

AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT

DOWNSIDE ABBEY

Records, 1819-69

Reels M995-99

**Downside Abbey
Stratton-on-the Fosse
Bath, Somerset BA3 4RJ**

**National Library of Australia
State Library of New South Wales**

Filmed: 1978

HISTORICAL NOTE

The monastery of St Gregory the Great was founded at Douai in Flanders in 1605 by a group of English monks who had taken vows in the Spanish Benedictine Congregation. The monastery was built in 1611. From the early years a school was attached to the monastery for the sons of English Catholic gentry. Douai was ceded by Spain to France in 1668. On the outbreak of the French Revolution in 1789 the monastery was disbanded and the monks were imprisoned. They were subsequently released and in 1795 were allowed to move to England. A former pupil at the monastery lent the monks his country house at Acton Burnell in Shropshire, where they lived for nearly twenty years. In 1814 they purchased 66 acres of land and the manor house of Downside in Somerset, a few miles from Bath. The monastery and school have remained there ever since.

In the nineteenth century Downside was a priory. The monks were originally housed in the manor house, but a new building incorporating a chapel was built in 1823 and a school block was added in 1853. Another block was built in 1876, with a refectory, kitchens, dormitory and cloisters. Building of the priory church began in 1873 and it was finally consecrated in 1935. A small monastic school was attached to the priory in the early nineteenth century. It was greatly expanded in the early twentieth century, becoming one of the most famous Catholic schools in Britain. In 1899 Pope Leo XIII raised Downside Priory to the rank of an abbey and Dom Edmund Ford, the 45th prior, was elected the first abbot.

The earliest Catholic priests in Australia were from Ireland and came under the jurisdiction of the Bishops of Mauritius, Edward Slater and his successor William Morris, both of whom were Benedictines. The first English priests arrived in 1833-35 and they were all associated with Downside Priory. William Bernard Ullathorne (1806-1889) was vicar-general in New South Wales from 1833 to 1841, before returning to England and later becoming bishop of Birmingham. Bishop John Bede Polding (1794-1877), who had been the subprior of Downside, was appointed vicar-apostolic of New Holland in 1834. With the establishment of the Catholic hierarchy in Australia in 1842, he was made Archbishop of Sydney and Metropolitan of Australia, offices that he held until his death. Henry Gregory (1813-1877) arrived in Sydney in 1835 and was Polding's vicar-general (1844-61) and prior of St Mary's Priory (1843-61). Later Downside arrivals in Australia included Charles Henry Davis (1815-1854), who was appointed bishop of Maitland and coadjutor to Polding in 1848, and Roger Bede Vaughan (1834-1883), who became Polding's coadjutor in 1873 and succeeded him as Archbishop of Sydney and Metropolitan of Australia in 1877. In 1849 Polding established a convent at Parramatta, which he named 'Subiaco', originally staffed by Benedictine nuns from Stanbrook Abbey in Worcestershire. It remained in existence until 1957. Throughout his years in Australia, Polding sought to reduce the Irish influence on the Catholic Church in Australia, but his early hopes of creating an entirely Benedictine diocese, with a Benedictine monastery at the centre of Catholic life, were not realised.

Priors of Downside Priory, 1814-78

1814	D. Augustine Lawson
1818	D. Bernard Barber
1830	D. George Turner
1834	D. Joseph Brown

1840	D. Peter Wilson
1854	D. Norbert Sweeney
1859	D. Cuthbert Smith
1866	D. Alphonsus Morrall
1868	D. Ildephonsus Brown
1870	D. Bernard Murphy

Presidents-General of the English Benedictine Congregation, 1799-1883

1799	D. Bede Brewer
1822	D. Richard Marsh
1826	D. Augustine Birdsall
1837	D. Richard Marsh
1842	D. Bernard Barber
1850	D. Alban Molyneux
1854	D. Placid Burchall

DOWNSIDE ABBEY

The Birt Collection

Dom. Norbert Birt (1861-1919) was a graduate of University College, London, and was ordained a priest in 1889. From 1906 to 1914 he was secretary to Abbot Aiden Gasquet, who was prior of Downside Priory (1878-85) and abbot-president of the English Benedictine Congregation (1900-1919). Gasquet wrote extensively on the history of English monasteries and Norbert Birt undertook a great deal of research in the Downside archives and other monastic collections. Among his many publications was *Benedictine pioneers in Australia* (1911). Birt assembled from many sources a collection of about 8000 letters and documents, mostly dating from 1699 to 1870, which he placed in the library of Downside Abbey. He arranged them in strict chronological order and catalogued each item. Selected documents from the Birt Collection were filmed by the Australian Joint Copying Project.

