

The Catholic Church in Colonial Queensland is a subject which has been lacking in serious systematic study up till now. Although, over the years my predecessors have produced several significant biographies of notable Queensland Church figures, and many a local parish has written of important anniversaries, little has been done to draw together the various strands of our Queensland way of doing things.

This book represents the first results of a project that began in 2017, and whose origins go back much earlier than that. At its outset, ten areas of research were identified as worthy of more detailed examination. Four of these are presented here as being of foundational importance:

- The establishment of community life in Colonial Queensland
- The effect of immigration, land settlement, and building design
- The developing relationship between Church and State
- Education in the ways of Faith

Once these foundations have been identified, it is to be hoped that the development of the other six areas identified at the commencement of the research project will add to the understanding of Catholic life as it was lived in Colonial times as well as important expressions of that life that ought to be valued as we move into the future.



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