

MEDIA RELEASE



Polding Centre
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Catholic Archbishop of Sydney Pays Tribute to John Fahey

The Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, the Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP has today paid tribute to The Hon John Fahey AC GSSG, who died this morning from leukemia.

“John made a great contribution to our society through political leadership both in the Commonwealth and in the state of New South Wales where he ultimately served as Premier; to our culture through academic leadership of the Australian Catholic University where he served as Chancellor; and to our Church as a faithful pro-lifer and promoter of justice and charity,” Archbishop Fisher said today.

“He was a proud Catholic, a loving husband, father and grandfather, and an all-round fine human being. His death was a holy death, surrounded by family, sacrament and prayer. I engaged most with him in the governance of the Australian Catholic University where he will certainly be missed. He worked hard for the university right up to and even during his last days in hospital.”

Last November Archbishop Fisher presented Mr Fahey with a papal honour - the Knight of the Grand Cross of the Order of St Gregory the Great in recognition of his service to the Church, as Chancellor of ACU and to state and federal politics where he promoted a pro-life message on abortion and euthanasia.

“Our condolences go to his wife Colleen, his children Matthew and Melanie, and his daughter Tiffany’s children Campbell and Amber whom he and Colleen cared for after Tiffany’s death,” said Archbishop Fisher.

“The state funeral for him at St Mary’s Cathedral will honour a faithful son of the Church and commend him to our All-merciful Father. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord.”

Funeral details to follow.

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