

BISHOP JOSEPH HOLOHAN, EPISCOPAL ORDINATION

Statement by Member for Warren-Blackwood

MR OMODEI (Warren-Blackwood) [12.20 pm]: I bring to the Parliament's attention an event of great significance in this great State. Last week the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, the member for Murray-Wellington, the member for Bunbury and I attended the pontifical concelebrated eucharist to celebrate the episcopal ordination of the Most Reverend Gerard Joseph Holohan, as the fourth Bishop of Bunbury.

Also in attendance were the principal consecrator, Emeritus Bishop Peter Quinn, retired Archbishop of Perth, Robert Healy, incumbent Archbishop of Perth, Barry Hickey and past Bishops of Bunbury. Bishop Holohan is the fourth Bishop of Bunbury, the others being Archbishop Launcelot Goody - now deceased - who was also Archbishop of Perth, emeritus Bishop Miles McKeon and emeritus Bishop Peter Quinn.

His Excellency the Most Reverend Canali, the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia from the Vatican, delivered a message from Pope Paul II. Almost one thousand people attended the service. Bishops and priests from all States attended. Most significant was the attendance of priests from all parishes in the Bunbury diocese.

Bishop Holohan is a charismatic man bringing with him a great knowledge of the liturgy of the church and music. I join with all Roman Catholics in the Bunbury diocese in welcoming Bishop Holohan and wish him a long and rewarding stay in the place that I often say must have been made by God after he had rested.