
VOCATIONS: ANSWERING
THE CALL TO HOLINESS
PAGES 2-3 AND 15

PARISH AND SCHOOL IN
COMMUNITY COLLABORATION
PAGES 4-5

INAUGURAL DIOCESE
AWARDS CELEBRATION
PAGES 6-7

BBN

PUBLICATION
OF THE CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY

#227
JUNE 2025





**CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY**

DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

Tel: (02) 8379 1600
Caroline Chisholm Centre
Building 2, 423 Pennant Hills Rd
Pennant Hills NSW 2120
PO Box 340
Pennant Hills NSW 1715
enquiries@bbcatholic.org.au

CHANCERY

Bishop: Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL

Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia:
Very Rev Dr David Ranson

Chancellor & Head of Mission Broken Bay:
Kelly Paget

Vice Chancellor: Ruth Moraes

Head of Administration & Financial Services:
Andrew Winarczyk

Head of Safeguarding Broken Bay:
Jodie Crisafulli

Head of Communications Broken Bay:
Katrina Lee

Head of Pastoral Discernment & Accompaniment Broken Bay: Patti Beattie

Head of CCD Broken Bay: Alison Newell

Head of Clergy & Parishes Broken Bay: Chris Lee

Vocations Director: Fr Joey Frez

Head of People & Participation: Anthony Day

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS BROKEN BAY

Director: Danny Casey
Tel (02) 9847 0000
PO Box 967
Pennant Hills NSW 1715

CATHOLIC CARE

Executive Director: Tim Curran
Tel: (02) 9481 2600

Family Centres:

Brookvale – Tel: (02) 8043 2600
Naremburn – Tel: (02) 8425 8700
Tuggerah – Tel: (02) 4356 2600
Waitara – Tel: (02) 9488 2400

Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care:
(02) 9481 2600

Children's Services:
(02) 9481 2600

Disability Futures:
(02) 9488 2500

Services for Seniors:
(02) 9488 2500

Permanency Support Program (Foster Care):
(02) 4320 7700

BROKEN BAY NEWS

Tel: (02) 8379 1600
news@bbcatholic.org.au

Editor: Katrina Lee
Staff Writer: William McInnes
Design: Chris Murray

10,400 copies of Broken Bay News are distributed quarterly to 26 parishes and 44 schools in the Diocese of Broken Bay. The Broken Bay News is a member of the Australasian Catholic Press Association. Acceptance of advertisements does not imply diocesan endorsement of products or services advertised.

www.bbcatholic.org.au

We acknowledge the Darug, Gurrngai and Darkinjung Nations, the traditional custodians of the land across our Diocese. We recognise the Aboriginal people as holding the memories, the traditions and the culture of the lands we live and work upon. We honour their wisdom and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

FSC LABEL HERE

BISHOP'S MESSAGE

A Universal Call, A Particular Mission: Holiness and the Gift of the Priesthood

By Bishop Anthony Randazzo



Every Christian life begins with a calling. Not just a career or a role in the Church, but something far deeper, a call to holiness. This call, given in Baptism, is shared by every member of the Church. Whether lay, religious, or ordained, all the faithful are invited into communion with the Holy Trinity and sent into the world as God's witnesses.

This common vocation to holiness is the foundation of all Christian identity. It is not limited to saints in stained glass or great mystics but offered to each of us: fathers and mothers, students and workers, the elderly and the young. Within this shared calling, however, God also calls some men in a particular way, to serve God's holy people as priests.

The vocation to the ministerial priesthood is a sacred and personal call, but it is never private. It arises from the heart of the Church and exists for her life and mission. The priest is not his own; he belongs to Jesus Christ and to the people he serves.

What is asked of the man who presents himself for priesthood? First and foremost, a willingness to be formed, humanly, spiritually, intellectually, and pastorally. He must be open to being shaped into the image of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

The vocation to the ministerial priesthood is a sacred and personal call, but it is never private. It arises from the heart of the Church and exists for her life and mission. The priest is not his own; he belongs to Jesus Christ and to the people he serves.

Discerning this vocation is not simply a matter of feeling called. It is a process that involves listening to the voice of God in prayer, in the life of the Church, and in the wisdom of those entrusted with guiding vocations. Just as no one baptizes himself, no one makes himself a priest. The Church has the responsibility to help recognize, accompany, test, and confirm those who are truly called to this path.

What is asked of the man who presents himself for priesthood? First and foremost, a willingness to be formed, humanly, spiritually, intellectually, and pastorally. He must be open to being shaped into the image of Jesus the Good Shepherd. This journey of formation is not only about learning doctrine or mastering rituals, but about

becoming a man of prayer, a man of service, a man of integrity.

Priests are set apart, not in the sense of superiority, but for service. They are ordained to preach the Gospel, celebrate the sacraments, and to guide and accompany God's people. In doing so, they make present the saving work of Jesus Christ in the world. A priest offers his voice, his hands, and his life to be used by Christ, especially in the Eucharist, where he stands in the person of Jesus, who brings heaven to earth.

This mission is demanding, and it requires a life deeply animated by prayer. A priest's strength must come from his relationship with Jesus, nourished by daily prayer, the liturgy, and a spirit of sacrifice. Without this spiritual foundation, his ministry risks becoming mere function rather than fruitful service.

At the same time, the priest is not removed from the world. He lives among people, shares their struggles, celebrates their joys, and carries their burdens. He must be present in the midst of daily life, at the hospital bedside, in the classroom, at the parish door, always reflecting the compassion of Christ.

One of the most distinctive aspects of priestly life is celibacy, a choice to remain unmarried for the sake of the Kingdom of God. In a world that often misunderstands such a commitment, celibacy stands as a powerful witness. It is not a denial of love, but a radical way of loving more freely, more completely. The celibate priest points beyond himself, reminding the Church of her destiny: union with God.

This choice is not easy, nor should it be entered into lightly. But when lived with joy, simplicity, and deep inner freedom, it becomes a beautiful testimony to God's sufficiency. It says to the world: Jesus Christ is enough. His love is real, and his mission is worth giving everything for.

At the heart of all vocations, lay or ordained, is the call to holiness. For the priest, this call takes on a particular urgency. The priest is not only a leader or teacher; he is a man who must strive to be holy, because he leads and accompanies others not just by word, but by the example of his life.

This holiness is not perfection, but a deep fidelity to God's grace. It is seen in the quiet acts of service, in tireless pastoral care, in humble prayer, and in the confessional, where the priest becomes an apostle of mercy. It is the holiness of Jesus, reflected and lived out in the ordinary but sacred routines of ministry.

A holy priest inspires others to seek God. He becomes, in a hidden but real way, a doorway to the divine. His witness can awaken vocations in others, young people who might hear the same call he once heard: "Come, follow me."

While the priesthood is a specific calling, the responsibility to encourage and support vocations belongs to the whole Church. Families, parishes, schools, and communities all play a vital role in fostering an environment where vocations can be heard and nourished. Encouragement, prayer, and a culture of faith can help young men be open to hearing God's voice.

The Church today needs priests: holy,

The Church today needs priests: holy, humble, courageous men who are willing to give their lives in service. But more than numbers, the Church needs priests who are formed in the heart of Christ, who live not for themselves but for others.

humble, courageous men who are willing to give their lives in service. But more than numbers, the Church needs priests who are formed in the heart of Christ, who live not for themselves but for others. Priests who, amid the noise of the world, remind us that God is near.

Jesus remains the true Shepherd of his people, and he continues to call men to share in his pastoral care. The priest does not stand alone; he walks in the footsteps of the One who laid down his life for the sheep. His vocation is a lifelong response to that love, a life poured out in worship, service, and joy.

In our time, perhaps more than ever, the world needs witnesses to God's presence, men who reveal, not by grand gestures but by faithful lives, that God still calls, still sends, and still saves. The priest is one such witness. His vocation is not his own; it is a gift for all. Let us pray that many in our Diocese of Broken Bay will hear the call, and with generous hearts, say yes.

'I will give you shepherds after my own heart...' (Jeremiah 3:15)

Bishop Anthony blesses, opens new Epping development

An innovative development project in the Diocese of Broken Bay which includes a new primary school, parish centre, aged care and retirement living was officially blessed and opened by Bishop Anthony Randazzo on 29th May.

Part of the Parish of Epping & Carlingford, the site is home to the heritage-listed Our Lady Help of Christians church and primary school.

The Diocese, developers, architects, builders, the parish and school community have been collaborating for many years to create the multigenerational community.

Challenges included preserving the historic church while adding a new parish centre and building a state-of-the-art Catholic Primary School while incorporating on the site a retirement living tower complex and residential aged care.

However close collaboration and creative design resulted in Bishop Anthony “turning the first sod” nearly three years ago to begin the

development project, working with development partner Levande, aged care operator Opal Health Care, and Richard Crookes Constructions.

Parishioners as well as students, teachers and parents were patient and understanding as the redevelopment project got underway.

Recently Bishop Anthony returned to the site to officially bless and open the new parish complex and school as well as a Catholic Care Out of School Hours Care centre.

The church is now linked to a new 200-seat Parish hall with offices as well as much-needed basement parking.

The new three-story Primary School, plus roof-top garden, marks a significant milestone in the history of Epping’s Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary School.

Director of Catholic Schools Broken Bay, Danny Casey, said at the opening; “This new school and its creative design aligns perfectly with our ethos of creating an inspiring learning environment that nurtures faith, creativity, curiosity, and a love of learning.

