



SYDNEY ALLIANCE MARCH ASSEMBLY 2014 PARISH PREPARATION PACK

Prepared by the Justice and Peace Office
Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney

Contents

1. Key Dates	2
2. The Assembly	3
3. March Assembly Presentation	4 - 5
4. Commitment Cards	6
5. Flyers	7
6. Turn Out Tips	8-10

IN SOLIDARITY FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Greetings!

This pack has been prepared to help you organise your parish for the upcoming March Assembly. Before you continue, we would like to draw your attention to these key dates in the lead up to the Assembly.

1. Mass and Briefing Night

What: To celebrate the Holy Eucharist and a briefing about the assembly
Who: All leaders and organisational guides
Date: Tuesday, 18th March 2014
Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Location: Polding Centre

2. Big Rehearsal

What: Big rehearsal for all those involved in choir for March Assembly
Who: Choir volunteers
Date: Sunday, 23rd March 2014
Time: 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Location: The Great Synagogue, 166 Castlereagh Street, Sydney

3. “Prayers for the City” Prayer Vigil

What: To pray for the City and the Sydney Alliance year of action
Who: Anyone is invited to attend
Date: Wednesday, 26th March 2014
Time: 6:00pm – 6:30pm
Location: St. Peter Julian's, George Street, Sydney

To register for any of these events, for more information or to discuss the contents of this pack in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact us.

God bless & Happy Organising!

Kind regards,

The Justice and Peace Office Team



a: Level 12/133 Liverpool Street, Sydney NSW
e: qwayne.guevara@sydneycatholic.org or stephanie.ian@sydneycatholic.org
t: 02 9390 5935
w: justiceandpeace.org



THE ASSEMBLY – BRIDGING SYDNEY

1. What is the Assembly?

Bridging Sydney is the assembly which will launch the Sydney Alliance agenda for the common good on issues including: supported job pathways, affordable housing and public transport.

Here members from 49 organisations will come together across Sydney to learn about these issues and how they can provide support in the lead up to the 2015 State Elections.

2. Event Details

BRIDGING SYDNEY – CITY ASSEMBLY

Date: Wednesday, 26th March 2014

Time: Doors open at 6:00pm – will conclude at 8:30pm sharp. *Please be seated by 6.40 for the Choir*

Location: Sydney Town Hall, George Street, Sydney CBD

3. How Do We Register?

There are two ways to register:

- EVENTARC

This is the preferred way for people to register. Individuals are welcome to do so online this link: <http://www.sydneyalliance.org.au/news/2014/01/29/bridging-sydney/>

- SPREADSHEET (attached)

If you are more comfortable with filling out a table it may be easier you fill out the 'Bridging Sydney 2014 Assembly Turnout' spreadsheet or at least get information for the mandatory fields so you can later fill this out. This may be good to do after presenting this at a particular event E.G.

Mass/Sunday Service, a staff meeting etc.

Note: If you would like to register your delegation through a spreadsheet, please forward an updated spreadsheet every Monday

MARCH ASSEMBLY PRESENTATION

1. Key Information

Talk Specifics

- 1-2 leaders to give presentation
- 8-10 minutes

Goals

- Inform parishioners about the March Assembly and the 3 issues to be launched
- Connect the assembly to Catholic Social Teaching and the God's calling for Catholics to be active in public life
- Invite parishioners to commit to attending and/or participating in the assembly

Speaker Profile

- Leader involved in the Sydney Alliance
- Confident and able to clearly communicate concepts and issues to parishioners
- Enthusiastic about action for the common good

Materials

- PowerPoint presentation (**attached**)
- Commitment Cards (page 6)
- March 26th Assembly Flyers (page 7)

Presentation Outline

1. Introduction
2. Sydney Alliance: March assembly, issues of campaign
3. Relational Meeting
4. Catholic Social Teaching
5. Commitment Cards – Explanation
6. The Ask

2. Presentation Expanded Outline

Introduction (3 minutes)

- Greeting to parishioners *with enthusiasm e.g Good morning!*
- My name is _____ and we are part of a team in the parish which has been involved with the Sydney Alliance. The Sydney Alliance is a coalition of faith groups, community organisations and unions who work together with politicians and key leaders in Sydney to build a better city. With 49 partner organisations, it is an Alliance built on strong, long term relationships.
- As a partner, the Archdiocese through Cardinal Pell has recognised that this is an opportunity for Catholics to be involved in civic and public life.
- Today, we are inviting you to an event which will launch a campaign towards the 2015 State election. It will be held at the Sydney Town Hall on the 26th March 2014 and we are expecting 2000 people to be present.



