Prayer for Media – Stephen O’Doherty

Heavenly Father

We thank you for being our God - a God who desires relationship, indeed communion with your people, and who, throughout history, has reached out to communicate with us in extraordinary ways.

Lord, Creation itself tells the story of you; by your word everything that is, was brought into being.

Lord, you chose that we should know this Word in the person of Jesus - full of your grace and truth, the true light that the darkness could not overcome.

We acknowledge our need for forgiveness and our absolute dependence on your grace for our salvation.

And at once we rejoice that you committed to us the great task of shining that same light into the darkness so that by it, others will come to know the truth and turn to you, through your Son, and be sustained by your Holy Spirit until Christ's return.

We especially thank you, Lord for the means you provide of communicating that truth, in and through our **media**. We pray now for that significant institution.

We commit to you all those who you have called to work in media, in whatever role or capacity, especially in this great city of Sydney.

Thank you for the new technologies that are constantly opening up new ways to speak into our culture about you. We pray for the continued blessing, in this country, of a free media where your truth can be proclaimed.

But Lord, at the same time we recognise that what can be used for good can equally be used for ill. Freedom can give rise to new forms of slavery. The same media channels that can to tell a story of hope for humanity, and uphold human dignity, can also be used to distort and degrade us as a society, and as people made in your image.

We pray for all those who, through their work in media, or as participants in the daily media cycle, seek to stand up for your truth and shine a light into dark places. In an increasingly hostile environment, Lord give them strength, courage, the right words to say and the grace to communicate in a way that brings honour to Jesus.

We especially pray for those in work situations where to stand up as a Christ follower brings significant persecution and personal cost. Protect them Lord, in the knowledge that the light that came into the world did indeed prevail; the darkness could not overcome it.

Bless those, Lord we pray, who you have established, have equipped, and sustain in the work of media.

In Jesus’ name we pray – Amen.