



MARONITE EPARCHY OF AUSTRALIA

9 October 2018

MARONITES REJECT FALSE CHARACTERISATION OF THEIR BISHOP

The Maronite Catholics of Australia strongly reject claims made against its Bishop in a series of articles that have appeared in Fairfax media in recent days.

The Sydney Morning Herald has used anonymous sources making generalised and unsubstantiated criticisms, of Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay and to unfairly undermine his position and role in the community.

Members of the Maronite Church, migrants or children of migrants since the mid 1800's, have embraced life with pride and loyalty in their chosen home Australia.

They have made and continue to make a substantial and important contribution to Australian life in a range of areas, including spiritual and charitable organisations, education and health care, professional life and politics encouraged by their spiritual leader.

One of the Bishop's roles is to be the voice of his community and to listen to their needs and aspirations. While they respect freedom of speech, the Maronite community rejects outright and condemns this campaign of insinuation and innuendo.

We are deeply hurt by this unfair attempt at damaging the reputation of the Bishop and the community he leads.

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