

FROM THE BISHOP

1.1 INTRODUCTION

It is a great benefit to our Diocese to have an up to date handbook, giving us the relevant information required to effectively undertake the work of Administration across the Parishes and ministries of the Diocese.

Administration is, of course, an essential element in the efficient and responsible management and running of any organization. Administration is in itself a form of pastoral care to those we serve, enabling all who need to access this information to be adequately informed about policies, procedures and expectations that affect the tasks that they are undertaking.

As we are all well aware, our society expects of us more and more in these areas today than it has ever done in the past. Our Diocesan ordinances and practices have responded to these expectations, and will continue to do so, as we move together into the future. It is my sincere hope that this Handbook will be an invaluable resource to your parish community, and those who are working together in these areas for the sake of the Gospel and in serving God's people.

I am grateful to all who have worked together to ensure that the information you have before you in this Handbook is both accurate and of practical assistance. My thanks particularly to Ms Bev Birch who continues to coordinate these efforts on behalf of us all, and to Mr John Cleary (the Diocesan Business Manager) and all who assist in the Diocesan Office in ensuring that your needs as Parishes and Ministries across the Diocese are supported and responded to in such a helpful and timely manner.

Bishop Greg Thompson
Bishop of Newcastle