

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Registry Update – August 2025





Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Following the rich discussions and shared vision of Synod 2025, I'm pleased to bring you this update from across our diocesan community. This edition includes highlights from Synod, new appointments, policy developments, and practical updates to support your work.

This Registry Update is for distribution to all office bearers within the Anglican Diocese of Grafton, including parishes and affiliated organisations. It's designed to be both timely and a useful reference. Previous editions are available at <https://www.graftondiocese.org.au/documents/registry-update/>.

If someone should be added to the distribution list, please email: admin@graftondiocese.org.au.

Synod 2025 Highlights

-  Financial Reports for 2024 adopted; 2026 Budget planning underway (R21/25–R23/25)
-  Clergy Wellbeing affirmed with a recommended 40-hour, five-day working week (R26/25)
-  Global Witness: Resolution supporting the Palestinian people passed (R20/25)
-  Vote of Thanks acknowledged the collaborative spirit of Synod (R28/25)

Full minutes are available from the Registry Office.

Strategic Vision & Values

At the Bishop-in-Council meeting on 31 July, we began a strategic review of our diocesan direction:

- Vision: Transforming lives through Jesus Christ
- Mission: Sharing the good news of Jesus, making disciples, and growing faith communities
- Values: Christ-likeness, Discernment, Openness, Collaboration, Distinctiveness, Accountability

Ministry Units are encouraged to reflect on how these principles shape local decision-making and community engagement.

Welcome to New Team Members







- James Gale – Registrar and General Manager
- Dr Susan Allan – Executive Officer, Schools and Governance
- Noah Klane – Executive Officer, Compliance and Property

Mission & Ministry Initiatives

The Restructure for Mission and Ministry project continues to be a priority. Recent developments include:

- Ordinance to rename Transitional Ministry Districts to Ministry Districts
- Expansion of strategic partnerships to support parish sustainability

Policy, Risk & Compliance Updates

-  Staff Delegations Policy (REG-002) – minor updates completed; full review planned
-  Risk Register – formally endorsed by Bishop-in-Council
-  Safe Ministry Software – trial implementation underway
-  Cemetery Guidelines – updated for legal and pastoral clarity
-  DGR Status – being pursued to support charitable initiatives
-  School Governance Reviews – focusing on Clauses 6.2 and 6.6.4

Payroll & HR System Update

Following its launch in November 2024, the MYOB Payroll Self Service Portal is now fully operational. We are still working through some process issues, please email payroll@graftondiocese.org.au if you have any issues, or improvement ideas.

Key features include:

- Staff access to personal info and leave management
- Improved efficiency for onboarding and leave approvals
- Elimination of manual forms
- Enhanced payroll reporting

Guides are available on the Diocesan website under Payroll and Human Resources. For updates to Parish Approvers post-AGMs, contact:

payroll@graftondiocese.org.au



Parish Guide Reminder

The Parish Guide, launched in December 2023, remains a valuable reference tool. It covers a wide range of topics relevant to parish operations and is available at:

<https://www.graftondiocese.org.au/documents/parish-guide>

Suggestions for additions are welcome via admin@graftondiocese.org.au.

Notices & Upcoming Dates

-  Next Bishop-in-Council Meeting – 2 October 2025. Ministry Unit leaders can raise items via their Archdeacon.
-  Governance Presentations – Online briefings for Parish Administrators, Secretaries and Wardens coming in September/October.

Stay Connected

Whether you're navigating change, celebrating milestones, or facing challenges, we're here to support you. If you have feedback, updates, or news to share, please reach out to the Registry Team.

Warm regards,



James Gale

Registrar & General Manager