- Over the last few months, the leaders of the Alliance, including us have listened to everyday citizens, researched and agreed that there are 3 issues which people have felt is most important to them. These are:
 - Affordable Housing eg. Homelessness, entry into property market difficult for first home buyers because of increase prices, shared accommodations for disadvantaged Australians
 - Transport – public transport issues, traffic congestion, cost and efficiency
 - Supported Job Pathways – young indigenous and pacific islander, Bankstown women – factory workers/sweatshops

The Relational Meeting (3 Minutes)

- In the spirit of the Alliance, we want to give you an opportunity to discuss these issues with the person next to you or with someone you have not met yet.
- The question we would like you to answer is:
 - Thinking about these three issues, affordable housing, transport and supported job pathways, what is your family's experience in relation to these issues?

Catholic Social Teaching (1 Minute)

- Why is it important for us to participate in public life?
- The Catechism of the Catholic Church encourages us to, *as far as possible citizens should take an active part in public life.*¹
- Pope Francis has emphasised our calling to be lights of the world.
- Catholic Social Teaching guides us in our social justice action. It calls us to **solidarity** with our brothers and sisters to strive to work for the **common good**.

Commitment Cards (2 minutes)













- As you entered the parish today, you were handed commitment card. These commitment cards ask you to live your faith in a different, unique way.
- Please complete the card and return them to us at the end of the mass.
- If you are not doing anything on March 26th, we invite you to tick that first box and join us in solidarity on the night
- If you can sing, we ask that you let us know, so that you can be a part of a 300 person choir made up of people from various partners of the Alliance. The choir will kick start the assembly for the night
- If you are a devotional person and recognise that our city needs prayers, we will be having a prayer vigil right before the assembly to pray for the intentions of our leaders and for our city
- If you can take care of the children of those attending the Alliance, please tick that box
- If you can't make it on the night but you are interested in finding out more, please tick that box

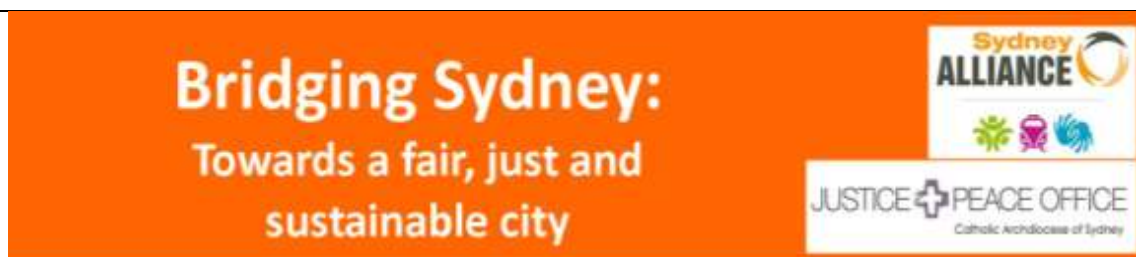
The Ask (1 minute)

- This is your chance to let your voice be heard, this is your chance for you put your faith into action and your chance to be recognised as Catholic for God serving his people. Join us on March 26th 2014.

¹ Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1915

COMMITMENT CARDS – for printing (attachment included)

