

GST Religious Grouping Changes

The Government has announced a significant amendment to the GST legislation that provides a practical concession to religious organisations like the Catholic Church.

Under the new GST Religious Grouping rules, all transactions between members of a religious group will not attract GST and therefore will not be considered a creditable acquisition.

The Catholic Church intends to register itself on a national basis as a GST Religious Group.

Catholic Church Insurances will be a member of the Catholic Church GST Religious Group. Therefore, effective immediately, CCI will cease to charge GST on insurance premiums for all organisations which are also registered as members of the Catholic Church GST Religious Group.

As required by the Australian Tax Office, CCI has been including GST on insurance premiums over the past 12 months, for that part of your policies which fell after the 1st July 2000. If you have paid GST to CCI and are entitled to claim full input tax credits, you may still recover the GST paid to CCI from the ATO by including an Input Tax Credit for that amount on your Business Activity Statement to the ATO. However, CCI will not be refunding any GST already paid to CCI which is required to be remitted to the ATO.

If you have any queries please contact CCI on 1300 655 001, your Diocesan Office or an accountant.