



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE
Bishops' Committee for the Media

Media Release
June 27, 2005

In the Year of the Eucharist Catholic Mass now broadcast daily

Catholic Mass will be broadcast on television every day from July 3 on Aurora Community Television, Channel 183 on the Foxtel Digital and Austar Subscription Services.

“Putting Mass to air is a service Australian Catholic Television is delighted to provide for those Catholics who may not have ready access to the celebration of the Eucharist in their local Catholic parish,” said Fr Richard Leonard SJ, Director of Australian Catholic Television.

For 31 years Channel Ten has been generously broadcasting “Mass for You At Home” at 6am on Sunday mornings. Aurora Community Television gives the Church the opportunity to put the Mass to air throughout the week, and at more viewer-friendly times.

The Mass will be broadcast on Aurora Community Television every day at 10am AEST.

“At the moment there is a repeat of the Mass each day at 5am AEST, which is not such a good time for eastern Australia but it is decent for the central and western time zones,” Fr Leonard said.

He said the televised Mass did not take the place of the local parish celebration of the Eucharist.

“Over the years the people who have appreciated the TV Mass most have been in nursing homes, hospitals, hospices, prisons, and in regional and remote parts of Australia. Being on the digital service with Foxtel or Austar means there is not a place within the country we cannot reach”, Fr Leonard said.

“In the Year of the Eucharist I could not think of a more long-lasting benefit in a far-flung country than this service.

“We could not have done it without the generous support of Southern Cross Care NSW, who have helped Catholic Television buy the on-air time,” Fr Leonard said.

For further comment contact Rev Dr Richard Leonard SJ 03 9342 1834.

Southern Cross Care NSW proudly sponsors Mass For You At Home for Catholic Church TV on Aurora Community Television.