Reel M995

Correspondence and documents, February 1819 – June 1834

The bulk of the correspondence on this reel relates to the affairs of St Gregory's Priory at Downside, the construction of the chapel (opened in 1823), land purchases, financial transactions, the school and students, appointments, the activities and difficulties of other Benedictine houses in England and Europe, and the establishment of missions, especially within the diocese of Mauritius. Many of the letters were written by or to John Bede Polding, the novice-master (1819-34) and subprior (1826-34) at Downside Priory. Other correspondents include Bede Brewer, Richard Marsh and Augustine Birdsall, the presidents-general of the English Benedictine Congregation between 1799 and 1837, James Deday, provincial of Canterbury (1826-34), Bernard Barber, the prior of Downside (1818-30), Michael Lorymer, procurator of the Southern Province (1802-26), Bishop James Bramston, vicar-apostolic of the London district (1823-36), Edward Slater, bishop of Mauritius (1818-32) and William Morris, bishop of Mauritius (1832-40).

The small number of letters on this reel that deal directly with Australia are itemised below. The earliest references to Australia concern the Botany Bay Fund (1820) and a memorial from magistrates, merchants and landowners in Sydney to Governor Darling seeking his help towards the completion of the Catholic chapel in Sydney (1830). In 1832 William Bernard Ullathorne, who had been trained at Downside Priory, was appointed vicar-general in New South Wales for Bishop Morris. He arrived in Sydney in February 1833. As well as letters from Ullathorne, there are letters from two Irish priests, Philip Conolly, who had been serving in Hobart since 1821, and John McEneroe, who arrived in Sydney in 1832. There is also correspondence about the refusal of Polding to accept the bishopric of Madras in 1832 and his appointment in May 1834 as vicar-apostolic of New Holland.

Australian letters

H240 J. O'Sullivan to ?, 22 April 1831: printed memorial sent to Governor Ralph Darling in 1830 seeking assistance with the completion of a church in Sydney; so far it has received no attention.

- H468 Father Bernard Ullathorne (London) to Father Augustine Birdsall, 31 Aug. 1832: his appointment by Bishop Morris as vicar-general in New South Wales; Government has offered him passage and salary of £200 per annum; requests Birdsall's permission to accept the appointment.
- 139 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Sydney) to Bishop William Morris, 17 April 1833: arrival in Sydney; meeting with Rev. Philip Conolly in Hobart; divisions over appointment of trustees for Catholic Church in Sydney; audience with governor Sir Richard Bourke, negotiations regarding land grants for Church; Rev. John Therry and Rev. John McEneroe; support of governor in establishing Catholic schools; seeks extended faculties.
- 174 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Sydney) to Bishop William Morris, 10 July 1833: progress; relations with Rev. John Therry; plans to visit England and Ireland; appointment of chaplains for Campbelltown, Maitland, Parramatta and Bathurst; mismanagement of money collected for Sydney church
- 185 Father Philip Conolly (Hobart) to Bishop William Morris, 10 Aug. 1833: disappointment that Father Bernard Ullathorne was appointed vicar-general rather than himself; state of affairs in Van Diemen's Land; Catholics number between 5000 and 6000.
- 1100 Father Philip Conolly (Hobart) to Bishop William Morris, 16 Sept. 1833: increase in immigration; good members added to Catholic congregation; likelihood of government aid towards building a chapel; asks for encyclical letter of Pope Gregory VI.
- 1173 Father Philip Conolly (Hobart) to Bishop James Bramston, 8 Feb. 1834: conspiracy by evil disposed persons against Conolly; he has support of the governor; statistics of the colony.
- 1174 Catholic Committee (Hobart) to James Bishop Bramston, 8 Feb. 1834: complaints against supineness of Father Conolly; requests another priest; sends £100 to help fit him out.
- 1227 Cardinal Carlo Pedicini (Rome) to Bishop James Bramston, 17 May 1834: appointment of Father Polding as vicar-apostolic of New Holland. (copy)
- 1238 Father John McEneroe (Sydney) to Bishop William Morris, 3 June 1834: achievement of Father Bernard Ullathorne in bringing order to mission; his visit to Van Diemen's Land; additional priests needed; possibility of McEneroe visiting Mauritius to consult Morris.

