to be, empowering them to flourish in faith, wisdom, compassion and service to others. You are not only educators but witnesses to the Gospel, helping our students discover what it means to live with purpose, compassion and faith.

I want to thank you for the passion, innovation, and dedication you bring to your profession, and celebrate the contribution you have made to developing the minds and characters of generations of young people.

God bless.

Annette Morey
Executive Director