



A letter to the Clergy in the Diocese of Broken Bay

Wednesday 2 December 2020

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

As I have shared with you over several weeks, I have been in prayerful discernment and consultation in respect to a range of new clergy appointments. These changes have been occasioned by different factors, my appraisal of the pastoral needs of our Diocese at this time, and by the personal circumstances of our clergy themselves. I wish to express my gratitude to the clergy with whom I have been in discussion. Everyone has shown remarkable openness and availability which is a sure sign of the strength and grace of our presbyterate. I also welcome two new men into our Diocese and ask that you make them welcome.

In addition to the recent appointments of **Fr John Puliparambil** as Assistant Priest to the Parish of Manly, and of **Fr Joey Frez** as Assistant Priest to the Parish of Chatswood (effective 7 December 2020), with this letter, I hereby make the following appointments:

- **Fr Peter Dowd**, Chaplain to Royal North Shore Hospital, resident at Northbridge, effective 1 February 2021.
- **Fr Vincent Nguyen**, as assistant to the Bishop, resident at Watsonville, effective 1 February 2021.
- **Fr Jim McKeon**, Parish Priest of the Parish of Epping and Carlingford, and continuing his role as Director of the Formation Program for the Diaconate, effective 8 January 2021.
- **Fr David Ranson**, Parish Priest of the Parish of Chatswood, and continuing his role as Vicar General, effective 8 January 2021.
- **Fr Paul Durkin**, Parish Priest of the Parish of Wahroonga, and continuing his role as Director for Vocations, effective 8 January 2021, assuming residence by 15 January 2021.
- **Rev Samuel French**, Deacon to the Parish of Wahroonga, effective 15 January 2021.
- **Fr Raphael Kimaro AJ**, Parish Priest of the Parish of Pennant Hills, effective 15 January 2021.
- **Fr Vincent Musindalo AJ**, Assistant Priest of the Parish of Pennant Hills, effective 15 January 2021.

MOST REVEREND ANTHONY RANDAZZO BISHOP OF BROKEN BAY

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The Parish of Pennant Hills remains a Diocesan parish that will be staffed by the community of the Apostles of Jesus, with the Superior, **Fr Stephen Wayoyi Omwanda AJ**, continuing as Assistant Priest and in his role in the Diocesan Vocations Team.

- **Fr Biju Mathew Koikkattil**, Assistant Priest of the Parish of Lower North Shore, resident at Naremburn, effective 15 January 2021.
- **Fr Manoj Manuel**, Assistant Priest of the Cathedral Parish of Hornsby, effective 15 January 2021.
- **Fr Chima Ofor**, Assistant Priest of the Parish of Lower North Shore, resident at Northbridge, effective 15 January 2021.

Fr Manoj Manuel comes to us from the Diocese of Kohima, Nagaland, India through the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes where he is currently Parish Priest at Narromine, Trangie and Peak Hill. Fr Chima Ofor of the Diocese of Umuahia, Nigeria comes to us through the Archdiocese of Brisbane where he has ministered for some years. He is locating to Sydney to undertake doctoral studies and will undertake ministry as Assistant Priest at Lower North Shore and as a part-time chaplain at Australian Catholic University (North Sydney campus).

- **Fr Pawel Kopczynski CSMA**, Administrator of the Parish of Wyoming, effective 15 January 2021.
- **Fr Vince Casey**, Parish Priest of the Parish of Terrigal, effective 15 January 2021.
- **Fr Philip Thottam MSFS**, Administrator of the Parish of Warnervale, effective 15 January 2021.
- **Fr Paul Finucane**, on loan to the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes, effective 22 January 2021.
- **Fr Jose Philip OSH**, Parish Priest of the Parish of Kincumber, effective 22 January 2021.
- **Fr Satheesh Ramachanatt OSH**, Administrator of the Parish of Frenchs Forest, effective 22 January 2021.

As I have shared with the Council of Priests, I would like to use the coming year to pay particular attention to the circumstances and needs of our parishes on the Central Coast. It may be that further changes of appointments will be considered as part of this discernment.

I am aware of the significant reconfiguration that such a volume of new appointments occasions. I am also conscious that we are approaching the end of a very demanding year. I therefore thank all those involved for their readiness to accept their change of appointment at such a time, whilst at the same time expressing my gratitude to each of them for their service in their previous appointments. I have asked the Vicar General to remain ready to assist them in the logistics of transfer, should they require this.



My thanks also go to the various parish communities of our clergy who are accepting new appointments. Changes of Pastor are significant moments in the life of a parish community. Though it may be difficult to arrange farewells of those departing their communities so soon to Christmas, I am confident that this will be possible even after the start of 2021.

Please join with me in praying for all our clergy and parish communities in this time of significant transition.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Anthony Randazzo

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL
Bishop of Broken Bay