

**Father Brian Lucas Appointed as General Secretary of Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference**

Archbishop Francis P Carroll announced that Father Brian Lucas, Secretary, of Sydney has been appointed General Secretary of Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC).

Father Lucas, who has been awarded a 2002 Churchill Fellowship, will complete a study/research programme on Pastoral Communication at the Gregorian University in Rome before taking up duties in Canberra about 13th August 2002.

Archbishop Carroll said "We are delighted that Father Lucas has accepted the appointment since his qualifications and years of experience bring significant skills to the position. We are grateful for Archbishop Pell's cooperation and generosity in making Father Lucas available for the position".

Bishop-Elect Brian V Finnigan will continue to hold the position from Brisbane, until Father Lucas' arrival in Canberra, with the assistance of Mr John Andrew, as an Interim Executive Officer, who is the former ACBC Business Manager.

For further information and comment contact: Father Brian Lucas on 0419 243 959 until noon on Monday 25th March.