



Most Rev Anthony Randazzo
Bishop of Broken Bay

Message for BBNeighbourhoods
2 June 2020

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Yesterday, for the Feast of *Mary, Star of the Sea*, I celebrated Mass in the Cathedral with an assembly of the community of the Church inside the building while livestreaming into homes. I am delighted that Government has eased restrictions on our churches. While we still have a long way to go, we are now able to gather in groups of 50 people for prayer, worship, and most importantly for holy Mass.

As we begin to return to our churches, I would ask that you adhere to the health regulations that are in place. They are designed for the protection of all, especially those who might be vulnerable. We do not want to exaggerate the situation, so simple things like washing your hands before Mass with soap and water is an easy way to ensure your safety. Your priests and community leaders are doing everything possible to make our gatherings safe. I would invite you to assist and help whenever possible. If you are unwell or physically vulnerable due to illness, it would seem prudent to avoid coming to the church until you are recovered. However, please do not hesitate to contact your local parish so that the priests, deacons or pastoral teams can attend you, especially in your time of need.

Our Catholic School community has resumed classes and our Schools are well and truly in full swing. While all of our children are important, I would ask that you spare a thought and a prayer for our Year 12 students, in Catholic or Public Schools. The final year of high school is an important time in the lives of our youth. This year has brought added pressure and stress upon them. I am confident that as a community of faith, we will be able to accompany our young women and men as they step out into their future. Might we take the time to reassure them that they are not alone. Can we reassure them that we are with them and most importantly, that God has a marvellous plan for their lives.

This weekend we commemorate the Feast of the Blessed Trinity. It is a feast about love, relationships, fellowship and communion. The Blessed Trinity is *the* model of life and holiness for us. I have chosen this Feast to admit two of our seminarians as Candidates for Holy Orders, Sam French on Saturday at Woy Woy and Roger Delmonte on Sunday at the Cathedral. Candidacy is a public commitment on the part of the community of the Church to accompany these men as they move to the next stage of their formation for the priesthood. I invite you to pray for Sam and Roger, asking Jesus the Good Shepherd, to form them as shepherds after His own heart.

Please keep safe and well in these challenging times. Be reassured of a remembrance in my daily prayers and at Mass.

Blessings and thanks for all that you do,

+Anthony