

HARTNETT
v
*THE TRUSTEES OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH FOR THE DIOCESE
OF WILCANNIA-FORBES ABN 42569276422 & ORS*
[2026] HCADisp 170
S29/2026

- 1 The applicant seeks special leave to appeal from a judgment of the Court of Appeal of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (Bell CJ, Kirk and Ball JJA agreeing) which dismissed the applicant's appeal from a decision of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (Campbell J), which in turn gave judgment in favour of the respondents against the applicant concerning allegations of historical physical abuse.
- 2 The proposed appeal depends upon success on proposed ground two, by which the applicant seeks to establish error in the approach of the Court of Appeal to appellate review of fact-finding. Ground two has no prospects of success.
- 3 Special leave to appeal is refused with costs.

Gageler CJ
Gordon J
Edelman J
Steward J
Jagot J
Beech-Jones J

6 August 2026