“The project represents a substantial investment in the future of our children, and I am grateful to Bishop Anthony, the Parish Priest, Fr Jim McKeon, our entire school community and our construction partners for making this possible.”

Bishop Anthony said he believes the unique development collaboration will create pathways for the Parish’s long-term future and mission.

During the Mass of Thanksgiving for the Opening and Blessing of OLHC Catholic Primary School, Bishop



Bishop Anthony with students from OLHC.

Anthony said it was a wonderful day to give thanks to God.

“What a joyful day this is! Today we gather as a people of faith, giving thanks to God for the blessing and opening of Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary School here in Epping,” he said.

“We give thanks for the vision, the planning, the building, and most importantly, for the people, students, families, teachers, parishioners, leaders, and workers, who together form this vibrant community of learning and of faith.”

He said the new parish and school facilities would allow students and parishioners to go out faithfully into the world in the name of Christ.

“We build Catholic schools not just with bricks and mortar, but with faith, hope, and love,” he said.



Bishop Anthony blesses the new buildings.

"We open their doors to every student and every family, so that each one might experience the joy of knowing Jesus Christ, and of placing Him as the cornerstone of all we think, and do, and say.

"Here at Our Lady Help of Christians, we have laid down more than physical foundations. We have built a space where learning is about more than grades or achievements, it is about truth, goodness, and beauty. It is about forming young minds and hearts to

love what is right, to seek justice, to live in peace, and to become the kind of people who build up not only the Church, but society itself."

He closed his homily by entrusting the parish, parishioners, school and all its future students to the loving care of Our Lady Help of Christians, patroness of the parish and school.

"As we celebrate today, we acknowledge the hands and hearts that have built this school, from

the architects and designers to the educators and leaders," he said.

"But we also look forward, to the children who will walk through these corridors, to the prayers whispered in classrooms, to the friendships formed, and the faith nurtured."

The neighbouring aged care and retirement living building next door is in the final stages of completion, with residents expected to begin moving in during the coming months.



Five centuries of service recognised in Broken Bay

The Diocese of Broken Bay has recognised more than five centuries of cumulative service at its inaugural Awards Celebration.

Eleven award recipients have been recognised for each dedicating decades of service to the Catholic Church and the Diocese.

The awards included eight Papal Awards and three inaugural Diocesan Medals.

The recipients, accompanied by proud family and friends, included priests, a Dominican Sister, and parishioners, were honoured at a dinner and presentation on 30 May, the vigil of the Patroness of the Diocese, Mary, Star of the Sea.

Bishop Anthony Randazzo invested four parishioners as a Knight of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great, and one Dame of the Order of Saint Sylvester. This is in recognition to personal service to the Holy See

and Catholic Church but also for the examples they set in their communities.

Two retired priests and a Dominican Sister, a champion for the disabled despite her own vision and hearing impairment, were awarded the Cross *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*. This medal was established by Pope Leo XIII and is conferred for distinguished service to the Catholic Church by lay people and clergy.

Three parishioners were awarded the inaugural Diocesan Medal for service and commitment to the mission of the Diocese.

In addressing the gathering, Bishop Anthony Randazzo said the evening was “more than a ceremony”.

“The individuals here tonight are being recognised for living their Christian lives as luminous beacons of hope and service,” he said.

“They have allowed their faith to guide their actions and their actions to reveal their faith.

“It is fitting that we do this under the guidance of Mary, Star of the Sea – a title that has resonated so strongly with seafarers, missionaries, and the faithful across the ages.

“For us in the Diocese of Broken Bay, bordered by the sea and shaped by waterways, Mary under this title is more than a poetic image, she is a real and guiding presence.”

“Mary is not only Star of the Sea, but in our Southern skies, we also look to the Southern Cross, that distinctive constellation that has guided generations navigating the vast oceans of this hemisphere.”

He said the award recipients can also be seen as stars, reflecting some of the divine light guiding everyone forward.

“Whether through their service as priests, consecrated religious, or lay people; through ministry to the blind and disabled, as RCIA coordinators, Saint Vincent de Paul volunteers, catechists, altar servers; or assistants to three bishops; our recipients have given exemplary and selfless service in unnumerable ways to our local Church of Broken Bay.

“And just like the stars that shine brightly in the night sky, they inspire us, and we give thanks to God for them.”

Award Recipients:

Knight of the Order of St Gregory the Great

Mr John Donnelly OAM for more than 50 years service at the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel, French Forest, St Vincent de Paul and local community organisations.

Mr Barry Finch OAM for more than 40 years' service to St Vincent de Paul, the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel, French Forest, and taking Holy Communion to those in hospital for the past 15 years.

Mr Alan Henson OAM for more than 50 years volunteering with the homeless and commitment to his parish community.

Dr Michael Slattery for his dedication to his Parish of Terrigal for more than 40 years and to Catholic education including education initiatives in the Northern Territory and Kenya.



The awards night honoured decades of service within the Diocese.

Dame of the Order of Saint Sylvester

Mrs Gina Marshall for her contribution to the music ministry of the parish of Manly-Freshwater for more than 50 years, her work as an educator and contributing to the arts and apostolate.

Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice

Rev Robert Brogan who this year celebrated his 65th anniversary of his Priestly Ordination serving throughout a large area of Greater Sydney before the creation of the Diocese of Broken Bay in 1986 when he was incardinated to the Diocese and continued to serve until his retirement in 1999. The Papal Award is for distinguished service to the Catholic Church and to the Pope.

Rev William (Terry) Johns who celebrated his 68th anniversary of his Priestly Ordination this year. He has served as Parish Priest, Chaplain,

and at St Patrick's Seminary, Manly, and for more than two decades as Parish Priest of Lindfield Parish until his retirement. The Papal Award is for distinguished service to the Catholic Church and to the Pope.

Sister Helen Merrin OAM became a professed member of the Dominican Sisters of Eastern Australia and the Solomon Islands in 1966. Sr Merrin undertook teaching studies including teaching at St Lucy's School for the Blind and vision impaired in the Diocese of Broken Bay. This commenced a life of service to those with physical and intellectual disabilities. During the 90s Sr Merrin lost her vision and gradually her hearing. Despite her challenges, this has not reduced her commitment of service. She has been a member of the former Bishops' Advisory Council for Social Welfare, and more recently, has served nine years on the Australian Catholic Disability Council for the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

Diocesan Medal

Mrs Libby McManus began her service to the Diocese in 2002 in the Woy Woy Parish. Since then she has served as Executive Assistant to three Bishops, two Diocesan Administrators, and currently to the Diocesan Chancellor and Head of Mission.

Mrs Elizabeth Brown has been a committed member of the Parish of Terrigal since 1974. Her roles have included coordinator of RCIA, a foundation member of the Parish Pastoral Council, reader, and an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Mrs Sundai Sloane has worked at the Parish of The Entrance as Parish Secretary and later bookkeeper for the last 30 years. She is still working part-time while continuing her voluntary work.



Fr Marek celebrates 25 years of following God's call

Fr Marek Woldan has experienced a lot in his 25 years of priestly ministry.

He has been a curate in Poland, a parish priest and missionary in Papua New Guinea, and now serves in the parish of Manly-Freshwater.

Born in Poland, he was ordained as a priest in his native Archdiocese of Czestochowa before God called him to the rural outskirts of Papua New Guinea.

Fr Marek says his priestly vocation came very young.

"I was quite sure when I was seven I was going to be a priest," he says, adding he felt called to missionary service during his high school years.

"God showed me this quite vividly. There was no question for me, just the question of how this was going to happen."

Despite this, he didn't join a missionary order, choosing to become Diocesan

priest instead, knowing this could still be a path to a missionary vocation.

He was ordained on 10 June 2000 as a priest for the Archdiocese of Czestochowa.

After being ordained, he served for six years in local parishes before joining a missionary training school. With many priests already serving in Africa, the director of the missionary training school said his service would be most effective in Papua New Guinea.

In Papua New Guinea, the parish priest is called to exercise much more than sacramental ministry. On any given day he could be building a bridge, delivering the mail, installing solar panels, refitting the plumbing in the presbytery or using his carpentry skills to make new furniture.

"I loved it," Fr Marek says. "I never thought I'd be a builder, but I found myself in need of doing other things. There were so many things I was blessed to be able to attend to."

He also took on the role of doctor sometimes, providing basic medicines to people and dressing wounds.

"Being able to provide them with these basics was helpful for them, but I also enjoyed it. It pushed me to discover some of my other gifts."

He was even asked by his bishop to travel around the Diocese installing solar panels.

He also found himself being inspired by the faithfulness of the people. "Faith wasn't just part of their lives, it was their lives," he says.

Although he acknowledged missionary work in such a remote part of the world had its challenges.

"The greatest challenge was the difference in culture," he says.

"In the beginning it was great and exotic, until you start discovering some of the deeper relationships and customs you see. I started discovering there were a lot of things you wouldn't accept like violence, the position of women and some other very harmful beliefs.

"Unfortunately, some of these ended in a really bad way."

While he loved his missionary work and all it encompassed, he soon found himself desiring a return to ministry more focused on the Sacraments and pastoral accompaniment.

"I found I was giving too much time to those other things," he says. "The more I was doing it, the more I was realising that's not why I'm here. What I love are doing pastoral visits and helping people, so it was helpful for me to move on."



Fr Marek at his ordination to the Diaconate.

He says he felt called by God to begin ministering in Australia.