<p style="text-align: center;">   </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY SYDNEY ALLIANCE ASSEMBLY MARCH 26TH 7:00PM TO 8:30PM </p> <p>My name is _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> I can make it (Register Me!) <input type="radio"/> I can sing in the Assembly Choir <input type="radio"/> I can make the Prayer Vigil before the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can take care of the children of those attending the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can't make it but I would like to be contacted to learn more <p>You can contact me on Phone: Email:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">   </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY SYDNEY ALLIANCE ASSEMBLY MARCH 26TH 7:00PM TO 8:30PM </p> <p>My name is _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> I can make it (Register Me!) <input type="radio"/> I can sing in the Assembly Choir <input type="radio"/> I can make the Prayer Vigil before the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can take care of the children of those attending the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can't make it but I would like to be contacted to learn more <p>You can contact me on Phone: Email:</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">   </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY SYDNEY ALLIANCE ASSEMBLY MARCH 26TH 7:00PM TO 8:30PM </p> <p>My name is _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> I can make it (Register Me!) <input type="radio"/> I can sing in the Assembly Choir <input type="radio"/> I can make the Prayer Vigil before the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can take care of the children of those attending the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can't make it but I would like to be contacted to learn more <p>You can contact me on Phone: Email:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">   </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY SYDNEY ALLIANCE ASSEMBLY MARCH 26TH 7:00PM TO 8:30PM </p> <p>My name is _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> I can make it (Register Me!) <input type="radio"/> I can sing in the Assembly Choir <input type="radio"/> I can make the Prayer Vigil before the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can take care of the children of those attending the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can't make it but I would like to be contacted to learn more <p>You can contact me on Phone: Email:</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">   </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY SYDNEY ALLIANCE ASSEMBLY MARCH 26TH 7:00PM TO 8:30PM </p> <p>My name is _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> I can make it (Register Me!) <input type="radio"/> I can sing in the Assembly Choir <input type="radio"/> I can make the Prayer Vigil before the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can take care of the children of those attending the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can't make it but I would like to be contacted to learn more <p>You can contact me on Phone: Email:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">   </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY SYDNEY ALLIANCE ASSEMBLY MARCH 26TH 7:00PM TO 8:30PM </p> <p>My name is _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> I can make it (Register Me!) <input type="radio"/> I can sing in the Assembly Choir <input type="radio"/> I can make the Prayer Vigil before the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can take care of the children of those attending the assembly <input type="radio"/> I can't make it but I would like to be contacted to learn more <p>You can contact me on Phone: Email:</p>



Sydney Alliance March Assembly

When: March 26th 2014
6pm-8:30pm
Where: Sydney Town Hall

On March 26th, 2000 leaders from across Sydney, including hundreds of Catholics, will gather at Town Hall for an electrifying evening of action.

We are the Sydney Alliance, a coalition of fifty diverse faith organisations, community organisations, unions and schools working together for the common good of Sydney.

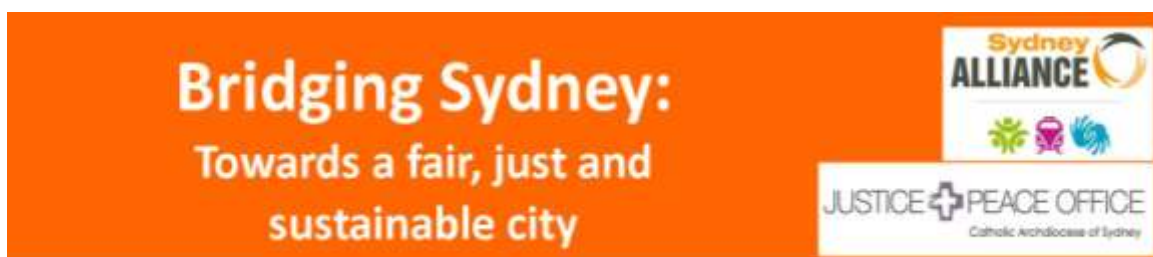
On this evening, we will be launching our three campaigns in the lead up to the 2015 State Election and securing commitment from the NSW Government to work with us on these issues that affect us all.

- Affordable housing
- Public transport
- Supported job pathways

Come along and join us in standing together for a better city.



Contact: Qwayne Guevara at
qwayne.guevara@sydneycatholic.org
or 0439 584 221



Sydney Alliance March Assembly

When: March 26th 2014
6pm-8:30pm
Where: Sydney Town Hall

On March 26th, 2000 leaders from across Sydney, including hundreds of Catholics, will gather at Town Hall for an electrifying evening of action.

We are the Sydney Alliance, a coalition of fifty diverse faith organisations, community organisations, unions and schools working together for the common good of Sydney.

On this evening, we will be launching our three campaigns in the lead up to the 2015 State Election and securing commitment from the NSW Government to work with us on these issues that affect us all.

- Affordable housing
- Public transport
- Supported job pathways

Come along and join us in standing together for a better city.



