

**MM5/25 THE PASSING OF POPE FRANCIS ON 21 APRIL 2025 -
Mayor Trenton Brown****File Number: CLM/25/1/1/8 - BP25/314**

It is with deep sorrow and a sincere sense of loss that we, as a City, acknowledge the passing of Pope Francis on 21 April 2025. On behalf of the City of Ryde, I extend our deepest condolences to the Roman Catholic Church, to the faithful worldwide, and to all who were touched by the Pope's unwavering commitment to peace, compassion, and the dignity of every human being.

Pope Francis, who dedicated his life to the service of others, leaves behind an enduring legacy of hope, unity, and justice. Throughout his papacy, he stood as a moral guide to millions, speaking out on behalf of the marginalised, championing human rights, and promoting discussion across religious and cultural divides. His message of love, humility, and care for the poor will remain a beacon for generations to come.

As we reflect on his contributions to the global community, we are reminded of the importance of our own shared values of compassion, respect, and tolerance. In this moment of grief, we stand in solidarity with those who mourn the loss of a leader, a teacher, and a spiritual guide.

In this time of reflection, I call on the people of Ryde to come together in a spirit of unity and peace. Let us honour the memory of Pope Francis by continuing his work in fostering understanding, kindness, and a shared sense of humanity.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the City of Ryde acknowledges the passing of Pope Francis and his global impact, particularly his leadership in advocating for peace, human dignity, and interfaith dialogue.
- (b) That Council observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:

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Mayor