

DECREE OF THE DIOCESAN BISHOP

103/2024

Decree – Provision – Faculties – Retired Priest – Pastor Emeritus

Dear Father John Lovell,

Attached to this decree is the background paper prepared by our Chancellor.

On 1st January 2017, Bishop Wright promulgated faculties for clergy in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. Since that time Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited have revised their requirements for retired clergy. Thus, these faculties reflect that change.

I issue you with faculties associated with the Title - Pastor Emeritus and a copy is included on page 2.

Please remember that you can always choose to change which faculties you have by discussing the matter with the Ordinary.

This Decree revokes all previous Faculties, however granted, or approved, and all customs relating to the exercise of Faculties. I further direct that this decree will be published on the website for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au> which will be presumed the official notification of this action. A petition for revocation or emendation of this decree is subject to Canons 1732 - 1739.

This decree has an effective date of 1st January 2025, nothing the contrary withstanding.

Given at Hamilton, NSW on the 18th day of December 2024.



Most Reverend Michael Kennedy
Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle



Very Reverend Matthew Muller
Chancellor

+MK/az

Pastor Emeritus (based on c. 185)¹

These individuals would:

1. Fit the second last category of the CPD matrix (that is need to complete 5 hours CPD annually). This could be the annual parish leader's day, the annual diocesan retreat, etc.
2. Need to undertake the compulsory minimum safeguarding annual training
3. Need a Working with Children Check - WWCC
4. Be subject to the 'civil reportable conduct' scheme
5. Be given permission to exercise faculties obtained at ordination on a case by case basis by the proper pastor of the parish in which ministry (or supply) is being undertaken
6. Take such permission as presumed if booked for 'supply' or one-off ministries
7. On each occasion provide the required information via the 'Electronic Sacristy Register' upon arrival at the relevant church, oratory and chapel
8. Meet annually with an ordinary to discuss continuing in this role.

Additionally, these individuals may:

9. Choose to be placed on the diocesan 'supply' list, at their request
10. Choose not to be placed on the diocesan 'supply' list, at their request
11. Not have an ACMR number. The ACMR number is not required for ministry in this diocese. It is only required if ministering outside the diocese
12. Request a letter of good standing to minister outside the diocese on an ad-hoc basis if not having an ACMR number.

These individuals would not:

1. Have faculties associated with any ecclesiastical office
2. Have other diocesan faculties
3. Be placed on the roster for hospitals, aged care, and other enclosed lands sites.

enc:

D23/81362 - Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle – Faculties for Pastor Emeritus & Retired Priests – Background Paper

cc. Very Rev Darryl Mackie, Episcopal Vicar
Archdiocese of Sydney

D24/74253

¹ Can. 185 The title 'emeritus' may be conferred on one who loses office by reason of age, or of resignation which has been accepted.