"I never thought about coming to Australia until I was over in Papua New Guinea, and the idea came to me that now it was time to move," he says.

"I don't know why and I can't explain, it's just where I felt called. I don't have a really satisfying answer for this question, it just felt right."

He began working in the Diocese of Broken Bay in 2021 and has served in the parishes of Epping-Carlingford, Chatswood and now Manly.

"I feel like I'm in the right place," he says.

"I was in a country where people have nothing but they have God, now I'm in country where people have everything, but they don't have much God.

"So it's not just that I'm contributing here, I feel like God is leading me to grow my priesthood and my pastoral skills. Being here in Australia, I'm benefiting more."

Asked what advice he would give to young people discerning God's own calling in their life.

"It can be overwhelming at first, but at the end, the best way to happiness is in whatever God plans for you," he says.

"It's worth giving it a try, even if at the beginning it may look or sound strange. It's worth it to invest some time. It's better to waste one year of your life discerning the wrong vocation, than wasting your whole life by not living how God has called you.

"I'm just very grateful for God to these 25 years and there's not been a single day where I regret being a priest. It's been challenging but very rewarding."



From Wollongong to Notre Dame:

Fr Clem Hill reflects on 60 years of priestly ministry

In July, Fr Clem Hill will celebrate 60 years of priesthood.

His priestly ministry has encompassed six Popes and taken him across the other side of the world.

He's celebrated Sunday Mass in the famed Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and celebrated the Byzantine Liturgy as an Archimandrite of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church.

While now retired from active ministry, he fondly recalls his life of service to the People of God.

"It's been a very fulfilling life for me," he says.

Fr Clem was born on 10 December 1940, to parents Clement and Beryl Hill (née Laurence).

From a young age, many had picked that young Clem would go on to be a priest.

He joined the Marist Brothers



Fr Clem imparts a blessing following his ordination.

juniorate when he was just 12 years old, spending some time there preparing for a potential life as a Marist Brother, before returning to school at Marcellin College, Randwick.

"I didn't really much of a choice in becoming a priest did I," he jokes. "It just sort of happened in that way."

He began priestly formation at St Columba's College, Springwood, and completed it at St Patrick's College, Manly, after which he was ordained by Cardinal Norman Gilroy at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, on 17 July 1965 for the Diocese of Wollongong.

"There was a group of 28 of us in the ordination class," he says.

"It was tremendous really. It was a beautiful feeling and we went in very, very ready for priestly ministry."

Just seven members of his ordination class are alive today to celebrate 60 years of priesthood.

Fr Clem's ordination came in the midst of the Second Vatican Council. His ordination class was the first to say Mass in English, and during their final years of study, documents from the council were being brought into the seminary.

"It was a wonderful time, but I think there were some who were very anxious about it too," he says.

He began his priestly ministry in Wollongong, serving the parishes of Bulli, West Wollongong, Campbeltown, Corrimal and Moss Vale.

His priestly ministry got off to a rough start however, for several years at his first parish in West Wollongong.



Fr Clem being ordained in 1965.

"It was a very difficult time," he says. "It was very much a struggle within my vocation."

He credits the people in the parish with helping to guide him through that period and he remains in contact with some people from that first parish to this day.

"The people were really supportive of me," he says. "We all formed a very strong bond."

Ten years into his priestly ministry, he travelled to Paris for three years, pursuing post-graduate theological and liturgical studies at the Institut Catholique de Paris, from 1976 to 1978.

"I loved Paris," he says.

"I used to go to the Sunday Mass in Notre Dame and the head of the Cathedral said to me, next Sunday, you can do the Mass on your own. I think I was celebrating alone for six or seven weeks there, and I think I went okay! I learned the French quite

well and they knew exactly what I was saying so there was no problem there. That was a lovely time!"

Returning to Australia, he became a lecturer, helping to form countless priests in the liturgy and in preaching.

"I didn't want to overwhelm them and give them strict instruction. They had to learn stuff, and learn to love stuff themselves," he says.

"I just wanted to do the best I could and I enjoyed it."

He served as Director of Liturgy for Wollongong Diocese, a lecturer at the Catholic Institute of Sydney and St Patrick's College, Manly. He also acquired bi-ritual faculties in the Melkite Church and in 1997, was

installed as an Archimandrite of the Melkite Eparchy.

In 1999, he joined Davidson & Forestville Parishes as assistant priest and was incardinated into the Diocese of Broken Bay in 2003. He also served in Chatswood, Lindfield, Wahroonga and Epping.

"Bishop David Walker was a really big influence on that decision [to join Broken Bay]," he says.

Since retiring in 2012, he has travelled extensively, from the Daintree in Queensland, to County Clare in Ireland.

"Retirement has been enjoyable," he says. "I'm very close to the people in the retirement community I'm in."



Fr Clem celebrating in the Melkite Rite.

He still recites the Divine Office every morning and celebrates Sunday Mass once a fortnight for the residents of St Peter's Green in Lane Cove.



Fr Rosan returns home for Thanksgiving Masses

Newly ordained Fr Rosan Mathew recently returned home to his native Kerala, India for a holiday, accompanied by Fr Hien Vu and Fr Brian Moloney.

While mainly intended as a holiday for the trio, for Fr Rosan, it was also chance to celebrate the Mass of Thanksgiving in his homeland and in his native Syro-Malabar Rite.

“It was a holiday after my ordination, a chance to go and see my extended family, relatives and friends,” Fr Rosan said.

“I had the chance to welcome good friend Fr Hien Vu and our parish priest from The Entrance, Fr Brian Moloney. They made the trip much more enjoyable.”

Fr Rosan had accompanied Fr Hien to Vietnam last year following Fr Hien’s ordination, and this trip was a chance to return the favour.

“I had the chance to celebrate Masses all through the state, wherever I visited,” said Fr Rosan.



Fr Rosan prepares to celebrate a Syro-Malabar liturgy.



Fr Rosan celebrated several Masses in his home state.

All the Masses were celebrated in the Syro-Malabar Rite, an Eastern rite of the Church. The Rite takes its name from the Church’s use of the East Syriac liturgy and origins in Malabar.

The Syro-Malabar Church traces its origins to Thomas the Apostle’s evangelisation efforts in India during the 1st century.

“It was taken for granted that I would always be in the Syro-Malabar rite until I came to Australia,” said Fr Rosan.

“Growing up in this rite has definitely given me the opportunity to

embrace and to understand the differences in the Church in relation to worship and culture.”

Fr Brian and Fr Hien also enjoyed participating in the Syro-Malabar liturgies.

“The liturgy in the Syro-Malabar Rite was rich, traditional, and reverent, yet it spoke to the same truths we proclaim in the Latin Rite,” said Fr Hien.

“In a land of many religions and expressions, the presence of Christ was unmistakable.”

The three priests visited many family and friends of Fr Rosan, including his brother Mark, who was volunteering in a school in the north east of the country.

"We also travelled to the border of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, visited tea plantations and also had a day in the back waters on a boat," said Fr Rosan.

They also had a chance to visit the congregations of priests currently working in the Diocese: the Society of

the Oblates of the Sacred Heart and the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception.

They also visited the Curia of the Syro-Malabar Rite in Ernakulam, where they met Bishop Sebastian Vaniyapuracka, the Curia Bishop of the Syro Malabar Church, and a close friend of Rosan's family.

Fr Hien said it was a trip filled with so many memories and one that allowed him a greater encounter with God.

"There are so many things I'll remember: the vibrant churches, the fully chanted Mass, the winding mountain roads and fearless drivers, the peaceful backwaters, the tea plantations—and most of all, the people," he said.

"India didn't just offer me tea and spice—or a few nerve-wracking rides as a backseat passenger—it offered me a fresh taste of how God works: often quietly, always faithfully."



Chatswood prepares bumper celebration for canonisations of Blesseds Acutis, Frassati

Chatswood Parish is preparing a bumper celebration in September for the canonisations of Blesseds Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati.

Following the first Ordinary Public Consistory of his pontificate in June, Pope Leo XIV announced the two saints will be canonised together on 7th September.

Blesseds Acutis and Frassati had both been scheduled to be canonised separately, during the Jubilee of Teenagers and Jubilee of Youth, respectively, however the death of Pope Francis forced their postponement.

Our Lady of Dolours Church, Chatswood houses a relic of Blessed Carlo and will soon become home to a relic of Blessed Pier Giorgio too, meaning the parish will become a focal point during the canonisations and draw in the faithful from well beyond the Diocese.

In preparation for the canonisations, the parish will celebrate a large Mass at 5:30pm on Sunday, 7th September, followed by a live stream of the canonisations in Rome.

The parish will also host its inaugural Parish Film Festival, on four



Fr David Ranson at the installation of the relic of Blessed Carlo.

consecutive Saturday evenings beginning on 23rd August and finishing on the 13th September. It will feature a film on Blessed Carlo and Blessed Pier Giorgio.

The Parish of Chatswood was declared a Shrine of Hope for young people for the 2025 Jubilee, with a relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis.

The relic was installed during a Mass in October 2024 which attracted hundreds of people and made Chatswood a major pilgrimage destination within the Diocese.

The parish has also been working hard to secure a relic of Blessed Pier Giorgio, who also enjoys a strong devotion among young people, and now expect it will be installed by the date of his canonisation.

The presence of both soon-to-be saints in the parish will boost its profile even further and will likely lead it to becoming a popular place of pilgrimage for people well beyond the Diocese.



