

**Note : Statement for inclusion in Diocesan Magazine.**

### **16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE CELEBRATION POSTPONED**

The Archbishop has decided that it would be insensitive for the diocese to hold a Day of Celebration at a time when so many of our parishioners are under stress and worried by the foot and mouth infection. There is little prospect of the Province being clear of this infection by the month of June and we feel it would be wrong to organize a huge open-air event involving thousands from all over the diocese.

The Archbishop hopes to now hold the Day of Celebration in June 2002. All the committees that have done so much hard work and whose plans are so near completion will remain in existence but be suspended to next year. Those parishes who have designed or made banners should complete their work and others should suspend work or make the banners as they see appropriate.

It is a great disappointment when such work has been brought near to conclusion but it seems the only responsible action ~~to~~ <sup>in</sup> the present situation ~~at this time~~. Our hearts and prayers go out to those who are suffering such difficulty in these days. We look forward hopefully to a day when this distressing crisis will have ended and we can truly join in celebrating our heritage in faith and our hopes for the continuing work of the Church.

*(The End)*