Contact: Qwayne Guevara at
qwayne.guevara@sydneycatholic.org
or 0439 584 221

TURNOUT TIPS – for your reference

1. Who Should Attend?

Anyone who is a part of the 49 partner organisations plus leaders of organisations who are not a part of the Alliance

2. PARISH GROUPS STRATEGY

A great way to meet your parish turnout commitment is to focus on inviting the existing groups in your parish. The key is to identify how their personal interests are met by attending the assembly or are met by participating in the Sydney Alliance. The table below is an example on how you can organise and delegate a leader in your team to meet with key leaders in these groups. This gives you an opportunity to personally invite their community to the assembly and build stronger relationships in your parish!

Parish Group	Points of Possible interests	Core Team leader who will contact key person in group
Youth Group	Choir Social Justice Large gathering	Mr. A – current youth coordinator
Novena Community	Prayer Vigil night Understands that we need to align our plans with God Devotional	Ms. B – attends Novenas from time to time
St Vincent's Group	Social Justice Change for disadvantaged people in Sydney	Mr. C – volunteer at Parish Vinnies group

3. Why Should They Attend?

Below are points to help you encourage you parishioners to attend the evening and be involved in the Alliance after the March Assembly

- **“Because I asked you”**
 - Make an effort to make sure that people are spoken to personally
 - The majority of people are more open to attending when they have someone to actually speak about it with
- **“Because I have a role to give you”**
 - For some, this may be a way for people to step up and get involved
 - Roles include: Organisational Guides, Choir, Front of House Team, Organisational Photographer, the person who brings the flags, Childcare
 - It can be a good way to develop their skills
- **“We need you”**
 - Members make the organisation and organisations form the Sydney Alliance
 - It is only through the help of these members that we can contribute to this common good we are striving for
- **“We are launching the campaign”**
 - Be a part of the new movement in Sydney's civil society
 - Learn about the issues which will become our city-wide agenda and what they can do to help

- **“Connected to the issues”**
 - These are issues which affect everyone in Sydney
 - Obviously some issues will be more relevant than others to different people so identify their self-interest and share why these issues would affect them
- **“Experience solidarity with our neighbours”**
 - Very rarely do we have an opportunity to meet and work together with others outside of our comfort zones
 - This is a great way to experience the diversity of Sydney and be a part of making it a better place

4. What May Prevent Them From Coming?

Some people are genuinely eager to come but there may be some minor issues which may prevent parishioners from attending

Below are some common issues which are relatively easy to solve and their responses:

- **“I was told too late”**
 - Avoid this by letting people know early
 - Information on the event and registration is available here: <http://www.sydneyalliance.org.au/news/2014/01/29/bridging-sydney/>
- **“Parking is a pain”**
 - Given that the venue is a 1 minute walk from Town Hall Railway Station it would probably be best to consider taking public transport
 - Alternatively there are a few parking lots located near the venue which include:
 - [Wilson Parking St Andrews House Town Hall Car Park](#) (\$8)
 - [Wilson Parking Citipark Sydney Car Park](#) (\$9)
 - [Wilson Parking Darling Park Car Park](#) (\$9)
 - Or check the [carparking.info website](http://carparking.info)
- **“I have children to look after”**
 - There will be childcare services available on the night at Town Hall in one of the adjoining rooms
 - But still for looking for volunteers

5. Turnout Tips

Some points that we mentioned when discussing effective turnout:

- 3 Components of Turnout:
 1. Participants
 2. Organisational guides (Floor team) – 1:10 Organisational guides: Participants (*Please select leaders in your parish to be in charge of 10 people on the night. These “organisational guides” will serve as guides on the night prompting their group to stand, clap or sit etc. – contact Qwayne Guevara on qwayne.guevara@sydneycatholic.org or on 0439 584 221 to discuss*)
 3. Setting the organizational briefing
- Relational Aspect
 - Finding common interest
 - Meeting self interests
 - 1:1
- Constant Promotion



- Flyers, Mass emails should only be used as reminders
- Follow up on maybes
- Create a good vibe for the assembly
- Reason to attend
 - Issues of interest
 - Talk about why it is important to them
 - Talk through barriers which may prevent them from coming
- Work on getting a Hard Yes as opposed to a Soft Yes
 - Give clear directions/instructions
 - A hard yes is one that is registered on the website
 - Remember that although there may be a certain number confirmed there is usually a 20% drop off