Blessed Carlo Acutis.



Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati.

Answering the Call: a celebration of faith and hope

All Christians are called to Holiness and each vocation, whether it be to family life or a specific calling to the priesthood or religious life, is an answer to God's calling.

It is a teaching we read in Matthew 5:48: "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

The Catholic Church also teaches us that Holiness is not a destination but a lifelong journey of growth and transformation

During a visit to the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls soon after the Mass for the inauguration of his Petrine ministry in St Peter's Square, Pope Leo XIV emphasised God's love and mercy as the foundation of all vocations.

"Salvation does not come about by magic, but by a mysterious interplay of grace and faith, of God's prevenient love and our trusting and free acceptance," he said.

"Faith leads us to open our hearts to this mystery of love and to live as men and women conscious of being loved by God."

The call to the priesthood or religious life is a sacred calling, not a career choice.

In the Diocese of Broken Bay there are six young men in formation for the priesthood and a number currently discerning.

Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Joey Frez, says everyone plays a vital role in encouraging, fostering and supporting those who are discerning God's call.

"In the midst of secularism and uncertainty, the priest serves as a counter-cultural witness to the Truth, especially for the young people who are searching for a firm foundation and anchor to guide them in life," Fr Joey said.

"People are looking for good role models, and they can turn to good and holy priests – without whom the Mass could not be offered and the Sacraments could not be celebrated."

During the recent Jubilee of Seminarians, Bishops and Priests during this Holy Year, Pope Leo called on everyone to reflect on Jesus' words



Fr Joey says everyone plays a role in encouraging vocations.



Vocations Director Fr Joey Frez.

in St John's Gospel "I have called you friends" (Jn 15:15).

"This is an authentic key to understanding the priestly ministry," Pope Leo said.

The Holy Father also pointed to the thirst for the infinite despite the challenges of our time.

"Many people seemed to have strayed from the faith, yet deep within many people, especially young people, there is a thirst for the infinite and for salvation. Many feel an absence of God, even though every human being is made for Him, and the Father's plan is to make Christ the heart of the world."

The people of Broken Bay will have the opportunity to foster and support vocations in the Diocese at a dinner to be held on 22 August with the theme "Answering the Call: a celebration of faith and hope".

The dinner will be held at The Epping Club, Rawson Street Epping with booking details available in parishes soon.

There is no place like home – but not for all

A warm bed, a cooked meal and a place in which to feel safe.

Not really much to ask for but right now across our Diocese there are families sleeping in cars, pensioners skipping meals to pay for rent or basic food supplies, and children who don't have somewhere safe to call home.

There are those fleeing domestic violence, and people with mental health challenges living in parks.

The causes may be diverse, but the impact is the same – a loss of dignity and a sense of hopelessness.

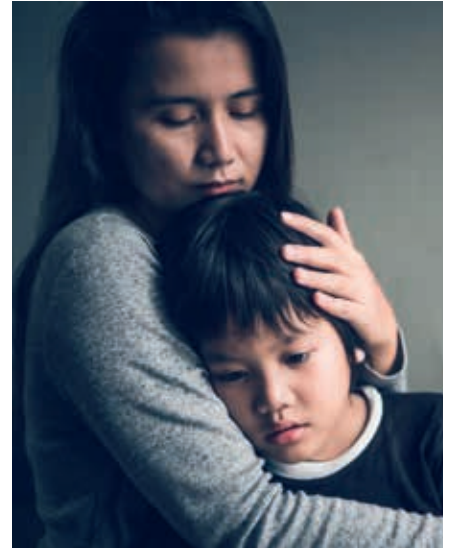
Nationally, homelessness has risen by 21% since 2015. That is 135,000 people – each one with a name, a story, and a deep longing for stability, for dignity.

Our own communities are not immune to the crisis.

On the Central Coast alone, rough sleeping rose by 37.5% in the past



Communities throughout the Diocese are not immune to homelessness and instability.



year. An estimated 2,450 people are now experiencing homelessness in the region. Across the North Shore and Northern Beaches, CatholicCare Broken Bay, the dedicated Diocesan social services agency, is also seeing increases in homelessness – especially among older people, and families under pressure from skyrocketing rents and limited social housing.

For the last few years, CatholicCare Broken Bay, has run a Homelessness Appeal in conjunction with our parishes, and also Catholic Schools Broken Bay.

The response has helped bring hope and dignity to many people. Unfortunately however, the need has increased each year.

For a week beginning on Friday 8 August, the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, CatholicCare, will fundraise for Dom's Place in Hornsby and Mary Mac's Place in Woy Woy to support men, women and families experiencing homelessness or social isolation.

Schools will run a gold coin mufti day which will also raise much-needed funds as students celebrate Australia's first saint who inspired so many by her courage, faith, and perseverance in the face of adversity.

Just \$6 provides someone in our community who needs a helping hand with a nourishing meal.

"I am asking every Parish and Catholic School in our Diocese once again to stand with CatholicCare. To pray, to advocate, and – if you are able – to give," Bishop Anthony said.

"Your support will directly fund services that offer meals and counselling, provide safe shelter, and help our most vulnerable neighbours move toward a better future.

"May your generosity and care be a beacon of hope during this Holy Year of Hope."

If you would like to know more or perhaps how you can help, please visit <https://catholiccaredbb.org.au/donate/>



Social isolation is also a key factor in homelessness.

Clergy-in-Council: the next step in the Diocesan synodal journey

The first Diocesan Clergy-in-Council was held for clergy in the Northern Beaches Deanery recently in response to the key themes that emerged during the Final Report of the Northern Beaches Pastoral Discernment Project.

Bishop Anthony hopes this will be a blueprint for the North Shore and Central Coast deaneries to take forward as part of the Diocesan synodal journey.

“The Clergy-in-Council session is not a ‘town hall’, nor a place for airing frustrations or simply revisiting familiar conversations,” Bishop Anthony said at the start of the session.

“What we are entering into is something deeper and more courageous, a shared place of listening and discernment.

“This is in the spirit of Synodality, which calls the Church not merely to speak, but to listen, first and foremost to the Holy Spirit, and then to one another.

“But that discomfort is not a threat, it is a grace. Because we are not here to preserve the familiar, but to follow



Patti Beattie facilitates a discussion session.

where the Spirit leads. Our hearts must be open, our ears attentive, and our minds free of fear.”

Participants discussed many issues during the Discernment Project with a number of key themes emerging for further reflection and conversations with the clergy.

Facilitated by the Head of Discernment and Accompaniment Broken Bay, Mrs Patti Beattie, the Clergy-in-Council session discussed some of these themes including youth culture and concerns for the isolation of seniors along with the need for greater community collaboration, and sharing of resources among parishes.

Bishop Anthony said the context of the session was very specific: the challenges and opportunities of the Northern Beaches.

He invited clergy to listen to those who took part in the consultation, and to each other, with “fresh ears” through a process of prayer, reflection, and Conversation in the Spirit.

“For the first Clergy-in-Council the session of communal discernment was extremely fruitful,” Patti Beattie said.

“Bishop Anthony will consider all the contributions offered by the clergy before producing a Pastoral Letter for the Northern Beaches.”



Clergy from across the Northern Beaches took part.

Chatswood Parish is already running a similar initiative to bring the synodal activities of encounter, listening, and discernment into action called Parish-in-Council.

“On a wider scale I think what we are doing with Clergy-in-Council is unique, and I would hope we can replicate this for our North Shore and Central Coast deaneries,” Bishop Anthony said.

A Word from the Director of Schools



As I reflect on the year so far, I'm filled with gratitude for the incredible work happening across our Catholic Schools Broken Bay.

This edition of *Broken Bay News* gives a glimpse of the shared achievement, shared Mission and the exciting path ahead.

We begin with a major milestone: our Strategy Day on July 4 when, for the first time ever, we gather in person with over 2,000 staff and clergy will gather in person to celebrate achievements and look to the future. It is something I am genuinely excited about.

Our future will look different as we are planning the next 5 years in Precincts and I am pleased to announce new senior executive leadership appointments who will work alongside our principals and school teams to help bring our shared vision to life—from Baptism all the way through to post-school pathways.

Another moment of pride has been our first **Eileen O'Connor May Awareness Campaign**. The response has been humbling. Across our 45 schools, parishes and broader community, there's been an outpouring of support for the new purpose-designed school we're planning at Tuggerah for students with moderate cognitive disabilities and complex needs. It's a big step forward—and at \$65 million, one of the most significant investments we've made. But what matters most is that every conversation and every act of generosity is helping to create a place where these students will be known, loved and celebrated for exactly who they are.

We're also continuing to back the next generation of great teachers through our **Exemplary Teacher Incentive**

Program (ETIP). In this edition, you'll meet **Tiarn Moore**, a fantastic young teacher whose story shows the power of strong formation and mentoring. Programs like ETIP are how we make sure every classroom has a teacher who brings both skill and heart to the job—and how we build a future full of faith-filled, high-impact educators.

And of course, I can't sign off without giving a big congratulations to our secondary students who've recently competed in **Touch and Football championships**. It's not just the results that matter—it's the teamwork, the resilience, and the pride they show in wearing their school colours. A big thank you as well to the staff who support them so generously.

As we head towards Strategy Day, I encourage you to stay in the loop through our website and social channels. There's so much to celebrate—and so much to look forward to.

Thank you for everything you do to bring our mission to life each day. Together, we continue to form hearts and minds to know Christ, love learning, and be the very best they can be.

