

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **New Acutis Project Begins in Bathurst with First Formation Gathering**

The Catholic Diocese of Bathurst has marked an exciting milestone in 2026 with the first formation gathering of the Acutis Project, a new initiative for young adults seeking to grow in faith and community.

The Acutis Project consists of two houses in Bathurst where young people who are working, studying and actively involved in their parish communities have chosen to live together in a simple form of community life. The Project supports young Catholics to deepen their faith while remaining engaged in everyday life.

The group recently came together for a shared meal and formation evening as part of their monthly *Guide for Life*. The gathering was characterised by warmth, laughter and open conversation.

The formation focused on the Rite of Baptism, exploring what the Church's baptismal liturgy teaches about Christian identity and the call to missionary discipleship. Participants reflected on baptism not simply as a past event, but as a living call to share faith in parishes, workplaces and the wider community.

The Project takes its inspiration from St Carlo Acutis, the young Italian who used digital platforms to share his love for the Eucharist and his personal relationship with God. In a similar spirit, members of the Acutis Project are encouraged to be creative and courageous in sharing their faith, embracing contemporary tools and opportunities for evangelisation.

It is hoped that each year young people from across the Diocese of Bathurst will apply to take part in the Acutis Project, living alongside other committed Catholics and supporting one another in their faith journey.

As the initiative continues to grow, the Diocese looks forward to the opportunities it will provide for young people to become more actively involved in the life and mission of the Church.

For more information about the Acutis Project, please contact Dale Pangilinan at [dale.pangilinan@bathurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:dale.pangilinan@bathurst.catholic.org.au).

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Dale, Flynn, Emily-Jane, Kateri and Angela, 2026 members of the Acutis Project, gathered at one of the community houses in Bathurst.