Each year, Frenchs Forest Catholic Parish holds a gathering in support of people who have experienced abuse of any kind.

A number of children were abused in the Parish some years ago and the Parish has since resolved always to stand in solidarity with people who have experienced or are experiencing abuse. Aware that inconvenient truths are sometimes minimised or swept under the carpet and that people may be re-victimised when they speak up or seek help, the Parish decided that it would always seek to be a place of welcome and acceptance, a place of care, compassion and hope.

This fifth annual gathering is an opportunity for people seeking support and for anyone who wishes to express solidarity with people abused to come together in a welcoming, warm and safe environment, where quiet reflections are shared, beautiful music is played and sung and gentle prayer is raised to God. There is no expectation for anyone attending to speak about their experiences. Supper is held afterwards.

**This year’s gathering will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 1st September 2015 at the Church of St Anthony in the Fields, 46 Myoora Road Terrey Hills.**

A warm invitation is extended to all.

**Inquiries: Carmel Smith 0412 532 657**

**or Brian Norman 0434 852 001.**

“But when we truly love, we are content to stand beside others in their struggles and sorrows. When we sit with someone who is in pain or bereaved, broken or confused, without wanting or needing to do or even say, then we are bringing God’s unconditional love and compassion to others.”

*Finding your Hidden Treasure – The Way of Silent Prayer,*

*Benignus O’Rourke OSA*