

A research project undertaken by the Australian Catholic Social  
Welfare Commission and the Australian Conference of Leaders of  
Religious Institutes

# **“A PIECE OF THE STORY”**

National Directory of Records  
of Catholic Organisations  
Caring for  
Children Separated from Families

November 1999

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## Foreword

It is an honour to be asked to write this foreword.

This publication *A Piece of the Story* demonstrates what can be achieved when a commitment to reconciliation becomes a reality.

I acknowledge the effort put into this two-year project.

It fills me with a great deal of hope that my work as Social Justice Commissioner and that of so many others during the Stolen Generations Inquiry has made this initiative possible. I congratulate the Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission, in conjunction with the Australian Conference of Leaders, of Religious Institutes and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council for their commitment to this project.

The difficulties associated with accessing historical records and files became very apparent to us during the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families. Records were difficult to locate. Clearance for access was difficult to obtain. Welfare records were often ambiguous and very often hurtful and disturbing. Knowing where to look and how to look for heritage records was confusing and extremely difficult unless a person was able to know the right questions to ask and the right processes to take. This process was often beyond a person's knowledge or resilience.

Incentives like *A Piece of the Story* will go a long way in helping people who were associated with the many homes, orphanages and schools run through the Catholic Church.

Not only is this publication an acknowledgement of responsibility, it is an acceptance of that responsibility. Above all it provides part of the solution. This publication is a positive step towards reconciliation and justice.

I will follow the implementation of the initiatives undertaken by these organisations of the Catholic Church in assisting indigenous peoples with records that could help establish their identity and sense of belonging.

Following this publication I would urge all institutions and organisations with a history of involvement in Aboriginal affairs to recognise and acknowledge their responsibilities. I would urge these institutions and organisations to take similar steps towards accepting their role in the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. As adults these former children are now separated from their homes, their communities and from their identity.

*“A Piece of the Story”*

Reconciliation can only be achieved if responsibility and action is instigated to make some of the wrongs of the past right.

These organisations of the Catholic Church have acknowledged the records they hold and accept their responsibility towards reconciliation. I again congratulate them.

Mick Dodson  
October 1999

## Acknowledgements

The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission report *Bringing them home*, launched in May 1997 included an examination of the role of churches in “the removal and placement of indigenous children through the provision of accommodation, education, training and work placements.” Its recommendations included specific references to the need for appropriate apologies, access to records and the provision of counselling services.

The Australian Catholic Bishops’ Committee for Social Welfare, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council and the Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission issued public apologies during the National Inquiry. For other Catholic Church organisations the first step was taken at the time of the publication of the Report, with the issuing of an apology to members of the Stolen Generations by the President of the Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Orders. Individual religious orders have also issued apologies in their own name.

This document is a second step, providing information on records held by organisations of the Catholic Church.

The National Directory has been two years in the making. It has been made possible through the willing commitment of the Leaders of Catholic religious orders throughout Australia.

Its authorship belongs to those many people who freely gave their time to undertake the required research of archival materials and records necessary to complete the details in this document. The assistance of Leaders of religious orders and archivists in supplying information and discussing drafts of the material for this publication has been greatly appreciated.

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In particular we wish to thank the members of the National Working Party for their contribution to the progress of this initiative even though the size of the original task grew considerably and the scope of the research looked daunting:

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Ms Judy Stacey	Centacare Northern Territory
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Sr Patricia Rhatigan SJG	Sisters of Saint John of God
Rev Larry Finke CSB	Diocese of Broome, Western Australia

Special gratitude is due to Ms Nada Ratcliffe and Mr Jerome Brown who carried out much of the research involved in identifying institutions and seeking out the information to complete individual directory entries. Their patient persistence has resulted in a comprehensive listing of all known institutions.

We gratefully acknowledge the producers of *Connecting Kin* (1998) the New South Wales Department of Community Services Guide to Records. The involvement of religious orders from New South Wales in that project provided a valuable reference point in the evolution of this national document. Thanks are due to Mr John Sharman of the Department for his ready assistance and advice.

We acknowledge the Report of the Minajalku Aboriginal Corporation into Aboriginal children and churches in Victoria. This project highlighted the need for the National Working Party to extend its research to organisations that did not formally record aboriginality, but may have information of importance for people covered by the National Inquiry. Consequently the project was extended to all organisations of the Catholic Church that have provided out of family care for children.

Thanks are due to Coral Kendall in her role as coordinator of the aboriginal family search organisation “Link Up” New South Wales for her advice and assistance, and to other “Link Up” agencies and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council members who provided advice on drafts of the document.

We also acknowledge the contribution that staff from Australian Catholic Social Welfare

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Finally, the small grant made available through the Cultural Ministers' Council Archive Working Group towards this initiative is acknowledged and the encouraging support and advice of Mr Paul Macpherson from National Archives of Australia has been appreciated.

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## Introduction

*A Piece of the Story* was first conceived by a number of national organisations of the Catholic Church as a response to the recommendations contained in the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission *Bringing them home* report into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families.

*Bringing them home* called on the churches that had provided institutional care to indigenous children removed from their homes to identify all records relating to indigenous families and children and arrange for their preservation, indexing and access, in consultation with the relevant indigenous communities and organisations.

The Report recommended that churches provide detailed information about their existing records, guarantee a right of access for the individuals to whom the records relate and implement a set of minimum national access standards. It also called on the churches to provide culturally appropriate counselling and support services, developed in consultation with indigenous organisations, and to support indigenous organisations, which provide this support.

In September 1997, mindful of the considerable involvement of organisations of the Catholic Church in the placement and care of indigenous children, the Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission, in conjunction with the Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council, commenced a project to respond to the recommendations of *Bringing them home*.

As the project evolved it became apparent that distinguishing aboriginal children's records in Catholic institutions in many parts of the country was not possible. It was decided to overcome this problem by widening the project to include the records of all organisations of the Catholic Church that had been involved or that continue to be involved in caring for children.

So, this document presents a comprehensive directory of centres operated by organisations of the Church which have provided residential care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. With the desire to assist indigenous people re-establish their family and community links and in a spirit of reconciliation, *A Piece of the Story* describes the personal records which are known to exist for people who resided at these centres. *A Piece of the Story* also describes the process for accessing those records.

The completed directory is now also intended to be of use by all children placed into residential care with organisations of the Church and their families, including former child migrants placed into the care of organisations of the Church on their arrival in Australia. It will also be of use to children who were placed into the care of Catholic

organisations and subsequently fostered or adopted.

More than 40 Catholic organisations have operated in excess of 130 residential care centres for Australian children over the past 160 years. The majority of these centres (which includes homes, institutions, orphanages, missions but generally excludes boarding schools) were staffed by women and men belonging to more than 20 religious orders. The work reflected the special interest and commitment of these particular religious orders to the well being of children in special circumstances of need.

Most of these centres have now ceased to operate or have made significant changes in the type of service that they provide. A number of religious orders have also passed the responsibility for operating such residential centres over to other Church organisations, such as Centacare. Many Church organisations do however continue to be involved in the delivery of residential care to children and young people in the 1990s.

Organisations of the Catholic Church acknowledge the importance of access to records for people in their search for family and identity. Gaining access to existing records held by Church organisations may be of vital concern to those wishing to find out more about themselves, their families and their past including children from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds and children who migrated from Britain and Malta. At their National Assembly in July 1998, Dr Lowitja O’Donoghue reminded the Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes that:

Access to these records could provide that crucial missing link for indigenous people searching for the families and communities from which they were removed. Many of these children are today adults who are still trying to find their way home.

Catholic religious orders and Catholic diocesan welfare agencies are committed to providing information and to assisting legitimate inquirers in their efforts to access the information contained in these records.

This book is but one piece of the story.

It represents a piece of the story of many children and many families; a piece of the story of a national response to the aboriginal peoples’ call in the *Bringing them home* report for a response from the Australian community; a piece of the story of Catholic organisations involved in the care of children separated from families.

It is the hope of the organisations involved in making this National Directory possible that it will assist at least some inquirers in their search for pieces of their story and in reconnecting with family.

## Overview of Catholic Child Care Services in Australia

From its earliest days in 1788 the Colony of New South Wales was faced with the problem of providing care for orphaned or neglected children as well as those children whose families were unable to provide for them due to hardship. The first children's institution, a school for orphaned girls, was established in 1802 and by the end of the decade the first voluntary charitable organisation, the Benevolent Society, was founded to assist the poor and the needy in Sydney town.

During the early years of the colony the presence of the Catholic Church was minimal - the role of the early priests was to minister to the convicts and the lower class workers. This changed in 1834 with the arrival of Rev Dr John Bede Polding, the first Catholic bishop to the colonies of New South Wales, Tasmania and Victoria. His influence on the affairs of the emerging nation were underpinned by his compassion for the disadvantaged members of early colonial life including abandoned children, unmarried mothers and Aboriginal people who were the outcasts in the colonial society.

Under his direction the first Catholic Orphanage School was established in 1836. Due to an increasing number of children requiring out of family care the orphanage was relocated to larger premises at Parramatta in 1844. It was administered by a lay Committee of Management that included a clerical representative of the bishop until 1859 when three Sisters of the Good Shepherd (later known as the Sisters of the Good Samaritan) with the recommendation of the Archbishop were appointed by the Colonial Secretary to care for the children.

This pattern of the involvement of religious orders in providing accommodation and care for children in need was repeated across the country. From the 1840s on, religious orders from Europe, and from Ireland in particular, were recruited by bishops to serve the needs of a growing population of Catholics. In colonies where there were no established education and welfare systems the religious orders undertook to provide schools and orphanages.

By the 1860s orphanages run and staffed by religious orders were in operation in all capital cities. By the 1880s, with the population expanding inland and a growing number of "orphan" children transported from Ireland, more orphanages were added in the cities and in regional centres including Bathurst, Goulburn, Ballarat, Geelong, Rockhampton and Mackay. By 1900 there were approximately 40 centres being provided

by organisations of the Church. Most of these centres were operated by religious sisters, although religious brothers and priests also opened and operated some centres.

In the early decades of the 1900s further centres were opened, some by orders already involved in this ministry and some by other religious orders. Religious orders including the Sisters of Mercy, the Sisters of St Joseph and the Poor Sisters of Nazareth, ministered to destitute children and poor families in centres across Australia.

Other orders ministered to specific groups. The Good Samaritan Sisters and the Good Shepherd Sisters ministered to girls and women in need. The Christian Brothers provided orphanages and residential training opportunities for boys, including child migrants from Britain and Malta, who were cared for mainly in Western Australia

The needs of indigenous children for accommodation and care were not taken up by the Catholic Church in the eastern states in the nineteenth century. However, by the 1840s in Western Australia a Catholic mission at New Norcia began caring for indigenous communities and their children. In the 1890s a “home for native girls” was established in Broome. Over the next 20 years other centres caring for aboriginal children were opened in the Northern Territory in Darwin and on Bathurst and Melville Islands. A centre was also established on Thursday Island.

Additional centres were established in inland areas as white settlement spread into the northern and western interior of Australia in the early decades of the twentieth century. The Benedictine Monks, St John of God Sisters, Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and Pallottine priests cared for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

These are but some of the religious orders that have contributed to the provision of welfare to Australia’s children over the past 150 years. There are many other religious orders included in this publication.

Although religious orders were invited and authorised by bishops to establish orphanages and other centres in their diocese, the dioceses and archdioceses<sup>1</sup> were usually not involved in the direct ministry. In the main, bishops confined their involvement of direct ministry to children to supporting the mission of specific religious orders operating within the diocesan region.

The Dioceses of Broome and Darwin are exceptions to this pattern, having taken a more active role in the provision of centres for the care of aboriginal children.

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<sup>1</sup> Church terms that describe the geographical boundaries under the pastoral care of bishops and archbishops.

It was not until the mid 1930s and 40s that dioceses began to take a direct role in welfare issues and established diocesan social welfare agencies originally known as Catholic Family Welfare Bureaus and now known as “Centacares”. These early agencies became involved in Catholic childrens’ homes offering assistance and specialist professional services to some religious orders. There are now Centacare agencies operating in each of the Catholic dioceses.

By the 1970s, with the declining number of religious personnel available to maintain residential services to children, a number of religious orders had closed their centres or transferred the management to other Church organisations, often a Centacare agency. The closure or transfer of an organisation has meant that records of the organisation have been moved; sometimes to the archives maintained by the religious order at their provincial headquarters, sometimes to a Centacare agency.

Some religious orders have transferred the operation of the original service to another religious order or to a Centacare agency. In these instances, records may be held by the founding order, the Church organisation currently running the original service or, a combination of both.

The Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, an association of the Leaders of Catholic religious orders, provides the national network for the religious orders of sisters, brothers and priests in Australia. The Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission is the national social welfare organisation of the Catholic bishops of Australia and works closely with the Centacare Agencies.

It is through these networks that it has been possible to compile a comprehensive account of the location of existing records held by organisations of the Catholic Church that provided out of family care for children in Australia between 1836 and the present day.



## A Guide to Records Held by Organisations of the Catholic Church

### What is this directory about?

*A Piece of the Story* lists all known centres run by organisations of the Catholic Church across Australia that provided residential care for children outside the family over the past 163 years. This directory also includes a list of those centres that continue to provide such services to children and their families.

More than 40 organisations of the Catholic Church, mainly religious orders, provided residential care for children outside the family. In a small number of cases, local dioceses also operated centres.

This National Directory may be useful in helping former residents and their families find out where to inquire when they are looking for information about their personal or family origins.

It also outlines what an inquirer needs to do when they wish to obtain the information contained in the records that may be held by the centres.

### Are there records available?

Information and records exist for many of the centres. However, earlier records were often limited and some have not survived the passage of time.

- Over the years many of the original centres have closed.
- Some have transferred management to another organisation of the Catholic Church.
- Those that continue to operate have often changed their name and the type of service.

These developments of history can make tracing information and records for the centres a complex task.

### Where are the records stored?

- For centres that have closed, records have usually passed to the archives of the religious order that ran the centre.



- Where the centre has been taken over by another Church organisation, records have usually either remained with that centre or have been transferred to the new organisation’s archives.
- Where centres are currently in operation, these usually hold the records for that organisation.

### People who might find this information useful

This National Directory may provide helpful information for people who received residential care from an organisation of the Catholic Church, especially:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples separated from their families as a result of previous policies of the Commonwealth or a State Government;
- former child migrants who were brought to Australia from the United Kingdom or Malta;
- former residents of children’s homes operated by an organisation of the Catholic Church in Australia; and,
- families of former residents.

### Will I be able to obtain my records?

Organisations of the Catholic Church that operated residential child care centres support the general right of those who have been in Church care to obtain the information about themselves that may be found in the records held by the organisation.

Church organisations are committed to making this information available to former residents and their families.

Church organisations have undertaken to preserve and safeguard all existing records and to maintain these records in a way that makes them accessible for inquiry.

### What information is in the records?

There is no basic or standard information available for all Catholic organisations and inquirers may find there is considerable variation in the content of information contained in surviving records.

- Centres were often small and under-resourced and there was usually no provision made for uniform record keeping.
- Records that do exist often contain only basic identifying information.

- The language used in records may sometimes reflect the assumptions and judgements typical of the period in which they were made. In some cases, these may seem inappropriate by contemporary standards and may cause distress to some inquirers. Church organisations are mindful of minimising any additional hurt that may be caused by viewing such comments and, where possible, will offer to provide a support or counselling service.
- In some cases records did not survive when centres were closed or their management was transferred.
- Centres operating from the 1970s usually hold more detailed and standardised records.

### Who owns the records?

The original records and the information contained in them remain the property of the organisation that created them or of the organisation which now has responsibility for their storage and preservation.

- A person about whom records exist has a general right to the information relating to themselves contained in those records.
- A copy or transcript of the original records will be made available to the person who has a general right of access to that information.

The organisation has a duty to protect the privacy of all former residents and the confidentiality of their records

- A person making an inquiry does not have a right to access any information which is private and confidential to another person.

Older records may be fragile and handling the originals may not always be possible. Every effort will be made by Church organisations to provide a copy or, if this would damage the records, a transcript of the information contained in the records.

### Is there one set of rules for getting access to information from Church organisations?

Religious orders and other organisations of the Catholic Church are independent and there is no one standard set of procedures for accessing their records, such as those procedures that may apply to government organisations.

Many Church organisations have developed their own access principles and guidelines for people making inquiries of their records. While the principles of these guidelines are generally endorsed by the organisations listed in this National Directory, they do

not override the access principles and procedures of the particular Church organisation.

Most of the records that may be accessed from this directory are restricted in some way, and conditions for obtaining access vary. However, Church organisations are committed to dealing justly and sensitively with all requests for access to the information contained in the records.

#### Who can have access to information in records?

- A person who was a resident of a centre caring for children has a general right to access information relating to themselves in any existing records.
- Family members of a former resident also have a general right to access information contained in existing records.

#### What does “family member” mean?

In this document, the term “family member” applies to people who are related through:

- marriage (for example, husband and wife, grand parents);
- blood (for example, siblings, mother, father, sons, daughters, aunts and uncles);
- adoption; or
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander laws and customs.

#### Will my privacy be protected when information is given to others?

Privacy and the confidentiality of records will be protected when making information available.

- Information about another former resident will be issued only if that person gives their formal consent.
- If a former resident has died, the information about that person will be given only to that person’s family members.
- To protect the privacy of other persons mentioned, the handling of original records may not always be possible. In such circumstances a transcript or copy will be provided.

### What do I have to do when I apply for access to information about myself?

A person seeking information in records of Catholic Church organisations from one of the centres listed in this National Directory should make direct contact with the Contact Person listed for that centre, either by phone or in writing.

The Contact Person will advise on the next steps, which will usually involve:

1. applying in writing for specific information, and
2. providing formal identification, such as a:
  - birth certificate;
  - marriage certificate;
  - current driver's licence ;
  - Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services identification;
  - Centrelink authorisation;
  - current passport;
  - Statutory declaration (form available from most newsagencies); or
  - a statement of identification from an elder or Aboriginal community organisation.

A person who has changed their name by marriage or other legal means will normally be asked to produce an original or certified copy of the legal documents as identification.

Some inquirers may have difficulty in providing certificates and documents. Where this is so, every assistance will be given by the Church organisation to help inquirers establish their identity.

### What if I do not know the exact name of the Centre where I was a resident?

If inquirers are not sure of the name of the centre, they should refer to the two indices at the back of this publication for assistance. These indices list all the facilities under the name of the Church organisation that operated the centre and then a listing of all the centres by their location in each State and Territory.

### What if I am looking for information about a family member who was in care?

If the family member is still alive:

- the inquirer will need to provide a letter to demonstrate the family connection and to authorise the inquiry on behalf of the former resident; and,
- the inquirer will need to provide their own formal identification, as listed above.

For a family member who has died:

- the inquirer will need to provide a death certificate or a newspaper notice of death; or,
- where this is not available, a statutory declaration by an elder or Aboriginal community organisation may be provided.

### What if the person in care was adopted, a ward of the state or their whereabouts is unknown?

There are government requirements in the Child Welfare, Adoption Information and Freedom of Information laws about obtaining access to information for a person who was adopted, or a ward of the state.

- To access Church records under **Adoption Legislation**, turn to Appendix 1.
- To access Commonwealth and State Government records under **Freedom of Information Legislation**, turn to Appendix 2.
- To access records held by **State Child Welfare Departments**, turn to Appendix 3.

A number of organisations may assist inquirers locate relatives who were placed into care and whose whereabouts are now unknown. These organisations include:

- **Centacare Agencies** in each State and Territory, turn to Appendix 4.
- **Link-Up** (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander inquirers) turn to Appendix 5.
- **Catholic Migrant Centre, Christian Brothers Ex-Residents and Students Services (‘C-BERS’)** and other Catholic organisations turn to Appendix 6.
- **Child Migrants Trust** turn to Appendix 7.

These organisations offer a range of counselling and advocacy services.

### Can a support group help me make an inquiry?

Catholic Church organisations are happy to cooperate with advocacy organisations, such as Link-Up, Catholic Migrant Centre, C-BERS, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

and Child Migrants Trust, whose work it is to assist people in their search for personal history information. Contact details for these organisations are listed in the Appendices. Inquirers may nominate their own advocate.

If you would like a support group to help you make an inquiry of a Church organisation:

- First contact that support group and provide them with a letter of consent for the group to make an inquiry on your behalf.
- The support group then needs to write a letter to the relevant Church organisation stating why the inquiry is being made, provide a copy of your authorisation and list what information is being sought.

You are also welcome to have a support person with you when you visit to make an inquiry or obtain information.

Will there be any cost for accessing records?

### **Inquiries to Catholic Organisations**

In accordance with the *Bringing them home* report's recommended minimum access standards, Church organisations will not impose any application or copying fees on inquirers. Every effort will be made to provide other services at minimal cost.

### **Inquiries Under Freedom of Information and Adoption Legislation**

The precise costs associated with making inquiries under FOI and Adoption legislation are detailed in the regulations of the relevant State Acts. While costs vary from State to State there is normally some provision to waiver application fees.

In addition to application fees, States may also charge a photocopying fee per page copied, and processing fees for applications involving greater processing time.

## How to Use the National Directory

### Arrangement of the National Directory

The entries for each Church centre are listed alphabetically by the name of the home or centre. These are listed by each State and Territory in separate sections.

Centres with identical names are listed alphabetically by the town or suburb in which it was located. Centres that used a particular name of a Saint, such as “St Joseph’s Orphanage”, are to be found under the abbreviation of “St”. All such centres are then listed alphabetically by the name of the Saint. For example, “St Catherine’s Home” will be found listed before “St Edmund’s”.

It may be that inquirers cannot recall the exact name of the centre being sought, in which case reference should be made to the two indexes at the end of this publication. The indices provide a listing of all centres under the name of the religious order that operated the centre, and an alphabetical listing of all centres by their location.

Each entry in this publication contains information under the following categories.

### **Title and Description**

The name of the centre (for example, orphanage, home, centre, boarding school, mission, hostel, convent, house, training centre, service) is listed alphabetically in chapters by State and Territory. Where the name of a centre has changed over time, the new name(s) have been included and a separate entry created under each name.

Short descriptions of each centre include the purpose for which it was established, the significant dates in the history of the centre and a description of any change in the nature of the work undertaken at the centre.

### **Location**

The location refers to the actual centre itself, even if it is no longer operational. This is not necessarily where records are currently physically stored. Where centres have ceased to operate or responsibility for their operation has been transferred to another organisation, the records have either been transferred elsewhere within the founding organisation, or are being held in the archives of the organisation that has taken over responsibility for the original records.

Where centres have changed location over time, all the dates and places of operation are listed. Centres are generally listed by town. If however the centre was located in a suburb of a major city then this is listed, followed by the name of the city. For example, “ALBERT PARK, MELBOURNE”.

### **Church Organisation**

The Church organisation(s) responsible for operating each centre are identified by the name of the Religious Order, Diocese or other organisation of the Church. Where more than one organisation was involved in operating or staffing the centre, these are listed showing the dates of their involvement.

In some cases, responsibility for a centre was returned to the Diocese in which it was located, or was delegated to the organisation by the Diocese, and this is noted.

### **Years of Operation**

This outlines the years in which the centre operated. The entry also notes if it continues to operate in 1999. If the centre has changed name, this will be noted and a reference made to the appropriate separate entry.

### **Type of Service**

This outlines the type of services provided at the centre. The nature of services provided varied considerably including, for example, temporary crisis accommodation, educational services, dormitory style residential accommodation and care for infants prior to adoption.

### **Sex and Age of Residents**

The gender and the age of children cared for by the centre is listed. Where the gender or the age of residents changed over the life of the centre, the dates and the details of these changes are noted.

### **Contact Information**

This category provides the details of the office holder or person to whom inquiries should be directed when seeking access to records. Most organisations prefer written requests. Telephone and fax details are included for each entry and are



current at the time of publication. Initial contact with an organisation should be made by telephone.

Written requests will usually require a statement of the right to access information (for example, that the inquirer is a former resident or next of kin of a former resident) and provide some form of identification.

**Persons seeking to make an inquiry should always discuss their request with the contact officer first before visiting the place where records are held.**

### **Access to Records**

This information outlines the policy of specific Church organisations concerning who will be granted access to records and what process is to be followed when making a request for access. While the access conditions vary across the Church organisations holding records, it is recognised that in general former residents have a right to access any existing records and ought to be assisted in doing so.

Next of kin and other interested parties may be required to seek the written permission of the former resident, if they are still alive.

Access to records relating to adoption is governed by the provisions of the relevant State or Territory Adoption legislation. The Catholic Church has been involved in providing adoption services in New South Wales, Tasmania and Victoria. In general, access will be granted to information pertaining to the period of care prior to adoption and all information relevant to the adoption itself.

Due to the fragility of some records and the need to protect the privacy of other former residents, access to the originals of records may not always be possible. In such circumstances, copies or transcripts of originals may be provided.

