

# MEDIA RELEASE



## Catholic Church's child sex abuse spokesperson to meet with parishioners in Griffith

2 December 2014

Francis Sullivan, CEO of the Catholic Church's Truth Justice and Healing Council will meet with parishioners and the broader community in Griffith next week to talk about the child sex abuse Royal Commission and the Catholic Church's reform agenda.

"It is a great opportunity to be able to come to Griffith and talk with people about the Church's shameful history of child sexual abuse and what needs to be done to correct it," Mr Sullivan said.

"Everyone in the Catholic Church has some responsibility for ensuring the Church leadership takes a very different approach to dealing with child sexual abuse than it has in the past.

"We all have a role to play and being able to come and talk to people in Griffith will hopefully help Catholics here understand what that role is," Mr Sullivan said.

Local Priest, Fr Andrew Grace, from Sacred Heart Parish said he was please Francis Sullivan would be in Griffith to meet with local parishioners and members of the Griffith community.

"It is important to know how the Church leadership is approaching the Royal Commission and what we can do as a Catholic community to help," Fr Grace said.

"I am hearing loud and clear that we need to do all we can to ensure survivors of abuse are treated fairly and that we have in place the best possible protections for children in our schools and parishes," Fr Grace said.

The Truth Justice and Healing Council was established two years ago to coordinate the Church's response to the Royal Commission.

The Council speaks on behalf of the Church on issues related to the Royal Commission and is developing the Church's reform agenda designed to ensure children are safe in schools, parishes and other Catholic institutions and that survivors of abuse get access to justice.

### EVENT

Tuesday 9 December 2014

7:00pm for 7:30 start

Sacred Heart Parish Hall (next to Sacred Heart Church)

27 Warrambool Street, GRIFFITH, NSW

The Griffith community is invited to participate in this important event.

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The Truth Justice and Healing Council is coordinating the Catholic Church's engagement with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

For more information on the Truth Justice and Healing Council go to: [www.tjhcouncil.org.au](http://www.tjhcouncil.org.au)

For more information on the Royal Commission go to: <http://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/>