



19 February 2024

To the Clergy and People of God in the Diocese of Broken Bay

Dear Fathers and Deacons, sisters and brothers in Christ,

As I announced to the Diocese in July 2023, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, has appointed me to the ministry and office of Apostolic Administrator of the Personal Ordinariate of the Southern Cross in Australia, and its communities (known also as Missions).

The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross (OLSC) was erected by Pope Benedict XVI on 15 June 2012. Ours was the third Personal Ordinariate to be erected as a pathway for former Anglicans to enjoy the fullness of communion in the Catholic Church.

Equally, as all Catholics may worship in any Catholic parish, the doors of the Ordinariate are open to any and all within the Catholic Church. The Ordinariate's mission is particularly experienced in its celebration of liturgy, which draws upon the richness of the English Anglican traditions of worship while holding to Catholic doctrinal, sacramental, and liturgical norms. Through Divine Worship: The Missal — the liturgical form used for Mass by the three Ordinariates in England, Canada & USA, and Australia — the Ordinariate shares its distinctive commitment to praising God in the eloquence of the English language, liturgical prayer, and patrimony.

Since taking up my responsibility as Apostolic Administrator, I have been discerning how best to provide pastoral support to the OLSC which extends to all of Australia, Guam, and Japan, and exercise my role as Shepherd to the People of God in our Diocese of Broken Bay. In fact, this dual responsibility highlights something of the essential character of the Catholic Church. The Church exists as a bond of communion between many different ecclesial communities. Being both the Bishop of Broken Bay and the Apostolic Administrator of the Personal Ordinariate of the Southern Cross brings these two ecclesial entities into a tangible co-existence, whilst maintaining the autonomy and character of both.

As one particular expression of this ecclesial co-existence, I have been in dialogue with Fr Colin Blayney, Parish Priest of Lindfield-Killara Parish about the possibility of the Vicar General of the OLSC, Very Rev Dr Stephen Hill, being resident in the presbytery at Killara, and ministering to the people of the Parish.

MOST REVEREND ANTHONY RANDAZZO BISHOP OF BROKEN BAY

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I extend my gratitude to Fr Colin for his receptivity to this consideration, and for his engagement with the Parish Pastoral Council introducing the OLSC and Fr Stephen. I convey my appreciation to the members of the Parish Pastoral Council for their own openness to this development and for the ways in which they have been discussing how they can further welcome this opportunity.

Residing at Killara, Fr Stephen will be able to gather the Community of St Bede from various parts of Greater Sydney, for its Sunday celebration of Eucharist whilst being available for active participation in the life of the Parish of Lindfield-Killara. To assist this co-existence, I have drawn up a detailed Memorandum of Understanding so that the character, rights, and responsibilities of both the Ordinariate and the Parish are fully respected through a mutual covenant of understanding. He will join the Parish on 18 March 2024.

I am confident that this development will bring a special pastoral opportunity to the Parish of Lindfield-Killara and in so doing be of great enrichment for the life of our Diocese more generally. We look forward to having Fr Hill as an active member of our own presbyterate. Please join with me, in welcoming him.

With every blessing in the Lord,

+ Anthony Randazzo

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD, JCL
Bishop of Broken Bay