### **Records**

The nature and content of any existing records pertaining to former residents are described. The quantity, type and content of records vary considerably across the centres listed in the National Directory. For some centres, especially those operating in the nineteenth century, original records may no longer exist. For more recent centres, records may include information such as the date and reason for admission, date and place of birth, details of parents, baptism certificates and date of discharge.

## **National Help Line**

The Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission and the Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes have established a national help line to assist inquirers who experience difficulties identifying the relevant centre or Church organisation where records relevant to them may be found. The national telephone number to ring is:

**1300 13 80 70**

This service will be operational until the end of 2000.





## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

### ■ MARYMEAD CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE

This facility, known to the Canberra community simply as “Marymead”, was originally established in 1967 under the auspices of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary. Responsibility for Marymead was passed to the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn in 1986. The service is still operational today, providing residential care for children and a number of other family related services.

<b>Location:</b>	NARRABUNDAH, CANBERRA.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (1967-1986). Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn from 1986 to present.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1967 - still operating in 1999.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys from infancy to 12 years and girls from infancy to 17 years, from 1967 to 1986. Boys and girls from 5 to 17 years from 1986.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Manager Marymead Children and Family Centre PO Box 4268 Kingston ACT 2604 Ph (02) 6295 2755 Fax (02) 6295 9944
<b>Access:</b>	Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. The principles of the ACT <b>Freedom of Information Act</b> are followed.
<b>Records:</b>	Files contain basic personal details of the child and parent/s as well as case notes. The amount of information available varies from child to child.



## NEW SOUTH WALES

### ■ BALMAIN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan made a foundation at Balmain in 1864 and were engaged in primary and secondary teaching. They also conducted a boarding school for young ladies. In 1910, when the Manly Industrial School (see separate entry) and Orphanage closed, permission was sought from Cardinal Moran to use the Balmain Convent for a Domestic Training School for the older orphans from Manly. The younger orphans were transferred to Mater Dei Orphanage at Narellan (see separate entry). The School closed in 1924.

<b>Location:</b>	BALMAIN, SYDNEY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Samaritan Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1910 - 1924.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential and educational care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys and adolescent boys.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Good Samaritan Archives 2 Avenue Rd Glebe NSW 2037 Ph (02) 9566 2188 Fax (02) 9692 8701

**Access:** Access is restricted to former residents who are able to obtain information about themselves. Family members may access information about a relative if they can prove their relationship to that person.

**Records:** The basic information retained includes: name of the child; date of admission; child's date of birth; and age at admission. In some cases, but not all, additional information, may be given such as: parents' names; discharge date and details of to whom the child was discharged.

### ■ BOYS' TOWN

Boys' Town operates from a seven acre site in Engadine, Sydney and has provided support to adolescent boys who have experienced difficulties at home, school or in the community. Boys' Town is operated by the Salesians Fathers.

- Location:** ENGADINE, SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Salesian Fathers.
- Years of Operation:** 1939 - continues to operate in 1999.
- Type of Service:** Residential and educational care.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and adolescent boys.
- Contact:** The Director  
Boys' Town  
PO Box 99  
Engadine NSW 2233  
Ph (02) 9520 8555  
Fax (02) 9520 6714
- Access:** Applications for access to records will be assessed upon contacting the Director. Inquirers are asked to provide their name, year/s attended, reason for request, and authorisation if the information relates to a third party.
- Records:** Records prior to 1970 have limited details with referral information in some instances. From 1970 more details exist including some reports. There are also some indexed photo albums.

■ **BISHOP MURRAY MEMORIAL GIRLS' HOME**, later became known as the **MONTE PIO ORPHANAGE**

Bishop Murray Memorial Girl's Home was established in 1910 in the Hunter Valley Region of NSW. In 1960 it became known as the Monte Pio Orphanage - see separate entry. Surviving records are maintained at the offices of Centacare Newcastle, the address of which is listed below.

- Location:** CAMPBELL'S HILL, VIA MAITLAND.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy.
- Years of Operation:** 1910 - 1960.  
From 1960 the Home became known as the Monte Pio Orphanage - see separate entry.
- Type of Service:** Residential.
- Sex and Ages:** Girls only.
- Contact:** The Director  
Centacare Newcastle  
PO Box 775



Newcastle NSW 2300

Ph (02) 4979 1330

Fax (02) 4979 1339

- Access:** Children who attended programs for which Centacare Newcastle holds records may contact the Agency by telephone or mail. Inquirers with proof of identification may view their file with a social worker from Centacare’s Foster Care Team.
- Records:** Surviving records are largely incomplete.

### ■ CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S HOME ENQUIRY SERVICE, CENTACARE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES (SYDNEY)

Since the 1800s, the Catholic Church has cared for many children in a wide variety of homes. These homes, while under the auspices of the Church, were conducted by a number of different Religious Congregations. As the homes closed, the surviving records were often moved, making it difficult for ex-residents to locate information. In 1994, Centacare Catholic Community Services Sydney established the Catholic Children’s Home Enquiry Service to provide a centralised information, counselling and referral service for those previously in Homes, or their relatives. Some records are held for homes operated by the following Orders: Sisters of Charity, Sisters of the Good Samaritan, Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth and Sisters of St Joseph.

- Location:** CROYDON, SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Centacare is an agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.
- Years of Operation:** 1994 - continues to operate in 1999.
- Type of Service:** A centralised information, counselling and referral service for those people previously in Homes or looking for relatives who had been in a Catholic Children’s Home.
- Contact:** Catholic Children’s Home Enquiry Service  
Centacare Catholic Community Services, Sydney  
9 Alexandra Ave  
Croydon NSW 2132  
Ph (02) 9745 3133  
Fax (02) 9745 7123
- Access:** Varies depending on the Home where the child was placed.

**Records:** A computerised database with the records of all children who resided in a Catholic Children's Home is currently being developed. The information will initially include the name of the child, date of birth, date of admission and discharge, and the name and locality of the Children's Home where the child was placed. There will also be a cross-reference to the original records of that Home. In addition, a directory of all the Catholic Children's Homes established in New South Wales since 1900 is being established.

Registers, either as originals or copies, from the following homes are held by Centacare:

St Anne's Liverpool, 1888 - 1987  
 Roman Catholic Orphan School, 1859 - 1886  
 Mater Dei Orphanage, Narellan, 1910 - 1957  
 St Joseph's, Kenmore/Goulburn, 1864 - 1975  
 St John's Home, Goulburn, 1945 - 1966  
 St Brigid's, Ryde, 1898 - 1965  
 St Magdalen's Retreat, Tempe, 1887 - 1947  
 Good Samaritan Training centre, Arncliffe, 1947 - 1986  
 Holy Family Children's Home, Marayong, 1956 - 1986  
 St Catherine's, Brooklyn, 1961 - 1990

These homes are individually listed in this directory and further details are provided under each entry.

## ■ **CENTACARE ADOPTION SERVICES** formerly known as **CATHOLIC ADOPTION AGENCY**

Centacare Adoption Services was established in 1990 as a program of Centacare Catholic Community Services Sydney. Centacare Adoption Services replaced the Catholic Adoption Agency which had been established in 1967 under the auspices of the Society of St Vincent de Paul. This service covers the whole of the state of New South Wales.

**Location:** CROYDON, SYDNEY.

**Church Organisation:** Centacare Catholic Community Services Sydney is an agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

**Years of Operation:** 1967 - continues to operate in 1999.  
 From 1967 - 1990, known as the Catholic Adoption Agency.

- Type of Service:** Central repository for all files relating to adoptions.
- Contact:** Applications for access to information should be directed to the:  
The Principal Officer  
Centacare Adoption Services  
Centacare Catholic Community Services, Sydney  
9 Alexandra Ave  
Croydon NSW 2132  
Ph (02) 9745 3133  
Fax (02) 9744 7123
- Access:** Access to information contained on the adoption files is restricted according to the provisions of the **Adoption Information Act 1990**.
- Records:** These files contain information relating to the adoption of each child, from the birth to post adoption contacts. Some biographical information about the birth parents may be attached, along with counselling records and interview notes. Details of the adoptive parents are given. In some cases, post adoption contact information, such as correspondence is attached.

## ■ CENTACARE, NEWCASTLE

Centacare Newcastle was established in 1965. It is an office of Catholic Community Services, the welfare arm of the Catholic Church in Newcastle. It offers a variety of services, including foster care; counselling; and youth accommodation and support programs. Centacare Newcastle was previously an adoption agency in its own right, but now manages adoptions on behalf of Centacare Adoption Services (the Catholic Church adoption agency) and Anglicare Adoption Services (the Anglican Church agency).

Centacare Newcastle holds the known surviving records of several Catholic children's homes and orphanages, which are listed below.

- Location:** NEWCASTLE WEST, HUNTER ST.
- Church Organisation:** Centacare is an agency of the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.
- Years of Operation:** 1965 - continues to operate in 1999.

- Type of Service:** Holds the known surviving records of several former children's homes and orphanages.
- Contact:** The Director  
Centacare Newcastle  
PO Box 775  
Newcastle NSW 2300  
Ph (02) 4979 1330  
Fax (02) 4979 1339
- Access:** Any former child client of the Alternate Care programs for which Centacare Newcastle currently holds records may contact Centacare by telephone or mail and, providing proof of identification can be presented, may view their file in the presence of a social worker from the Foster Care Team.
- Access to information in adoption records is restricted by the provisions of the **Adoption Information Act 1990**.
- Records:** Centacare Newcastle holds the known surviving records of Bishop Murray Memorial Home at Campbell's Hill, which became Monte Pio Orphanage, and the Mayfield Home, which became the Murray Dwyer Boys' Home, Merewether (operated by the Daughters of Charity).
- Centacare holds residential care client files, from 1960 to the present; adoption files from 1960 to the present; short term foster care program client files from 1997 to the present; and orphanage records from 1911 to 1977.
- Orphanage records, which are incomplete, are accessed via a database that has been created by Centacare Newcastle. The database allows a surname search to be conducted and, if there are any surviving records for that name, it provides the cross reference to the original records. The records include particulars of child and parents, personal record cards which include dates of admission and discharge and reason for admission, baptism and confirmation certificates, and other information.

■ **CENTACARE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES, SYDNEY**  
 formerly known as  
**CATHOLIC FAMILY WELFARE BUREAU**, see also  
**CENTACARE ADOPTION SERVICES**, and  
**CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S HOME ENQUIRY SERVICE**

Since its beginnings in the 1940s Centacare Catholic Community Services Sydney has been involved in the temporary or permanent placement of children into alternate care. The Agency has had a long association with the fostering of children using host families and the short term out of family care of children using group homes or family placements. It now provides adoption services across the state of New South Wales. In recent years the Agency established the Catholic Children’s Home Enquiry Service to provide a centralised information, counselling and referral service for those former children who spent time in Homes previously operated by a number of organisation of the Catholic Church across the state.

<b>Location:</b>	SYDNEY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Centacare Catholic Community Services Sydney is an agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1941 - continues to operate in 1999.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	A centralised information, counselling and referral service for those people previously in Homes or looking for relatives who had been in a Catholic Children’s Home.
<b>Contact:</b>	Catholic Children’s Home Enquiry Service Centacare Catholic Community Services, Sydney 9 Alexandra Ave Croydon NSW 2132 Ph (02) 9745 3133 Fax (02) 9744 7123 or The Director Centacare Catholic Community Services 4/276 Pitt Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 Ph (02) 9283 3099 Fax (02) 9261 0510
<b>Access:</b>	Varies depending on the Home where the child was placed.
<b>Records:</b>	Refer entries for <b>CENTACARE ADOPTION SERVICES</b> and <b>CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S HOME ENQUIRY SERVICE</b> .

## ■ CROAGH PATRICK HOME

The Croagh Patrick Home was located in Orange in the Central West region of NSW and cared for boys to the age of twelve years. The Home was operated by the Daughters of Charity for the Diocese of Bathurst. Upon completion of their primary education, many of the boys were transferred to St Vincent's Boys' Home at Westmead while others went to Kendall Grange at Morisset. See separate entries for these institutions.

In 1969 responsibility for the operation of the Home was transferred to the Sisters of Mercy. It was at this time that the Home commenced accepting girls aged from 3 to 16 years of age, as described in the following entry.

<b>Location:</b>	ORANGE.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Daughters of Charity.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1928 - 1969.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys from 3 to 12 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Congregational Leader Sisters of Mercy Bathurst Congregation PO Box 81 Bathurst NSW 2795 Ph (02) 6331 4611
<b>Access:</b>	For access to records after 1969 see separate entries.
<b>Records:</b>	Unfortunately, no records are known to have survived for this period.

## ■ CROAGH PATRICK ORPHANAGE

Prior to 1969, this Home was operated by the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul as Croagh Patrick Home - see entry above. In 1969, responsibility for its operation was assumed by the Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst Congregation, who then began accepting girls as well as boys into the facility.

<b>Location:</b>	ORANGE.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1969 - 1982.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential.

- Sex and Ages:** Boys aged 3 to 12 years and girls aged 3 to 16 years. Boys were transferred to St Vincent’s Boys’ Home, Westmead, at 12 years of age - see separate entry.
- Contact:** The Congregational Leader  
Sisters of Mercy  
Bathurst Congregation  
PO Box 81  
Bathurst NSW 2795  
Ph (02) 6331 4611
- Access:** Requests for information are assessed individually. Details are usually provided only to past clients of the service and their families.
- Records:** Admission registers for the period 1969 to 1982 have been retained. The amount of information for each child may vary.

■ **GOOD SAMARITAN TRAINING CENTRE**, formerly known as **ST MAGDALEN’S RETREAT**

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan operated The Good Samaritan Training Centre from 1948 to 1982. Prior to this time, it had been known as St Magdalen’s Retreat - see separate entry. During the period from 1948, the Sisters cared predominantly for girls who had been referred to them from the courts. Later, self-contained units were established with a staff member each providing support and assistance to eight girls.

- Location:** TEMPE.
- Church Organisation:** Good Samaritan Sisters.
- Years of Operation:** 1948 - 1982.  
From 1887 - 1948, known as St Magdalen’s Retreat - see separate entry.
- Type of Service:** “Training Centre” - some girls referred by courts.
- Sex and Ages:** Females aged from 13 years.
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Good Samaritan Archives  
2 Avenue Rd  
Glebe NSW 2037  
Ph (02) 9566 2188  
Fax (02) 9692 8701

- Access:** Information is available to former residents who are able to access records relating to themselves. Family members are also able to access information if they can demonstrate their relationship to a former resident.
- Records:** Name of child or resident, date of admission, date of birth and age at admission. Some records may have additional information such as parents' names, discharge details and details of those to whom the child was discharged.

### ■ HOLY FAMILY CHILDREN'S HOME

The Holy Family Children's Home was located at Quakers Rd, Marayong in Sydney's west and was established in 1956. The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cared for both boys and girls, usually migrant children, until its closure in 1985. Today, a childcare centre is operating from the site.

- Location:** MARAYONG, SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth.
- Years of Operation:** 1956 - 1985.
- Type of Service:** Residential care for boys and girls.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls. Believed to be mainly migrant children from infancy to 18 years.
- Contact:** The Administrator  
116 - 132 Quakers Rd  
Marayong NSW 2148  
Ph (02) 9626 3113
- Access:** Information is generally only available to former residents who are able to access records relating to themselves. Some form of Identification is requested.
- Records:** Some records of admission, discharge, death and admission to hospital are available. Copies of some records are also held at Centacare Adoption Services - see separate entry.
- Adoption Worker  
Centacare Adoption Services  
Centacare Catholic Community Services, Sydney  
9 Alexandra Ave  
Croydon NSW 2132



Ph (02) 9744 7055

Fax (02) 9744 0871

### ■ HOME OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Home of the Good Shepherd was located in Victoria Street, Ashfield, in the inner western suburbs of Sydney. The Sisters of the Good Shepherd operated the Home and cared for women and girls, some of whom had been referred by the courts, others of whom came from private placements.

<b>Location:</b>	ASHFIELD, SYDNEY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Shepherd Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1913 - 1969.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Women and teenage girls.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Provincial Leader Good Shepherd Sisters PO Box 182 Abbotsford VIC 3067 Ph (03) 9419 5773 Fax (03) 9419 4472
<b>Access:</b>	Access is available to former residents of the Home or other authorised persons.
<b>Records:</b>	Admission and discharge registers have been retained.

### ■ HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Pitt Street House of The Good Shepherd originally provided accommodation for women and girls over the age of 14 years. The site was resumed by the State Government in 1901 to build Central Railway Station. At this time, residents were transferred to St Magdalen's Retreat in the inner Sydney suburb of Tempe which was also operated by The Sisters of the Good Samaritan - see separate entry.

<b>Location:</b>	PITT STREET, SYDNEY CITY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Samaritan Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1857 - 1901.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential accommodation.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Women and girls over 14 years.

- Contact:** The Archivist  
Good Samaritan Archives  
2 Avenue Road  
Glebe NSW 2037  
Ph (02) 9566 2188  
Fax (02) 9692 8701
- Access:** Family members may access information relating to a relative if they are able to show their relationship to that person.
- Records:** Name of child, date of admission, date of birth and age at admission. In some cases, additional information such as parents' names and discharge details may be given.

### ■ KENDALL GRANGE

Kendall Grange was opened in 1948 as a residential school for boys with intellectual disabilities. From 1980 the school changed its focus to supporting boys with behavioural disorders. In 1994, the school became a residential school for both boys and girls with behavioural disorders.

- Location:** MORISSET.
- Church Organisation:** Brothers of St John of God.
- Years of Operation:** 1948 - continues to operate in 1999.
- Type of Service:** Residential care for boys and then boys and girls with intellectual and behavioural disabilities.
- Sex and Ages:** 1948 to 1980 - Boys with intellectual disabilities.  
1980 to 1994 - Boys with behavioural disorders.  
From 1994 - Primary school boys and girls with behavioural disorders.
- Contact :** The Chief Executive Officer  
Brothers of St John of God  
PO Box 304  
Morisset NSW 2264  
Ph (02) 4973 1022  
Fax (02) 4970 5724
- Access:** Access to information in the records is available to former residents of Kendall Grange or their family members. Identification is requested at the time of application.

**Records:** Over 1400 files have been retained which include each child's name, date of birth, admission and discharge dates, reason for admission, medical history, information about the child's family and information about any previous placements.

## ■ MANLY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL AND ORPHANAGE

The Industrial School at Manly was first intended to support girls whose parents were unable to care for them. However, it actually accommodated girls to the age of 18 years from 1881 to 1910 and boys to the age of 10 years from 1883 to 1891. Many of the children were trained for domestic service and were taught cooking and laundry skills. Some were employed in dress-making, shirt-making, sewing, knitting and machine work. Before they left the school, positions were found for them in business establishments and domestic service.

Upon its closure, residents were transferred to other facilities, predominantly the Mater Dei Orphanage at Narellan and the Balmain Industrial School. See the separate entry for the Mater Dei Orphanage.

**Location:** MANLY, SYDNEY.

**Church Organisation:** Good Samaritan Sisters.

**Years of Operation:** 1881 - 1910.

**Type of Service:** Residential and educational care for orphans and destitute children.

**Sex and Ages:** Girls from infancy to 18 years.  
Boys from infancy to 10 years from 1883 to 1891.

**Contact:** The Archivist  
Good Samaritan Archives  
2 Avenue Road  
Glebe NSW 2037  
Ph (02) 9566 2188  
Fax (02) 9692 8701

**Access:** Access is available to former students and their family members if they are able to prove their relationship to that person.

**Records:** Some basic information has been maintained in registers, such as the names of the children, dates of admission, dates of birth and ages at admission. In some cases, additional information may be given such as parents'

names, discharge dates and details as to whom a child was discharged. In 1886 children from the Roman Catholic Orphan School, Parramatta, were transferred to Manly Industrial School and Orphanage - see separate entry.

## ■ MATER DEI ORPHANAGE

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan purchased the property “Wivenhoe” in 1910 which then became the Mater Dei Orphanage. When the Manly Industrial School closed in 1910, the girls under 16 years were transferred to Mater Dei at Narellan on the south western outskirts of the Sydney metropolitan area. Between the years 1910 and 1928, boys up to the age of twelve years were also admitted. Since 1957 Mater Dei has operated as a school for children with disabilities - see the following entry for Mater Dei School.

<b>Location:</b>	NARELLAN.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Samaritan Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1910 - 1957.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential and educational.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls to 17 years. Boys to 12 years from 1910 to 1928.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Good Samaritan Archives 2 Avenue Road Glebe NSW 2037 Ph (02) 9566 2188 Fax (02) 9692 8701
<b>Access:</b>	Access is available to former residents of the school who are able to obtain information about themselves. Family members are also able to access information if they are able to prove their relationship to that person.
<b>Records:</b>	Some girls transferred from the Manly Industrial School and Orphanage when it closed in 1910. Basic information contained in school registers includes name of child, date of admission, child’s date of birth and age at admission. In some cases additional information may be given, such as parents’ names, discharge date and details as to whom child was discharged. Since 1957, Mater Dei has operated

as a special school for children with disabilities and the records for that period are held at the school.

## ■ **MATER DEI SCHOOL**

Mater Dei became a school for children with disabilities in 1957 and originally accepted girls from the age of four years to 18 years. However, in 1981 it commenced taking both girls and boys aged from four to 18 years. The school continues to operate today in the same area of Narellan near Camden on the south-western outskirts of Sydney.

<b>Location:</b>	NARELLAN.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Samaritan Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1957 - continues to operate in 1999.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential and educational for children with disabilities.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls aged 4 to 18 years from 1957; and girls and boys aged 4 to 18 years from 1981.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Principal Mater Dei Special School Camden NSW 2570 Ph (02) 4655 7481 Fax (02) 4655 9515
<b>Access:</b>	Available to past students of the school who are able to access records relating to themselves. Family members are also able to access information if they are able to prove their relationship to the person.
<b>Records:</b>	Records from 1957 have been maintained at the school.

## ■ **MAYFIELD HOME**, also known as **MURRAY DWYER MEMORIAL ORPHANAGE**, later became known as the **MURRAY DWYER BOYS' HOME**

The Mayfield Home was established in 1933 by the Diocese of Maitland (now Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle) in the Hunter Valley Region of NSW and conducted by the Daughters of Charity. It cared for boys between the ages of 6 and 16 years including 100 child migrant boys from the United Kingdom who were settled in Australia. The Home was evacuated to a section of the Monte Pio Orphanage at Campbell's Hill during the Second World War from 1942 to 1945. At the conclusion of the evacuation period the Sisters and children returned to the Orphanage buildings at Mayfield. Shipping

records from 1952 refer to the institution as the “Murray Dwyer Memorial Orphanage, Mayfield”. In the early 1960s the congregate accommodation at the Mayfield Home closed and the service was renamed the Murray Dwyer Group Homes under the direction of Centacare Newcastle - see separate entry.

- Location:** CAMPBELL’S HILL, VIA MAITLAND
- Church Organisation:** Operated by the Diocese of Maitland and staffed by the Daughters of Charity.
- Years of Operation:** 1933 - 1968.  
From 1969 became the Murray Dwyer Boys’ Home - see separate entry.
- Type of Service:** Residential care and orphanage. Known to have provided services to child migrants.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys aged from 6 to 16 years. Included child migrants from the United Kingdom.
- Contact:** The Director  
Centacare Newcastle  
PO Box 775  
Newcastle NSW 2300  
Ph (02) 4979 1330  
Fax (02) 4979 1339
- Access:** All former child clients of alternate care programs for which Centacare Newcastle holds records may contact the agency by phone or in writing and, if identification is provided, may view their records in the presence of a social worker from the Foster Care Team.
- Records:** Centacare Newcastle has developed a database which lists the name of the child in care, their date of admission and discharge, and a cross reference to the surviving original records. The records held may be incomplete.

■ **MONTE PIO ORPHANAGE**, formerly known as the **BISHOP MURRAY MEMORIAL GIRLS’ HOME**

The Monte Pio Orphanage was previously known as the Bishop Murray Memorial Home and was located in the Hunter Valley Region of NSW. Unfortunately, very few records of children accommodated at this Home have survived. The information that does exist is located at the offices of Centacare Newcastle.

- Location:** CAMPBELL’S HILL, VIA SINGLETON.

- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Singleton Congregation.
- Years of Operation:** From 1910 - 1960 operated as Bishop Murray Memorial Girls' Home - see separate entry.  
From 1960 - 23 January 1973 operated as Monte Pio Orphanage
- Type of Service:** Residential care and orphanage.
- Sex and Ages:** Girls aged from infancy to 16 years.
- Contact:** The Director  
Centacare Newcastle  
PO Box 775  
Newcastle NSW 2300  
Ph (02) 4979 1330  
Fax (02) 4979 1339
- Access:** Information is available to former clients of Alternate Care programs for which Centacare Newcastle holds records. Contact may be made with the Director by telephone or in writing and, with proof of identification, records may be viewed in the presence of a social worker from the Foster Care Team.
- Records:** Centacare Newcastle has developed a database which lists the name of the child in care, their date of admission and discharge, and a cross reference to the surviving original records. The records held may be incomplete.