Reel M996

Correspondence and documents, June 1834 – July 1841

Most of the selected letters were written in England and Europe and refer only incidentally to Australia and New Zealand. Several letters refer to an appeal against Bishop Polding being allowed to leave Downside to go on a foreign mission (1834) and others refer to his impending departure, news of his mission to Australia, the visit of Father Bernard Ullathorne to England, Ireland and Rome (1836-38), and financial assistance to the Church in Australia. There are also references to two students of Polding, Thomas Fergusson and Charles Reynolds, whom he had sent to England, and two deacons at Downside, Charles Davis and Bede Sumner, who were later to come to New South Wales.

More generally, the letters and other documents refer to the affairs of Downside Priory, relations with other Benedictine houses, the lengthy dispute between Father Augustine Birdsall and Bishop Peter Baines, the antagonism of Baines towards Downside Priory, students at Downside, appointments, financial matters and the affairs of the Diocese of Mauritius. The principal correspondents are Cardinal Thomas Weld (Rome), Joseph Brown, prior of Downside (1834-40), Augustine Birdsall, president-general of the English Congregation (1826-37), William Morris, bishop of Mauritius (1832-40), Father Bernard Barber, provincial of Canterbury (1834-42), Father William Collier, procurator at Rome (1834-40), Father Thomas Appleton (Douai), and Father Thomas Heptonstall, who was based at Acton near London.

The Australian letters listed below were mostly written by Bishop Polding and Father Ullathorne to Prior Brown at Downside and Father Heptonstall in London. Heptonstall was a cousin of Polding and his agent in England.

Australian letters

- I272 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Augustine Birdsall, 14 Aug. 1834: progress of his negotiations with Colonial Office for pecuniary assistance; relies on Benedictine monastery in New South Wales to carry out his plans.
- I276 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Augustine Birdsall, 28 Aug. 1834: no answer yet to his memorial; has seen John Shaw-Lefevre and will be introduced to Sir George Grey, new Secretary of State; advised not to leave England until the memorial has been answered.
- I321 H.G. Fowler to Bishop Bede Polding, 8 Nov. 1834: estimates for cost of his voyage to Australia.
- I338 Bishop Bede (Downside). Appeal for help in favour of his new vicariate in New South Wales, [1834]. (2pp, printed)
- I388 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 22 March 1835: his final letter before leaving England; commissions Heptonstall as his agent.
- I394 Bishop Bede Polding to Prior Joseph Brown, 26 March 1835: farewell to Downside.
- I416 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Barker, 3 May 1835: life on board ship; horarium observed.
- I428 Mrs Neve to Bishop Bede Polding, 22 May 1835: proposes to leave him books as nucleus of a bishop's library in Sydney on certain terms, as well as jewellery and furniture.
- J17 Bishop Bede Polding to Prior Joseph Brown, 1 Nov. 1835: preparing to build a church at Parramatta; will choose a site for a monastery; missionary work; troubles in Sydney; cost of land; interest rate; rapid fortunes in sheep and cattle; friendship and goodwill of governor, Sir Richard Bourke.
- J118 Father James Cotham (Launceston) to Bishop Bede Polding, 12 March 1836: his adventures on journey from Hobart to Launceston; need for a chapel; complaints about behaviour of Father Philip Conolly.
- J134 Report and statement of accounts of Australian Catholic Society, 18 April 1836. (printed)
- J135 Appeal for funds for Australasian Catholic Society, 18 April 1836. (printed)

