It has been a wonderful privilege for me to serve as Director of Catholic Education South Australia for four years and to be a member of the CEO Leadership Team for 17 years. Although I look forward to taking up the role of Director - Catholic Identity and Educational Services at the Catholic Education Office, Melbourne in 2015, it will be a significant wrench to leave behind all the wonderful relationships and initiatives that have become so very important to me.

Currently in South Australia we are experiencing a very challenging time in Catholic education in terms of religious identity questions and changing expectations of families for the education of their children. Notwithstanding these challenges, the high quality of our education and the authenticity of what we offer by way of faith formation for our students.

There are a number of important systemic and regional initiatives well under way and I am most confident that these tasks are in safe and competent hands.

At system level, the Kilvert Report brings together a number of years of reflection and discernment and recommends clear directions and strategies for us to embrace going forward, including development in the following areas:

- Early Years Services
- Improving Enrolments in Existing Schools
- Working Together in New Structures and Arrangements (including the placement of Year 7 in a secondary setting)
- Establishment of new Catholic School Provision
- Technical Colleges and Trade Training Centres

Once the Strategy has been endorsed by the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools, it is anticipated that the Director will lead with appropriate cost benefit analyses and engagement with parents and school communities, before final approval by the Commission later in 2015.

At regional level principal groups have begun work with senior personnel from the CEO to explore how schools within a region might offer an even higher quality Catholic education through various collaborations and administrative and structural improvements. These conversations are at a preliminary stage however, they will offer more effective service to our families in the future.

I have mentioned in these pages previously other major initiatives in our sector, such as ecological conversion as a key aspect of our faith and our curriculum, major infrastructure and technological developments in CEO and schools, a re-imagining of childhood and consequent teaching and learning methodologies, so that all our students in Catholic schools can flourish and that the needs of the next generation of students are met. There are numerous other important improvements and developments in our schools, too many to describe here.

In closing, I reiterate that I believe strongly in the quality of our Catholic schools, teachers and leadership in schools and at the CEO. I wish you every blessing. I have every confidence in our capacity as a Catholic community in South Australia to continue to deliver excellent education for all of our students.
Outstanding education in faith inspired schools. More than 6,000 staff caring for over 49,000 students in 103 Catholic schools. We are Catholic Education South Australia.

CESA Rebrand & Responsive Website

We are promoting Catholic Education South Australia and we celebrate the many achievements in our schools and colleges. As part of this we have undertaken a rebrand including a new logo.

The cross in the logo makes a distinct connection with the expression of our religious faith. It is drawn as an individual makes the sign of the cross or collectively as extending a blessing to the community. The logo creates a personal connection with how faith is represented through the cross. It is no longer just a mark but a movement, intertwined and woven into the lives of Catholics. With the motion there is a currency and vitality. There is also the sense of wrapping, caring and nurturing along with freedom and possibility. The ribbon like quality and form convey a forward motion, outstretched and positive.

A major project as part of promoting CESA is our new responsive website which is mobile device friendly. You are invited to visit http://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/ to find news and information about CESA including school and job search.

Thank you to all who have contributed to our hard copy newsletters over time. This is our final edition as we move into e.communications generated from our website. Please subscribe (http://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/newsletter?email=) to ensure you receive CESA e.news in the future.

Catholic Schools Music Festival

From the Archbishop of Adelaide

In this edition we farewell Dr Paul Sharkey from his position as Director of Catholic Education SA. We thank Paul for his leadership at CESA over his 17 years and particularly as Director for the past four years. During his time he has been an outstanding local and national leader particularly in the area of Catholic identity, educational and strategic leadership.

On behalf of the Archdiocese Archbishop Wilson expresses his gratitude to Paul:

As Paul Sharkey leaves the service of the Archdiocese of Adelaide, I want to express my gratitude to him for the great contribution he has made to the diocese through the ministry of Catholic Education. In many ways Paul has been the backbone of Catholic Education in all of the different positions and responsibilities that he has held, however, the most important of them all has been the years that he has been Director of Catholic Education.

I will miss Paul and I am most grateful to him for his work. I wish him, his wife Clare, and his sons every blessing as they move to Melbourne.

† Most Rev Philip Wilson DD JCL