■ **MURRAY DWYER BOYS' HOME**, formerly known as the **MAYFIELD HOME**

The Murray Dwyer Boys' Home was known as the Mayfield Home prior to 1969. Located in the Hunter Valley Region of NSW, it cared for boys up to 12 years of age including some that had migrated from the United Kingdom as orphans. When the boys reached high school age they were transferred to St Vincent's Boys' Home at Westmead, west of Sydney to complete their education.

- Location:** MEREWETHER, HUNTER REGION.
- Church Organisation:** Operated by the Diocese of Maitland and staffed by the Daughters of Charity.
- Years of Operation:** Group home from 1969.  
1933 - 1968, known as the Mayfield Home - see separate entry.
- Type of Service:** Residential group home.

- Sex and Ages:** Boys to 12 years.
- Contact:** The Director  
Centacare Newcastle  
PO Box 775  
Newcastle NSW 2300  
Ph (02) 4979 1330  
Fax (02) 4979 1339
- Access:** Information is available to former child clients of programs for which Centacare Newcastle currently holds records. Contact the agency by phone or in writing and, if proof of identification is shown, records may be viewed in the presence of a social worker from the Foster Care Team.
- Records:** At high school age boys were transferred to St Vincent's at Westmead - see separate entry. Centacare Newcastle has developed a database that lists the name of the child in care, their date of admission and discharge, and a cross reference to the surviving original records. The records held may be incomplete.

■ **OUR LADY OF MERCY HOME**, originally established as  
**WAITARA FOUNDLING HOME**

The Waitara Foundling Home was established in 1898 by the Sisters of Mercy out of concern for the welfare of foundlings and destitute children. It was the first Catholic Home of its type in Australia and cared for 20 women and up to 100 children. In 1902, a home was built to provide accommodation for mothers and their babies from hospitals and private homes throughout the eastern states of Australia. In 1925, a pre-school kindergarten was opened within the Home for the children in care. In the 1940s, the Sisters began to take into care girls awaiting the birth of a child, providing them with medical and social support. The Home also provided care for up to 20 babies awaiting adoption. Additionally, short-term emergency care was available for children to the age of seven years.

Today, the Sisters provide programs aimed at building up family life, preventing family breakdown and helping people lead more satisfying lives overall. The Mercy Family Life Centre now provides a variety of services including counselling, welfare, family education, childcare and aged care.

- Location:** WAITARA, SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, North Sydney Congregation.



*“A Piece of the Story”*

<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1898 - 1977. From 1977 became Mercy Family Life Centre.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care for women and children. Pre-school education for resident children from 1925. Care for pregnant girls and infants prior to adoption and temporary crisis care of children to 7 years of age from 1940.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Babies and children to 15 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Director Mercy Family Life Centre PO Box 2118 Hornsby NSW 2077 Ph (02) 9487 3022 Fax (02) 9489 6543
<b>Access:</b>	Information is available to the person to whom it relates or to an immediate relative who is able to prove their relationship to that person. Access to information regarding adoptions is governed by the provisions of the <b>NSW Adoption Information Act, 1990</b> . Those seeking details relating to an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.
<b>Records:</b>	Records include registers of admission and discharge, card indexes, case files and workbooks covering varying periods.

## ■ ROMAN CATHOLIC ORPHAN SCHOOL

The Roman Catholic Orphan School was established in Parramatta in western Sydney in 1859 and operated until 1886. This was a government funded institution which was operated by St Mary’s Cathedral and the Sisters of the Good Samaritan.

<b>Location:</b>	PARRAMATTA.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	St Mary’s Cathedral and the Good Samaritan Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1859 - 1886.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Orphanage.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys and girls aged 2 to 14 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Good Samaritan Archives

2 Avenue Rd  
 Glebe NSW 2037  
 Ph (02) 9566 2188  
 Fax (02) 9566 2188

**Access:** Access to information is available to family members who can demonstrate their relationship to the person.

**Records:** Some records also held at Mater Dei School in Camden. Records for the period 1877 - 1884 also held at:

Centacare Adoption Services  
 Centacare Catholic Community Services, Sydney  
 9 Alexandra Ave  
 Croydon NSW 2132  
 Ph (02) 9744 7055  
 Fax (02) 9744 0871

## ■ ROSEMOUNT

Rosemount was operated as a community based residential programme for teenage girls, aged between 13 to 16 years. The girls attended local schools or were employed in the community.

**Location:** DULWICH HILL, SYDNEY.

**Church Organisation:** Good Shepherd Sisters.

**Years of Operation:** 1976 - 1981.

**Type of Service:** Residential care.

**Ages and Sex:** Teenage girls, aged 13 to 16 years.

**Contact:** The Provincial Leader  
 Good Shepherd Sisters  
 PO Box 182  
 Abbotsford VIC 3067  
 Ph (03) 9419 5773  
 Fax (03) 9419 4472

**Access:** Access is available to former residents or other authorised persons.

**Records:** Admission and discharge registers have been retained.

### ■ ST ANNE’S HOME OF COMPASSION, formerly known as ST ANNE’S HOME

St Anne’s Home, Broken Hill was operated by the Sisters of Mercy until 1941, when the Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion (“Sisters of Compassion”) took over. In 1941, 26 girls were transferred to a new home established by the Sisters of Compassion. The administration and overall operating expenses were met entirely through donations from the public. As social trends changed and there was no longer a need for institutional care, the Sisters withdrew from the home in 1984.

<b>Location:</b>	BROKEN HILL.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Wilcannia-Forbes Congregation (1898 - 1941), Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion (1941 - 1984). This Order is now located in New Zealand.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1898 - 1984.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Non-denominational residential care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls aged from 2 to 16 years of age.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Home of Compassion Murray St Island Bay, Wellington New Zealand 6002 Tel 0011 64 4 383 7134 Fax 0011 64 4 383 6657
<b>Access:</b>	Access to information in records is available to former residents of the Home and their family members. To protect the privacy of those concerned, identification is requested.
<b>Records:</b>	A register containing basic personal information including name, date of birth, date of admission, names and occupations of parents and some file notes.

### ■ ST ANNE’S ORPHANAGE

The orphanage was set up principally to care for girls although some young boys were admitted on occasions. While most children returned to live with their own relatives, some were placed in foster homes, adopted or remained at St Anne’s until they were able to move on to independent living. In 1979, the premises at Cabramatta which had been one of the group homes operated by the orphanage, became St Anne’s Children’s Emergency Centre which commenced providing emergency care until 1985.

- Location:** LIVERPOOL, SYDNEY.  
Also DUNDAS, RYDE, PARRAMATTA,  
CABRAMATTA - Group Homes in SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Charity.
- Years of Operation:** 1888 - 1977 as an orphanage.  
From late 1960's to 1977 as group homes.
- Type of Service:** Orphanage and residential care, both short and long term.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls aged to 16 years.
- Contact:** Archivist-in-Charge  
Sisters of Charity of Australia  
PO Box 21  
Potts Point NSW 1335  
Ph (02) 9356 3294  
Fax (02) 9358 6830
- Access:** Access available to surviving records for all premises.
- Records:** Various types of records available over different periods of time. These include admission and discharge records, personal record cards and those relating to the baptism, confirmation and first communion of children. Copies of records are also maintained at:  
  
Centacare Adoption Services  
Centacare Catholic Community Services, Sydney  
9 Alexandra Ave  
Croydon NSW 2132  
Ph (02) 9744 7055  
Fax (02) 9744 0871

## ■ ST ANTHONY'S

St Anthony's opened in 1922 under the auspices of the St Vincent de Paul Society with premises in Petersham, Sydney. Care was provided for mothers and their newborn babies. Three years later the home moved to new premises in Croydon, also in Sydney, and extended care to older children. In 1952, the Home was transferred to the Sisters of St Joseph who in 1979 amalgamated St Anthony's with St Joseph's Home - see separate entry. From 1980 the Sisters adopted cottage style care for children aged from 2 to 16 years. Emergency care continues to be provided in cottages for children from 2 to 16 years.

- Location:** PETERSHAM (1922 - 1925),  
CROYDON (1925 - continues to operate in 1999).
- Church Organisation:** St Vincent de Paul Society (1922 - 1952),  
Sisters of St Joseph (from 1952).
- Years of Operation:** 1922 - continues to operate in 1999.
- Type of Service:** Residential care for mothers and babies, from 1922 to 1925.  
Residential care for mothers, babies and older children from 1925 to 1980.  
Off-campus cottages were opened in 1980.
- Sex and Ages:** Mothers, infants and older boys and girls.
- Contact:** The Archivist-in-Charge  
Sisters of St Joseph  
Congregational Administration Centre  
PO Box 1508  
North Sydney NSW 2059  
Ph (02) 9929 7344  
Fax (02) 9929 7994
- Access:** Requests for personal record cards are to be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge providing personal identification and establishing the right to information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of other persons mentioned in the records.
- Access to adoption records is restricted in accordance with the provisions of the NSW **Adoption Information Act 1990**. People wishing to access information from these records should contact:
- Catholic Children’s Home Enquiry Service  
Centacare Adoption Services  
9 Alexandra Ave  
Croydon NSW 2132  
Tel (02) 9744 7055  
Fax (02) 9744 0871
- Records:** Except in cases of adoption, there are no records surviving for the years prior to 1952 when the Home was transferred to the Sisters of St Joseph. After 1952, personal record cards exist for children who were not adopted and young children under the age of three years. The cards include

information about the child, including the name, date of birth, parent's names and reasons as to why the child was placed in care.

Adoption records include information about the birth mother, the baby and the adopting parents. The amount and type of information varies.

## ■ ST BRIGID'S GIRLS' HOME

St Brigid's Girls' Home was opened under the patronage of Cardinal Moran on 17 June 1898 with the first child entering the Home a month later. It was located in Sydney's northern suburb of Ryde and cared for girls aged between 5 and 15 years. It cared for six child migrant girls, ages unknown, from the United Kingdom who were settled in Australia. After 80 years of operation St Brigid's closed on 16 March 1978.

<b>Location:</b>	RYDE, SYDNEY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1898 - 1978.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care. Known to have provided services to child migrants.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls aged from 5 to 15 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Convent of Mercy PO Box 2012 North Parramatta NSW 2151 Ph (02) 9630 1106 Fax (02) 9683 6550
<b>Access:</b>	Access to information contained in the records is available to the person to whom the information relates, or their family members. While physical access to original records is not available, the information will be copied by the Archivist.
<b>Records:</b>	General information including name, date and place of birth, names and addresses of parents or guardians, reason for admission, place of baptism, date of discharge and to whom, and general remarks. Copies of records are also held at:

Centacare Adoption Services  
 Centacare Catholic Community Services, Sydney  
 9 Alexandra Ave  
 Croydon NSW 2132  
 Ph (02) 9744 7055  
 Fax (02) 9744 0871

## ■ ST CATHERINE’S HOME

St Catherine’s was located at Brooklyn on the Hawkesbury River north of Sydney. While the Home primarily cared for girls, some of the girls’ young brothers were also provided with care.

<b>Location:</b>	BROOKLYN, VIA HORNSBY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, North Sydney Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1931 - 1990.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care and education.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls aged from 6 to 16 years and some young male siblings.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Sister of Mercy Archives 29 McLaren St North Sydney NSW 2060 Ph/Fax (02) 9955 6253
<b>Access:</b>	Former residents are able to access information in surviving records.
<b>Records:</b>	Unfortunately, no records have survived for the years prior to 1961. An index of residents, some personal files, admission and discharge details have been retained from 1961.

## ■ ST EDMUND’S

St Edmund’s operated from 1951 to 1980 as a residential school for boys who had a visual impairment. Located on Sydney’s north shore, it is currently operating as a secondary school for boys.

<b>Location:</b>	WAHROONGA, SYDNEY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Christian Brothers.

- Years of Operation:** 1951 - 1980.  
Continues to operate as a secondary educational facility for boys.
- Type of Service:** A residential school for boys who had a visual impairment.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys aged from 5 to 17 years of age.
- Contact:** The Principal  
St Edmund's School  
60 Burns Rd  
Wahroonga NSW 2076  
Ph (02) 9487 1044  
Fax (02) 9489 0069
- Access:** For information regarding access to records, please contact the Principal of the school.
- Records:** Records have been maintained since the school opened in 1951.

## ■ ST GABRIEL'S

St Gabriel's was established as a residential Home for boys who had a hearing impairment. It was operated by the Christian Brothers at Castle Hill in Sydney's north west, opening in 1922.

- Location:** CASTLE HILL, SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Christian Brothers.
- Years of Operation:** 1922 - 1980.
- Type of Service:** A residential school for boys who had a hearing impairment.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys aged from 5 to 17 years.
- Contact:** The Principal  
St Edmund's School  
60 Burns Rd  
Wahroonga NSW 2076  
Ph (02) 9487 1044  
Fax (02) 9489 0069
- Access:** For information regarding access to records for St Gabriel's, please contact the Principal of St Edmund's School.



**Records:** For information regarding records, please contact the principal of St Edmund’s School.

## ■ ST JOHN’S HOME

St John’s Home was opened in 1905 and located in Clinton St Goulburn in the NSW Southern Highlands. Two years later, the Home relocated to premises in Mundy St Goulburn where it remained until amalgamated with St Joseph’s in 1976 to form St John’s Home, Auburn St - which is a co-educational residential facility.

**Location:** GOULBURN.

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Goulburn Congregation.

**Years of Operation:** 1905 - 1975.

**Type of Service:** Residential care for boys.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys aged from 5 to 16 years.

**Contact:** The Congregational Leader  
Sisters of Mercy Congregational Centre  
PO Box 221  
Goulburn NSW 2580  
Ph (02) 4822 2296  
Fax (02) 4821 6212

**Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates or family members who are able to prove their relationship to that person. Information is not available to third parties regarding a person that is still living.

**Records:** Admission registers have been retained for the period 1919 to 1975 which include basic personal details and the name of at least one parent. Some personal record cards and baptismal certificates have also survived.

## ■ ST JOHN’S HOME

St John’s Home in Auburn St, Goulburn was formed through the amalgamation of St Joseph’s Orphanage and St John’s Home in 1976 and provided care for both boys and girls. The Sisters of Mercy also operated two cottages from the facility. The Home closed in 1984 and the cottages remained open for a further three years before their closure.

**Location:** GOULBURN, AUBURN ST.

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Goulburn Congregation.

**Years of Operation:** 1976 - 1987.

**Type of Service:** Residential care.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys and Girls from 5 to 16 years.

**Contact:** The Congregational Leader  
Sisters of Mercy Congregational Centre  
PO Box 221  
Goulburn NSW 2580  
Ph (02) 4822 2296  
Fax (02) 4821 6212

**Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates or to a family member who can prove their relationship to him/her. Information is not available to third parties regarding a person who is still living.

**Records:** Admission registers have been retained which have basic personal details including the name of at least one parent. Some personal record cards and baptismal certificates have also been maintained.

■ **ST JOHN'S ORPHANAGE**, also known as  
**ST JOHN'S HOME, WIRLINGA**

St John's Orphanage operated from three sites located at Thurgoona on the outskirts of Albury on the NSW/Victorian border. It was also known as St John's Home, Wirlinga. In 1976 the Home changed from providing institutional care to group homes for children and continues to operate today.

**Location:** ALBURY.

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Goulburn Congregation.

**Years of Operation:** 1882 - continues to operate in 1999.

**Type of Service:** Orphanage and residential care.

**Sex and Ages:** Initially girls aged from 5 to 16 years but in later years catered for both boys and girls. The Sisters also cared for 30 child migrants from the United Kingdom.

**Contact:** The Congregational Leader  
Sisters of Mercy Congregational Centre  
PO Box 221  
Goulburn NSW 2580

Ph (02) 4822 2296  
Fax (02) 4821 6212

- Access:** Information is available to the person to whom the information relates or family members. For privacy reasons, information is not available to third parties regarding a person who is still living.
- Records:** Admission details have been retained for all of the operating life of the institutions, from 1882 to 1995. However, information only relates to the children, not family members. A further list of names for the period 1932 to 1959 exists which also has details of a child’s parents or guardians.

■ **ST JOSEPH’S COWPER CHILDREN’S HOMES, formerly known as ST JOSEPH’S ORPHANAGE**

The original orphanage opened at Cowper, near Grafton, on the NSW north coast to care for children who suffered from poverty and destitution during World War I. Until January 1972, it continued to operate from the same premises caring for a total of 2,125 children. To finance the orphanage the Sisters of Mercy purchased a dairy farm, built an egg production plant and planted an orchard. Since 1930, the local Church and general community have been involved in the support of St Joseph’s and provide ongoing assistance with running costs. The group homes built in 1972 replaced the old dormitories and provide the children with improved access to facilities in the township. These remain in operation today with an emphasis on individual care programs, therapy, counselling and family mediation.

- Location:** NORTH ST, GRAFTON.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Grafton Congregation.
- Years of Operation:** 1914 - 1972 as St Joseph’s Orphanage;  
1972 - 1998 continued to operate as group homes.  
1998 - continues to operate as Model 2 Residential Facility.
- Type of Service:** Originally an orphanage. Currently providing residential care for children with behavioural difficulties, therapy, counselling and family mediation.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from infancy to 18 years from 1914 to 1971; and  
boys and girls aged from 5 to 16 years from 1972 onwards.

- Contact:** The Administrator  
St Joseph's Cowper  
PO Box 418  
Grafton NSW 2460  
Ph (02) 6642 3022  
Fax (02) 6642 1763
- Access:** Past residents are welcomed. Files can be accessed and viewed along with photographs.
- Records:** Twenty boxes of records have been maintained. Records prior to 1980 give basic personal details and names of parents. Records from 1980 to 1992 have additional information which may include school reports and brief case notes. After 1992 extensive records have been maintained which include photographs and video recordings.

### ■ ST JOSEPH'S GIRLS' HOME

In 1900 St Joseph's Girls' Home was established at Gore Hill with funds received from the NSW Government when it resumed the "The Providence" Home at the Rocks in Cumberland St - see entry above. Long and short term care was provided for girls in a variety of circumstances. While most girls returned to their families, some went into foster or adoptive families. It also provided care for child migrant girls from the United Kingdom who were settled in Australia. During the 1970s the Home was divided into units for accommodation for small groups which remained operational until the Home's closure in 1979.

- Location:** GORE HILL, also known as LANE COVE.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.
- Years of Operation:** 1900 - 1979.
- Type of Service:** Residential accommodation both short and long term. Known to have provided services to child migrants.
- Sex and Ages:** Girls aged 7 to 15 Years.
- Contact:** The Archivist-in-Charge  
Sisters of St Joseph  
Congregational Administration Centre  
PO Box 1508  
North Sydney NSW 2059  
Ph (02) 9929 7344  
Fax (02) 9929 7994

- Access:** It is requested that applications be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge providing identification and stating the right to information. Physical access to original records is not available due to their fragility and the need to protect the privacy of others mentioned in the records.
- Records:** Some Admission Forms and registers for the period until the Home's closure in 1979. However, the amount and detail of the information in the registers varies.

■ **ST JOSEPH'S HOME**, later became  
**ST ANTHONY'S**

St Joseph's Home at Croydon in Sydney's inner western suburbs was established in 1926 and cared for both boys and girls between the ages of two and seven years. It was founded with the aim of keeping families together. At the end of 1979 St Joseph's was amalgamated with St Anthony's Croydon - see separate entry.

- Location:** CROYDON, SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.
- Years of Operation:** 1926 - 1979.  
From 1979 amalgamated with St Anthony's in Croydon and became known as St Anthony's - see separate entry.
- Type of Service:** Residential.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls aged from 2 to 7 years.
- Contact:** The Archivist-in-Charge  
Sisters of St Joseph  
Congregational Administration Centre  
PO Box 1508  
North Sydney NSW 2059  
Ph (02) 9929 7344  
Fax (02) 9929 7994
- Access:** It is requested that applications be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge providing identification and stating the right to receive information. Physical access to original records is not available due to their fragility and the need to maintain the confidentiality of others that may be mentioned in the records.
- Records:** Admission registers, personal record cards and notifications of reception and discharge exist for various

periods. However, the quality and quantity of the information is variable with much being incomplete.

### ■ ST JOSEPH'S HOME

St Joseph's Orphanage was established in 1887 and located on the NSW Central Coast. While it was initially set up to care for boys only, girls were eventually admitted during the 1970's. However, like many facilities of this type, the orphanage was closed in 1979 due to a trend away from institutional care for children.

**Location:** KINCUMBER.

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.

**Years of Operation:** 1887 - 1979.

**Type of Service:** Orphanage and residential care.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys aged from 7 to 15 years, and boys and girls during the 1970s.

**Contact:** The Archivist-in-Charge  
Sisters of St Joseph  
Congregational Administration Centre  
PO Box 1508  
North Sydney NSW 2059  
Ph (02) 9929 7344  
Fax (02) 9929 7994

**Access:** It is requested that applications are made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge providing identification and stating the right to information. Physical access to the original records is not available due to their fragility and the need to protect the privacy of others mentioned in the records.

**Records:** A register of children has been maintained with basic personal details including the child's name, date and place of birth, date received and discharged, religion, and parent's name, address and occupation.

### ■ ST JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE

The Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst Congregation, were responsible for the administration of two children's homes owned by the Diocese of Bathurst. These were St Joseph's Orphanage, Bathurst, from 1867 to 1975, and Croagh Patrick Orphanage, Orange, from 1969 to 1982 - see separate entry.

<b>Location:</b>	BATHURST.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1867 - 1975.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care with education at local Convent School, and post-school employment at on-site Industrial School for senior girls.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls from infancy to adolescence.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Congregational Leader Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst Congregation St Joseph's Mount PO Box 81 Bathurst NSW 2795 Ph (02) 6331 4611
<b>Access</b>	Requests for details are assessed individually but usually information is provided only for ex-residents and their families.
<b>Records:</b>	Admission registers which cover the period from 1867 to 1975 contain details such as the name of the child, date of birth, date of admission, parents' names and occupations, and general remarks. The details are incomplete and the amount of information varies.

## ■ ST JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE

St Joseph's Orphanage was located in Clinton St, Goulburn until 1905 when it was relocated to Kenmore on the town's outskirts. In 1976, it amalgamated with St John's Home for boys with the children moving to one of two cottages or to the new co-educational St John's Home in Auburn Street.

<b>Location:</b>	GOULBURN.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Goulburn Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1864 - 1975. From 1976 called St John's Girls Home.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls aged from 5 to 16 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Congregational Leader Sisters of Mercy Congregational Centre PO Box 221

Goulburn NSW 2580

Ph (02) 4822 2296

Fax (02) 4821 6212

**Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates or family members who are able to prove their relationship to the former resident. Information is not available to third parties regarding a person who is still living.

**Records:** Admission registers have been retained for the period 1919 to 1975 which include basic personal details and the name of at least one parent. Some personal record cards and baptismal certificates have also survived.

### ■ ST JOSEPH'S "THE PROVIDENCE"

In 1880 the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart established a home in Cumberland St in the Rocks area of Sydney. Named 'The Providence', the home cared for male and female children as well as homeless women. In 1887 the boys were transferred to a new home at Kincumber on the NSW Central Coast - see entry for St Joseph's Home above.

Later the women were cared for by the Little Sisters of the Poor at Randwick in Sydney's eastern suburbs. In 1900, St Joseph's at Gore Hill, also known as St Joseph's Lane Cove - see entry below - was established with funds received from the NSW Government when the property at the Rocks was resumed.

**Location:** THE ROCKS, SYDNEY CITY.

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.

**Years of Operation:** 1880 - 1900.

**Type of Service:** Residential.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys, girls and homeless women.

**Contact:** The Archivist-in-Charge  
Sisters of St Joseph  
Congregational Administration Centre  
PO Box 1508  
North Sydney NSW 2059  
Ph (02) 9929 7344  
Fax (02) 9929 7994

**Access:** It is requested that applications be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge providing identification and the right to information. Physical access to the original records is



not possible due to their fragility and the need to protect the privacy of others mentioned in the records.

**Records:** Some basic information for this early period may be available on admission forms and registers that have survived.

## ■ ST MAGDALEN’S REFUGE

This refuge, also known as the Buckingham Street Women’s Refuge, provided accommodation to females over the age of twelve years. The aim of St Magdalen’s was to provide a place of refuge in the city area and assist the residents to locate permanent shelter and suitable employment. From 1933 the premises operated as a facility for older people.

**Location:** SYDNEY CITY.

**Church Organisation:** Good Samaritan Sisters.

**Years of Operation:** 1903 - 1936.

**Type of Service:** Short-term accommodation and assistance.

**Sex and Ages:** Girls and women aged over 12 years.

**Contact:** The Archivist  
Good Samaritan Archives  
2 Avenue Rd  
Glebe NSW 2037  
Ph (02) 9566 2188  
Fax (02) 9692 8701

**Access:** Available to former residents and their families who may access information regarding themselves or that family member.