- J142 Bishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 1 May 1836: his first ordinations; visit to Hobart; will open a seminary in Sydney on 29 June; high rate of interest on money invested in sheep; Father Ullathorne to go to Europe to recruit priests; Father Corcoran at Windsor.
- J168 Bishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Augustine Birdsall, 7 June 1836: Rev. John Therry annoyed by his arrangements; unpopularity of Polding with a certain party; praises Father Ullathorne and Henry Gregory; qualifications needed in missionaries; ordinations; trouble in Hobart with Father Conolly who is prosecuting Polding.
- J357 Father Bernard Ullathorne (London) to Prior Joseph Brown, 27 Feb. 1837: plans to visit Rome; must look anywhere for priests but Ireland last; meeting with Lord Glenelg; government of Benedictine Order in Australia; distance makes it imperative it must be independent; hopes of Father Heptonstall going out to Australia.
- J391 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Rome) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 13 April 1837: death of Cardinal Thomas Weld; additional funds for Church in New South Wales; preparing long statement in Italian on mission in New South Wales; need to send missals, bibles and vestments; new bishops for New Zealand and Polynesia.
- J401 Father Bernard Ullathorne. Report to Prefect of Propaganda on New South Wales Mission, 13 May 1837. (printed, in Italian, 33pp)
- J423 Last will and testament of Thomas T. Fergusson of Sydney leaving the colony for England, 20 June 1837
- J453 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Liverpool) to Prior Joseph Brown, 17 Sept. 1837: grant from Government to pay passages for a teacher and more priests; Father Brady is a valuable acquisition; help of Dr Walsh; letter from Bishop Polding; no answer to memorial on subject of a seminary.
- J479 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Liverpool) to Prior Joseph Brown, 8 Nov. 1837: securing more priests; completion of a pamphlet, *The Catholic Mission in Australasia*; congratulates Downside and Ampleforth on Blundell legacies.
- J482 Bishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Prior Joseph Brown and Father Thomas Heptonstall, 10 Nov. 1837: John Gorman has changed his mind about going to England; mischievous interference of J.B. Spencer; hopes Father Ullathorne will return soon.
- J491 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Blackburn) to Prior Joseph Brown, 29 Nov. 1837: preaching tour; goodwill of Brewer and his Ampleforth colleagues towards Downside; Dr Richard Marsh; Northern fathers look to Father Barber as next president-general; offers students to Downside; seeks information on granting 'dismissorials' to Irish candidates for Australia.
- K1 Maurice Reynolds (London) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 9 Jan. 1838: bill drawn on his father in Sydney.
- K2 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Liverpool) to Prior Joseph Brown, 10 Jan. 1838: news from Sydney; marvellous spread of religion; several priests just leaving England; has collected £5000 from his sermons; invited to give evidence to Commission of Enquiry into Transportation; his pamphlet now in its third edition.

