

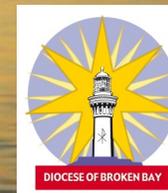


Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay

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**INFORMATION ABOUT
THE ROYAL COMMISSION
INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES
TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE**



Dear People of Broken Bay,

On behalf of the Catholic Church in Broken Bay, I would again like to apologise sincerely to those who have suffered sexual abuse by representatives of Christ's faithful; to the family and friends who have journeyed alongside them in pain, and to all who are distressed by these devastating events.

I welcome the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse as an opportunity for victims to obtain a just hearing; for an emotional and spiritual healing can only begin to take place when issues can be openly addressed, processes within our institutions scrutinised and the whole community better able to understand child sexual abuse and together find ways forward.

The Diocese of Broken Bay actively supports, and is fully committed to, assisting the work of the Truth Justice & Healing Council and the National Royal Commission.

The Royal Commission may well bring to light incidents that will be distressing and dispiriting for all of us.

This booklet provides contacts within the Diocese and the wider Church and draws together a varied range of services from the Truth Justice & Healing Council and the Royal Commission that may be of assistance to you or someone you know.

I pray that as we move forward together, the Church may be transformed, our relationships healed and our nation grow in compassion and justice.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

David L Walker

Bishop of Broken Bay

In Broken Bay please contact:
 Jodie Crisafulli, Manager Complaints & Professional Standards
 9847 0212 | 0405 422 522 jodie.crisafulli@dbb.org.au

NAME	OTHER SERVICES	CONTACT
Men's Line www.mensline.org.au	24/7 phone and online counselling support for men.	1300 789 978
Survivors & Mates Support Network www.samsn.com.au	Support for men coping with the effects of childhood sexual abuse.	0479 195 756 support@samsn.com.au
Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests www.snapaustralia.org	Support for survivors of sexual abuse by clergy.	0422 538 440 survivorsclergy@gmail.com
NSW Rape Crisis Centre www.nswrapecrisis.com.au	24/7 phone and online crisis counselling for anyone who has experienced or who is at risk of sexual assault.	1800 424 017
Interrelate Family Centres www.interrelate.org.au	Network of counselling centres across metropolitan, regional and rural NSW	1300 736 966
Relationships Australia NSW www.nsw.relationships.com.au	Family and relationship counselling as well as a range of specialist counselling services.	1300 364 277 and call will divert to closest service location
The Women's Cottage, Hawkesbury www.womenscottage.org.au	Community based support and resource centre run by women, for women and children	4578 4190
Victims Access Line www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/vs	For Victims of Crime in NSW to assist them in accessing services, including counselling and support	1800 633 063 Email: vs@agd.nsw.gov.au

NAME	OTHER SERVICES	CONTACT
Knowmore www.knowmore.org.au	An independent service to provide legal information and advice	1800 605 762 info@knowmore.org.au
1800 Respect www.1800respect.org.au	Counselling service for sexual assault.	1800 737 732
Adults Surviving Child Abuse www.asca.org.au	Advances the health and well being of people affected by childhood trauma.	1300 657 380 counsellors@asca.org.au
beyondblue www.beyondblue.org.au	Mental health support.	1300 224 636
Bravehearts www.bravehearts.org.au	Counselling for survivors of sexual abuse.	1800 272 831 admin@bravehearts.org.au
Broken Rites www.brokenrites.org.au	Support for survivors of sexual abuse.	03 9457 4999 contact@brokenrites.org.au
Care Leavers Australia Network www.clan.org.au	Support for people who grew up in Australia's orphanages, children's homes and in foster care.	1800 008 774
Child Migrant's Trust www.childmigranttrust.com	Assistance for people who were British child migrants.	1800 040 509
Headspace www.headspace.org.au	Mental health support for young people.	9114 4100 headspace.centrawsydney@sydney.edu.au
Lifeline www.lifeline.org.au	24 hour crisis support	13 11 14 (online chat facility)

THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

On Friday 11 January 2013, Her Excellency Quentin Bryce, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, appointed a six-member Royal Commission to investigate Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

The Royal Commission will inquire into how institutions with a responsibility for children have managed and responded to allegations and instances of child sexual abuse. It will investigate where systems have failed to protect children, and make recommendations on how to improve laws, policies and practices to prevent and better respond to child sexual abuse in institutions.

The Commissioners can look at any private, public or non-government organisation that is, or was in the past, involved with children, including government agencies, schools, sporting clubs, orphanages, foster care, and religious organisations.

www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au

1800 099 340

THE TRUTH JUSTICE & HEALING COUNCIL

Two overarching Catholic Church organisations, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia (which together represent dioceses, archdioceses and religious congregations across Australia) established the Truth, Justice and Healing Council in recognition of the importance of the Royal Commission and the imperative for the Church to address the past openly and honestly, the good with the bad.

The Council will allow the Church to speak with one voice before the Royal Commission representing the numerous organisations that make up the Catholic Church., and is coordinating the Catholic Church's response to the Royal Commission with a commitment to cooperation, openness, full disclosure and justice for victims and survivors.

www.tjhcouncil.org.au

Phone 02 6234 0900

Fax 02 6234 0999

REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE CHURCH

Sexual abuse by members of the Church should be reported to the police. They have the capability to rigorously investigate any claims of sexual abuse.

If requested, the Church will provide assistance to anyone in taking their allegation to the police and will fully cooperate with the police in any investigation.

Contact your local police station
OR
the Police Assistance line 131 444

You can report abuse to the Catholic Church by contacting:

Towards Healing (NSW & ACT)

Phone 1300 369 977

A person coming to the Church is advised that criminal matters must be dealt with by the police. Despite this, and the requirement of *Towards Healing* that criminal matters will be passed on to the police, some victims and survivors do elect to have the matter dealt with by their Church.

If you are having difficulty deciding whether to report abuse in the Church, the following service may be able to assist you.

Ethi-Call

Ethi-Call provides free and confidential ethics counselling. It is a service of the St James Ethics Centre; an independent organisation with no religious or political affiliation

www.ethics.org.au

1800 672 303

CATHOLICCARE DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

www.catholiccaredbb.org.au

If you are seeking counselling services with a Catholic agency, CatholicCare can provide these, and a wide range of programs and support services for children, young people, individuals and families through their Family Centres in the Diocese.

BROOKVALE FAMILY CENTRE

Unit 9B, 44 Wattle Road, Brookvale.

Phone 8968 5100 | Fax 9939 4277

Email brookvalefamilycentre@dbb.org.au



NAREMBURN FAMILY CENTRE

40 Merrenburn Avenue, Naremburn

Phone 8425 8700 | Fax 9438 4700

Email naremburnfamilycentre@dbb.org.au



WAITARA FAMILY CENTRE

29 Yardley Avenue, Waitara

Phone 9488 2400

Email waitarafamilycentre@dbb.org.au



WARNERVALE FAMILY CENTRE

3 Mary MacKillop Drive, Woongarah

Phone 4356 2600 | Fax 4356 2601

Email centralcoastfamilycentre@dbb.org.au