Danny Casey

Director of Schools
Catholic Schools Broken Bay

CONNECT WITH US

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/dbbschools1

LINKEDIN

linkedin.com/company/csbb

CSBB WEBSITE

csbb.catholic.edu.au

LOOKING FOR A CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN YOUR AREA

csbb.catholic.edu.au/schools/find-a-school/

INTERESTED IN WORKING FOR US

csbb.catholic.edu.au/careers/join-us

STAY CONNECTED

If you have any news you would like to share with the CSBB Community, please email comms@dbb.catholic.edu.au

We would love to hear from you.

New Strategic Leaders Announced Ahead of CSBB's Historic Gathering

Ahead of its first full-scale Strategy Day on July 4—bringing together more than 2,500 educators, support staff and Clergy—Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) has announced new senior appointments to lead and shape, the next chapter of Catholic education across the Diocese.

These new appointments are a direct result of the extensive listening and engagement process held earlier this year—bringing together students, parents, staff, clergy and community members to share their hopes for the future of Catholic education. That community voice has helped form the foundation of what's next for CSBB, with a clear call for stronger connections across schools, more personalised pathways, and even deeper alignment between faith, learning and life.

In response, CSBB has appointed five highly regarded educators to newly created roles as Senior Executive: Strategic Delivery. These new appointments will support principals and schools to bring key system-wide initiatives to life—ensuring our schools are equipped to meet the evolving needs of families across every stage of a student's journey, from Baptism through to post-school pathways.

The newly appointed Senior Executives are:

- Brenda Timp, Principal, Mercy Catholic College, Chatswood
- Marc Reicher, Principal, Mater Maria Catholic College, Warriewood
- Jamie Wahab, Principal, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Mona Vale
- Kevin Williams, Principal, St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, East Gosford
- Adam Murdoch Principal at St Brigid's Catholic College, Lake Munmorah

These senior team members join Fiona Dignan and Mark Robinson who have been working specifically on the delivery of the Eileen O'Connor Catholic School and Southern Peninsula Precinct on the North Beaches Project respectively.

Each of these leaders has been instrumental in gathering

precinct-level feedback to guide CSBB's future planning. In their new roles, they will continue to work closely with the Director of Schools, Workstream Leads, and the CSBB Principal network to ensure that every initiative reflects the real needs and aspirations of our communities.

This milestone comes at a pivotal time for CSBB. On July 4, all staff will gather for a historic Strategy Day to hear more about the shared vision emerging from this community conversation and the exciting educational future taking shape across the Central Coast, Northern Beaches, and North Shore.

These new appointments signal CSBB's deep commitment to not only listening—but acting—with purpose, unity, and a bold spirit of innovation in Catholic education.



Brenda Timp.



Marc Reicher.



Jamie Wahab.



Kevin Williams.



Adam Murdoch.

Together, Let's Build a School

Eileen O'Connor Catholic School (EOCS) is a pioneering K-12 school planned for Tuggerah on the Central Coast, purpose-built to support students with mild to moderate cognitive disability, autism, and complex learning needs. More than a school, EOCS embodies Bishop Anthony Randazzo's deep commitment to inclusive Catholic education—a place where every child is seen, known, supported, and celebrated for who they are.

The new \$65 million Tuggerah campus, funded by Catholic Schools Broken Bay, government support, and generous community contributions — will feature specialist facilities and a vibrant, inclusive environment. It will also be closely connected to mainstream Catholic schools across the Diocese, offering students a unique pathway that supports both academic and spiritual growth.

Already, the Diocese has laid strong foundations with EOCS Support Classes operating at five campuses on the Northern Beaches, North Shore, and Central Coast, serving more than 70 students.

Eileen O'Connor Catholic School (EOCS) is a pioneering K-12 school planned for Tuggerah on the Central Coast, purpose-built to support students with mild to moderate cognitive disability, autism, and complex learning needs. More than a school, EOCS embodies Bishop Anthony Randazzo's deep commitment to inclusive Catholic education...

One of our students, Leo, is now thriving in his mainstream parish school after two years in a support class. His journey—and the unwavering support of his family—has





touched hearts and powerfully illustrated the life-changing potential of the Eileen O'Connor Catholic School model.

From May 19 to 23, Catholic Schools Broken Bay launched the first-ever Eileen O'Connor May Awareness Campaign, a heartfelt and transformative initiative that brought together families, students, and supporters across the Diocese in a shared mission of inclusion, awareness, and hope.

Catholic Schools Broken Bay extends a heartfelt thank you to every supporter — those who donated, shared the message, and stood in solidarity with the vision.

The mission continues and we invite our community to continue partnering with us. Here is how you can still help:

- **Donate** – Every gift, big or small, brings EOCS closer to opening day.
- **Set Up Regular Giving** – Ongoing support helps plan for the future.

- **Stay Connected** – Sign up for updates on milestones and student stories.
- **Partner With Us** – Businesses and community groups are welcome to join the cause.
- **Spread the Word** – Sharing builds awareness and momentum.

With each act of generosity, Catholic Schools Broken Bay moves closer to opening the doors of Eileen O'Connor Catholic School — a place where every child will be empowered to learn, grow, and thrive.

Together, we're not just building a school. We're building a future of opportunity, inclusion, and hope.



Applications Now Open for Catholic Schools Broken Bay's Exemplary Teacher Incentive Program (ETIP)

For aspiring educators looking to make a meaningful impact, Catholic Schools Broken Bay's (CSBB) Exemplary Teacher Incentive Program (ETIP) offers an unparalleled pathway into the teaching profession. With applications now open for the next intake, the program continues to empower early career teachers by providing structured support, mentorship, financial assistance and hands-on experience in CSBB schools.

Nurturing the Next Generation of Catholic Educators

ETIP is designed to attract passionate individuals committed to shaping young minds while fostering a deep sense of faith and community. Through tailored

For aspiring educators looking to make a meaningful impact, Catholic Schools Broken Bay's (CSBB) Exemplary Teacher Incentive Program (ETIP) offers an unparalleled pathway into the teaching profession. With applications now open for the next intake, the program continues to empower early career teachers...



ETIP Recipient, Tiarn Moore, a Year 2 classroom teacher at our Lady of the Rosary, Wyoming.

scholarships, internships, and grants the program helps future educators gain valuable classroom experience, connect with expert mentors, and develop the confidence to lead learning with excellence.

One teacher who has benefited firsthand from the program is *Tiarn Moore*, a Year 2 classroom teacher at Our Lady of the Rosary, Wyoming. Tiarn's journey into teaching was driven by a lifelong passion for working with children and making a positive difference in their lives. Inspired by the supportive and memorable teachers she had growing up, she felt called to a career in education that would allow her to nurture students academically and spiritually.

A Structured Pathway to Success

Tiarn first learned about ETIP through colleagues in CSBB schools who spoke highly of their experiences. Encouraged by their insights, she applied and was awarded the *Targeted Teacher Internship* in 2022. Reflecting on the program, Tiarn shares,

‘The ETIP Program has provided a structured and supportive pathway that has greatly contributed to my growth as a teacher. It has given me the opportunity to observe experienced educators, collaborate with them, and learn through meaningful mentoring. This guidance has equipped me with the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to develop into a strong and capable early career teacher.’

Throughout her journey, Tiarn has felt uplifted by the strong network of support within CSBB schools. She describes her experience as overwhelmingly positive, attributing her success to the guidance, encouragement, and reassurance she has received from colleagues and school leaders.

‘The most rewarding part of the ETIP program for me has been gaining the knowledge and skills needed to enter my first year of teaching with confidence,’ she shares. ‘The program’s structured progression and hands-on experience helped me feel well-prepared and supported as I transitioned into the classroom.’

“The ETIP Program has provided a structured and supportive pathway that has greatly contributed to my growth as a teacher. It has given me the opportunity to observe experienced educators, collaborate with them, and learn through meaningful mentoring. This guidance has equipped me with the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to develop into a strong and capable early career teacher.”

Advice for Future ETIP Applicants

For those considering applying for ETIP, Tiarn encourages them to take the leap, knowing they will be supported every step of the way.

‘If you’re just starting out and have a passion for teaching, this program is the ideal place to begin your professional teaching journey,’ she says. ‘My advice to future recipients is to embrace the journey—even when challenges arise—because with CSBB, you will always have someone there to support you.’

As applications for the next ETIP intake open, Catholic Schools Broken Bay invites aspiring educators to take advantage of this exceptional opportunity to launch their teaching careers in a nurturing and faith-filled environment.

For more information and to apply, visit the *Teacher Scholarships* page of the CSBB website.



CSBB Secondary School's sport update

May 2025

Our secondary school students have enthusiastically embraced a range of representative sporting opportunities in recent months, achieving outstanding results both at the school level and individually. During Term 1, schools participated in the Open and Intermediate Touch Championships, and in the starting weeks of Term 2 we hosted Open and Intermediate Football (Soccer).

These events serve two key purposes: first, they provide

a pathway for individual students to earn selection in Broken Bay teams, advancing to the NSWCCC selection trial level. Secondly, they function as Broken Bay Championships, where school teams compete against each other in their respective divisions, fostering both teamwork and competitive spirit. They also make great use of fantastic local Council venues across the Central Coast and Northern Beaches.

