
Clergy Allocation Schedule for 2006 & 2011

An Archdiocesan Parameter for Deanery Planning

On 25 April 2004 the Archbishop published his decisions supporting deaneries and parishes. He stated: *"By the end of 2005, and within archdiocesan parameters to be developed, each deanery formulates a plan for the future pastoral leadership and operating structure of its parishes to 2011."*

(Decision 2 B).

This **Clergy Allocation Schedule for 2006 & 2011** is an important archdiocesan parameter for pastoral planning in deaneries. It has been prepared in the light of all clergy appointments (Diocesan and Religious Order) to parishes and other special ministries during November 2004 with known adjustments to become effective in January 2005. An essential feature of this parameter for planning is the decision by the Archbishop that diocesan clergy may choose to retire at 70 years of age. Therefore, the projections to 2011 are based on the number of Diocesan clergy who will be 70 years of age or under, along with the anticipated number of available Religious Order clergy.

Diocesan Clergy

As at 1 February 2004, there were 109 diocesan priests assigned to parish ministry. Six of these were eligible for retirement during 2004. By 2011, only 76 of these priests in parish ministry will still be under 70 years of age.

Hence the anticipated retirement rate is:

- by 2006, 13 of those presently in parish ministry will be eligible for retirement;
- by 2011, 33 of those presently in parish ministry will be eligible for retirement.

Religious Order Clergy

As at 1 February 2004, there were 28 Religious Order clergy serving fulltime in parish ministry in 16 parishes. While Religious Orders presently engaged in the archdiocese are committed to continued presence in specific parishes for as long as possible it is anticipated that the number of Religious Order clergy will decline through to 2011.

Projecting future availability of Religious Order clergy for parish work is difficult. However, to provide a realistic picture of the anticipated number of clergy available in the years 2006 and 2011, this schedule counts only the number of Religious Order clergy in a parish that would be replaced by a diocesan priest were the Religious Order no longer able to provide clergy for that parish. Normally, that would only be one priest, with one exception as outlined overleaf. Other priests who are generously supplied by the Religious Order and who provide an invaluable service for the Archdiocese are, in this schedule, regarded as bonus. For the same reason, Deanery Clergy figures for 2004 have also been adjusted downwards to reflect this way of counting Religious Order clergy and to provide more realistic comparison with 2006 and 2011 allocations.

Special Ministries

The archdiocese will have a continuing commitment to assigning priests to a number of non-parish ministries. These include hospital and military chaplaincies, seminary staffing, clergy support and various archdiocesan responsibilities. Projections allow for a continuing provision of 12 such appointments.

Contingencies

Realistic planning must allow for the current pool of active priests in parish ministry to change over the years according to anticipated factors:

Increases: ordinations, incardinations from outside the diocese, priests from other dioceses.

Decreases: retirements and early retirements, deaths, extended sick leave, provision for long service and study leave, loans to other dioceses, maintaining essential non-parish ministries.

The Table: Anticipated Clergy Allocation Schedule for 2006 and 2011

The table provides the anticipated number of clergy available for full time parish ministry in each deanery for the years 2006 and 2011. The two significant totals, 103 clergy for 2006 and 87 clergy for 2011, are applied to the 13 deaneries using a formula based on the projected Catholic populations with some adjustments for the specific needs of different deaneries. The 2001 ABS Census data is used as a base for the future projections of population to the years 2006 and 2011. These projections are consistent with the projections by Local Government Authorities.

A new feature of this schedule is a reduction in the number of Religious Order clergy counted for 2004, 2006 and 2011. For the reason outlined earlier, the clergy allocation for a Religious Order parish is counted as one priest even though the Order may assign more than one priest to the parish. The exception to this is Southport where two priests have been counted as part of the deanery allocation.

Deaneries	Total Pop 2001	Catholic Pop 2001	% Catholic 2001	Catholics 2006	Catholics 2011	Clergy 2004 with religious order allocations adjusted down for comparison with 2006, 2011 ^c	Clergy 2006 ^c	Clergy 2011 ^c
North Country	161891	29161	18.0	31562	33964	8	6	5
North Coast	244878	47257	19.3	54520	61782	7	7	7
Brisbane Northern Rivers	233099	52667	22.6	59954	67240	8	8	7
Brisbane North East	135141	41136	30.4	42329	43522	10	8	6
Brisbane North West	139569	43696	31.3	45310	46924	9	8	6
Brisbane West	168304	41312	24.5	44591	47871	8	7	6
Brisbane East	105431	32825	31.1	34073	35321	8	6	4
Central	129450	36362	28.1	38053	39744	11	8	7
Redland Bayside	160363	37998	23.7	42873	47747	7	6	5
South Country	170160	36854	21.7	40486	44119	9	9	6
Logan	272547	60302	22.1	67083	73864	11	10	9
Brisbane South	186865	48873	26.2	50525	52178	7	7	6
South Coast	379148	89657	23.6	100820	111982	13	13	13
Total Archdiocese of Brisbane	2486846	598100	24.1	652179	706259	116	103	87

Notes:

- General Population and Catholic Population projections for 2011 are based on latest available government data, while maintaining the 2001 Catholic % in each deanery. Projections for 2006 are based on the median of anticipated growth 2001-2011.
- Clergy allocations are based on relative Catholic populations of deaneries with small deanery-specific adjustments.
- Where parish clergy are currently provided by a Religious Order, the above table counts only one priest as part of the deanery allocation (even if the Order assigns more than one in reality). This is to reflect the number of clergy that the Archdiocese would try to provide should the Religious Order no longer be able to provide priests at some point in the future. The exception to this is Southport where 2 priests are counted in the deanery allocation.