**Records:** Admission registers have been retained with some basic personal details such as dates of birth and admission. In some cases, information relating to the girl’s parents and discharge details are recorded.

## ■ ST MAGDALEN’S RETREAT, later became known as the GOOD SAMARITAN TRAINING CENTRE

St Magdalen’s Retreat, which opened in November 1887, aimed to provide accommodation and material support for disadvantaged women over the age of 12 and to assist in their rehabilitation. From the 1940s onwards, the Sisters cared mainly for

girls referred by the courts. In 1948 the Retreat became known as the Good Samaritan Training Centre - see separate entry.

- Location:** TEMPE, SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Good Samaritan Sisters.
- Years of Operation:** 1887 - 1947.  
From 1948 became known as the Good Samaritan Training Centre - see separate entry.
- Type of Service:** Residential and rehabilitation.
- Sex and Ages:** Women and girls aged from 12 years.
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Good Samaritan Archives  
2 Avenue Rd  
Glebe NSW 2037  
Ph (02) 9566 2188  
Fax (02) 9692 8701
- Access:** Available to former residents of the service and their families who may access information pertaining to themselves.
- Records:** Admission Registers retained by the Order include the name of the child, date of admission and date of birth. In some cases additional information such as the parents' names and discharge details are recorded.

## ■ ST MARTHA'S HOME

Located in the Sydney metropolitan area and operating from 1888 to 1969, St Martha's Home is recorded as an Industrial Home for Girls.

- Location:** LEICHHARDT, SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.
- Years of Operation:** 1888 - 1969.
- Type of Service:** Industrial School.
- Sex and Ages:** Girls
- Contact:** The Archivist-in-Charge  
Sisters of St Joseph  
Congregational Administration Centre  
PO Box 1508

North Sydney NSW 2059

Ph (02) 9929 7344

Fax (02) 9929 7994

**Access:** It is requested that applications be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge providing identification and the right to information. Physical access to the original records is not possible due to their fragility and the need to protect the privacy of others mentioned in the records.

**Records:** Some records have survived which relate to students of the School. For general information about the institution, the Archivist-in-Charge may be of some assistance.

## ■ ST MICHAEL'S HOME

The institution originally opened as an orphanage in 1902 under the auspices of the Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta Congregation, and cared for boys aged from 5 to 12 years. When the boys reached the age of 12 they were transferred to St Vincent's at Westmead. The orphanage later became known as St Michael's Boys' Home and then St Michael's Children's Home caring for both boys and girls aged from five to 15 years.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s the children were housed in three cottages until their eventual closure in May 1982. It now operates as the St Michael's Family Centre which provides accommodation to homeless women and children. Long day care facilities are also provided.

**Location:** BAULKHAM HILLS, SYDNEY.

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta Congregation.

**Years of Operation:** 1902 - 1982.

**Type of Service:** Residential.  
Group homes from the late 1960s and early 1970s.

**Sex and Ages:** Originally boys aged 5 to 12 years, and later girls from 5 to 15 years.

**Contact:** The Administrator  
St Michael's Family Centre  
522 Windsor Rd  
Baulkham Hills NSW 2153  
Ph (02) 9639 0763  
Fax (02) 9639 9250

- Access:** Access is generally available to the person to whom the information relates or family members. Information is extracted from the original records and then passed on.
- Records:** Admission register includes child's name, place of birth, place of baptism, date of admission, parents' names and addresses, discharge details and remarks.

## ■ ST PATRICK'S HOME

St Patrick's Home was originally established in 1919 as St Patrick's Orphanage and located in O'Connor Rd, Armidale, on the NSW Northern Tablelands. In 1976, cottages known as St Patrick's Homes were opened in the township for children in need of alternate care. These cottages closed in 1984.

- Location:** ARMIDALE.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Gunnedah Congregation.
- Years of Operation:** 1919 - 1984.
- Type of Service:** Residential.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys aged from 3 to 12 years and girls aged from 3 to 16 years.
- Contact:** The Congregational Leader  
Sisters of Mercy  
PO Box 378  
Gunnedah NSW 2380  
Tel (02) 6742 0235  
Fax (02) 6742 1810

Copies of the admission registers are also available at:  
Centacare Adoption Services  
9 Alexandra Ave  
Croydon NSW 2132  
Tel (02) 9744 7055  
Fax (02) 9744 0871

- Access:** Information in admission registers and personal record cards are available to the individual to whom it relates or a family member who is able to prove their relationship to the person. Information is not available to third parties about a person who is still alive.

**Records:** Admission registers, which commence in 1919, include the name of the child; dates of birth, admission and discharge; religion; parents’ names and names of siblings if they also came into care. Personal record cards, which commence from the 1960s, detail the circumstances of admission and discharge; parents’ details and medical histories.

## ■ ST VINCENT’S BOYS HOME

The St Vincent de Paul Society first established a refuge for homeless children in Surry Hills in 1891. During these early days, it was known as St Aloysius Home. Having moved to Redfern and then Five Dock, it was re-established at Westmead, west of Sydney, in 1896 where St Vincent’s became a joint venture with the Marist Brothers.

At Westmead the boys were able to learn farming and gain knowledge of a trade. However, by the mid 1950s, with the growing emphasis on schooling, St Vincent’s offered boarding school facilities for boys considered to be disadvantaged. During the 1960s the boys undertook their education externally at Catholic and other schools in the area.

In the 1970s, as with other institutions of the time, St Vincent’s became a much smaller program and by the eighties had adopted the concept of smaller group homes for the children.

**Location:** WESTMEAD, SYDNEY.

**Church Organisation:** Marist Brothers and St Vincent de Paul Society.

**Years of Operation:** 1891 - continues to operate in 1999.

**Type of Service:** Residential, industrial school, boarding school.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys of various ages.

**Contact:** The Director  
St Vincent’s  
PO Box 49  
Westmead NSW 2145  
Tel (02) 9635 5699  
Fax (02) 9891 2871

**Access:** Information is available to former residents and their family members. Others seeking to access the information must show good reason for wishing to do so.

**Records:** A register of records from 1905 as well as some school records and admission forms after the 1960s are available.

## ■ THERESIAN EMERGENCY CENTRE

The Theresian Emergency Centre was established in 1966 by the Sisters of Charity on the initiative of the Theresian Club, an organisation of Catholic women closely associated with the Sisters of Charity. The Centre was actually located at the Monte Oliveto Convent and provided short-term accommodation for children in crisis situations. The Sisters withdrew from this area of ministry in Edgecliffe in January 1983.

**Location:** EDGECLIFFE, SYDNEY.  
**Church Organisation:** Sisters of Charity.  
**Years of Operation:** 1966 - 1983.  
**Type of Service:** Short-term crisis care for children.  
**Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls aged from 2 to 12 years.  
**Contact:** The Archivist-in-Charge  
 Sisters of Charity of Australia  
 PO Box 21  
 Potts Point NSW 2011  
 Ph (02) 9356 3294

**Access:** It is requested that applications be made in writing providing personal identification and establishing the right to access the information. Physical access to original records is not available due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information relating to other persons. Information is forwarded by mail to the inquirer.

**Records:** Admission forms are available from 1966 to 1973 which contain basic personal information as well as some information on educational and medical history, and details regarding the child's parents. In some cases there may be additional information by way of attached correspondence. Reception records for the period 1966 to 1969 include personal details relating to the child and their parents.

## ■ TOONGABBIE

Toongabbie operated as a farm with a small school for teenage girls attached to it.

*“A Piece of the Story”*

- Location:** TOONGABBIE, SYDNEY.
- Church Organisation:** Good Shepherd Sisters.
- Years of Operation:** 1948 - 1961.
- Type of Service:** Residential care.
- Sex and Ages:** Teenage girls.
- Contact:** The Provincial Leader  
Good Shepherd Sisters  
PO Box 182  
Abbotsford VIC 3067  
Ph (03) 9419 5773  
Fax (03) 9419 4472
- Access:** Access is available to former residents of the Home or other authorised persons.
- Records:** Admission and discharge records have been retained.





## NORTHERN TERRITORY

### ■ NAUIYU, formerly known as DALY RIVER MISSION

A mission was established on the banks of the Daly River in 1955. A residential school was opened by the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart at the request of indigenous elders, Joe and Bill Parry, who were spokespersons for the people of the surrounding land. The school cared primarily for children who were placed there by their parents, with the children returning to their families during vacations. While at school, the girls were cared for by the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and the boys by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. As settlement developed closer to the Mission and better facilities became available for the families, the residential facility was closed and the day school continued.

<b>Location:</b>	NAUIYU, DALY RIVER.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Diocese of Darwin through the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1957 - 1977.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential, medical and educational care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls and boys aged approximately 5 to 17 years. Residential care for girls was the responsibility of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Residential care for boys was the responsibility of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
<b>Contact:</b>	c/- The Vicar General Diocese of Darwin GPO Box 476 Darwin NT 0801 Ph (08) 8941 1244 Fax (08) 8941 2101
<b>Access:</b>	Information is available to former students and their families
<b>Records:</b>	Limited records exist, such as school rolls.

## ■ OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART

A residential school was established by the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in 1938. The school was located at Hartley Street, Alice Springs, and cared for children who were placed there by their parents and returned to them in holiday time.

<b>Location:</b>	ALICE SPRINGS.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1938 - 1983. Renamed 'John Paul Hostel' in 1980.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential and educational care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls aged approximately 5 to 16 years and boys aged 6 to 12 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	c/- The Vicar General Diocese of Darwin GPO Box 476 Darwin NT 0801 Ph (08) 8941 1244 Fax (08) 8941 2101
<b>Access:</b>	Information is available to former students and their families.
<b>Records:</b>	Limited records exist, such as school rolls.

## ■ OUR LADY OF VICTORIES MISSION

Our Lady of Victories mission was established at Garden Point on Melville Island in 1940 by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. In 1941 the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart established a school, caring primarily for Indigenous boys and girls. The mission was handed over to the government in 1967.

<b>Location:</b>	PIRLANGIMPI - GARDEN POINT, MELVILLE ISLAND.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Diocese of Darwin through the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1941 - 1968.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential, medical and educational.

<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys and girls aged approximately 5 to 17 years. Residential care for girls was the responsibility of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Residential care for boys was the responsibility of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
<b>Contact:</b>	c/- The Vicar General Diocese of Darwin GPO Box 476 Darwin NT 0801 Ph (08) 8941 1244 Fax (08) 8941 2101
<b>Access:</b>	Information is available to former residents and their families.
<b>Records:</b>	Limited records exist, such as school rolls.

■ **WADEYE formerly known as  
PORT KEATS**

A mission was established at Port Keats in 1935 and transferred to its present site at Wadeye in 1938. A school was established by the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in 1939. The school cared primarily for indigenous boys and girls who were placed there by their parents. The children returned home during vacation periods. Residential care was discontinued as families resided close to the school and only a day school was continued.

<b>Location:</b>	WADEYE.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Diocese of Darwin through the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1939 - 1941, then residential care was suspended due to the Second World War. Reopened 1946 - 1975.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential, medical and educational care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys and girls aged approximately 5 to 17 years. Residential care for girls was the responsibility of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Residential care for boys was the responsibility of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

- Contact:** c/- The Vicar General  
Diocese of Darwin  
GPO Box 476  
Darwin NT 0801  
Ph (08) 8941 1244  
Fax (08) 8941 2101
- Access:** Information is available to former students and their families.
- Records:** Limited records exist, such as school rolls.

■ **LTYENTYE APURTE**, formerly known as  
**SANTA TERESA**

A mission was established at Charles Creek in 1935, which moved to Arltunga in 1942 and to Santa Teresa in 1953. Education and medical care were part of the mission. While at school the girls were cared for by the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and the boys by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. The children returned to their families during holiday times. As better facilities became available for the families, the residential services were closed and the day school continued.

- Location:** LTYENTYE APURTE.
- Church Organisation:** Diocese of Darwin through the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.  
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
- Years of Operation:** 1953 - 1977.
- Type of Service:** Residential, medical and educational care.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls aged approximately 5 to 17 years.  
Residential care for girls was the responsibility of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.  
Residential care for boys was the responsibility of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
- Contact:** c/- The Vicar General  
Diocese of Darwin  
GPO Box 476  
Darwin NT 0801  
Ph (08) 8941 1244  
Fax (08) 8941 2101
- Access:** Information is available to former students and their families.

**Records:** Limited records exist, such as school rolls.

■ **ST JOSEPH’S DARWIN**, later became known as  
**ST MARY’S DARWIN**

A boarding facility and school were established by the Daughters of our Lady of the Sacred Heart in 1908 in response to requests by parents from outlying areas. The boarding was for girls only who were placed there by their parents. The girls returned to their homes in holiday times.

**Location:** DARWIN.

**Church Organisation:** Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

**Years of Operation:** 1908 - 1939.

**Type of Service:** Residential and educational care.

**Sex and Ages:** Girls aged approximately 5 to 17 years.

**Contact:** c/- The Vicar General  
Diocese of Darwin  
GPO Box 476  
Darwin NT 0801  
Ph (08) 8941 1244  
Fax (08) 8941 2101

**Access:** Information is available to former students and their families.

**Records:** Limited records exist, such as school rolls.

■ **MURRUPURTIYANUWU CATHOLIC SCHOOL**, formerly known as  
**ST THERESE’S SCHOOL** and  
**XAVIER BOYS’ SCHOOL**

A mission was established at Bathurst Island in 1911 and a residential school for girls was opened by the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in 1912. A residential school for boys was opened by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in 1932. The schools cared primarily for indigenous girls and boys from Bathurst and Melville Islands who were placed there by their families. The children returned to their families during vacations. As people began to settle closer to the Mission and as better facilities became available for the families, the residential service was closed and only the day school continued. A cyclone in 1919 destroyed all the facilities existing at that time.

**Location:** NGUIU, BATHURST ISLAND.

- Church Organisation:** Diocese of Darwin through the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
- Years of Operation:** 1912 - 1940, then closed due to the war.  
Reopened in 1946 until 1970.
- Type of Service:** Residential, medical and educational care.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls aged approximately 5 to 17 years.  
Residential care for girls was the responsibility of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.  
Residential care for boys was the responsibility of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
- Contact:** c/- The Vicar General  
Diocese of Darwin  
GPO Box 476  
Darwin NT 0801  
Ph (08) 8941 1244  
Fax (08) 8941 2101
- Access:** Information is available to former students and their families.
- Records:** Limited records exist, such as school rolls.







## QUEENSLAND

### ■ BOYSTOWN

At the invitation of, and in conjunction with, the Beaudesert Parish Priest, the De La Salle Brothers opened BoysTown in February 1961. It operates as a residential arrangement with 7 cottages able to accommodate up to 12 boys in each. There is also a fully registered secondary school as part of the complex. Emphasis is placed on the development of life skills, career planning, a wide variety of recreational pursuits and familiarisation with modern technology. Situated on a large farming property, boys have access to farming experiences.

**Location:** BEAUDESERT.

**Church Organisation:** De La Salle Brothers.

**Years of Operation:** 1961 - continues to operate in 1999.

**Type of Service:** Residential care for 84 boys and a school.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys aged 12 to 16 years.

**Contact:** The Director  
Boys Town  
PO Box 4  
Beaudesert QLD 4285  
Ph (07) 5541 1511  
Fax (07) 5541 3015

**Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates. It is requested that applications be made in writing. Due to the need to protect the privacy of all living persons mentioned in the records, physical access is not permitted.

**Records:** A register of all boys has been maintained and these include basic personal details. Most recent records are more extensive and include copies of education certificates and other information.

### ■ FATIMA FAMILY CENTRE

Established in 1974 as Fatima Home for Children to provide residential care placements for children from Toowoomba and South West Queensland requiring alternative care because of their protective needs.

<b>Location:</b>	TOOWOOMBA.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Brisbane Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1974 - continues to operate in 1999.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care provided on site from 1974 to 1995. Shared Family Care (foster care) and live-in Family Support (parent education) Program for parents and their children from 1992. Specialised Direct Care Service for children with high support needs from 1997.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls and boys from infancy to 18 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Director Fatima Family Centre 104 South St Toowoomba QLD 4350 Ph (07) 4635 8600 Fax (07) 4635 1550
<b>Access:</b>	Information is available to past clients still living or to the descendants of those deceased. Application to be made in writing to The Director, Fatima Family Centre, providing identification and the right to information.
<b>Records:</b>	Personal files.

## ■ HOLY CROSS HOME

Holy Cross Home, Wooloowin was founded in 1889 by Mother M Vincent Whitty as a refuge and rehabilitation centre for women in need, such as single mothers and ex-prisoners.

<b>Location:</b>	WOOLOOWIN.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Brisbane Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	From 1889 - 1973, as a refuge and rehabilitation centre. From 1974, continuing care for physically and intellectually disabled persons and single mothers. From 1978, the Home became the Mercy Centre and changed service to become a centre for intellectually and physically disabled persons.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Institutional-type residential care from 1889 to 1978. Family-style units with House Parent care for

physically and intellectually disabled persons from 1978 to the present.

A unit for single mothers from 1978 to 1985.

<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls and women from 12 years onwards.
<b>Contact:</b>	Congregational Leader Sisters of Mercy Congregational Offices PO Box 299 Bardon QLD 4060 Ph (07) 3369 5533 Fax (07) 3368 2396
<b>Access:</b>	Request for information to be made in writing to the Congregational Leader providing identification and the right to information.
<b>Records:</b>	Records kept in filing system in the Archive Office and information is contained in an admission register.

- **HOME OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**, became known as **MT MARIA RE-EDUCATION CENTRE FOR GIRLS**, later became known as **MT MARIA YOUTH CENTRE**

The Home of the Good Shepherd was a secure rehabilitation centre for adolescent girls, many of whom were viewed as in need of care and protection or in need of care and control by the State Government. The Home also provided refuge for women with social and intellectual disability. To finance the institution the Sisters ran a commercial laundry which also aimed to provide skills training for those in care. When the re-education centre closed in 1974, the Sisters of the Good Shepherd maintained contact with approximately 15 older women who were housed in supported accommodation in the community.

<b>Location:</b>	MITCHELTON, BRISBANE.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Shepherd Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1931 - 1974.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care, rehabilitation and shelter.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls aged from 12 years and adult women.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Provincial Leader Good Shepherd Provincialate PO Box 182

Abbotsford VIC 3067

Tel (03) 9419 5773

Fax (03) 9419 4472

**Access:** Access is available to former residents of the Home or other authorised persons.

**Records:** Admission and discharge records have been retained.

## ■ LOGAN RESERVE LODGE

At the instigation of the then Director of BoysTown, Beaudesert, and with the approval of the Provincial of the De La Salle Brothers, a similar though restricted accommodation facility for girls was established.

**Location:** LOGAN RESERVE.

**Church Organisation:** De La Salle Brothers.

**Years of Operation:** 1989 - continues to operate in 1999.

**Type of Service:** Residential care facility for 6 girls.

**Sex and Ages:** Girls aged 12 to 16 years.

**Contact:** Chairman  
BoysTown Family Care  
PO Box 2000  
Milton QLD 4064  
Ph (07) 3867 1231  
Fax (07) 3368 2371

**Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates. It is requested that applications be made in writing. Due to the need to protect the privacy of all living persons mentioned in the records, physical access is not permitted.

**Records:** A register of all girls and boys has been maintained and these include basic personal details. Most recent records are more extensive and include copies of education certificates and other information.

## ■ NAZARETH HOUSE

Nazareth House was opened in 1921 as a home for aged persons. From 1926 to 1984 children in need of care were also accepted. Nazareth House continues to provide care for 126 elderly persons.

<b>Location:</b>	WYNNUM NORTH.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Nazareth.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	For the aged, 1921 to the present. For child care, 1926 to 1984.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	From birth, mainly girls with a few boys up to the age of nine years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Sister Superior Nazareth House 272 Wynnum North Road Wynnum North QLD 4178 Ph (07) 3393 5511 Fax (07) 3893 1792
<b>Access:</b>	Access to information only to the person concerned or a relative where identity is proved.
<b>Records:</b>	Name, date and place of birth; name and occupation of parents, where available; and date and place of baptism, date of arrival and discharge.

## ■ ST BRIGID’S INDUSTRIAL/TRAINING SCHOOL

St Brigid’s Convent was the founding house of the Rockhampton Sisters of Mercy after their arrival from Brisbane in August 1873. From 1874 to 1895, it housed the Catholic Girls’ High School before the school was transferred to a site on the Athelstone Range. Boarders attending the High School continued to live at St Brigid’s as well as a group of boarders who were part of the student population of the neighbouring primary schools of St Patrick’s and Our Lady’s. In the workrooms at St Brigid’s, the Sisters taught dressmaking, millinery, lace and fancy work, cooking, typewriting, music and art to the boarders. The Sisters also made Church vestments and altar decorations.

<b>Location:</b>	ROCKHAMPTON.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Rockhampton.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1874 - 1985. The Sisters of Mercy sold the property in 1988.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	As above. The character of St Brigid’s boarders and the nature of activities began to change and it eventually emerged as a hostel for working girls, then finally as a retirement home for Sisters and other women residents.

<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Women and school aged girls.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Congregational Archivist Mercy Administration Centre PO Box 1576 Rockhampton QLD 4700 Ph/Fax (07) 4931 7472
<b>Access:</b>	Available to former residents and their families.
<b>Records:</b>	Only anecdotal history has been recorded, for example the names of Sisters who resided there, photographs, some original accounts, receipts. No original documents regarding admissions or employment exist.

■ **ST HENRY'S THURSDAY ISLAND**, commonly known as **CATHOLIC SCHOOL, THURSDAY ISLAND**

The mission of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart was established on Thursday Island in 1884. In 1938, responsibility for the mission was transferred from the Vicariate Apostolic of Papua to the Diocese of Darwin. In 1967, Thursday Island became part of the Diocese of Cairns.

From 1884 until 1967 the mission was served by Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Establishments included a school with residential facilities begun in 1887. It was mainly known as Catholic School, Thursday Island.

The school was primarily for indigenous children from the Thursday, Hammond and Naghir Islands, but was open to children from Papua New Guinea and New Britain. Many of the children were placed in school by their parents or guardians. The children returned to their families during holiday times.

In 1942, many of the women and their children went with the Sisters to Cooyar in Queensland due to the war. In 1944, some fathers arrived and families returned to their homes, though some made their permanent home in Cairns or Townsville. Two children went with one of the Sisters to Carrington, South Australia, and then later to Garden Point, Melville Island. After the war, it remained a day school only.

<b>Location:</b>	THURSDAY ISLAND.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

- Years of Operation:** 1887 - 1941.  
From 1941 until 1944 the school moved to Cooyar, Queensland, and then closed.
- Type of Service:** Residential care and educational care.
- Sex and Ages:** Girls and boys aged from approximately 5 to 16 years. Residential care for girls was the responsibility of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Residential care for boys was the responsibility of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.
- Contact:** The Principal  
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School  
PO Box 544  
Thursday Island QLD 4875  
Ph (07) 4069 2203  
Fax (07) 4069 1645
- A few records are kept with:  
The Archivist  
Provincial Archives  
Provincial House  
Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart  
2 Kensington Rd  
Kensington NSW 2033  
Ph (02) 9663 3599  
Fax (02) 9662 8149
- Access:** Access to information is available to former students and their families.
- Records:** All records are held at the school on Thursday Island, except for one exercise book with 12 pages of records which are held at the Provincial Archives of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Kensington NSW.

## ■ ST JOSEPH’S HOME

St Joseph’s Home, Neerkol was established in 1885 by Bishop John Cani DD, Bishop of Rockhampton in conjunction with the Sisters of Mercy of the Rockhampton Congregation.

- Location:** NEERKOL, VIA ROCKHAMPTON.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Rockhampton.

- Years of Operation:** 1885 - 1985.  
Moved to group homes in Rockhampton 1978.
- Type of Service:** Residential care of children admitted under Care and Protection Orders, Care and Control Orders, privately by parent/s, or as British migrant children from 1951 to 1955.
- Sex and Ages:** Initially boys and girls from infancy to release from Government control or completion of secondary schooling. In 1973 admissions for children under Care and Control and for children under three years of age were discontinued and alternative placements for secondary school students and post-primary boys were arranged.
- Contact:** Congregational Archivist  
Mercy Administration Centre  
PO Box 1576  
Rockhampton QLD 4700  
Ph/Fax (07) 4931 7472
- Access:** Written or phone requests by anyone who is able to identify themselves as having a right to personal information can receive a computer print-out of all information recorded in the books or original entry. Physical access to the original records is not available due to their fragility and the need to protect the privacy of others.
- Records:** Books of original entry are housed in the Congregation's Archives. These include the Admissions Register, School Register (from 1935), Records of Baptisms, First Communion and Confirmation (to 1964) and early records of Employment placements. This data has been transferred to computer records.

