

7 October 2019

I am honoured and humbled by this appointment, and grateful to the Holy Father for the confidence he has shown by entrusting me with the privilege and responsibility of being the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Ultimately, this appointment is not about me; it is about Jesus Christ, and about how we, as living members of the Body of Christ, bring Him to the world by the way we live out our baptismal vocation with love. We are instruments in His hands.

The Coat of Arms for the Diocese of Broken Bay features an image of the lighthouse on the Barrenjoey Peninsula, with the Chi Rho – one of the earliest symbols for Christ – marked on the side. It is a reminder that Christ is our Light. He leads us and guides us, both to the open waters and back in to safe harbour. He is not just light for me or for the Diocese. He is the light of the world. It is a reminder to all of us that we best meet the challenge of living the Gospel in the world today by following Christ our light.

I am grateful to Father David Ranson for his leadership of the Diocese of Broken Bay as its administrator over the past 15 months. I look forward to having him alongside me as I begin this new ministry in Broken Bay. I am grateful also to my three predecessors in the Diocese, and I hope to continue their good work.

To the people and priests of Broken Bay: I look forward to being officially installed as your Bishop, but please know that you are already in my heart and in my prayers during this time. Along with the priests and deacons of the Diocese, I am eager to walk with you, imitating Christ as the Good Shepherd who is always present amongst His flock.

While I grew up on the Gold Coast, as a teenager, I joined members of my family for holidays on the beaches of Terrigal and The Entrance. I am delighted that I will be able to have this beautiful part of God's creation in my home diocese.

While I accept this appointment with great anticipation, I am also sad to leave the Archdiocese of Sydney. The three years that I have spent in Sydney have been a great blessing.

Being ordained as a Bishop by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, and having the opportunity to work closely with him and with Bishops Brady and Umbers, has been one of the highlights of my time in Sydney.

I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the people of God in Sydney. I have shared with them their joys and struggles and witnessed their desire for good, hopeful and happy families. There is a wonderful dynamic of vibrancy in the people of Sydney, and I will be eternally grateful to God for my time with them.

Please pray for me as I begin the new mission entrusted to me by the Lord. I ask you to pray that I will be a shepherd after the Heart of Christ.

Yours sincerely in Christ

Most Reverend Anthony Randazzo

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Bishop-elect of Broken Bay