



ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

# SAFETY ALERT

## Using ladders on parish properties

### Purpose

The purpose of this Safety Alert is to highlight the controls that must be applied when using ladders to carry out work at heights on parish properties.

### Requirements

All Parish Priests, Parish Managers / Secretaries and workers (including volunteers) are to ensure the following controls are applied when using a ladder to carry out work at heights on parish properties:

- Any task requiring the use of ladders with four or more steps must be approved by either the Parish Priest or an employee authorised by the Parish Priest to approve work tasks;
- A risk assessment must be undertaken in relation to the task, before it is carried out. The risk assessment should identify potential hazards and controls that will be implemented to reduce the risk associated with the potential hazards;
- The task should only be completed by a person who is trained in relation to working at heights and using ladders;
- It is recommended parishes store all ladders with four or more steps in a manner that will prevent unauthorised use;
- Using ladders to trim of trees on parish properties is only to be performed by trained and qualified arborists under parish contractor management arrangements; and
- The use of chainsaws by parish workers, volunteers and parishioners on parish properties is strictly prohibited.

**Further information** and support is available by contacting the Archdiocesan Work Health and Safety Team on 3324 3294 or via e-mail on [whs@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:whs@bne.catholic.net.au)