## ■ ST JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE

St Joseph's Orphanage was established in 1874 by Fr Pierre Bucas in conjunction with the Sisters of St Joseph who operated the Orphanage until 1880. The Sisters of Mercy then assumed responsibility until it was closed in 1885. The children were then transferred to the newly established orphanage of St Joseph's Home, Neerkol - see separate entry above.

- Location:** BUCASIA.  
(Approximately ten kilometres from Mackay)



- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph (1874 - 1880),  
Sisters of Mercy, Rockhampton (1880 - 1885).
- Years of Operation:** 1874 - 1885.
- Type of Service:** Care of orphaned and abandoned children.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from infancy to teenage years.
- Contact:** Congregational Archivist  
Mercy Administration Centre  
PO Box 1576  
Rockhampton QLD 4700  
Ph/Fax (07) 4931 7472
- Access:** Available to legitimate authorities, researchers and families of former residents. Computerised print-outs of the details are available in order to preserve the fragile condition of the original register.
- Records:** Original Admission Register which includes the name of the child, date and place of birth, date of and reason for admission. In some cases, the parents' names and discharge details are recorded.

■ **ST VINCENT'S ORPHANAGE**, later known as  
**ST VINCENT'S HOME**, and **ST VINCENT'S CENTRE**

On 11 November 1867, Mother M Vincent Whitty established the first Orphanage in Queensland on land previously purchased by Bishop James O'Quinn. Prior to this, orphaned and abandoned children had been living with the sick in the Brisbane General Hospital. While waiting for accommodation to be built at Nudgee, the children were cared for in rented accommodation in the suburb of New Farm.

- Location:** NUDGEE.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Brisbane Congregation.
- Years of Operation:** 1867 - continues to operate in 1999.
- Type of Service:** Institutional type residential care on the grounds of St Vincent's from 1867 to 1969.  
Small group living in family-style residences on campus from 1970 to 1985.  
Suburban group living from 1970 to the present.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from 9 months to 18 years.

- Contact:** **Up to and including 1986**  
 The Sisters of Mercy Archives Office  
 PO Box 299  
 Ashgrove Qld 4060  
 Ph (07) 3368 5630  
 Fax (07) 3368 2396
- 1987 onwards**  
 The Director  
 St Vincent's Centre  
 125 Queen's Rd  
 Nudgee QLD 4014  
 Ph (07) 3267 7100  
 Fax (07) 3267 0569
- Access:** Information is available to persons still living or to the descendants of those deceased. Application to be made in writing to the relevant contact person, providing identification and the right to information.
- Records:** Information recorded in Admission registers, card filing systems or personal files, depending on the child's date of admission.

## ■ XAVIER CHILDREN'S SUPPORT NETWORK

Xavier Home for Crippled Children operated from 1951 to 1993. In response to changing Government policies, Xavier changed from an institutional model of care to a community based model of care in 1994. It was then re-named Xavier Children's Support Network and is presently providing support for families with severely disabled children. The following services are offered: family support, respite care, shared care, palliative care, High Tech unit and a recreation/camp program.

- Location:** MOUNT GRAVATT, BRISBANE
- Church Organisation:** Franciscan Missionaries of Mary.
- Years of Operation:** 1951 to the present.
- Type of Service:** Community based family support to families who have children with high support needs and disabilities.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from infancy to 16 years.
- Contact:** Executive Director  
 Xavier Children's Support Network

284 Pine Mountain Road  
Mount Gravatt QLD 4122  
Tel (07) 3216 8775  
Fax (07) 3216 8778

**Access:** Information is available to the person to whom the information relates and to relevant others with written approval to release file information from the person to whom the information relates.

**Records:** Files contain personal details of the child and parents, as well as case notes. The amount of information available for each child varies.



# South Australia

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### ■ CATHOLIC BOYS REFORMATORY, *see* ST JOHN THE BAPTIST HOME FOR BOYS CATHOLIC GIRLS REFORMATORY

The first Catholic Orphanage in South Australia was established at Kapunda in 1897 and was known as the Catholic Girls Reformatory. The Reformatory was run by the Sisters of St Joseph until 1909 when it was closed by Archbishop O'Reilly due to lack of government funds.

<b>Location:</b>	KAPUNDA
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of St Joseph.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1897 - 1909.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Female teenagers.
<b>Contact:</b>	There are no names available.
<b>Access:</b>	see Mortlock Library.
<b>Records:</b>	State Children's Council records are housed in Mortlock Library.

### ■ CENTACARE CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES (ADELAIDE)

Centacare Catholic Family Services, an agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide, operated cottage homes for children on various sites from 1975 to 1997. The Agency also holds some records from other Catholic organisations that provided out of family care to children in earlier years.

<b>Location:</b>	ADELAIDE.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	An agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1975 - continues to operate in 1999.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Cottage homes for children.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Director Centacare Catholic Family Services, Adelaide 33 Wakefield St Adelaide SA 5000 Ph (08) 8210 8200 Fax (08) 8224 0930

### ■ CONVENT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD “THE PINES”

‘The Pines’ was opened in 1941 at the request of the Archbishop of Adelaide to care for teenage girls with behavioural problems and women. In 1961 a few girls were admitted who were 15 years or younger and a school was opened.

<b>Location:</b>	PLYMPTON.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Shepherd Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1941 - 1974.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care and education. Girls under 15 years of age attended school within the institution.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Women and girls from 12 to 18 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Provincial Leader Good Shepherd Sisters PO Box 182 Abbotsford VIC 3067 Tel (03) 9419 5773 Fax (03) 9419 4472
<b>Access:</b>	Access is available to former residents of the Home or other authorised persons.
<b>Records:</b>	Admission and discharge records have been retained.

### ■ SACRED HEART ORPHANAGE

The Sacred Heart Orphanage was originally a home for disadvantaged children whose fathers had been killed in World War II. Later, with financial assistance from the Department of Community Welfare, it became a home for children who needed residential care for the long or short term.

<b>Location:</b>	CRYSTAL BROOK.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Samaritan Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1940 - 1979.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential and educational care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys aged 4 to 12 and girls aged 4 to 15 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Good Samaritan Archives 2 Avenue Rd Glebe Point NSW 2037

Ph (02) 9566 2188

Fax (02) 9692 8701

**Access:** Information about themselves open to former residents or family members who can prove their relationship to the resident.

**Records:** A copy of the Sacred Heart Orphanage Admission register from 1951 - 1979 is held at the Good Samaritan Archives, Glebe Point. The original register is held at Port Pirie under the control of the Administrator of the Catholic Diocese of Port Pirie. The admission register for 1940 - 1950 cannot be located. While living at the Sacred Heart Orphanage, the children were educated at the parish school, St Stanislaus’.

■ **ST JOHN THE BAPTIST HOME FOR BOYS**, later became known as **ST JOHN’S BOYS TOWN**, or **ST JOHN’S HOME**

The Catholic Boys Reformatory was established by Fr John Healy in 1898 to cater for Catholic boys who were in the Government Reformatory at Magill. The Catholic Boys Reformatory was staffed by the Junior Guild of St John the Baptist a group that grew out of the Total Temperance Society. This group of men became the members of the Order of the Brothers of St John the Baptist established by Fr Healy in 1892 but not officially recognised until 1922. Records are held in Mortlock Library under State Children’s Council.

Archbishop Beovich renamed the St John the Baptist Home for Boys as “St John’s Boys Town” in 1940 and it continued as an orphanage for boys. In 1942 boys twelve years and older were moved from St Joseph’s Orphanage to Boys Town. In the same year the Order of St John the Baptist ceased to operate and they were succeeded by the Salesians of Don Bosco Fathers in 1943. St John’s Boys Town commonly referred to as “St John’s Home” grew into Salesian School and then became known as Salesian College in the late 1960s.

**Location:** BROOKLYN PARK.

**Church Organisation:** The Salesians of Don Bosco

**Years of Operation:** Brothers of St John the Baptist 1898 - 1942.  
Salesians of Don Bosco 1942 - 1982

**Type of Service:** Residential care and technical education.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys 12 years and older

**Contact:** Archivist  
 Salesian Provincial House  
 PO Box 80  
 Oakleigh VIC 3166  
 Ph (03) 9569 0707  
 Fax (03) 9563 27460  
 or  
 The Director  
 Centacare Catholic Family Services, Adelaide  
 33 Wakefield St  
 Adelaide SA 5000  
 Ph (08) 8210 8200  
 Fax (08) 8224 0930

**Access:** There are some files kept at Centacare Adelaide and these may be accessed with identification by former resident or with a person who can prove their relationship with a former resident.

**Records:** Minimum number kept at Centacare Adelaide.

■ **ST JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE**, later became known as  
**ST JOSEPH'S CHILDREN'S HOME**

The St Joseph's Orphanage, at Largs Bay was founded in 1903 by Archbishop O'Reilly as a sanatorium or rest home for women and children.

The Sisters of St Joseph were invited to manage the Institution. The Orphanage soon became overcrowded and in 1906 the Archbishop replaced it with a large house near the Largs Bay jetty. This became a sanatorium for women of moderate means who needed rest at the seaside and for homeless children. The children became a priority and both boys and girls were admitted to the home. In 1942 the girls were transferred to the St Vincent de Paul Orphanage, Goodwood and boys twelve years and older were moved to Boys Town at Brooklyn Park run by the Salesian fathers. The home closed in 1980.

**Location:** LARGS BAY.  
**Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.  
**Years of Operation:** 1906 - 1980.  
**Type of Service:** Residential care.  
**Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from infancy to school leaving age from 1906 to 1942.



Boys aged 3 to 11 years from 1942 to 1969.  
 Pre-school and primary aged boys and girls from 1969 to 1972.  
 Building sub-divided into independent Group Units with house-mothers and families were kept together from 1973. Boys and girls aged from infancy to 17 years.

- Contact:** The Director  
 Centacare Catholic Family Services, Adelaide  
 33 Wakefield St  
 Adelaide SA 5000  
 Ph (08) 8210 8200  
 Fax (08) 8224 0930
- Access:** Former residents and family members who substantiate their right to the information contained in the records.
- Records:** It is not possible to handle the original records because of their fragility and to protect the privacy of others whose names appear in the records. Copies of records will be provided.

## ■ ST VINCENT DE PAUL ORPHANAGE

A residential child-care facility of the Archdiocese of Adelaide. Known to have provided care for child migrant boys and girls from the United Kingdom who were settled in Australia.

- Location:** GOODWOOD
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph (1868 - 1889)  
 Sisters of Mercy (1890 - 1975)
- Years of Operation:** 1868 - 1975.
- Type of Service:** Residential child care. Family groups, including boys, were housed first in the modified building, then in suburban “cottage homes” from 1971 to 1975.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls aged 5 to 16 years, from 1868 to 1942.  
 Girls only, aged 5 to 16 years, from 1942 to 1970.
- Contact:** The Director  
 Centacare Catholic Family Services, Adelaide  
 33 Wakefield St  
 Adelaide SA 5000  
 Ph (08) 8210 8200  
 Fax (08) 8224 0930

- Access:** Former residents and family members who substantiate their right to the information contained in the records.
- Records:** It is not possible to handle the original records because of their fragility and to protect the privacy of others whose names appear in the records. Copies of records will be provided.





## TASMANIA

- **BOYS' TOWN**, also known as **ST JOHN BOSCO** and **JOHN BOSCO BOYS TOWN**, later became known as **SAVIO COLLEGE**, later again as **DOMINIC COLLEGE**

In May 1945 Archbishop Tweedy opened Boys' Town at Glenorchy. Some priests of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart ran the home for 27 orphans and needy boys (aged between 5 and 16 years) for the first year of its operation. In late 1946, the Salesian of Don Bosco Fathers took over the administration of the home and transferred a small number of younger children to the care of the Sisters of St Joseph in Surrey Hills, Victoria. The Salesians conducted a school on the premises from 1947. In 1951 a new accommodation building was completed on the site. Ten British migrant boys from England arrived in June 1952 and more followed from the British Isles - shipping records from 1952 refer to this institution as "John Bosco Boys Town". Archbishop Young changed the name to "Savio College" in January 1956. Orphan and migrant boys attended the school and 'boarded' on site. The last migrant boy left in July 1959. In 1973 Savio College, Holy Name College, run by the Dominican Sisters, and the Glenorchy Parish Primary School amalgamated to form "Dominic College". The boarding section of the College closed in 1994.

<b>Location:</b>	GLENORCHY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	The Salesians of Don Bosco.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1945 - 1956.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care and schooling. Known to have provided services to child migrants.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys aged 9 to 15 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	Father Provincial PO Box 80 Oakleigh VIC 3166 Tel (03) 9568 2025 Fax (03) 9563 2746
<b>Access:</b>	Information available to person to whom it relates.
<b>Records:</b>	The Diocesan archives hold few records from the time of Archbishop Tweedie, who was the Archbishop at the time of the height of the child migration era. A register of children has been maintained with basic personal details.

### ■ CENTACARE FAMILY SERVICES (HOBART)

Centacare is the official welfare agency of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Hobart covering all of Tasmania. The Agency exists as an expression of the social mission of the Catholic Church throughout the Archdiocese. It is the only private adoption agency in Tasmania and has been involved in adoption since 1959, arranging placement of children under the respective 1920, 1968 and 1988 **Adoption of Children Acts**.

- Location:** HOBART.
- Church Organisation:** An agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Hobart.
- Years of Operation:** 1959 - continues to operate in 1999.
- Type of Service:** Social work and counselling services.
- Contact:** Father Clem Kilby AM  
PO Box 369  
Moonah TAS 7008  
Tel (03) 6278 1660  
Fax (03) 6278 1005
- Access:** Information available to person to whom it relates.
- Records:** Information on adoption placements arranged by Centacare (Catholic Private Adoption Agency) is available to all parties connected with adoption in accordance with the provisions as governed by Part VI of the **Adoption of Children Act 1988**.

### ■ CONVENT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, “MT ST CANICE”

The Convent of the Good Shepherd, “Mt St Canice”, was established in 1893 at the request of Archdeacon Hogan of Westbury, Tasmania, to care for women and girls in need.

- Location:** SANDY BAY, HOBART.  
(St Canice Avenue)
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of the Good Shepherd.
- Years of Operation:** 1893 - 1974.
- Type of Service:** Residential care and schooling.  
Girls transferred from residential care in the Convent dormitories to hostel care, still within the Convent grounds, during the 1970s. Hence the years of

operation extended beyond that of other Good Shepherd Convents.

- Sex and Ages:** Women and girls from approximately eleven years were accommodated.
- Contact:** The Provincial Leader  
Good Shepherd Sisters  
PO Box 182  
Abbotsford VIC 3067  
Ph (03) 9419 5773  
Fax (03) 9419 4472
- Access:** Access is available to former residents of the Home or other authorised persons.
- Records:** Admission and discharge records have been retained.

■ **ST JOSEPH’S ORPHANAGE**, later became **AIKENHEAD HOUSE**, and **ST JOSEPH’S CHILD CARE CENTRE**

1879 - 1956: **ST JOSEPH’S ORPHANAGE**, Harrington Street, HOBART.

1956 - 1969: **AIKENHEAD HOUSE**, Harrington Street, HOBART, plus homes at New Town, Howrah, Tarooona and Cremorne.

1969 - 1978: **ST JOSEPH’S CHILD CARE CENTRE**, Tarooona, plus homes at Tarooona, Howrah, Rosny and Blackman’s Bay.

1978 - 1999 **ST JOSEPH’S FAMILY CRISIS CENTRE**, Tarooona

From July 1978, Centacare Tasmania became the successor agency, providing residential care and other family support services at St Joseph’s Family Care Centre. The information below relates only to the period 1879 - 1978, during which the Sisters of Charity operated St Joseph’s Orphanage, Aikenhead House, and St Joseph’s Child Care Centre. Any inquiries relating to the post-July 1978 period must be referred to Centacare. See separate entry for details.

The Sisters of Charity opened St Joseph’s Orphanage, Harrington Street, Hobart in 1879. The institution had the capacity to accommodate 60 residents. Orphans were admitted as well as children whose families were experiencing various kinds of difficulties. Girls resided there until aged 15 or 16 and it appears that boys were not admitted until 1963.

In 1958, new accommodation was built and the new residence was named “Aikenhead

House”, St Joseph’s still by others. A wing for 14 boys aged 2 to 9 years was completed in late 1963. There were at least two group homes attached to Aikenhead House: Villa Maria (New Town 1964 - 1967, then Howrah 1967 - 1982) and Loreto (Taroona 1966 - 1983). There was also a holiday house located at Cremorne. Aikenhead House was closed when its accommodation capacity was 70 children.

Residential accommodation for the children was then transferred to St Joseph’s Child Care Centre, Taroona in 1969. The Taroona Centre provided accommodation in three separate cottages, each housing 10 residents, and in three family group homes (“Carinya” at Rosny, “Villa Maria” at Howrah and “Loreto” at Taroona) where all attempts were made to keep siblings united. A fourth home at “Bimbadeen” in Blackman’s Bay, disposed of in 1982, was added to the Centre’s family group home system. Boys and girls aged 5 to 17 were admitted at St Joseph’s, Taroona.

In July 1978, the Sisters of Charity and the Hobart Catholic Archdiocese combined resources to plan for the restoration of this Centre which continues the work begun at St Joseph’s Orphanage, Hobart (founded 1879) and transferred to St Joseph’s Child Centre (1978-1999). The Archdiocese’s welfare agency, Centacare, assumed responsibility for the conduct of the Centre, whilst the Congregation continued its involvement in this area of ministry for a while, through the individual contributions of various Sisters working at the Centre.

- Location:** HARRINGTON ST, HOBART (1879 - 1969), TAROONA (from 1969 onwards).  
Also, family group homes at New Town, Taroona, Howrah, Rosny and Blackman’s Bay and a holiday home at Cremorne.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Charity, Tasmanian Congregation (1879 - 1890),  
Sisters of Charity, Australian Congregation (1890 - July 1978).  
Successor agency from July 1978 is Centacare Tasmania.
- Years of Operation:** 1879 - 1999.
- Type of Service:** Institutionalised care from 1879 to 1969.  
Cottage homes and group homes were provided from 1964 to 1978.  
Centacare Tasmania assumed responsibility for the conduct of the Centre and has operated group homes from 1978 - see separate entry.



- Sex and Ages:** Girls aged between 2 and 15 years, then between 5 and 17 years from 1879.  
Boys usually aged between 2 and 9 years, then between 5 and 17 years from 1963.
- Contact:** Archivist in Charge  
Sisters of Charity Archives  
PO Box 21  
Potts Point NSW 1335  
Ph (02) 9356 3294  
Fax (02) 9358 6830  
or  
Centacare Family Services, Tasmania  
PO Box 369  
Moonah TAS 7009  
Ph (03) 6278 1660  
Fax (03) 6278 1005
- Access:** Access to records held at the Sisters of Charity Archives is restricted as a protective measure due to the fragility of the records and to the private nature of the information contained therein. Applications for access to information must be made in writing to the Archivist in Charge. Access inquiries for records held by Centacare must be directed to Centacare.
- Records:** The Sisters of Charity Archives hold very few records relating to the children admitted at St Joseph’s. These include the original Admission Register, from 1879 - 1937, and a copy for the period 1939 - 1973. Centacare Tasmania, the successor agency, is believed to hold any other records relating to the children who have resided at St Joseph’s.



## VICTORIA

■ **CENTACARE CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES**, formerly known as  
**CATHOLIC FAMILY WELFARE BUREAU**

Centacare Catholic Family Services has provided child placement services to the community since 1935 and infant and sibling adoptions since the Victorian **Adoption Act 1984**. The Agency also provides an Adoption Information Service.

<b>Location:</b>	MELBOURNE.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	An agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1935 - continues to operate in 1999.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Adoption.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Infants and siblings.
<b>Contact:</b>	Principal Officer Adoption Program 396 Albert Street EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002 Tel (03) 9419 5633 Fax (03) 9419 5734
<b>Access:</b>	Information available to person to whom it relates.
<b>Records:</b>	Birth parents' records, adoptive parents' records and adoption information records are available under the prescriptions of the Victorian <b>Adoption Information Act 1984</b> .

■ **“CHURINGA” SPECIAL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**

Residential care for boys with a developmental disability.

<b>Location:</b>	GREENSBOROUGH.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Brothers of St John of God.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1967 - 1990.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care and a school for boys with a developmental disability.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys only from 7 to 16 years. Some girls were admitted as Day students only in the latter years of the service.

- Contact:** The Provincial  
Province Centre  
PO Box BN1055  
Burwood North NSW 2134  
Ph (02) 9747 1699  
Fax (02) 9744 3262
- Access:** Information is available upon written request from persons providing identification and stating the right to access the information requested.
- Records:** Client files have been maintained, and can be accessed upon formal request.

### ■ CONVENT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, ABBOTSFORD

In 1863 the Good Shepherd Sisters commenced their ministry to girls and women in need. The first recorded entry of a child was in December 1865 and this coincided with the opening of a second and completely separate section of the Convent, known as St Joseph's. A third section known as St Mary's recorded its first child arriving in 1908.

- Location:** ABBOTSFORD, MELBOURNE.
- Church Organisation:** Good Shepherd Sisters.
- Years of Operation:** 1863 - 1971.
- Type of Service:** Residential care.
- Sex and Ages:** Girls from 3 years of age onwards.
- Contact:** The Provincial Leader  
Good Shepherd Sisters  
PO Box 182  
Abbotsford VIC 3067  
Tel (03) 9419 5773  
Fax (03) 9419 4472
- Access:** The Archives are private and personal visitors are not catered for. Information is available in response to written inquiries only, either from former residents of the Home or other authorised persons.
- Records:** Admission and discharge records have been retained. Information relates only to person in care, not to family members. Records of admission and departure contain only the names of girls, their place and date of birth and parents names.

### ■ CONVENT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, ALBERT PARK

The Convent of the Good Shepherd, Albert Park, was established in 1892 due to overcrowding at the Abbotsford Convent and continuing heavy demand placed upon the Good Shepherd Sisters during a time of severe economic depression in Australia. Initially the ages of the children ranged from 15 years upwards. At a later stage, residential care was provided for younger girls.

<b>Location:</b>	ALBERT PARK, MELBOURNE.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Shepherd Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1892 - 1971.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care and education.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Older girls from approximately 15 years and women were accommodated from 1892 - 1971.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Provincial Leader Good Shepherd Sisters PO Box 182 Abbotsford VIC 3067 Ph (03) 9419 5773 Fax (03) 9419 4472
<b>Access:</b>	Access is available to former residents of the Home or other authorised persons.
<b>Records:</b>	Admission and discharge registers have been retained for the period 1892 - 1943 for senior girls and women, and from 1920 - 1971 for juniors.

### ■ CONVENT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, BENDIGO

The Convent of the Good Shepherd, Bendigo, was established in 1905 at the request of the Bishop to cater for the many homeless children in the diocese. This was the only Good Shepherd Convent in Australia to care for boys.

<b>Location:</b>	BENDIGO.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Shepherd Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1905 - 1977.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care and education.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	The complex was divided into two sections - Maryfields, which cared for girls and women aged from approximately 15 years of age, and St Aidan's which

cared for girls and boys up to 9 years of age until the early 1970s

- Contact:** The Provincial Leader  
Good Shepherd Sisters  
PO Box 182  
Abbotsford VIC 3067  
Ph (03) 9419 5773  
Fax (03) 9419 4472
- Access:** Information is available to former residents of the Home or other authorised persons.
- Records:** Admission and discharge registers have been retained.

### ■ CONVENT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, OAKLEIGH

The Convent of the Good Shepherd, Oakleigh, was established in 1883 due to overcrowding at the Abbotsford Convent. The Convent was initially established as a Reformatory School for adolescents.

- Location:** OAKLEIGH, MELBOURNE.
- Church Organisation:** Good Shepherd Sisters.
- Years of Operation:** 1883 - 1981.
- Type of Service:** Residential care and education.
- Sex and Ages:** Initially older girls aged approximately 14 years and women, were accommodated. In later years girls from the age of 11 were accommodated.
- Contact:** The Provincial Leader  
Good Shepherd Sisters  
PO Box 182  
Abbotsford VIC 3067  
Ph (03) 9419 5773  
Fax (03) 9419 4472
- Access:** Access is available to former residents of the Home or other authorised persons.
- Records:** Admission and discharge registers have been retained.