Broken Bay Touch Champion schools for 2025 are:

Open Girls Touch

Champions – St Joseph's Catholic College, East Gosford
Runner's Up – St Peter's Catholic College, Tuggerah Lakes

Open Boys Touch

Champions – Mater Maria Catholic College, Warriewood
Runner's Up – St Edward's College, East Gosford



U15 Girls Touch

Champions – St Peter's Catholic College, Tuggerah
Runner's Up – St Brigid's Catholic College, Lake Munmorah

U15 Boys Touch

Champions – St Edward's College, East Gosford
Runner's Up – Mater Maria Catholic College, Warriewood



Students selected for the Broken Bay teams took part in the NSWCCC Selection trials at Tuggerah in late April, facing challenging weather conditions. They performed admirably against strong competition from across the state, with two of our Open boys—Stan C (Mater Maria) and Alex M (St Leo's)—earning a place in the NSWCCC team for 2025.

These teams were well supported by our dedicated and passionate Broken Bay staff, including Team Managers Karen Grant (CSBB) and Jason Carpenter (St Edward's), along with Coaches Elysia Atkins and Blake Richardson (St Peter's), and Erin Kessler (CSBB).

Left to right: 2025 Broken Bay Touch teams – Open Girls, 15 Girls, 15 Boys, Open Boys



Broken Bay Football Champion schools for 2025 are:

Intermediate Boys Football (Soccer)

Champions – St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga
 Runner's Up – Mater Maria Catholic College, Warriewood

Intermediate Girls Football (Soccer)

Champions – St Peter's Catholic College, Tuggerah
 Runner's Up – St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga

Open Boys Football (Soccer)

Champions – Mater Maria Catholic College, Warriewood
 Runner's Up – MacKillop Catholic College, Warnervale

Open Girls Football (Soccer)

Champions – St Joseph's Catholic College, East Gosford
 Runner's Up – MacKillop Catholic College, Warnervale

Individual students selected for the Broken Bay Open football teams will take part in the NSWCCC Selection trials at Valentine Park in Glenwood at the end of May. These teams will be supported by the following experienced staff who have volunteered to share their expertise with the students – Victoria Martin (St Leo's) and Justin Paull (St Peter's).

Action Photography credited to Photos in a Flash





Pope Leo XIV has had a busy start to his pontificate.

Jubilee keeps Pope Leo XIV busy in first few weeks as Pope

Despite only being two months into his papacy, Pope Leo XIV has already been hard at work, making episcopal appointments, scheduling canonisations and attending Jubilee events.

The Holy Year has only made an already busy period even busier, as hundreds of thousands of pilgrims make their way to the Vatican to walk through the Holy Door.

Just a few days after his election on 8th May, Pope Leo XIV was celebrating the Jubilee of the Eastern Churches, welcoming the faithful from the 23 *sui iuris* Churches in full communion with Rome.

“You are precious in God’s eyes,” the Holy Father said to them. “Looking at you, I think of the diversity of your origins, your glorious history, and

the bitter sufferings that many of your communities have endured or continue to endure.”

At the end of May, he welcomed families from across the globe for the Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents and the Elderly.

He described families as “small domestic churches where the message of the Gospel is received and passed on,” adding “the family has its origin in that same love with which the Creator embraces the created world.”

Towards the end of the month, Pope Leo XIV welcomed seminarians, bishops and priests from across the globe for successive jubilees.

He had emphasised to the seminarians, their need to “fuel

the flame of hope in the life of the Church” while to the priests and bishops, he stressed the importance of unity and fraternity.

He said Jesus’ words of “I have called you friends,” were not just a nice statement, but instead, they are “a true key to understanding the priestly ministry.

“No one here is alone,” he said.

Following a busy start to his pontificate, Pope Leo XIV has reminded the faithful of the need to also rest and recover.

The Holy Father will spend part of July and a weekend in August at the papal residence in Castel Gandolfo during the holidays, as he enjoys a well-earned period of rest.

Broken Bay at International Safeguarding Conference

Around 25 delegates from Australia attended the 2025 International Safeguarding Conference (ISC) in Rome recently including Head of Safeguarding Broken Bay, Jodie Crisafulli.

The conference theme, 'Women of Faith, Women of Strength' included more than 20 keynote presentations and panel discussions by religious men and women, and lay people working in safeguarding roles around the world.

Held at the Pontifical Gregorian University, the ISC is now an annual event designed to help people work together to protect children and at-risk people from abuse.

This year's conference was attended by 275 individuals from a range of backgrounds, including faith leaders, safeguarding professionals, trauma

specialists, academics, researchers and others dedicated to the prevention of tackling abuse.

The presenters and the Q&A sessions were able to provide a global perspective, and demonstrated the difference in cultures, challenge, responsibilities and roles in safeguarding the vulnerable.

"There was a strong focus on safeguarding challenges in different cultures, initiatives being introduced to support the safety of children and vulnerable people in crisis situations, including the war in Ukraine, and the abuse of religious women," Jodie said.

"Those attending recognised the responsibility of men and women in building a culture grounded and shared in collaboration, justice, and accountability.



Head of Safeguarding Broken Bay, Jodie Crisafulli with the Australian Ambassador to the Holy See, the Hon Keith Pitt.

"Upon reflection, it was a valuable sharing of expertise and provided an insight into the varying cultural differences and challenges in the safeguarding space," Jodie said.



Members of the 2025 International Safeguarding Conference – a shared purpose and commitment.

A message from our Executive Director



Tim Curran

At CatholicCare, our mission has always been rooted in the Gospel call to love and serve our neighbour, particularly the most vulnerable. In recent years, our understanding of who our neighbour is – and what justice truly demands – has grown to

At CatholicCare, our mission has always been rooted in the Gospel call to love and serve our neighbour, particularly the most vulnerable. In recent years, our understanding of who our neighbour is – and what justice truly demands – has grown to include not only people but the very Earth we share. This is the essence of environmental justice...

include not only people but the very Earth we share. This is the essence of *environmental justice*, a concept that speaks directly to our Catholic identity and the moral imperatives that flow from it.

Environmental justice recognises that the poor and marginalised are disproportionately affected by environmental degradation. Whether it's rising sea levels threatening island nations or urban air pollution endangering the health of low-income communities, the burden of climate change and ecological harm is unjustly distributed. As Pope Francis powerfully declared in *Laudato Si'*, "the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor" are one and the same.

The appointment of Pope Leo XIV on 8 May brings renewed hope for advancing Pope Francis's legacy of environmental justice. At a 2024 Vatican conference, then Cardinal Prevost emphasised humanity's responsibility towards nature, warning against a "tyrannical" dominion over the environment. He highlighted the Vatican's initiatives in solar energy and electric vehicles, calling for action beyond words.

Environmental sustainability has long been a cornerstone of CatholicCare's strategic framework. Looking ahead, we are excited to deepen our commitment to this area. Our first step is to conduct a comprehensive baseline assessment of our environmental impact. Using these insights, we will introduce measures to minimise our footprint.

We are also planning to implement biodynamic farming practices on a recently acquired property in Wyong, and to collaborate with parishes in creating small-scale community

The appointment of Pope Leo XIV on 8 May brings renewed hope for advancing Pope Francis's legacy of environmental justice. At a 2024 Vatican conference, then Cardinal Prevost emphasised humanity's responsibility towards nature, warning against a "tyrannical" dominion over the environment. He highlighted the Vatican's initiatives in solar energy and electric vehicles, calling for action beyond words.

gardens and organic vegetable patches. Many older parishioners have large yards that have become challenging to maintain, presenting a valuable opportunity to connect them with individuals, such as renters, who lack access to garden space. To help realise this vision, we will be employing a leader to spearhead and support these grassroots environmental initiatives.

As Pope Leo XIV begins his ministry and ushers in a time of new beginnings, let us take this opportunity to reflect on and renew our commitment to the core principles that guide us. Caring for the vulnerable and caring for creation are inseparable – they are deeply connected and equally essential to our mission.

Empowering & Connecting Seniors

Pope Saint John Paul II once described ageing as a privilege, viewing it as an opportunity to reflect on the past, deepen one's understanding of the Paschal Mystery, and serve as a role model within the Church for all God's people (US Catholic Conference, 1988). While old age brings many blessings, it also presents challenges such as loneliness, health issues, and navigating the complexities of the aged care system. Recognising these difficulties, CatholicCare has dedicated recent months to parish based initiatives aimed at supporting seniors, fostering connection, and ensuring they receive the care and respect they deserve.

Every Wednesday fortnight, a group of seniors from Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish and some neighbouring churches gather for a morning of fellowship and learning. What began as a student led social work project with Excelsia College has evolved into a collaborative initiative between CatholicCare and Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish. This partnership aims to provide ongoing support and connection for seniors in the area.

"The ministry has many benefits," says Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish's Seniors Ministry Leader, Mary Sassin. "It is

educational, it addresses loneliness, and it gives people an opportunity to build friendships and connections."

Each session a speaker from the community is invited to present on a different topic. "One of the most popular sessions was on the topic of Online Scams," says Mary. "Our speaker from Services Australia described common scams and what to look out for. Many seniors shared personal stories of being targeted by scams or nearly falling victim, but we all left the session feeling informed." Mary also spoke highly of the talk on Elder Law talk by Cecilia Castle from Castle Lawyers, "She provided clear, accessible information on enduring guardianship, enduring power of attorney, and wills, along with other helpful resources."

