

NATIONAL CATHOLIC BUSHFIRE APPEAL – AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND

On January 7, the Australian Catholic Bishops announced that special collections will be taken up at Masses on Australia Day weekend to support communities affected by devastating bushfires in several states. The Bishops announced that money raised from the collection will support the Vinnies' bushfire appeal.

Bishop Brian Mascord and the Australian Bishops have asked that special collections be taken up on Australia Day weekend to support bushfire-affected communities. Money raised from this collection will support the Vinnies bushfire appeal. Parishioners wishing to donate individually and receive a tax-deductible receipt can donate at www.vinnies.org.au. Thank you to those who have already contributed to support affected communities.

Our parish is holding a "leaving" collection for parishioners to donate to the National Catholic Bushfire Appeal at all Masses on Australia Day weekend. Parishioners wishing to donate individually can donate via www.vinnies.org.au and receive a tax-deductible receipt.

Option 1: Bank deposit

A diocese, parish, school or other body can make a donation of cash collected at Masses or special fundraising events using a normal bank deposit to:

Account Name: St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia Inc

BSB: 062 000 | Account Number: 171 832 17

If a receipt is required, email the following details to Admin@svdp.org.au: Name of person seeking a receipt; Name of Church entity (e.g. parish name and suburb); Date the deposit was made; Amount of deposit; and Contact details – postal address or email account.

Option 2: Online donation

Go to the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal website.

Follow the prompts to make your donation.

When making an online donation, you will receive a receipt from the Vinnies State Council that operates in your state. For persons residing in Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia, these Society Councils have asked Vinnies NSW to issue receipts on their behalf.

Money received in states or territories not declared bushfire emergency areas will be redirected to bushfire emergency areas declared by the Commonwealth.

All monies donated to the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal go directly to individuals and communities in bushfire-affected areas in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria. The National Council has established a Taskforce to oversee the allocation of donated funds to the good works conducted through the Society's State and Territory Councils.

Option 3: Cheque

Cheques made out to the St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia Inc can be sent to Vinnies Bushfire Appeal, PO Box 243, Deakin West ACT 2600.

We are also called to pray for those affected, especially those who have lost loved ones, for those fighting the fires and for an end to the ongoing crisis.