### ■ MACKILLOP FAMILY SERVICES

MacKillop Family Services was formed on 1 July, 1997 and continues the child and

family welfare works of the Sisters of Mercy, the Christian Brothers and the Sisters of St Joseph. These facilities, for which records are retained, are listed as follows. See also the separate entries for each in this directory:

St Catherine’s Girl’s Orphanage, Geelong  
 Mercy Family Care Centre, North Geelong  
 St Vincent de Paul Girl’s Orphanage, South Melbourne  
 St Vincent de Paul Children’s Home, Black Rock  
 St Joseph’s Home, Surrey Hills  
 St Joseph’s Home(s) For Children, Flemington  
 St Augustine’s Boy’s Home/Orphanage, Geelong  
 St Augustine’s Adolescent and Family Services, Whittington  
 St Vincent’s Boys Home/Orphanage, South Melbourne  
 St Joseph’s Receiving Home, Carlton  
 St Joseph’s Foundling Home, Broadmeadows  
 St Joseph’s Babies Home, Glenroy  
 St Anthony’s Children’s Home, Kew  
 St Anthony’s Family Services, Footscray

- Location:** Across 42 sites in metropolitan Melbourne and Geelong.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Christian Brothers, Sisters of St Joseph.
- Years of Operation:** From 1 July, 1997.
- Type of Service:** Residential care, specialised home based care, foster care, family support and educational services.
- Sex and Ages:** Male and female from birth to 18 years.
- Contact:** The Coordinator  
 Heritage and Information Service  
 MacKillop Family Services  
 155 Melbourne Ave  
 Glenroy, Melbourne VIC 3046  
 Ph (03) 9300 1011  
 Fax (03) 9306 8859
- Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Services provides a background and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.

**Records:** Individual client records.

## ■ MARILLAC HOUSE LTD

Marillac House in East Brighton was established in 1943 to serve the residential and educational needs of girls, with a few boys in earlier years as well. Most of the residents and day pupils had an intellectual disability while others had learning, social and emotional problems. Marillac House Ltd is still operating as an accommodation support service for children and adults, both male and female, with an intellectual disability. It continues to operate under the auspice of the Daughters of Charity with a Board of Directors responsible for governance, management and conduct of the service.

**Location:** EAST BRIGHTON.

**Church Organisation:** Daughters of Charity.

**Years of Operation:** 1943 - continues to operate in 1999.

**Type of Service:** Residential care and educational support for children with a disability.

**Sex and Ages:** Girls admitted from 2 years originally, now at 7 years of age. Boys admitted from 1993.

**Contact:** Program Director  
Marillac House Ltd.  
47 Milroy St  
East Brighton VIC 3187  
Tel (03) 9596 3207  
Fax (03) 9596 3038

**Access:** The over-riding principle which guides Marillac House Ltd is the need of disadvantaged and isolated clients to know of their past. For many clients, Marillac is the only source of medical, social and educational history.

Limited factual information may be released at the discretion of the Director. Whilst respecting the right of clients to information, it is recognised that, in the past, details and assumptions were often recorded in a manner not in keeping with Information Privacy Principles, and may be a source of confusion, hurt or litigation. It is therefore the policy of Marillac House Ltd not to allow ex-clients to examine their files in person.

Specific information may be released to an ex-client or Guardian at the discretion of the Director, provided that written informed consent is received from the ex-client or



Guardian. Specific information may be accessed by a current professional worker provided that informed written consent of the ex-client or Guardian has been forwarded to the Director.

**Records:**

Full files exist from the mid 1970s but there are few records prior to 1970. All files are retained at least for the life of the client. Information may be in the form of specific facts, such as date of admission, or reports, such as medical, educational and psychological reports. The information may also include copies of photographs or certificates.

■ **MERCY FAMILY CARE CENTRE**

In 1975, the Sisters of Mercy closed St Catherine’s Girl’s Home in Highton, Geelong and established the Mercy Family Care Centre at North Geelong. This provided a family focussed model of care, including foster care, residential care, educational services and family support. In July 1997, Mercy Family Care became part of MacKillop Family Services.

- Location:** NORTH GEELONG.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Melbourne Congregation.
- Years of Operation:** 1975 - 1997.
- Type of Service:** Geelong and Colac Foster Care Program, residential care and home-based family support.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls to 16 years.
- Contact:** The Coordinator  
Heritage and Information Services  
MacKillop Family Services  
155 Melbourne Ave  
Glenroy VIC 3046  
Tel (03) 9300 1011  
Fax (03) 9306 8859
- Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.

**Records:** An admission register has been maintained since the commencement of the service. Individual client files have also been retained.

## ■ MORNING STAR YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE

In 1932 a bequest was made to the Archbishop of Melbourne, part of the purpose of which was “to found a farm to train delinquent or orphan boys to country life.” It provided services to Catholic children who were Wards of the State. The legacy was given to the St Vincent de Paul Society of Victoria which used it to acquire the Mornington Peninsula property which became known as the Morning Star Centre.

Whilst the Society retained control and ownership of the property, its finances and was responsible for its maintenance, it entered into an agreement with the Order of Friars Minor (the Franciscan Friars) whereby the Order provided educational, correctional and residential care services. The Society eventually returned the property into the ownership of the Archdiocese with which the Franciscans continued the original agreement.

**Location:** MT ELIZA

**Church Organisation:** Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans).

**Years of Operation:** 1933 - 1975

**Type of Service:** Educational, correctional and residential care.

**Sex and Ages:** Male youths, aged 14 to 18 years.

**Contact:** Very Reverend Minister Provincial OFM  
Provincial Office  
47 Victoria St  
Waverley NSW 2024  
Ph (02) 9389 5955  
Fax (02) 9389 8597

**Records:** The Franciscans hold no records of Wards of State.

## ■ NAZARETH HOUSE

Nazareth House was opened in December 1888 to cater for aged people and for children who needed care. The support of children discontinued in 1976. Today Nazareth House is a residential aged care facility.

**Location:** BALLARAT.

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of Nazareth.

<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1889 - 1976.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care. The care of children ceased in 1976.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls from birth to 16 years. Boys until 1913 when St Joseph’s Home opened.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Sister Superior Sisters of Nazareth PO Box 634 Ballarat VIC 3353 Ph (03) 5332 1697 Fax (03) 5333 3910
<b>Access:</b>	Information is available to the person to whom it relates or to family members who are able to prove their relationship to that person. Information is not available to third parties regarding a person who is still living.
<b>Records:</b>	Name, date and place of birth, name of parents if known, date and place of baptism, date of arrival and date of discharge.

## ■ NAZARETH HOUSE

Nazareth House opened in 1929 for the care of the aged. A new wing was added to accommodate migrant girls who first arrived in 1953. From 1958, girls and boys from Victoria were cared for as the last migrant child entered in 1956. Residential care for children ceased in 1975. Today, Nazareth House is an aged care facility.

<b>Location:</b>	CAMBERWELL, MELBOURNE
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Nazareth.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1953 - 1975.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls and boys from infancy.
<b>Contact:</b>	Sister Superior Sisters of Nazareth 16 Cornell Street Camberwell VIC 3124 or Sister Superior Sisters of Nazareth PO Box 6900 Middle Camberwell VIC 3124

Ph (03) 9830 5022  
 Fax (03) 9886 6079 or 9888 5907

**Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates or to family members who legally have a right to that information. Information is not available to third parties regarding a person who is still living.

**Records:** Name, date and place of birth, name and occupation of parents if known, date and place of baptism, date of arrival and date of discharge. There are some other personal records for some of the children.

### ■ OUR LADY OF SION ORPHANAGE

The orphanage in York St, Sale was operated by the Sisters of Sion as a service to families in need. The orphanage was operated in the grounds of the College which accepted both boarders and day students, all of whom were girls. Many children were placed in the orphanage by their families for varying periods of time because of difficulties at home. The children in care were therefore not all orphans in the strict sense of the word.

**Location:** SALE

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of Our Lady of Sion.

**Years of Operation:** 1913 - 1947.

**Type of Service:** Orphanage.

**Sex and Ages:** Girls from 4 to 15 years. A few younger girls were accommodated for a short period.

**Contact:** The Congregational Leader  
 Sisters of Our Lady of Sion  
 29 Dorking Road  
 Box Hill VIC 3128  
 Ph (03) 9898 2622  
 Fax (03) 9898 1152

**Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates, or if they are deceased, to those who can prove that they are a relative. The records will be made available in a manner that protects the privacy of others.

**Records:** The only records held are education department registers.

## ■ PADUA HALL

Padua Hall, Kew was established in 1945 to provide, where it was felt necessary, a halfway house between the Morning Star Youth Training Centre at Mt Eliza and complete rehabilitation for Catholic youths who, under the then Victorian legislation, had been committed by the courts to the Centre as Wards of State with indeterminate sentences.

Although Padua Hall was an adjunct to the Morning Star Centre it was an entirely separate entity, a private facility run by the Order of Friars Minor, the Franciscans. There was no written agreement or arrangement with the Melbourne Archdiocese which owned the property. Nor was there any written agreement with the Victorian Government.

Under the 1954 Victoria Children’s Welfare Act, all sentences from the courts became determinate which resulted in Padua Hall no longer being able to fulfil its original purpose and it became financially non-viable. It was then in effect a Franciscan supported boarding house offering short-term accommodation for young men. Padua Hall closed on 30 September, 1960.

<b>Location:</b>	KEW
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans).
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1945 - 1960
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential, board and lodging.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Male youths, aged 14 to 18 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	Very Reverend Minister Provincial OFM Provincial Office 47 Victoria St Waverley NSW 2024 Ph (02) 9389 5955 Fax (02) 9389 8597
<b>Records:</b>	The Franciscans hold no records of Wards of State.

## ■ ST ANTHONY’S CHILDREN’S HOME

St Anthony’s was established in 1921 by the Sisters of St Joseph to assist with overcrowding at St Joseph’s Foundling Hospital at Broadmeadows. The home provided care for boys from kindergarten age to early primary school age. At certain times, girls were also admitted. In 1976, the Sisters closed the home and moved to Footscray, an inner western suburb of Melbourne.

<b>Location:</b>	KEW.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of St Joseph.

- Years of Operation:** 1921 - 1976.  
In 1976 the work of St Anthony's transferred to St Anthony's Footscray and in 1997 to MacKillop Family Services.
- Type of Service:** Institutional child care and residential units.
- Sex and Ages:** Predominantly boys aged 4 to 6 years.
- Contact:** The Coordinator  
Heritage and Information Services  
MacKillop Family Services  
155 Melbourne Ave  
Glenroy VIC 3046  
Tel (03) 9300 1011  
Fax (03) 9306 8859
- Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.
- Records:** A register for admissions has been maintained since 1921. Admission cards have been kept since 1940. Brief identifying information has been retained. Individual client files exist from the 1970s.

## ■ ST ANTHONY'S FAMILY SERVICE

In 1976 the Sisters of St Joseph closed their children's home in Kew and moved to Commercial Rd, Footscray. The Sisters established an innovative family support service combined with specialist educational services and family group home care. This service became part of MacKillop Family Services in July 1997.

- Location:** FOOTSCRAY.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.
- Years of Operation:** 1976 - 1997.
- Type of Service:** Family group homes, family support and specialist educational services.
- Sex and Ages:** Families with children from birth to 15 years.

- Contact:** The Coordinator  
Heritage and Information Services  
MacKillop Family Services  
155 Melbourne Ave  
Glenroy VIC 3046  
Tel (03) 9300 1011  
Fax (03) 9306 8859
- Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.
- Records:** Admission registers have been maintained since 1976 along with comprehensive individual family care files.

### ■ ST AUGUSTINE’S ADOLESCENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

St Augustine’s Adolescent and Family Services was established at Whittington, a southern suburb of Geelong in 1988, following the closure of a large boy’s home at Highton. This new service provided small residential units, family support and specialist educational services. In July 1997 St Augustine’s became part of MacKillop Family Services.

- Location:** WHITTINGTON, GEELONG.
- Church Organisation:** Christian Brothers.
- Years of Operation:** 1988 - 1997.
- Type of Service:** Residential care for school aged boys and girls, specialist education services and family support.
- Sex and Ages:** School aged boys.
- Contact:** The Coordinator  
Heritage and Information Services  
MacKillop Family Services  
155 Melbourne Ave  
Glenroy VIC 3046  
Tel (03) 9300 1011  
Fax (03) 9306 8859
- Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information

and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.

**Records:** In addition to an admission register, individual client files have been maintained.

## ■ ST AUGUSTINE'S BOY'S ORPHANAGE

St Augustine's was established by the Friendly Brothers in 1855, at Newton in Geelong. The Sisters of Mercy arrived to care for girls in 1859 until a separate girl's orphanage was opened in 1862. The Christian Brothers took over the management of the orphanage from the Friendly Brothers in 1878. In 1939 the orphanage relocated to Highton on the outskirts of Geelong and in the 1960s the name was changed to St Augustine's Boys' Home. In 1988, the Brothers relocated to a new site and developed a service with a focus on small units of residential care, specialist educational services and family support.

**Location:** HIGHTON, GEELONG.

**Church Organisation:** Christian Brothers.

**Years of Operation:** 1855 - 1988.

**Type of Service:** Institutional child care for school aged boys.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys of school age.

**Contact:** The Coordinator  
Heritage and Information Services  
MacKillop Family Services  
155 Melbourne Ave  
Glenroy VIC 3046  
Tel (03) 9300 1011  
Fax (03) 9306 8859

**Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.

**Records:** A register of admissions has been kept since 1855 and individual client files exist from the 1960s onwards.



## ■ ST CATHERINE’S GIRL’S ORPHANAGE

St Catherine’s Girls Orphanage was established by the Sisters of Mercy at Newton, Geelong in 1862 and was originally known as Our Lady’s Orphanage. Prior to this time, the Sisters had provided care to the girls at St Augustine’s Orphanage. St Catherine’s relocated to Highton in 1928 where it remained until its closure in 1975. The Sisters relocated to another site at North Geelong and established their new service, Mercy Family Care Centre, in 1975.

<b>Location:</b>	GEELONG.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Melbourne Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1862 - 1928 at Newton. 1928 - 1975 at Highton.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Institutional care for girls.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls, infancy to 16 years. From the mid 1950s some young boys were also admitted.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Coordinator Heritage and Information Services MacKillop Family Services 155 Melbourne Ave Glenroy VIC 3046 Tel (03) 9300 1011 Fax (03) 9306 8859
<b>Access:</b>	MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.
<b>Records:</b>	An admission register has been established since the commencement of the orphanage. Individual client records were kept from the 1960s.

## ■ ST JOHN OF GOD TRAINING CENTRE

Residential care for boys with a developmental disability.

<b>Location:</b>	CHELTENHAM.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Brothers of St John of God.

<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1953 - 1967.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care and a school for boys with a developmental disability.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys only from 5 to 16 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Provincial Province Centre PO Box BN1055 Burwood North NSW 2134 Ph (02) 9747 1699 Fax (02) 9744 3262
<b>Access:</b>	Information is available upon written request from persons providing identification and stating the right to access the information requested.
<b>Records:</b>	Basic personal details of residents have been maintained but are in poor physical condition and therefore only copies may be provided.

## ■ ST JOSEPH'S BABIES HOME

In 1975 the Sisters of St Joseph closed their babies home at Broadmeadows and relocated to Glenroy where they established a foster care service, primarily to provide pre-adoptive placements. In 1985, the Sisters closed their Receiving Home in Carlton and established a small residential unit for single pregnant women at a separate site, as part of St Joseph's Babies Home. In July 1997 St Joseph's became part of MacKillop Family Services.

<b>Location:</b>	GLENROY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of St Joseph.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1975 - 1997.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Babies to school aged children. Single women.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Coordinator Heritage and Information Services MacKillop Family Services 155 Melbourne Ave Glenroy VIC 3046 Tel (03) 9300 1011 Fax (03) 9306 8859

- Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.
- Records:** An admission register has been maintained since the commencement of this service. Admission cards were introduced from 1940. Individual client files exist from the 1980s.

## ■ ST JOSEPH’S FOUNDLING HOME

In 1901 the Sisters of St Joseph established a large babies and children’s home at Broadmeadows. Originally known as St Joseph’s Foundling Hospital or St Joseph’s Foundling Home, the Sisters also provided residential care to pregnant women. Over the years the service became known as St Joseph Babies Home or the Broadmeadows Babies Home. The Home closed in 1975 and the Sisters established a foster care service located in Glenroy, an adjacent suburb.

- Location:** BROADMEADOWS.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.
- Years of Operation:** 1901 - 1975.  
In 1975 this work transferred to 155 Melbourne Ave, Glenroy and from 1997 came under MacKillop Family Services as a foster-care service.
- Type of Service:** Institutional child care and placement of babies through adoption.  
Residential care for pregnant and post-confinement women.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from birth to 3 years.
- Contact:** For children legally adopted, contact:  
Centacare  
396 Albert St  
East Melbourne VIC 3002  
Tel (03) 9662 2033  
Fax (03) 9662 1934
- For children not adopted, contact:  
The Coordinator

Heritage and Information Services  
 MacKillop Family Services  
 155 Melbourne Ave  
 Glenroy VIC 3046  
 Tel (03) 9300 1011  
 Fax (03) 9306 8859

**Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.

**Records:** A register of admissions has been kept since 1901. Admission cards were introduced from 1940 onwards.

## ■ ST JOSEPH'S HOME

St Joseph's Home was opened in 1913 to cater for boys and nursery children who needed care. The support of children discontinued in 1980. Today St Joseph's Home is a convention centre, Blythwood Grange.

**Location:** SEBASTOPOL.

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of Nazareth.

**Years of Operation:** 1923 - 1980.

**Type of Service:** Residential care.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys to 16 years.  
 Nursery birth to 5 years boys and girls (at 5 years girls were then transferred to Nazareth House).

**Contact:** Sister Superior  
 Sisters of Nazareth  
 PO Box 634  
 Ballarat VIC 3353  
 Ph (03) 5332 1697  
 Fax (03) 5333 3901

**Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates or to family members who are able to prove their relationship to that person. Information is not available to third parties regarding a person who is still living.

**Records:** Name, date and place of birth, name of parents if known, date and place of baptism, date of arrival and date of discharge.

## ■ ST JOSEPH’S HOME

St Joseph’s Home was established in South Melbourne in 1890 and moved to Kent Road, Surrey Hills in 1893 under the management of the Sisters of St Joseph. The home, which provided institutional and residential care for children, was closed in 1981 and the Sisters relocated to Flemington where new services were provided.

**Location:** SURREY HILLS.

**Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.

**Years of Operation:** 1890 - 1981.

**Type of Service:** Institutional child care and post 1970 emergency residential care.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from 5 to 16 years of age. At certain times boys only were admitted.

**Contact:** The Coordinator  
Heritage and Information Service  
MacKillop Family Services  
155 Melbourne Ave  
Glenroy VIC 3046  
Tel (03) 9300 1011  
Fax (03) 9306 8859

**Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.

**Records:** A register of admissions for children has been kept since 1893. Since 1940 admission cards were introduced. These records contain basic personal details and some information about parents. More detailed client records exist for residents after 1970.

## ■ ST JOSEPH’S HOME FOR CHILDREN

In 1981 the Sisters of St Joseph closed their children’s home in Surrey Hills in the

eastern suburbs of Melbourne and relocated to Flemington, an inner city suburb and the name became “St Joseph’s Homes for Children.” A new service was developed which provided emergency residential care and family group home care. In 1991 the Christian Brothers took over the management of the service and then in July 1997, St Joseph’s became part of MacKillop Family Services.

<b>Location:</b>	FLEMINGTON.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of St Joseph (1981 - 1991), Christian Brothers (1991 - 1997).
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1981 - 1997.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Temporary and emergency care, short-term residential care and family group homes.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys and girls, usually of school age but younger children in sibling groups.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Coordinator Heritage and Information Services MacKillop Family Services 155 Melbourne Ave Glenroy VIC 3046 Tel (03) 9300 1011 Fax (03) 9306 8859
<b>Access:</b>	MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.
<b>Records:</b>	A register of admissions has been kept since 1981, along with individual client files.

## ■ ST JOSEPH’S RECEIVING HOME

The Sisters of St Joseph assumed the management of the Receiving Home in 1905. The Home offered shelter to many thousands of pregnant women and also provided short term residential care to children. In 1985, the Receiving Home closed and the Sisters established a new service in Glenroy. In 1997 the service transferred to MacKillop Family Services.

<b>Location:</b>	CARLTON.
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- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St Joseph.
- Years of Operation:** 1905 - 1985.  
In 1985 the service transferred to Loongana Ave Glenroy which provided a residence for 4 pregnant women and one unit for a mother and child.
- Type of Service:** Institutional care for pregnant women.  
Short term care for children.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from birth to 10 years.  
Pregnant women.
- Contact:** The Coordinator  
Heritage and Information Services  
MacKillop Family Services  
155 Melbourne Ave  
Glenroy VIC 3046  
Tel (03) 9300 1011  
Fax (03) 9306 8859
- Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.
- Records:** A register of admissions has been kept since 1905. Individual admission cards exist from 1940 onwards.

## ■ ST VINCENT'S BOYS HOME

St Vincent's Boys Home traces its origins to Prahran in 1854 with the development of a system of care for children in private homes. The St Vincent de Paul Orphanage at the South Melbourne site opened in 1857 and provided institutional care for boys and girls until 1867 when care for boys only was commenced. During the 1960s, a change of name to St Vincent's Boy's Home occurred. There has been a gradual shift from large scale institutional care to smaller residential units and the development of specialist educational services. In July 1997 St Vincent's Boy's Home became part of MacKillop Family Services.

- Location:** SOUTH MELBOURNE.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Melbourne Congregation from 1861 to 1874.  
Christian Brothers from 1874 to 1997.

- Years of Operation:** 1857 - 1997.
- Type of Service:** Institutional care from 1857 and, since the 1970s, the development of specialist educational services.
- Sex and Ages:** From 1854 to 1867 boys and girls of predominantly school age and older were admitted. From 1867, boys only were admitted.
- Contact:** The Coordinator  
Heritage and Information Services  
MacKillop Family Services  
155 Melbourne Ave  
Glenroy VIC 3046  
Tel (03) 9300 1011  
Fax (03) 9306 8859
- Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.
- Records:** A register of admission has been kept since 1957, along with individual client files since the 1960s.

■ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHILDREN'S HOME**, later became known as **ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES**

In 1962 the Sisters of Mercy closed their home for girls in South Melbourne and relocated to Black Rock. The Sisters developed a system of congregate care and family group home care for girls and boys. In 1992, the name of the service was changed to St Vincent de Paul Child and Family Services. In July 1997, the service became part of MacKillop Family Services.

- Location:** BLACK ROCK.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Melbourne Congregation.
- Years of Operation:** 1962 - 1992.  
In 1992 the Home became St Vincent de Paul Child and Family Services. In July 1997 the service became part of MacKillop Family Services.
- Type of Service:** Congregate care, family group home care and family support.



<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls from infancy to 16 years. From 1966 boys were also cared for.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Coordinator Heritage and Information Services MacKillop Family Services 155 Melbourne Ave Glenroy VIC 3046 Tel (03) 9300 1011 Fax (03) 9306 8859
<b>Access:</b>	MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.
<b>Records:</b>	An admission register and individual client files have been maintained.

## ■ ST VINCENT DE PAUL’S GIRLS’ ORPHANAGE

St Vincent de Paul Girl’s Orphanage was established in Prahran by Father Gerald Ward in 1854 to care for children in private homes. In 1857 an orphanage was opened in Cecil St, South Melbourne. The Sisters of Mercy took over the management of the orphanage in 1861 and by 1864 had commenced the building of a separate girl’s orphanage on an adjacent site in Napier St. St Vincent de Paul Girl’s Orphanage remained at South Melbourne until 1962 when it relocated to Black Rock.

<b>Location:</b>	SOUTH MELBOURNE, BLACK ROCK (from 1962).
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Melbourne Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1854 - 1962.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Institutional child care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Institutional care for girls and boys until 1864. From 1864 to 1962, institutional care for girls.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Coordinator Heritage and Information Services MacKillop Family Services 155 Melbourne Ave Glenroy VIC 3046

Tel (03) 9300 1011  
Fax (03) 9306 8859

**Access:** MacKillop Family Services through its Heritage and Information Service provides a background information and support service to former residents and/or their families. Applications for access to client records are made in accordance with the policy of MacKillop Family Services. Copies of records are provided upon receipt of proof of identity.

**Records:** A comprehensive admission register has been maintained since the commencement of the service.





## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### ■ BALGO MISSION - WIRRUMANU

Balgo Mission was administered by the Diocese of Broome and staffed by the priests and brothers of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines). They were joined in 1956 by the Sisters of St John of God. Both religious orders came to the Kimberley region chiefly to work amongst the Aboriginal people of the area. In 1939, the mission was set up in the area covering the Rockhole and Billiluna Stations. More information on the history of the Balgo Mission itself is available from the Kimberley Land Council in Western Australia.

<b>Location:</b>	BALGO (South-western desert of the Kimberley Region)
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Operated by the Diocese of Broome and staffed by the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines) and Sisters of St John of God.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1939 - 1975.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Dormitory style residential care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys and girls aged 4 to 18 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Diocesan Office PO Box 76 Broome WA 6725 Ph (08) 9192 1060 Fax (08) 9192 2136
<b>Access:</b>	Inquiries from past residents and families are welcome. Please contact the Archivist for procedural details.
<b>Records:</b>	Church related documents and correspondence.