In recent months, CatholicCare has also been engaging with parishes to offer information sessions about accessing aged care services. "Accessing government funded aged care is confusing and complex," says CatholicCare's Community Engagement Coordinator Kathy White. "In my presentations, I explain the My Aged Care system, how to access services and what services can be provided to keep our seniors living



at home independently. Everyone has a beautiful life story, and I see it as a privilege to assist seniors in their ageing journey."

CatholicCare's Executive Director Tim Curran is committed to addressing the needs of seniors by working closely with parishes. "Loneliness has become one of the most pressing issues facing older Australians today, with around one in four people over 75 reporting feelings of social isolation," says Tim. "At CatholicCare, we recognise this as more than a statistic – it's a call to action. By working closely with parishes, we're addressing this epidemic head-on, creating spaces where seniors can reconnect, find purpose, and know they are not alone."



OPEN DAY

BROOKVALE HUB

PROGRAMS FOR OVER 18'S WITH DISABILITY



MONDAY
14 JULY

11.00am -
12.00pm

Unit 9B 44 Wattle Road Brookvale

A mission of heart
and purpose –
supporting adults
with disability in
your parish
community.

CALL IN FOR A TOUR!
GRAB A BITE & HAVE A CHAT!

Meet our team and see how we support people to live their best lives whether you're a Support Coordinator, Support Worker, a potential client or a family member - or just want to know more about us.



RSVP

CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay

Exciting developments at CatholicCare's disability hubs

CatholicCare's disability hubs in Brookvale and Waitara are embracing a transformative year, introducing innovative programs that empower individuals with disabilities to develop skills, foster independence, and engage with the community.

Over 4 million Australians – approximately 18 per cent of the population – live with a disability. Among them are some of the nation's most brilliant, creative, and often underappreciated individuals. The new developments at CatholicCare's disability hubs have been driven by a commitment to harnessing the unique gifts and potential of every person who enters through our doors.

Waitara Clarke Road Disability Hub

Under the leadership of Community Programs Manager Menatalla, this hub has undergone a dynamic transformation, emphasising skill development and independence. Menatalla's vision is clear "We're not just filling time – we're building futures."

Every Thursday morning, eager participants arrive at Clarke Road ready to build their culinary skills. The *FlavourAble* cooking program guides participants from recipe selection and budgeting, to shopping and meal preparation. The program has been so successful that plans are underway to expand it to two days a week.

Clarke Road's gardening program has also been revamped this year, with participants partaking in a hands on 26 week program called *Green Thumbs*. They are involved in the full cycle of plant care – from planting seeds to harvesting fresh produce. The

program is rich in sensory experiences and physical activity, helping build both fine and gross motor skills.

Another popular, new program is the *Click & Connect* computer program, a 40 week course designed to enhance digital literacy, covering essential skills like internet safety and online communication.

Looking ahead, Menatalla envisions transforming the back of the facility into a café, offering our participants hospitality and customer service experience. Additionally, partnerships with aged care homes are being explored for volunteer placements, further integrating participants into the community.

Brookvale Disability Hub

The excitement is palpable at our Brookvale Hub too as new initiatives take shape.

Day Services Manager Tarsha has recently introduced the *Paws for a Cause* dog walking service. After managing a successful pet program at her last place of work, Tarsha has always been keen to launch a

dog walking service at Brookvale. "There is so much value in giving participants the opportunity to care for something else, in this case an animal," says Tarsha. "Our *Paws for a Cause* program gets them exercising and out into the community ... they get to meet other people and earn money while doing it."

Brookvale's reading skills program has recently been revamped to include engagement with the local library. "Our *Books & Beyond* program had previously been based in the centre, and I thought, 'How could we make this more community based?'" says Tarsha. "Our program now involves a morning of volunteering at the library followed by a session that focusses on reading, writing and comprehension skills. All the feedback so far has been terrific."

Participants have loved being involved in the process of developing, revamping and naming the programs. Creative juices have been flowing, and the enthusiasm is infectious!

To find out more, call us on 1800 324 924 or visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au.



**PLEASE DONATE
TO OUR DIOCESAN
HOMELESSNESS
SERVICES**



SCHOOL COLLECTIONS 8 AUGUST 2025 PARISH DONATION DRIVE 9 & 10 AUGUST 2025

We thank Bishop Anthony and our wonderful schools and parishes for partnering with us to raise funds for our much needed homelessness services.

At CatholicCare, we witness every day the courage and resilience of those experiencing homelessness and financial crisis. We also see the generosity and compassion of a community that refuses to turn away from those in need.

Each year 68,000 people across NSW reach out to specialist homelessness services, desperately seeking shelter and support. Sadly, the need far exceeds available resources, meaning far too many people are left without a safe place to turn. But thanks to you, we are making a difference.

Mary Mac's Place (Woy Woy) and Dom's Place (Hornsby) provide a safe haven for those experiencing hardship, offering nourishing meals, essential hygiene and laundry services, urgent care, and opportunities for social connection. As the cost of living continues to rise, the demand for these essential services grows.

The funds raised during Homelessness Week are more than just donations - they are lifelines. They keep our doors open, our showers running, and hot meals served to people who would otherwise go without. Your generosity helps provide warmth, nourishment, and dignity to those who need it most.

Learn more about our housing
and homelessness supports



DONATE NOW





Priests across the Diocese gathered for the Clergy Conference on the Central Coast.

Renewing parish life for mission

Becoming a missionary Church is not just about strategies – it is fundamentally a spiritual journey.

That was one of the key themes at the recent annual Diocesan Clergy Conference with facilitator Rev Dr Chris Ryan MGL.

Director of the Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership, Fr Chris encouraged the 75 attending clergy to look to Parish renewal by beginning with priestly renewal and mission as the guiding principle.

“We need to move from what might be considered a “maintenance” mentality to a “mission mentality” where caring is not only for those who show up to Church but reaching out to those on the outside,” he said.

“In maintenance mode, a parish focuses inwards: preserving routines, serving the immediate needs of those who already attend, and keeping the status quo.

“While caring for the faithful is important, this is not alone in today’s context. A mission-oriented parish is one that actively reaches out to those not coming to Church, prioritises evangelisation, and takes risks for the sake of the Gospel.

“Moving to mission requires clear leadership, and pastors and parish leaders should articulate a vision of evangelisation for the community.”

Fr Chris emphasised getting key parishioners and staff on board with this vision is essential – parish priests don’t have to do it all themselves

“Leadership is a team sport. A parish priest needs to be clear about the mission, or the why; he needs to facilitate the defining of a vision or the destination; he is accountable for the strategy or how the vision is realised but he cannot do this on his own.

“However, it is important to remember that the first minister in the parish is the Holy Spirit, the second minister is the community, and to lead is to call others into the work of ministry.”

Fr Chris’s work with the Areté Centre since 1986 focuses on the formation of leaders who are passionate about Jesus Christ and His mission and can make an important contribution to the renewal of the Church.

He encouraged the clergy to “read the signs of the times”, especially with young people who are often presented with competing worldviews and competing narratives; to see

evangelisation as a journey of faith involving stages of growth; to collaborate and support each other; persevere with hope, and trust in God’s providence.

“The first Christians had no wealth or status, yet their faith spread throughout the world because of their reliance on God and their courageous witness. In the same way our parishes can transform from maintenance to mission if we rely on the Holy Spirit and boldly step out in faith.”



Rev Dr Chris Ryan MGL.

A Pilgrimage of Hope: Young People Journeying with Purpose

Ivica Covic

Manly-Freshwater Parish

The weather forecast for Saturday, 26 April 2025, predicted nothing but rain. Yet, God had other plans for the young adults of Broken Bay who set out on a pilgrimage from the Shrine of Hope for Vocations in Manly, to the Shrine of Hope for Youth in Chatswood.

Rather than being drenched by rain, we were showered with abundant spiritual blessings from above.

This was no aimless walk from one location to another. It was a purposeful and prayerful journey—an outward expression of an inner desire to honour God and open ourselves to transformation through His grace and the work of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout the day, we were nourished by moments of prayer, guided reflections from our accompanying priests, and the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We were invited to offer our pilgrimage as an act of prayer, sacrifice, and penance—giving deeper meaning to each step we took. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us, “Pilgrimages evoke our earthly journey toward heaven.”

This pilgrimage was a heartfelt desire to encounter God more intimately, grow in relationship with Him, and build communion with one another as we walked in hope toward the Shrine for Youth.



Manly's Fr Chima wins award for doctoral thesis

Manly-Freshwater Parish's Parish Priest, Fr Chima Ofor, has received an award for his doctoral research, focused on ecological theology, and has been recommended for publication.

In a graduation ceremony on June 28th, Fr Chima was awarded the Dissertation Excellence Award by the Graduate Research School of the Australian University College of Divinity.

"My doctoral research focused on ecological theology, creation theology, and virtue ethics," said Fr Chima.

"The thesis explores how empathy can serve as a moral and theological framework that informs and transforms ethical practices toward a more sustainable future. At its heart, it seeks to inspire a renewed approach to creation care—one that honours the sacredness and interconnectedness of all life.

"The thesis explores how empathy can serve as a moral and theological framework that informs and transforms ethical practices toward a more sustainable future. At its heart, it seeks to inspire a renewed approach to creation care—one that honours the sacredness and interconnectedness of all life."

"It's a contribution to the growing dialogue between theology and ecology, and one that I hope will encourage deeper reflection on our responsibility as stewards of God's creation."

