



Most Rev Anthony Randazzo
Bishop of Broken Bay

Message for BBNeighbourhoods
6 July 2021

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In the past week I had the opportunity to speak at the Tri-Diocesan social justice twilight gathering via Zoom. The three local Churches that participated are Broken Bay, Parramatta, and Sydney. About 100 people participated, which was a tremendous effort considering the last-minute arrangements caused by the latest episode of COVID in our community.

The evening provided an opportunity to reflect upon the 2020-21 Social Justice Statement from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference titled, “To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today”, which can be found [here](#).

I think that the ACBC Social Justice Statement is timely, given the challenging effects on mental wellbeing and health over the past 18 months as we navigate the COVID environment in which we live. My contribution was to reflect on mental health from the perspective of faith. The text of my reflection can be located [here](#). I hope that it may be of assistance as we reflect upon mental health issues; the dignity of the human person; suffering with Christ crucified; and the love of God for all people.

Our clergy and parish teams are well situated to offer direction for those within the community of the Church who are in need and who might benefit from assistance. Some parishes have people specifically trained in this area, and all parishes are able to offer pathways for people who are in need of support through CatholicCare Broken Bay (<https://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/crisis-support/>).

As we continue to traverse the COVID landscape, I hope that we will be alert once more to those who struggle or who are overwhelmed at this time. We have shown strength and resilience as a community of the Church. I pray that we will be vigilant

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towards the most vulnerable members of our community, especially in this time of lockdown when many may be alone or without comfort.

We remain united always in the Spirit of Christ our Lord.

+Anthony