



Anglican Diocese of Grafton Registry Update

Edition 16 – November 2019

For distribution to any office bearer within the Anglican Diocese of Grafton including its parishes and organisations.

This is the second edition of the Registry Update for 2019 and as usual it contains important information on a variety of topics. These Registry Updates are not only important for reading at the time of receiving but also worthwhile for putting aside for future reference. If you are looking for any of the previous copies, you can find them on the Diocese's website at <https://www.graftondiocese.org.au/documents/registry-update/>

This Registry Update has been widely distributed by email but if you believe that someone has been missed who should also be receiving the Registry Update, please feel free to share your copy with them and advise admin@graftondiocese.org.au of the update to the distribution list.

The information contained in this Registry Update is not confidential or private, so please feel free to share it with others who would benefit from knowing.

CLERGY STIPENDS, SUPERANNUATION and LONG SERVICE LEAVE

New Stipend levels

At its meeting of 8 October 2015, Bishop-in-Council resolved that the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Wage Price Index (WPI) will be the basis on which the clergy stipend is revised each year. As the WPI over the applicable 12 month period up to September 2019 was 2.2%, the following schedule of clergy stipends will be effective from **1 January 2020**.

Clergy role	Current annual stipend	Current monthly stipend	New annual stipend from 1 January 2020	New monthly stipend from 1 January 2020
Rector ¹	\$66,035.10	\$5,502.92	\$67,487.90	\$5,624.00
Priest Associate ²	\$65,383.10	\$5,448.59	\$66,821.50	\$5,568.46
Assistant Priest ³ or Deacon ⁴	\$62,449.80	\$5,204.15	\$63,823.70	\$5,318.64

(Notes: ¹ includes Priests-in-Charge and Locums; ² typically a senior priest in a challenging role; ³ typically a priest in a curacy or training stage; ⁴ Stipendiary deacons only)

Superannuation

The rate of superannuation for clergy will remain at 10.5% of the stipend. (Superannuation will not be applied to the payment of allowances.)

Long Service Leave

The Anglican Church of Australia Long Service Leave Fund has advised that the annual rate of contribution for a full-time participant in the fund will become \$1,596.00 from 1 January 2020.

Future changes to Stipend

As mentioned above, the Wage Price Index (WPI) statistic provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics will guide future increases in clergy stipend. The stipend will change on 1 January of each year depending on the annual change in the WPI reported in the previous September Quarter. The September Quarter statistic is usually published in mid-November of each year.

DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Effective on 9 September 2019, The Diocese of Grafton appointed Mr Phillip Bonser as Director of Professional Standards (DPS).

The contact details for the DPS remain as 1800 370 757 or dps@graftondiocese.org.au so there is no need to change the laminated A4 size posters with the contact details of the Director of Professional Standards that were sent out late last year.

If you need more laminated posters or are uncertain whether the most recent copy is displayed, you can contact Maree Collett for assistance on 02 6642 4122 or pa@graftondiocese.org.au

RENEWAL OF INSURANCE

The insurance policies for the Anglican Diocese of Grafton, its parishes and organisations run from 1 November through to 31 October. The arrangements for insurance cover from 1 November 2019 are being finalised and we expect that during December we will be adding the certificates of currency to the Diocese's website and invoicing parishes and organisations for their share of the insurance costs.

At this point of time, we have not been advised of what our insurance premiums will be but we are hearing that hefty increases in property insurance are happening around the country. The worst stories come out of North Queensland where property insurance increases of over 500% have been reported. Although we are not in the same zone, and our premium increases are unlikely to be the same, the insurance industry is planning for higher catastrophe costs.

CCLI LICENCE RENEWAL

In the next few weeks, each parish will be contacted by the Registry seeking information for the renewal of CCLI copyright licences. Your assistance is requested in responding in full as soon as you can so that parishes can have the proper level of licence cover.

It is important to remember that CCLI licences do not cover all of the hymns and worship songs used in churches. If further licences are required for material that is not covered by CCLI, parishes should organise that independently according to their needs.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Since the last Registry Update in March 2019, there has been a new procedure and several updated or reviewed procedures.

MUP-005 Parish Delegations is a new procedure clarifying what actions can be taken on behalf of the Corporate Trustees of the Diocese of Grafton at a parish level. This procedure

was introduced after the June 2019 Synod approved changes to Chapter 10 Parish Administration of the Diocesan Governance Ordinance.

It is important that each Rector, Churchwarden and Treasurer is familiar with both Chapter 10 and MUP-005.

Other policy and procedure documents that were reviewed and updated are:

- GEN-001 Privacy (A small number of amendments was made to this policy)
- GEN-006 Background Checks and Minimum Training Standards for Community Protection (This procedure has been updated to include Safe Ministry Checks and includes the various Safe Ministry Check forms)
- MUP-002 Clergy Housing (This procedure was reviewed but not changed)

The Diocesan website gives you access the latest copy of any procedure at <https://www.graftondiocese.org.au/documents/policies-procedures/>

TECHNOLOGY DISCOUNTS

Many charitable and not-for-profit organisations obtain discounts on the purchase of technology, both hardware and software, through membership with Connecting Up.

If your parish is looking to purchase any hardware and software, you may wish to investigate membership of Connecting Up. More information can be found at connectingup.org

IMPORTANT DATES

Bishop-in-Council

19 December 2019
6 February 2020
26 March 2020
21 May 2020

16 July 2020
24 September 2020
26 November 2020

Corporate Trustees

27 February 2020
23 April 2020
18 June 2020

6 August 2020
22 October 2020
17 December 2020

Buildings and Property Committee

11 December 2019
4 March 2020
22 April 2020

1 July 2020
16 September 2020
18 November 2020

If you have any submission to a meeting of Bishop-in-Council, the Corporate Trustees or the Buildings and Property Committee, please provide these to the Registrar at least 10 days prior to a meeting to ensure that your submission can be included in the business of that meeting.

Registry Christmas Closure

The Bishop's Registry will close on the afternoon of Monday 23 December for the Christmas-New Year period and re-open at 9am Monday 6 January 2020.

AFGD will be providing a part-time operation during that period with the exception of weekends and Public Holidays.

Synod

The 2020 Synod of the Diocese of Grafton will be held on 4, 5 and 6 September in Grafton.

There will also be a special session of Synod in Grafton on 27 June 2020 to consider the proposals for restructuring after consideration of the feedback received.

Yours in Christ's service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Nelson', written over a horizontal line.

Chris Nelson
Registrar/General Manager
Anglican Diocese of Grafton