

**Parish Pastoral Council 9 June, 2021**  
**Report on Ecumenism**

The Aboriginal Mass was held on Sunday 30 May this year. It had been planned for some time, beginning especially with discussion in the Presbytery involving Fr Burke, Michael Bell, Sarah Johnston and myself, following Michael Bell's Welcome to Country in St Augustine's on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, 5 July, 2020.

Special thanks are due to all those who helped in setting up on the day, especially Sally Fitzgerald, Peter Cleary and Di Carey, who assembled the PowerPoint display.

Sally Fitzgerald reported that it was the best Mass held since the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry started in Canberra and that the Aboriginal Our Father was the best she had ever heard sung.

Glenda Merritt's homily was very well received and Sally said that she didn't think "there was a dry eye in the church".

As there are more Aboriginal Catholics in Yass than in Canberra, Sally has raised the possibility that the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry for Canberra and Goulburn could have office space for its headquarters in the Hartigan Centre.

Bryan Coleborne  
9 June, 2021