Fr Chima has been Parish Priest at Manly-Freshwater since 2024. He completed his seminary formation at Holy Spirit Seminary, Brisbane, where Bishop Anthony was rector at the time. Bishop Anthony also traveled to Umuahia, Nigeria to witness Fr Chima's ordination in Mater Dei Cathedral, Umuahia, on 30 July 2011.

Fr Chima returned to the Archdiocese of Brisbane, where he served in multiple parishes before being made Parish Priest of Petrie Parish in 2015. Fr Chima came to the Diocese of Broken Bay to complete his doctoral studies in Sydney in 2021.

He said many people had supported him through the gruelling research.

"I remain deeply thankful for the guidance and insight of my research supervisor, Professor Neil Ormerod, who helped bring clarity and depth to the work," he said.

"I am also immensely grateful to Bishop Anthony for his fatherly support and for providing the pastoral environment that enabled me to pursue this research.

"It was not without its challenges—many sleepless nights and moments when giving up seemed easier. But my passion for the subject and the unwavering support of good friends and colleagues saw me through."



Fr Chima Ofor.

"It was not without its challenges—many sleepless nights and moments when giving up seemed easier. But my passion for the subject and the unwavering support of good friends and colleagues saw me through."

Fr Chima's thesis received positive assessment from external examiners and has been recommended for publication, which he is excited to pursue.

Seminarian, Deacon, Priest: A spiritual journey



I'm Father Hien Vu, assistant priest at the Catholic Parish of Chatswood in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

It is a great privilege for me to be entrusted as chaplain for our upcoming Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy—especially to the holy cities of Rome and Assisi—this coming October.

As we journey through the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025, and in response to the Holy Father's invitation to be open to the grace of the Holy Spirit through pilgrimage, I warmly invite you to join me on this spiritual journey.

We will walk in the footsteps of the saints, encounter the beauty and depth of our Catholic faith, and unite in prayer with Bishop Anthony at a special Mass in St Peter's Basilica—in the presence of our Holy Father, Pope

Leo XIV. I can't imagine the grace that awaits us there.

In 2023, I had the blessing of visiting Rome and Assisi with the young people of our Diocese. It was a grace-filled experience that I still carry in my heart. I remember vividly—it was in Assisi that Bishop Anthony announced the date of my diaconate ordination.

Back then, I came as a seminarian. Now, I return as a priest of God. Grace upon grace. To this I am truly grateful!

As a fellow pilgrim, I pray to remain open to the graces that God will pour into my life and ministry—especially for those entrusted to my care. And as chaplain, I pray that each of you may also be open to receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit, so that we may grow in faith and live it out with love and service in our communities.

If you feel a stirring in your heart, don't hesitate to reach out. Libby McManus, our Pilgrimage Coordinator, and I are working together to make this pilgrimage a reality, and we'd love to have you on board. Let us walk together in faith, openness, and trust during this Jubilee Year of Hope—because, as Scripture reminds us, "*hope in Jesus Christ does not disappoint*" (Romans 5:5).

As St Mary MacKillop once said, "*We are but travellers here.*" We are here to live, to love, and to support one another on our journey toward our heavenly home.

And yes—start learning some Italian! **Ci vediamo!**

Thank you, and may God bless you always.



ASSISI & ROME

1-10 OCTOBER 2025

Join us for this once in a lifetime experience!

Broken Bay
Jubilee Pilgrimage of

Hope

Mass with Bishop Anthony
Papal Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls

Walk in the footsteps of the Saints

PROUDLY in partnership with Harvest Journeys.
Registrations for this extraordinary
faith-filled pilgrimage ARE CLOSING SOON.
Priced from AUD\$5,390 per person land package only.



FREE WILLS SEMINAR & MORNING TEA

Plan Well


Join us for a free seminar with legal expert Cecilia Castle, Principal of Castle Lawyers, who will cover essential estate topics like:

- Writing a Will
- Power of Attorney
- Enduring Guardianship

 Attendees may be eligible for a complimentary will*



CECILIA CASTLE
PRINCIPAL OF CASTLE LAWYERS

 Magnificat Room at Our Lady of Dolours
Parish, 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067

 12 August, 2025

 10:30AM-12:30 PM



CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY

BOOK NOW

Scan to register by 7th August or visit
www.trybooking.com/DAPZO



* Terms and conditions apply

For enquiries, please contact Mona Saouma on (02) 9410 9024

Ignite returns to Broken Bay

Ignite Conference will return to the Diocese of Broken Bay in 2025, bringing hundreds and hundreds of young people deeper into a relationship with Christ.

It will be the third consecutive year the Diocese has hosted the annual conference, which features a number of keynotes, workshops, and praise and worship rallies.

Bishop Anthony Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay, will celebrate the opening Mass on Friday, welcoming the hundreds of attendees to the conference and to the Diocese.

Bishop Anthony will also deliver one of the keynotes on Friday morning.

The conference attracts people from across the state and even beyond, with many coming to engage with this year's theme "Rise Up!"

The conference will run from Thursday afternoon to Friday at lunchtime, ending with a midday closing rally.

Fr Rob Galea, who appeared on X Factor in 2015, will lead the morning rally on Friday morning.

Broken Bay-raised Sr Susanna Edmunds OP, from the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia Congregation will also be among those leading workshops



Ignite brings together people from across the state.

during the conference, as will Broken Bay seminarian Shayne D'Cunha.

The conference will also feature international guests, including Fr Columba Jordan CFR, an Irish-born priest and member of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal.

A number of other priests and religious from across the country will also deliver keynotes or run workshops, including Fr Tony Alex MGL, Fr Robin Koning SJ, Fr Christopher Maher OFM Cap, Fr Isaac Falzon, Sr Anastasia Reeves OP and Fr Harry Chan OFM.

Other prominent Catholic speakers will also be attending the conference including Dr Robert Haddad, Simon Carrington and Monica Elias.

The conference has been a wonderful way for people of all ages to encounter Christ and enter into a deeper relationship with him, through the sacraments, catechesis and worship.

Ignite Conference will run from Thursday, 10 July to Sunday, 13 July at the Cathedral Precinct, Waitara. Register at igniteconference.com.au/register



Ignite is all about bringing people closer to Christ.



Bishop Anthony leads a keynote talk.

Thousands join Bishop Anthony for Mass in honour of Opus Dei founder

Bishop Anthony Randazzo celebrated Mass at St Mary's Cathedral for the Feast of Saint Josemaría Escrivá, founder of Opus Dei, with more than 1,000 people filling the pews.

Saint Josemaría was a Spanish priest who founded Opus Dei in 1928, as a way of helping ordinary Christians understand that their life is a way of holiness and evangelisation.

The Mass, celebrated on Monday, 23rd June, (the actual feast day is 26 June) was a chance for members of Opus Dei and admirers of Saint Josemaría's vision of sanctifying ordinary life, to join together in memory of the 20th century saint.

In his homily, Bishop Anthony praised the work of Saint Josemaría, which called each person to be saints in every vocation.

"Saint Josemaría never saw his priesthood as something isolated or separate from the rest of the faithful. He deeply understood that all Christians, lay and ordained alike, share one common baptism, one calling, one destiny in Christ," he said.

"In a homily from 1973, he reminded us of the words of Saint Peter: 'You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,

a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.'

"This was not simply poetic language for him. It was a truth he lived. 'There is no such thing as second-class holiness,' he said. Either we fight to remain in the grace of God and imitate Christ our Model, or we give up the battle. And that battle is waged in the hidden corners of daily life."

Opus Dei's stated mission is to help its lay and clerical members seek holiness in their everyday occupations and societies.

The Diocese of Broken Bay enjoys a strong relationship with Opus Dei. It has two centres, Eremeran Hills Study Centre and Nairana Study Centre, located in Pennant Hills, and its headquarters in Roseville is located within the Diocese.

Regular formation is offered by the institution in cities across Australia. A number of schools inspired by St Josemaría and the work of Opus Dei have also been established by parents in Sydney and Melbourne.

Bishop Anthony noted St Josemaría's life was mapped onto the Holy Years of the Church.

"This Holy Year also marks two significant anniversaries in the life of Saint Josemaría: the centenary of his priestly ordination in 1925, and the fiftieth anniversary of his death in 1975. Remarkably, each of these years: 1925, 1975, and now 2025, are Jubilee Years in the life of the Church," he said.

"In the light of faith, we know that such alignments are never mere coincidences. They are signs, humble signs, that God uses to teach us something essential: that holiness



Bishop Anthony said St Josemaría's message was still pertinent.

often walks quietly through the ordinary days of our lives."

Among those in attendance at the Mass was 96-year-old Frank Casadesus, one of the first eight members of Opus Dei to arrive in 1963 in Australia. He is the only one of the original group still living in Sydney.

Originally from Barcelona, Casadesus was a lawyer in the Spanish air force when Saint Josemaría asked him to help to begin the work of Opus Dei in Sydney.

While the work of Opus Dei has been going on for almost a century, Bishop Anthony stressed it was as relevant now as it has been at its founding.

"My brothers and sisters, the message of Saint Josemaría is as urgent now in 2025 as it was in 1928," he said.

"Holiness is not a distant ideal. It is your baptismal calling. It is God's invitation to you, today, in your marriage, in your family, in your friendships, in your classroom, at your office desk, behind the shop counter, or in the hidden sacrifices of daily life. That is where sanctity is found."

Images courtesy of Giovanni Portelli / The Catholic Weekly



Thousands joined Bishop Anthony for the Mass.



VOCATIONS

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

vocations.ministry@bbcatholic.org.au