### ■ BEAGLE BAY COMMUNITY

Beagle Bay Mission as administered by the Diocese of Broome which was known as the Vicariate of the Kimberley prior to 1967. It was staffed initially by the Trappist Order and then, from 1901, by the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines). They were joined in 1907 by the Sisters of St John of God. Both religious orders came to the Kimberley chiefly to work amongst the Aboriginal people of the area.

- Location:** BEAGLE BAY, VIA BROOME.  
(located on the Dampier Peninsula 180 kilometres north of Broome)
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St John of God.
- Years of Operation:** 1921 - 1978.
- Type of Service:** Dormitory style residential care, teaching in the school, nursing facilities and various other domestic work.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from infancy to approximately 20 years of age.
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Diocesan Office  
PO Box 76  
Broome WA 6725  
Ph (08) 9192 1060  
Fax (08) 9192 2136
- Access:** Available to past residents and their families.
- Records:** See entry for Broome Diocese.

■ **CASTLEDARE JUNIOR ORPHANAGE**, also known as  
**ST VINCENT'S BOYS' HOME**

Castledare was originally established as a home to care for intellectually disabled Catholic children, but it later became the junior orphanage for Clontarf, including child migrants. In its latter years it was used as a home for children with emotional and behavioural problems.

- Location:** WILSON, PERTH.
- Church Organisation:** Christian Brothers.
- Years of Operation:** 1929 - 1983.
- Type of Service:** Orphanage and residential care for boys.
- Sex and Ages:** Castledare catered for boys between the ages of approximately 5 and 13 and included British and Maltese child migrants.
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Christian Brothers' Holy Spirit Province  
PO Box 1129  
Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983

Ph (08) 9365 2813  
Fax (08) 9365 2814

- Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates or family members who are able to prove their relationship to that person if deceased, or who have the person's written permission. Information is not available to third parties without the written consent of the person to whom it relates.
- Records:** Admission Registers are available for the whole period from 1929 to 1983. Not all entries have been completed in detail, but entries may contain a person's name, date of birth and admission, names of parents and date and details of discharge.

## ■ CATHOLIC MIGRANT CENTRE

The Catholic Migrant Centre facilitates the settlement of migrants and refugees in Western Australia and offers a range of services including a service to former child migrants sent to Australia from Britain and Malta.

- Location:** PERTH.
- Church Organisation:** An agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth.
- Years of Operation:** 1948 - continues to operate in 1999.
- Type of Service:** Information, referral, tracing of family origin and counselling.
- Sex and Ages:** 198 girls and 916 boys aged as young as 3 years and as old as 16 years came to Australia as child migrants - approximately 800 children came from Britain and approximately 300 from Malta.
- Contact:** Community Worker - Immigration Adviser  
Catholic Migrant Centre  
29 Victoria Square  
Perth WA 6000  
Ph (08) 9221 1727  
Fax (08) 9221 3793
- Access:** Information from personal files is freely available to former child migrants.
- Records:** Holds over 900 personal files relating to former child migrants between 1938 and 1965 and is licensed to access the Personal History Index (PHIND) - see below.

### ■ CATHERINE McAULEY FAMILY CENTRE

The Catherine McAuley Family Centre stands on the site of the old St Joseph's Girls' Orphanage, and is the organisation that has evolved from all the Child Care Services of the Sisters of Mercy in Perth, since 1846. Today, the Centre comprises, under one Board of Management, Aged Care Services, Child Day Care Services, Residential Child Care Services and other Community Services for Youth, the unemployed and Families at Risk.

<b>Location:</b>	WEMBLY, PERTH.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Mercy, Perth Congregation.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1989 - continues to operate in 1999.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential, educational and pastoral care. A foster care program operates, as well as residential 'Cottages' on site.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys and girls aged 5 to 16 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	Chief Executive Officer Mercy Community Services 18 Barrett Street Wembley WA 6014 Ph (08) 9442 3444 Fax (08) 9381 7050
<b>Access:</b>	By written application to contact above.
<b>Records:</b>	Includes admission records and progress reports.

### ■ CLONTARF BOYS' ORPHANAGE, also known as ST JOSEPH'S, CLONTARF BOYS' TOWN, and formerly known as ST VINCENT'S BOYS' ORPHANAGE, SUBIACO

The Christian Brothers took over the operation of the Boys' Orphanage at Subiaco in 1898 from the Sisters of Mercy and in 1901 transferred to a new site on the banks of the Canning River in an area now known as Waterford. It was closed as a child care institution in 1983 and the buildings and grounds are now used by the Clontarf Aboriginal College and other Aboriginal organisations.

<b>Location:</b>	WATERFORD, PERTH.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Christian Brothers.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1898 - 1983.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Orphanage and residential care for boys.



- Sex and Ages:** In the early years boys from age 2 were accepted, but in the later years, it was mainly for boys between 12 and 16 who had emotional or behavioural difficulties. As well as caring for private cases and those from the Child Welfare Department, from 1938 the Brothers looked after British and Maltese child migrants.
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Christian Brothers’ Holy Spirit Province  
PO Box 1129  
Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983  
Ph (08) 9365 2813  
Fax (08) 9365 2814
- Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates or family members who are able to prove their relationship to that person if deceased, or who have the person’s written permission. Information is not available to third parties without the written consent of the person to whom it relates.
- Records:** Admission Registers are available for the whole period from 1888 to 1983. Not all entries have been completed in detail, but entries may contain person’s name, date of birth and admission, names of parents and date and details of discharge.

## ■ HOLY CHILD ORPHANAGE

The Sisters of St John of God provided residential accommodation for orphaned girls and girls taken from their families by Native Affairs. Dormitory style accommodation was the norm and students attended St Mary’s School nearby. When the girls had finished primary school, some girls were moved to hostel style accommodation located near the convent and learnt domestic skills on site. Other girls may have remained at the Orphanage after completing primary school and learnt domestic skills at the Orphanage. Girls stayed with the Sisters until they married or returned to their families.

- Location:** BROOME.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of St John of God.
- Years of Operation:** 1940 - 1962.
- Type of Service:** Dormitory style residential care.
- Sex and Ages:** Girls from infancy to approximately 20 years of age.

- Contact:** Province Leader  
Sisters of St John of God  
Province Centre  
PO Box 473  
Wembley WA 6014  
Ph (08) 9322 1288  
Fax (08) 9322 1471
- Access:** Available to past residents and their families.
- Records:** No personal files held by the Order. There are some photos taken over the years.

### ■ KALUMBURU MISSION

The mission was established at Pago in 1908, and was generally called Drysdale River Mission. It moved to Kalumburu in 1936. Benedictine monks and nuns administered the mission until it was handed over to the Diocese of Broome in 1981. For a time boys and girls were housed in two dormitory units.

- Location:** KALUMBURU.
- Church Organisation:** Benedictine monks and nuns.
- Years of Operation:** 1937 - 1962.
- Type of Service:** Dormitory style residential care.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from infancy to approximately 16 years of age.
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Benedictine Community of New Norcia  
Holy Trinity Abbey  
New Norcia WA 6509  
Ph (08) 9654 8018  
Fax (08) 9654 8097
- Access:** Enquiries from past residents and family are welcome. Please contact the Archivist for procedure details.
- Records:** Some records are held, not yet listed.

### ■ LA GRANGE - BIDYADANGA

In 1956 La Grange Mission, which had been a government rations depot, was transferred to the Catholic Church. Situated approximately two hundred kilometres south of Broome, it was operated by the Diocese of Broome and staffed by the Priests and Brothers of the

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Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallotines) with additional assistance provided by the Lay Missionaries.

<b>Location:</b>	LA GRANGE MISSION, VIA BROOME.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Operated by Diocese of Broome and staffed by Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines).
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1956 - 1981.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Dormitory style residential.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Primary schools boys and girls.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Diocesan Office PO Box 76 Broome WA 6725 Ph (08) 9192 1060 Fax (08) 9192 2136
<b>Access:</b>	Available to past residents and family members. Inquiries welcomed.
<b>Records:</b>	Church related documents and correspondence.

## ■ LEEDERVILLE

The original Home opened in Adelaide Terrace, Perth in 1902. This facility was closed when the Home was transferred to a new building in the suburb of Leederville in 1904.

<b>Location:</b>	LEEDERVILLE, PERTH.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Good Shepherd Sisters.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1902 - 1971.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Women and teenage girls.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Provincial Leader Good Shepherd Provincialate PO Box 182 Abbotsford VIC 3067 Tel (03) 9419 5773 Fax (03) 9419 4472
<b>Access:</b>	Information is available to former residents of the home or other authorised persons.
<b>Records:</b>	Admission and discharge registers have been retained.

## ■ LOMBADINA MISSION - LOMBADINA/DJARINDJIN

Established in the area known as the Dampier Peninsula, the Lombadina Mission was administered by the Diocese of Broome and staffed by the Priests and Brothers of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallotines). They were joined in 1913 by the St John of God Sisters. Both religious orders came to the Kimberley chiefly to work amongst the Aboriginal people of the area.

- Location:** LOMBADINA, VIA BROOME.  
(Dampier Peninsula, 189 kilometres north of Broome and in the Kimberley region)
- Church Organisation:** Administered by the Diocese of Broome and staffed by Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines) and Sisters of St John of God.
- Years of Operation:** 1909 - 1975.  
The Sisters of St John of God (1913 - 1969).
- Type of Service:** Dormitory style residential care for girls, medical clinic and school.
- Sex and Ages:** Girls aged from 4 to 18 years.
- Contact:** Province Leader  
Sisters of St John of God  
Province Centre  
PO Box 473  
Wembley WA 6014  
Ph (08) 9322 1288  
Fax (08) 9322 1471  
or  
The Archivist  
Diocesan Office  
PO Box 76  
Broome WA 6725  
Ph (08) 9192 1060  
Fax (08) 9192 2136
- Access:** Available to past residents and their families.
- Records:** Few records are known to exist.

## ■ NAZARETH HOUSE

Nazareth House was opened in December 1941 to cater for the aged and also children who needed care. In 1947 some migrant children arrived and were cared for at Nazareth

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House. The support of children discontinued in 1977. Today Nazareth House is a residential aged care facility.

<b>Location:</b>	BLUFF POINT, GERALDTON.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Sisters of Nazareth.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1941 - 1977. Care of children ceased in 1977.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential care.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys and girls from birth. Migrant children were girls only.
<b>Contact:</b>	Sister Superior Sisters of Nazareth PO Box 3247 Bluff Point WA 6530 Ph (08) 9923 1205 Fax (08) 9923 2585 or 9923 1539
<b>Access:</b>	Information is available to the person to whom it relates or to family members who are able to prove their relationship to that person. Information is not available to third parties regarding a person who is still living.
<b>Records:</b>	Records include the child's name, date and place of birth; name and occupation of parents if known; date and place of baptism; and the dates of arrival and discharge.

## ■ OCEAN VIEW HOSTEL

Ocean View Hostel was operated by the Department of Community Welfare and staffed by the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines) and used as a boarding residence for indigenous students and those undertaking apprenticeship courses and training.

<b>Location:</b>	MOSMAN PARK.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Staffed by the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines).
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1970 - 1973.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Boarding facility for aboriginal secondary school students and those taking apprenticeship courses.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Male secondary school students and apprentices aged 16 years and upwrad.

<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Pallottines Centre 50-60 Fifth Ave Rossmoyne WA 6148 Ph (08) 9457 7906 Fax (08) 9457 0532
<b>Access:</b>	Available to past residents and their families. Individual applications considered by the Archivist.
<b>Records:</b>	Minimal documentation and records available.

### ■ PALLOTTINE BOYS' HOSTEL

Pallottine Boys' Hostel was operated by the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines) and used as a boarding residence for indigenous students and those undertaking apprenticeship courses and training.

<b>Location:</b>	ALBANY.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines).
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1968 - 1980.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Boarding facility for aboriginal secondary school students and those taking apprenticeship courses.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Male secondary school students and apprentices.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist Pallottines Centre 50-60 Fifth Ave Rossmoyne WA 6148 Ph (08) 9457 7906 Fax (08) 9457 0532
<b>Access:</b>	Available to past residents and their families. Individual applications considered by the Archivist.
<b>Records:</b>	Admission book with particulars of residents.

### ■ PERSONAL HISTORY INDEX (PHIND)

PHIND will be of interest to former child migrants who were sent to the following Catholic childrens' homes in Western Australia between 1938 and 1965:

- Nazareth House, Geraldton
- St Joseph's and St Vincent's, Leederville

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- St Mary’s, Tardun
- St Joseph’s, Bindoon
- Castledare, or
- Clontarf.

**Location:** PERTH.

**Church Organisation:** An initiative of the Christian Brothers, the Sisters of Mercy and the Sisters of Nazareth.

**Years Covered:** 1938 - 1965.

**Type of Service:** Location of personal details and assistance with locating information about individual migration and residence in Western Australia.

**Sex and Ages:** 198 girls and 916 boys aged as young as 3 years and as old as 16 years came to Australia as child migrants - approximately 800 children came from Britain and approximately 300 from Malta.

**Contact:** Former child migrants can contact one of the following organisations to access PHIND:

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS (Westcourt), Manning  
Ph (08) 9365 2800

C-BERS SERVICES, Subiaco  
Ph (08) 9381 5422 or free call (08) 1800 621 805

CATHOLIC MIGRANT CENTRE, Perth  
Ph (08) 9221 1727

CHILD MIGRANTS TRUST, Nedlands  
Ph (08) 9386 3605

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN’S SERVICES, Family Information and Records Bureau, East Perth  
Ph (08) 9222 2777 or freecall (08) 1800 000 277

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA, East Victoria Park  
Ph (08) 9470 7500

- Access:** PHIND is a confidential index. Only former child migrants or their nominated representatives are able to access the index.
- Records:** Holds over 900 personal files relating to former child migrants between 1938 and 1965. Former child migrants are also provided with assistance to locate and access the following information: medical/social records (excluding hospital records); educational records; photographs of individual as a child were possible; baptismal and birth certificates held by Catholic agencies; and immigration records.

### ■ ROMAN CATHOLIC GIRLS' ORPHANAGE

When the Sisters of Mercy came to Perth in 1846 they began planning for the education of the children of the colonists. By 1853, four distinct but intertwined educational establishments were operating at Victoria Square, Perth. One of these was St Mary's School for Aboriginal Girls, which received a special grant from the Governor. While the care of Aboriginal girls gradually ceased over the next decade, the care of white destitute children continued.

In 1868 the Catholic girls in the government poor houses were entrusted to the care of the Sisters of Mercy. The Roman Catholic Girls' Orphanage operated from Victoria Square, Perth until the service transferred to Subiaco in 1901, under the name of St Joseph's Girls' Orphanage.

- Location:** SUBIACO, PERTH.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Perth Congregation.
- Years of Operation:** 1868 - 1901.  
In 1901, this service transferred to Subiaco as St Joseph's Girls' Orphanage.
- Type of Service:** Residential, educational and pastoral care.
- Sex and Ages:** Available for girls of all ages.
- Contact:** Sr Anna-Maria O'Shea RSM  
Mercy Archivist  
Convent of Mercy  
PO Box C114  
Perth WA 6001  
Ph (08) 93254 155  
Fax (08) 9325 4092



- Access:** By written application to the contact above.
- Records:** Some records still exist, including names of girls and facts regarding funding and accounts.

## ■ ROSSMOYNE

Rossmoyne was operated by the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines) and used as a boarding residence for students from the Kimberley and other country regions of Western Australia who attended secondary schools in the Perth metropolitan area. During its years of operation from 1956 to 1991, approximately nine hundred students had been boarders.

- Location:** ROSSMOYNE, PERTH.
- Church Organisation:** Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines).
- Years of Operation:** 1956 - 1991.
- Type of Service:** Boarding facility for secondary school students.
- Sex and Ages:** Secondary school students.
- Contact:** The Clergy-in-Charge  
Pallottines Centre  
50-60 Fifth Ave  
Rossmoyne WA 6148  
Ph (08) 9457 7906  
Fax (08) 9457 0532
- Access:** Available to past residents and their families. Individual applications considered by the Clergy-in-Charge.
- Records:** Student Register and Student Cards showing particulars of boarders and their parents and periods of occupancy have been retained.

## ■ ST JOSEPH'S FARM AND TRADE SCHOOL

This institution began in 1936 about 50 miles from Perth on land which was donated by Mrs Catherine Musk. From 1967 its status changed from a child care institution to a conventional Catholic agricultural college which accepted boarders and it continues in this form today as the Catholic Agricultural College Bindoon (formerly known as Keaney College).

- Location:** BINDOON.
- Church Organisation:** Christian Brothers.

- Years of Operation:** 1936 - 1967 (as a child care institution).
- Type of Service:** Orphanage and residential care for boys.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys mainly between 12 and 16, including British and Maltese child migrants.
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Christian Brothers' Holy Spirit Province  
PO Box 1129  
Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983  
Ph (08) 9365 2813  
Fax (08) 9365 2814
- Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates or family members who are able to prove their relationship to that person if deceased, or who have the person's written permission. Information is not available to third parties without the written consent of the person to whom it relates.
- Records:** Admission Registers are available for the period 1940 to 1967. Not all entries have been completed in detail, but entries may contain person's name, date of birth and admission, names of parents and date and details of discharge.

## ■ ST JOSEPH'S GIRLS' ORPHANAGE

St Joseph's Girls' Orphanage came into existence in 1901 when the girls formerly cared for at the Orphanage in Perth, were transferred to the larger site at Subiaco, which housed St Vincent's Orphanage for Boys, until the Christian Brothers transferred this service to new premises in 1901.

- Location:** WEMBLEY, formerly SUBIACO.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Perth Congregation.
- Years of Operation:** 1901 - 1972.  
In 1970, the name "orphanage" was seen to be unacceptable and the name was changed to "Catherine McAuley Residential Child Care" and used from 1972 to 1989.
- Type of Service:** Residential, educational and pastoral care.  
Girls who were in need of a home, or at risk in the community were admitted. Some were private

referrals, others were directed to the Orphanage by the State Welfare Department. In the immediate post World War II years, child migrants from the United Kingdom and Malta were sent to St Joseph’s.

- Sex and Ages:** Girls only aged 6 to 16 years.
- Contact:** The Congregational Leader  
Sisters of Mercy, Perth Congregation  
PO Box 74  
Wembley WA 6014  
Ph (08) 9382 1477  
Fax (08) 9388 2978
- Access:** Written applications to the contact above.
- Records:** Admission registers and baptismal registers are available, though not complete.

## ■ ST JOSEPH’S HOSTEL

St Joseph’s Hostel was established in 1958 by the Diocese of Broome. It was operated on a day to day basis by the Priests and Brothers of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines) with the assistance of Lay Missionaries.

- Location:** DERBY.
- Church Organisation:** Operated by the Diocese of Broome and staffed by Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines).
- Years of Operation:** 1958 - 1986.
- Type of Service:** Boarding facility for secondary school students.
- Sex and Ages:** Secondary school aged boys and girls (up to Year 10).
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Diocesan Office  
PO Box 76  
Broome WA 6725  
Ph (08) 9192 1060  
Fax (08) 9192 2136
- Access:** Available to past residents and their families.
- Records:** Church related documents and correspondence.

## ■ ST JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE

St Joseph's Orphanage was established by the Spanish Benedictine Monks in the mid 1800s and provided residential care for girls until its closure in 1974. The Benedictine Community of New Norcia is located 132 km north Perth. The Sisters of St Joseph and other Catholic orders also supported the community through their teaching role. More information on the Benedictine Community of New Norcia, its history and its archives may be found at the Internet website [www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au](http://www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au).

<b>Location:</b>	NEW NORCIA.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Benedictine Monks.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1861 - 1974.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Boarding School.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Girls.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist The Benedictine Community of New Norcia Holy Trinity Abbey New Norcia WA 6509 Ph (08) 9654 8018 Fax (08) 9654 8097
<b>Access:</b>	Enquiries from past residents and family welcome. Please contact The Archivist for procedure details.
<b>Records:</b>	Some records from approximately 1940 to 1974. In addition to the records held at the Archives in New Norcia, copies are held with the State Archives of Western Australia at the Batty Library in Perth. See also the publication "Aborigines of New Norcia, 1845-1914" by Neville Green and Lois Tilbrook (University of Western Australia Press, Perth 1989), which may be available in public libraries.

## ■ ST KEVIN'S GLENDALOUGH

The Oblates of Mary Immaculate arrived at Glendalough in December 1896. The foundation stone for Glendalough Industrial School was laid on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1897. In the Government maps it was known as Gooplabilup. The school ceased operation on 4th August 1921. The 16 remaining boys who were under 14 were transferred to the Christian Brothers School at Clontarf. The building was transferred to the Little Sisters of the Poor to care for the aged.

<b>Location:</b>	GLENDALOUGH, PERTH.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Oblates of Mary Immaculate.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1897-1921.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Residential Industrial School and Boarding School.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys to 14 years.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist PO Box 384 Camberwell Vic 3124 Fax (03) 9813 2696
<b>Access:</b>	Enquires from past residents and their families are welcome. Information is available upon written request to the Archivist.
<b>Records:</b>	Very few records exist but some references can be found in Congregational materials.

#### ■ ST MARY'S ORPHANAGE

Established in the mid 1800s, St Mary's College cared for boys and was operated by the Benedictine Community of New Norcia, north of Perth (Subiaco Congregation of the Order of St Benedict). Further information on the history of the community, its archives and the religious order can be found on the Internet website located at [www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au](http://www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au). See also the publication “Aborigines of New Norcia, 1845-1914”, by Neville Green and Lois Tilbrook (University of Western Australia Press, Perth 1989), which may be available in public libraries.

<b>Location:</b>	NEW NORCIA.
<b>Church Organisation:</b>	Benedictine Monks.
<b>Years of Operation:</b>	1848 - 1974.
<b>Type of Service:</b>	Boarding School.
<b>Sex and Ages:</b>	Boys.
<b>Contact:</b>	The Archivist The Benedictine Community of New Norcia Holy Trinity Abbey New Norcia WA 6509 Ph (08) 9654 8018 Fax (08) 9654 8097

- Access:** Enquiries from past residents and family are welcome. Please contact The Archivist for procedure details.
- Records:** Some records exist from approximately 1940 to 1974. In addition to the records held at the Archives in New Norcia, copies are held with the State Archives of Western Australia at the Battye Library in Perth.

### ■ ST VINCENT'S FOUNDLING HOME

A special nursery was erected in 1914 to care for the babies of unmarried mothers and other young children who were frequently found abandoned in pre-World War I years. A generous benefactor, Mr Stuart Patterson paid for a complete new kindergarten building, which is today used as a Day Care Centre, and it still bears an inscription over the entrance, 'St Vincent's Foundling Home'.

- Location:** WEMBLEY, formerly SUBIACO.
- Church Organisation:** Sisters of Mercy, Perth Congregation.
- Years of Operation:** 1914 - 1972.
- Type of Service:** Residential, pre-school education and pastoral care.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls from birth to 5 years.
- Contact:** The Congregation Leader  
Sisters of Mercy, Perth Congregation  
PO Box 74  
Wembley WA 6014  
Ph (08) 9382 1477  
Fax (08) 9388 2978
- Access:** Written application to the contact above.
- Records:** Some admission records and baptismal register are available, though not complete.

### ■ TARDUN FARM SCHOOL, also known as ST MARY'S AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

St Mary's Agricultural School opened in 1928 and was primarily used to train orphan boys and Wards of the State, including child migrants from 1938, in agriculture and farming. In 1967 the school's status changed from a child care institution to a conventional agricultural boarding school, and it continues as such today.

- Location:** TARDUN.

- Church Organisation:** Christian Brothers.
- Years of Operation:** 1928 - 1967 (as a child care institution).
- Type of Service:** Orphanage and residential care for boys.
- Sex and Ages:** Mainly for boys between 12 and 16. It also catered for British and Maltese child migrants.
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Christian Brothers' Holy Spirit Province  
PO Box 1129  
Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983  
Ph (08) 9365 2813  
Fax (08) 9365 2814
- Access:** Information is available to the person to whom it relates or family members who are able to prove their relationship to that person if deceased, or who have the person's written permission. Information is not available to third parties without the written consent of the person to whom it relates.
- Records:** Admission Registers are available for the period 1928-1967. Most early entries are incomplete apart from name and date of birth, but later entries may contain person's name, date of birth and admission, names of parents and date and detail of discharge.

## ■ TARDUN/WANDAGLU HOSTEL

Tardun is located approximately two hundred kilometres east of Geraldton, Western Australia. The Home at Tardun commenced operation in 1948 when disused RAAF buildings utilised during WWII were purchased by the Catholic Church and transported from Moonyounooka (near Geraldton) to the mission. The facility is still operational today and goes by the name of Wandaglu Hostel.

