



Most Rev Anthony Randazzo  
*Bishop of Broken Bay*

Message for BBNeighbourhoods  
21 December 2020

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Driving along the Pacific Highway heading towards Chatswood this morning, I saw a sign that said, "Faith does not make things easy, but it does make things possible." I paused for a moment to acknowledge the truth behind this simple statement, and then I delighted as I realised that the sign was on our Catholic parish property at Pymble. I was delighted because tens of thousands of people pass by that sign every day, and the message that they receive is one that is needed in these challenging times.

Throughout our community of the Church of Broken Bay, many people have been caught up in the latest episode of COVID. I am very conscious of our communities on the Northern Beaches, especially the vulnerable and the infirm. In solidarity with the parishes of the Northern Beaches, we pray for the safety and wellbeing of all people in the community. Our experience over this year has taught us how best to respond and how to be responsible citizens. I urge everyone to follow the good practices that we have undertaken throughout this time of trial. I also urge you to pray, to keep faith, and to hold fast to our Christian hope. As the Pymble Parish sign reminds us, it does not make it easy, but it is possible to rise above the immediate challenge. What is important is that we do not abandon each other, especially those who are in need.

I realise that there might be some confusion around our celebrations for Christmas, and I would ask you to stay connected to your communities for the correct flow of information. As the Government attempts to manage the general situation, the Diocese will facilitate the communication amongst our community of the Church. Please exercise the gift of patience and be reassured that the safe celebration of the Nativity of the Lord is my highest priority for you.

In these final days of Advent, may the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph, intercede for us and for the whole world, as we anticipate our salvation when Christ is born.

Blessings and thanks,

+Anthony