PARISH ARCHIVES

Parish Registers

It is the policy of the Diocese that parishes forward completed BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, BURIAL and SERVICE REGISTERS and PARISH MINUTE BOOKS, to the Diocesan Registry office for placement with the Diocesan Collection held in the National Library of Australia (NLA).

Minutes must be contained in a formal minute book and not in loose leaf folders. Please do not forward parish correspondence, financial records, day books or old vestments.

There are over 2000 items held in the Diocesan Collection at the NLA in optimum conditions for archival preservation. The earliest registers date from 1838.

Access to the collection is determined by the Registrar of the Diocese (not by the NLA). The Diocese holds the copyright of all microfilmed registers. Microfilmed registers are on open access up to 1920.

For privacy reasons, records after 1920 are closed and are not available for public access. Requests for information from Registers after 1920 should be made in writing to the Diocesan Registrar (see details below).

Parish records are always accessible to the Rector of the parish. A letter of access must be obtained from the Registrar.

Parish and Family History Enquiries

The Diocese provides a research service for those seeking parish archival information and family history information (i.e. baptisms, confirmations, marriages and burials).

Information is also provided from the Diocesan records for former residents of the Diocesan Children’s Homes i.e. St Saviour’s in Goulburn, ‘Bungarimbil’ in Tumbarumba & ‘Birrallee’ in Wagga Wagga.

No charge is made for information from Diocesan Children’s Home records.

The volunteer research work is carried out by a member of the Anglican Historical Society. A search fee of $20 is charged for each five year period searched for individual requests. Search fees are paid into the Anglican Historical Society account.

Enquiries should be made in writing and addressed to the Registrar, Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, GPO Box 1981, Canberra, ACT 2601 or Telephone: 02 6245 7101