- Location:** TARDUN.
- Church Organisation:** Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines).
- Years of Operation:** 1948 - continues to operate in 1999.
- Type of Service:** Residential care for Primary and Secondary Students.
- Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls 5 to 17 years.
- Contact:** The Archivist  
Pallottines Centre

50-60 Fifth Ave  
 Rossmoyne WA 6148  
 Ph (08) 9457 7906  
 Fax (08) 9457 0532

**Access:** Access to information is available to past residents and their families.

**Records:** Admission Registers are available. Most early entries are incomplete apart from name and date of birth, but later entries may contain a person's name, date of birth and admission, names of parents and date and detail of discharge.

## ■ WANDERING MISSION

Wandering Mission is situated approximately one hundred kilometres south- east of Perth with the facility operated by the Archdiocese of Perth established in 1944. It was staffed by the Priests and Brothers of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate, also known as the Pallotines. This operation ceased in 1977.

**Location:** WANDERING, VIA PERTH.

**Church Organisation:** Operated by Archdiocese of Perth and staffed by Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines).

**Years of Operation:** 1946 - 1977.

**Type of Service:** Dormitory style residential.

**Sex and Ages:** Boys and girls 4 to 15 years.

**Contact:** The Archivist  
 Catholic Church Office  
 Victoria Square  
 Perth WA 6000  
 Ph (08) 9325 9177  
 Fax (08) 9921 1716

**Access:** For information please contact The Archivist.

**Records:** No records are known to have survived. Please contact the Archivist above for further information.



## **Appendix 1**

# **Accessing Church Records Under Adoption Legislation**

### **Accessing Church Records Under Adoption Legislation**

During the past decade all Australian States and Territories have enacted Adoption Information legislation. This legislation opens adoption records held by government and nongovernment organisations to adult adopted people (those aged 18 years and over), to the birth parents or, if the adopted person is deceased, to their next of kin and enables them to search for each other. In some states next of kin are able to access records while the adopted person is still alive.

Each State and Territory has different regulations governing who can access information relating to an adoption. Individuals are advised to consult with the government adoption services in their State or Territory or with one of the Catholic adoption agencies listed below as the first step.

As a general rule, where an adopted adult was an ex-ward of state, or had received institutional care prior to the adoption, that person can access all information relevant to the period of their care prior to the adoption and relevant to their adoption under this form of legislation.

Many children who were placed in out of family residential care were not adopted. However, the Catholic Church has been involved in providing adoption services in three States: New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. In these States, adoption records are presently held by the following Church organisations.

#### **New South Wales**

Mercy Family Centre  
Adoption Support Centre  
McAuley Place  
Waitara NSW 2077  
Ph (02) 9487 3022  
Fax (02) 9489 6543

Centacare Catholic Community Services, Sydney  
The Principal Officer

Centacare Adoption Services  
9 Alexandra Avenue  
Croydon NSW 2132  
Ph (02) 9745 3133  
Fax (02) 9744 7123

**Legislation:** Adoption Information Act 1990

Note: Adopted siblings can apply for information.

### **Victoria**

Centacare Catholic Family Services (formerly Catholic Family Welfare Bureau)  
The Principal Officer  
Centacare Adoption Services  
576 Victoria Parade  
East Melbourne VIC 3002  
Ph (03) 9419 5633  
Fax (03) 9419 5734

**Legislation:** Adoption Act 1984, **Part VI**

Note: Adoptive parents and birth relatives can apply for information.

### **Tasmania**

Centacare Family Services, Tasmania  
The Principal Officer  
Catholic Private Adoption Agency  
23 Stoke Street  
New Town TAS 7008  
PO Box 369  
Moonah TAS 7009  
Ph (03) 6278 1660  
Fax (03) 6278 1055

**Legislation:** Part VI of the **Adoption of Children Act 1988**

The persons who can access information held in adoption records and the procedures involved in making a request for this information are outlined in the relevant legislation relating to the state in which the adoption was legalised. It should be noted that adoption law overrides Freedom of Information law.

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Persons who were adopted through an organisation of the Catholic Church in New South Wales, Victoria or Tasmania should make contact with the Principal Officer from the Catholic Adoption Agency in the state where the adoption was legalised.

Persons who were adopted through a State or Territory Child Welfare Department should turn to Appendix 3.

## Appendix 2

# Accessing Records Under Freedom of Information

### ACCESSING GOVERNMENT RECORDS

Not all individuals who were provided with out of family care received residential care by an organisation of the Catholic Church. Various government departments, other churches and a range of nongovernment organisations also provided out of family care services to children in Australia since the mid-nineteenth century.

The majority of individuals who were provided with out of family care received these services from an Australian government through a department of child welfare. For these people, the Freedom of Information Acts in the various States and Territories provide them with the opportunity to gain access to information held by the state.

It may well be better for inquirers to make an **informal** rather than a formal Freedom of Information ('FOI') application to the Department in the first instance, as information on third parties, for example names of parents, cannot be given out under FOI requests. In addition, the relevant Department will most probably be unable to give more information, even if they possess it, than actually applied for.

In the case of children who resided in the former Territories and who were taken into care by the Commonwealth Government, which had jurisdiction for child welfare matters in previous years, contact should be made with an Officer from the Commonwealth Government, listed on the following pages.

The Commonwealth Government and all Australian States and Territories have enacted FOI legislation. Freedom of Information Acts require any information contained in documents held by a government be made available to the public. These Acts give individuals the legal right to access documents held by Ministers, their Departments and some statutory authorities and the right to ensure that information contained in the records is not incorrect, incomplete, misleading or out of date.

### Accessing State and Territory Government Records Under FOI

The contacts for a request for access to records held by the State and the Australian Capital Territory Governments under Freedom of Information legislation are as follows:

**Australian Capital Territory**

FOI Officer  
Freedom of Information  
Department of Health and Community Care  
GPO Box 825  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Ph (02) 6205 1340  
Fax (02) 6205 0843

**New South Wales**

FOI Coordinator  
FOI Unit  
Department of Community Services  
Locked Bag 28  
Ashfield NSW 1800  
Ph (02) 9716 2996  
Fax (02) 9798 5486

**Northern Territory**

Legislation has recently been proclaimed but contact details were not available at the time of publication.

**Queensland**

The Manager  
Freedom of Information Branch  
Department of Families, Youth and Community Care  
GPO Box 806  
Brisbane QLD 4000  
Ph (07) 3225 8442 or 1800 809 078 for callers outside Brisbane  
Fax (07) 3224 7050

**South Australia**

FOI Liaison Officer (FAYS) - marked “CONFIDENTIAL”  
Department of Family & Youth Services  
GPO Box 39  
Rundall Mall  
Adelaide SA 5000  
Ph (08) 8226 6735 or (08) 8226 6707  
Fax (08) 8226 6675

**Tasmania**

Freedom of Information Officer  
Child, Youth & Family Support

Child, Youth & Family Services  
GPO Box 125b  
Hobart TAS 7001  
Ph (03) 6233 4745  
Fax (03) 6233 4943

### **Victoria**

The Manager  
Freedom of Information Office  
Department of Human Services  
GPO Box 4057  
Melbourne VIC 3001  
Ph (03) 9616 7179  
Fax (03) 9616 8848

### **Western Australia**

Freedom of Information Officer  
Information Support Service  
Family and Children's Services of Western Australia  
189 Royal St  
East Perth WA 6004  
GPO Box 6334  
East Perth WA 6004  
Ph (08) 9222 2777  
Freecall 1800 000 277  
Fax (08) 9222 2767

### **Accessing Commonwealth Government Records Under FOI**

The following people may find relevant information in records held by the Commonwealth:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples removed from their families by the Federal Government or who were removed from their families and resided in Victoria prior to 1967;
- Those who resided in the Northern Territory or the Australian Capital Territory prior to those territories being granted self government; or
- former child migrants from Britain or Malta.

In the first instance the contact for a request for access to records held by the Commonwealth Government under the **Freedom of Information Act 1982** is as follows.

Freedom of Information Officer  
The National Archives of Australia  
PO Box 7425  
Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2610  
Ph (02) 6212 3953  
Fax (02) 6212 3931

For general enquiries about the operation of the Commonwealth’s FOI legislation, the Federal Attorney-General’s Department has produced an information pamphlet. An Inquiries Officer at the Department may be contacted on (02) 6250 6492 or the pamphlet may be found through the on-line publications at [www.law.gov.au](http://www.law.gov.au).

### **Accessing Church Records Under FOI**

Church organisations, with the exception of some organisations located in Victoria, are not bound by Freedom of Information legislation.

#### **Church Records Accessible Under Victorian FOI Legislation**

Some records held by a Church organisation located in Victoria may be accessible under that State’s Freedom of Information legislation.

The Victorian **Freedom of Information Act 1985** applies to those activities undertaken by Church organisations that receive funding from the Victorian Government. People can use this legislation to have access to records held by a funded organisation, government and nongovernment, which relate to them.

The process requires a written request, naming what information is being sought. A written request to the Freedom of Information Officer is required of the person, who can only apply for information about him or herself (it cannot be used, for example, to access information about siblings, or a birth parent who was also a ward of the state). Direct copies of the records are provided, with any information that relates to another person being removed. There is no requirement for an interview to receive this information, so it can be simply posted to the person making the request.

#### **Commitment to Principles Contained in Freedom of Information Legislation**

While Commonwealth and State/Territory Freedom of Information legislation does not apply to information held by non-government organisations, it is reasonable that Church organisations be guided by the general principles and practices embodied in these Acts.

## Appendix 3

# Accessing Records Held by State Child Welfare Departments

### FORMER WARDS OF THE STATE

Many individuals who may seek access to records will have been Wards of the State. Former Wards of the State should contact the department responsible for child welfare in the state in which they resided, listed below. These inquirers should be aware that they are able to apply both for their Ward of State records, under the provisions of Freedom of Information Acts from the relevant state child welfare department, as described below, as well as for their records from the Catholic organisation that provided the care. This is particularly the case for many children who received care in Victorian Catholic institutions.

#### **Australian Capital Territory**

Director  
Department of Children's Youth and  
Family Services  
Callum Offices  
Easty St  
Woden ACT 2606  
PO Box 1584  
Tuggeranong ACT 2901  
Ph (02) 6207 1080  
Fax (02) 6207 8888

#### **New South Wales**

Adoption Services Branch  
Department of Community Services  
Level 13  
130 George Street  
Parramatta  
Sydney NSW 2150  
GPO Box 3485  
Sydney NSW 2124  
Ph (02) 98655906  
Fax (02) 96893507

#### **Northern Territory**

Adoption Practitioner  
Adoption and Placement Support Unit  
Territory Health  
PO Box 40596  
Casurina NT 0811  
Ph (08) 8922 7077  
Fax (08) 8922 7480

#### **Queensland**

Information Management Branch  
Department of Families, Youth and  
Community Care  
GPO Box 806  
Brisbane QLD 4000  
Ph (07) 3225 8442  
Fax (07) 3224 5073

#### **South Australia**

The Manager  
Adoption and Family Service  
Department of Family and Youth



**Services**

1st Floor  
City Centre Building  
11 Hindmarsh Sq  
Adelaide SA 5000  
GPO Box 39  
Rundall Mall  
Adelaide SA 5000  
Ph (08) 8226 6694  
Fax (08) 8226 6974

**Tasmania**

Director  
Child, Youth and Family Services  
GPO Box 125b  
Hobart TAS 7001  
Ph (03) 6233 4745  
Fax (03) 6233 4943

**Victoria**

Duty counsellor  
Former Wards Service  
Adoption Information Service  
Department of Human Services  
GPO Box 4057  
Melbourne VIC 3001  
Ph (03) 9616 2822  
Fax: (03) 9616 2833

**Western Australia**

Senior Family Information Officer  
Family and Children’s Services of WA  
189 Royal Street  
East Perth WA 6004  
PO Box 6334  
East Perth WA 6004  
Ph (08) 9222 2870  
Freecall 1800 640 555  
Fax: (08) 9222 2581

**ADOPTIONS ARRANGED BY A STATE OR A TERRITORY**

Some people who are seeking access to records will have been legally adopted under relevant state adoption legislation. Persons who were adopted through a state department of child welfare should first make contact with the relevant Officer responsible for adoptions in the state in which the adoption took place, listed below.

The contact details for former Wards of the State and those people who spent any time in the care of a state department for child welfare are outlined below for each State and Territory.

**Australian Capital Territory**

Coordinator  
Adoption Information Service  
Family Services  
Department of Children’s, Youth and  
Family Services  
Callum Offices  
PO Box 1584  
Tuggeranong ACT 2901

Ph (02) 6207 1080  
Fax (02) 6207 8888

**New South Wales**

Adoption Services Branch  
Department of Community Services  
GPO Box 3485  
Sydney NSW 2124  
Ph (02) 9865 5906  
Fax (02) 9689 3507

**Tasmania**

Coordinator  
Adoption Information Service  
GPO Box 538  
Hobart TAS 7001  
Ph (03) 6233 3395  
Fax (03) 6223 1343

**Northern Territory**

Adoption Practitioner  
Adoption and Placement Support Unit  
Territory Health  
PO Box 40596  
Casurina NT 0811  
Ph (08) 8922 7077  
Fax (08) 8922 7480

**Victoria**

Duty Counsellor  
Adoption Information Service  
Department of Human Services  
GPO Box 4057  
Melbourne VIC 3001  
Ph (03) 9616 2822  
Fax: (03) 9616 2833

**Queensland**

Adoptions Services Branch  
Department of Families, Youth and  
Community Care  
GPO Box 806  
Brisbane QLD 4000  
Ph (07) 3224 2544  
Freecall: 1800 647 983 (outside Bris)  
Fax (07) 3210 0350

**Western Australia**

Duty Officer  
Post Adoption Service  
Family and Children's Services of WA  
PO Box 6334  
East Perth WA 6004  
Ph (08) 9222 2870  
Freecall 1800 640 555  
Fax: (08) 9222 2581

**South Australia**

The Manager  
Adoption and Family Service  
Department of Family and Youth  
Services  
GPO Box 39  
Rundall Mall  
Adelaide SA 5000  
Ph (08) 8226 6694  
Fax (08) 8226 6974

## Appendix 4 Contact Details for Centacare Agencies

Centacare agencies are Catholic diocesan social welfare agencies that operate under the auspices of the bishop of each diocese. These agencies operate autonomously but relate to the national body, Centacare Australia, with respect to national programs and policies. There are currently 26 dioceses with 31 Centacare agencies that operate from 158 sites throughout Australia.

Centacare agencies are not-for-profit organisations offering an extensive range of professional family, social and employment services to people in metropolitan and rural Australia. The programs of Centacare agencies provide traditional family and relationship services as well as a range of other services designed to assist the aged, disabled and those persons experiencing long-term unemployment. Centacare agencies aim to develop programs that target the greatest areas of need within the Australian community.

The following listing provides contact information for the Centacare agency in each diocese. Each Centacare normally operates a number of offices in each diocese.

### **Australian Capital Territory**

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 3167  
Manuka ACT 2603  
Ph (02) 6239 7700  
Fax (02) 6239 7171

The Director  
St Augustine’s Catholic Parish  
PO Box 2450  
**Coffs Harbour** NSW 2450  
Ph (02) 6652 5714  
Fax (02) 6651 2897

### **New South Wales**

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 1215  
**Bathurst** NSW 2795  
Ph (02) 6331 8944  
fax (02) 6331 8021

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 28  
**Forbes** NSW 2871  
Ph (02) 6851 1991  
Fax (02) 6851 2772

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 2  
**Lismore** NSW 2480  
Ph (02) 6622 3138  
Fax (02) 6622 3201

The Director  
Centacare Newcastle  
PO Box 775  
**Newcastle** NSW 2300  
Ph (02) 4979 1330  
Fax (02) 4979 1339

The Director  
Centacare Catholic Family Services  
11/10 Victoria Road  
**Parramatta** NSW 2150  
Ph (02) 9890 1566  
Fax (02) 9630 4883

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 355  
**Pennant Hills** NSW 2120  
Ph (02) 9847 2750  
Fax (02) 9847 2759

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 104  
**Port Macquarie** NSW 2444  
Ph (02) 6584 0704  
Fax (02) 6584 0724

The Director  
Centacare Catholic Community  
Services  
4/276 Pitt Street  
**Sydney** NSW 2000  
Ph (02) 9283 3099  
Fax (02) 9261 0510  
or  
The Principal Officer  
Centacare Catholic Community  
Services, Sydney  
Centacare Adoption Services  
9 Alexandra Avenue  
**Croydon** NSW 2132  
Ph (02) 9745 3133  
Fax (02) 9744 7123

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 473  
**Wagga Wagga** NSW 2650  
Ph (02) 6931 7911  
Fax (02) 6921 1375

The Director  
Centacare  
Catholic Family Welfare Services  
PO Box 471  
**Wollongong East** NSW 2520  
Ph (02) 4227 1122  
Fax (02) 4226 9736

**Northern Territory**  
The Director  
Centacare  
18 Gerranium St  
The Gardens  
GPO Box 547  
**Darwin** NT 0801  
Ph (08) 8941 0022  
Fax (08) 8981 9739

**Queensland**

The Director  
Centacare Catholic Family Welfare  
58 Morgan St  
Fortitude Valley  
**Brisbane** QLD 4006  
Ph (07) 3252 4371  
Fax (07) 3854 1246

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 201  
**Cairns** QLD 4870  
Ph (07) 4051 9511  
Fax (07) 4031 2839

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 819  
**Rockhampton** QLD 4700  
Ph (07) 4927 1700  
Fax (07) 4927 9209

The Director  
Centacare  
Cnr Annand & Union Streets  
**Toowoomba** QLD 4350  
Ph (07) 4632 3604  
Fax (07) 4638 0034

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 5697 MC  
**Townsville** QLD 4810  
Ph (07) 4772 7799  
Fax (07) 4721 4100

**South Australia**

The Director  
Centacare Catholic Family Services  
33 Wakefield St  
**Adelaide** SA 5000  
Ph (08) 8210 8200  
Fax (08) 8224 0930

The Director  
Centacare Whyalla  
PO Box 542  
**Whyalla** SA 5600  
Ph (08) 8645 8233  
Fax (08) 8645 2096

**Tasmania**

The Director  
Centacare Family Services  
PO Box 369  
**Moonah** TAS 7008  
Tel (03) 6278 1660  
Fax (03) 6278 1005

**Victoria**

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 576  
**Ballarat** VIC 3353  
Ph (03) 5337 7150  
Fax (03) 5337 7161

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 225  
**Bendigo** VIC 3550  
Ph (03) 5443 9577  
Fax (03) 5441 7713

The Director  
Centacare Catholic Family Services  
396 Albert Street  
**East Melbourne** VIC 3002  
Ph (03) 9662 2033  
Fax (03) 9662 1934

or

The Principal Officer  
Centacare Catholic Family Services  
Centacare Adoption Services  
576 Victoria Parade  
**East Melbourne** VIC 3002  
Ph (03) 9419 5633  
Fax (03) 9419 5734

The Director  
Centacare Gippsland  
PO Box  
**Warragul** VIC 3820  
Ph (03) 5622 1188  
Fax (03) 5622 3659

### **Western Australia**

The Director  
Centacare Kimberley  
PO Box 153  
**Broome** WA 6725  
Ph (08) 9192 2293  
Fax (08) 9193 6298

The Director  
Centacare  
PO Box 34  
**Bunbury** WA 6231  
Ph (08) 9721 5177  
Fax (08) 9791 1056

The Director  
Centacare Family Services  
PO Box 2717  
**Geraldton** WA 6530  
Ph (08) 9921 1433  
Fax (08) 9949 2259

The Director  
Centrecare Marriage and Family  
Service  
456 Hay St  
**Perth** WA 6000  
Ph (08) 9325 6644  
Fax (08) 9221 3631

The Director  
Catholic Migrant Centre  
Catholic Migrant Centre  
25 Victoria Square  
**Perth** WA 6000  
Ph (08) 9221 1727  
Fax (08) 9221 3793

## **Appendix 5**

### **Contact Details for Aboriginal Catholic Ministry and other Advocacy Organisations**

#### **New South Wales**

Mrs Brenda McDonnell  
Aboriginal Catholic Ministry  
56 Swanson St

#### **Erskineville**

Sydney NSW 2043  
Ph (02) 9519 6394  
Fax (02) 9565 5986

Mrs Maisie Cavanagh  
Aboriginal Catholic Ministry  
PO Box 348

#### **Penrith NSW 2751**

Ph (02) 4722 9980  
Fax (02) 4722 9980

#### **Northern Territory**

Mrs Margaret Thompson  
President  
Top End Aboriginal Catholic  
Corporation  
PO Box 40629

#### **Casuarina NT 0811**

Ph (08) 8945 4340  
Fax (08) 8927 8913

#### **South Australia**

Pastoral Worker  
Aboriginal Catholic Ministry  
Otherway Centre

185 Pirie St

#### **Adelaide SA 5000**

Ph (08) 8232 1001  
Fax (08) 8232 5011

#### **Victoria**

Mrs Vicki Walker  
Aboriginal Catholic Ministry  
493 St Georges Rd

#### **Thornbury VIC 3071**

Ph (03) 9480 3849  
Fax (03) 9480 2163

#### **Western Australia**

Mrs Shirley Quaresimin  
Broome Catholic Education Office  
Diocese of Broome (Kimberley region)  
PO Box 1451

#### **Broome WA 6725**

Ph (08) 9192 2275  
Fax (08) 9192 2559

Fr Kelvin Kenny SAC  
Rector  
Aboriginal Catholic Ministry  
85 Gregory St  
**Geraldton** WA 6530  
Ph (08) 9921 5371  
Fax (08) 9921 5850

Fr Bryan Tiernan SAC  
Aboriginal Catholic Ministry  
Archdiocese of Perth  
5 Baker Avenue  
PO Box 8111  
Perth Business Centre  
**Perth** WA 6849  
Ph (08) 9328 7529  
Fax (08) 9227 0732

Christian Brothers Ex-residents and  
Students Services  
12 Alvan Street,  
Subiaco WA 6008  
PO Box 1172  
**Subiaco** WA 6904  
Ph (08) 9381 5422  
Freecall 1800 621 805  
Fax (08) 9382 4114

Mrs Donella Brown  
Principal  
Clontarf Aboriginal College  
295 Manning Rd, Waterford, Perth  
Locked Bag 5, Bentley DC  
**Perth** WA 6983  
Ph (08) 9458 9444  
Fax (08) 9451 4988



## Appendix 6 Contact Details for Link-Up Agencies

Link-Up assists aboriginal adults who were separated from their families under government policies (removed/separated, adopted, fostered or institutionalised) to be reunited with their families.

### **New South Wales**

Manager

Link-Up (NSW) Aboriginal Corporation

5 Wallis St

Lawson NSW 2783

GPO Box 93

Lawson NSW 2783

Ph (02) 4759 1911

Freecall: 1800 624332

Fax (02) 4759 2607

Email: linknsw@pnc.com.au

### **Queensland**

State Director

Link-Up (QLD) Aboriginal Corporation

GPO Box 1128

Cooparoo DC

South Brisbane QLD 4151

Ph (07) 3255 0855

Fax (07) 3255 2099

Email: linkupq@tpgi.com.au

### **Victoria**

The Co-ordinator

Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Co-op

Ltd

34 Wurruk Avenue

Preston VIC 3072

Ph (03) 9471 1855

Fax (03) 9471 1898

### **Tasmania**

Administrator

Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre

PO Box 569F

Hobart TAS 7001

Ph (03) 6234 8311

Fax (03) 6231 1348

### **Northern Territory**

Director

Karu Association Inc.

PO Box 40639

Casurina NT 0811

Ph (08) 8922 7171

Fax (08) 8922 7161

Director

Central Australian Aboriginal Child

Care Agency Corporation

GPO Box 2438

Alice Springs NT 0871

Ph (08) 8953 4895

Fax (08) 8953 4981

### **South Australia**

Nunkuwarrin Yunti

182 Wakefield St

Adelaide SA 5000

Ph (08) 8223 5011

Fax (08) 8232 0949

Email: nunku@webmedia.com.au

## **Appendix 7**

### **Contact Details for Child Migrants Trust**

#### **Child Migrants Trust**

28A Musters Road  
West Bridgford  
Nottingham, UK  
NG2 7PL  
Ph (0115) 982 2811  
Fax (0115) 981 7168  
International +44 115 9822811

#### **Child Migrants Trust Inc.**

228 Canning Street  
North Carlton  
Melbourne VIC 3054  
Ph (03) 9347 7403  
Fax (03) 9347 1791

#### **Child Migrants Trust Inc.**

5 Thomas Street  
Nedlands  
Perth WA 6009  
PO Box 674  
Nedlands  
Perth WA 6009  
Ph (08) 9386 3605  
Fax (08) 9386 3695



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### Christian Brothers, St Patrick's Province (Vic, Tas)

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