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## **INTRODUCTION**

The fourth volume of the *Proceedings of the Brisbane Catholic Historical Society* sees the pattern of our work established. From the beginning we have set ourselves to research the history of the archdiocese of Brisbane. It was decided from the first that we should confine ourselves to Brisbane, while remembering that at one time the diocese took in the whole colony of Queensland.

We have seen our history as truly ecclesiological. It takes in not only the institutional Church, but also the personal faith, mission and achievement of individuals. Each year we try to present papers on parishes, educational and charitable institutions, sodalities and charismatic persons, lay, clerical and religious. The aim is to capture the Church as it has been lived in Brisbane.

The Proceedings of the Society are gradually putting together a particular kind of history. We have been happy to make them available to the interested reader; but they have special value for the Religious Education programme of our Catholic Colleges. We believe that they have a place in all college libraries. The general standard is high enough to make them of interest to the researcher.

The executive express their gratitude to those who prepared these papers, and to the reliable body of members whose interest and support keep the Society flourishing. We again thank Brother Leo Ansell CFC, who steered our volume through the press.

This year we have special reason to thank His Grace, Archbishop Bathersby, who had kindly consented to be our Patron. He went further and presented a most interesting paper on his experience of following the footsteps of Bishop James Quinn in North Queensland. It will appear in our next volume.