



St John the Baptist Parish Archive

November 2023

Purpose of the Parish Archive

To preserve and organise for use documents and images relating to the history of the Parish since before its formation.

Content

At least 15,000 printed documents in 75 archive boxes, and over 35,000 digital files, including about 6,000 images. There is some overlap, but it is estimated that there are at least 40,000 documents/files in the Archive.

In addition, much early archival material, e.g. baptism registers (1845+), marriage registers (1845+), burial registers (1845+), confirmation registers (1910+), service registers (1899+), minute books (1913+), and account books (1845+), is held in the National Library of Australia, together with other relevant material, e.g. Rev'd Pierce Galliard Smith's diaries.

Scope

The Church building and its contents;
The precinct, including the Parish Centre, Rectory, Schoolhouse, churchyard, Scout Hall, lychgates, Amaroo Street residences;
Clergy who have served in the Parish
Administration of the Parish;
St John's Care;
Events and services, e.g. royal visits, fairs, weddings, funerals, baptisms, confirmations;
Other churches for the period for which they were in this Parish, e.g. Manuka pre-1950;
Parishioners and their parish-related activities.

Special features

Images (6,000), videos (109), media items (1,200), sermons (200, including 75 in audio form), transcripts of many early baptism, marriage and funeral/burial registers.

Access

Several finding aids are in compilation (as spreadsheets), including:

Chronology – a timeline of events in the Parish (currently 2,800), with links to related images, media and documents;

Images index – dates, descriptions, names of people;

Index – list of documents/files with descriptions, dates, sizes, formats and location.

Location

In the Parish Centre, in the Projection Room upstairs.

Digital files are in the Parish Office computer system.

Work in progress

Searching for relevant media items in the National Library's Trove service;

Reading *Weekly Newsletter*, Parish Council minutes, Parish annual reports, etc. to identify additional events or documents;

Working through archive boxes becoming familiar with and listing contents in more detail;

Sorting and describing images;

Adding recent material from Parish records and elsewhere [“tomorrow, today will be history”];

Updating the chronology and indexes;

Checking documents and images in the Schoolhouse Museum and copying new items;

Reading Diocesan magazines, e.g. *Southern Churchman* (1903-1964), *Anglican News* (1984+);

Researching in the Bishop's *Acts & Proceedings* for clergy, faculty, confirmation data;

Checking footnotes in *Firm still you stand*, etc. for links to relevant documents;

Checking National Library and other sources and listing/copying items;

Digitising the most significant documents;

Compiling/completing registers of baptisms, marriages, funerals, interments.

Can you help?

Do you have any documents or photos which may not be in the Archive? If so, could you lend them for copying?

Enquiries

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