

## BRAIDWOOD TURNS AND FOLLOWS THE CROSS



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***PHOTO COURTESY BRAIDWOOD TIMES: Bishop Stuart carries the cross through Braidwood with his wife Jane (left) and Canon Gill Varcoe (right) helping to lead the procession.***

Twenty adults made public commitments or recommitments to Christ as the Bishop's "Cross Walk" marking the Diocese's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday passed through the southern NSW town of Braidwood on Sunday.

More than 60 people joined Bishop Stuart Robinson and his wife Jane as they walked around the town and down the main street. After the 2 metre cross was carried through Braidwood's shopping strip, Bishop Stuart preached evangelistically in the town's park.

"It was a brilliant day", said Canon Gill Varcoe, rector of Braidwood. "Bishop Stuart presents the 'good news' with grace and clarity. God's presence was very real and many people were blessed and enabled to take new and significant steps in their commitment to him."

Canon Varcoe said that amongst the 22 people, which included two children with their parents that publicly went forward there were conversions in the classic sense, along with recommitments.

"But knowing the people I'm very conscious that many steps towards this have been made up to this point", she said. "There were also people making the commitment prayer who didn't go forward. Very significant things were happening for people in conversation and prayer afterwards."

Bishop Stuart said that Canon Varcoe and her parish team "had done a remarkable job in preparing themselves and the community for this venture".

"I am also indebted to Trish Stuart-Smith and her tireless prayer team for their support and hands-on ministry", he said.