- K10 Bishop Bede Polding (Wollongong) to Prior Joseph Brown, 28 Jan. 1838: travels in Illawarra; baptisms; adventures with soldiers and with a snake; scenery of Illawarra; school-building.
- K49 Bishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 6 May 1838: sends news from Father Jean Baptiste Pompallier in New Zealand to be forwarded to Rome; complaints about Irish clergy in regard to convicts; Rev. J.B. Spencer.
- K67 Thomas Fergusson. Arrangements for legacies and payment of debts in event of his death, 15 June 1838.
- K69 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Dublin) to Prior Joseph Brown, 21 June 1838: introduces Father Hughes, provincial of the Irish Franciscans; has been invited to write an address to the Irish people on transportation; five Sisters of Charity will return with him to Australia; bishopric of Madras.
- K72 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 25 June 1838: asks Heptonstall to order an organ for Sydney Cathedral at a cost of at least £800 and also send out music; choir doing well under Burstall.
- K77 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Dublin) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 11 July 1838: quotes a letter from Father Barber refusing consent to Heptonstall to go to New South Wales; Ullathorne will leave Australia within three years; hopeless task of making it a Benedictine work; asks for cabins to be chartered.
- K85 Father Bernard Ullathorne (London) to Prior Joseph Brown, 2 Aug. 1838: leaving for New South Wales with a large party; his pamphlet on transportation published in Ireland; a further large grant from Lyons; Australian mission now Hibernicised and will not be Benedictinised; expects to return to England shortly.
- K89 ? (Sydney) to Sir George Gipps, 15 Aug. 1838: resolution of a meeting at St Mary's Cathedral protesting against imputation of idolatrous worship cast on Roman Catholics by Judge John Willis. (copy)
- K90 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 17 Aug. 1838: details of attack by Judge John Willis on Catholics; urges Heptonstall to bring matter before Government through Catholic parliamentarians.
- K91 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 17 Aug. 1838: sends papers and letters about attack by Judge John Willis; Judge William Burton is ten times worse in intolerance but more cunning.
- K104 Bishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Prior Joseph Brown, 27 Sept. 1838: missionary journeys; dispute with Judge Willis; progress of seminary; vast numbers of immigrants arriving; difficulties due to non-arrival of directories.
- K107 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 4 Oct. 1838: defends himself against charges of unkindness made by Gorman; work of Fathers John Brady and James Goold; scurrilous attacks in newspapers on Brady; missionary experiences.
- K109 Bishop Bede Polding to Richard Windeyer, 4 Oct. 1838: case of John Gorman. (copy)
- K125 Proposals of organ work made by Bevington & Son to Dr Reid to build an organ for St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, 7 Nov. 1838.

- K133 Father Thomas Appleton (Douai) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 1 Dec. 1838: unable to keep Thomas Fergusson on account of his impiety and violation of rules; better conduct of Maurice Reynolds.
- K145 Bishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 28 Dec. 1838: money for Thomas Fergusson and Maurice Reynolds; arrival of priests; Fathers McEneaney and Henry Gregory gone to Norfolk Island; Harding to remain there as a catechist; news from Bishop Pompallier in New Zealand; Bishop W.G. Broughton visiting New Zealand and Norfolk Island.
- K158 Bishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 12 Jan. 1839: arrival of Sisters of Charity and Father Ullathorne; pecuniary burdens; enemies of the Church and the way they have been met; apostolic labours of Father Grady; evil done by J. Spencer.
- K161 Bishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 15 Jan. 1839: business matters; refusal of General Chapter to allow Benedictine Order to go to Australia; settlement of Sisters of Charity at Parramatta; cruelty to convicts; deaths due to heat.
- K184 House of Commons. Papers relating to transportation to New South Wales, 28 Feb. 1839. (printed)
- K209 Bishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Henry Gregory, 17 May 1839: local news; vegetable gardens; difficulties with seminary; ordinations; health of Father Ullathorne not equal to Parramatta.
- K211 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 20 May 1839: report on Thomas Fergusson; arrival of Bower; prospects of Cathedral choir under Dr Reid; expects new organ to arrive shortly; arrival of school teachers from England.
- K275 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Sydney) to Prior Joseph Brown, 18 Oct. 1839: progress of Mission; Bishop Polding so unbusinesslike that Ullathorne is resolved to leave; mutiny of military at Norfolk Island stopped mainly by Father Henry Gregory; admiration of the Sisters of Mercy.
- K278 Archbishop John MacHale (Tuam) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 28 Oct. 1839: acknowledges money for priests destined for Australia.
- K279 A. Welby Pugin (London) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 3 Nov. 1839: completion of organ front by Hull; cost of £150 and £7.10.0 commission for Pugin.
- K289 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Sydney) to Prior Joseph Brown, 4 Dec. 1839: onslaught of Australian press on progress of Catholic Church; Van Diemen's Land to be separated as soon as possible from New South Wales; French Marist staying in Sydney on his way to Bishop Pompallier.
- K315 Form of facilities granted by Bishop Polding to Father Henry Gregory, with 8 observanda, 9 Jan. 1840. (printed)
- K319 Archbishop John MacHale (Tuam) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 11 Jan. 1840: letter of credit for £70; possibility of Irish students joining Australian Mission.
- K327 Catholic Institute (London). Statement issued by Committee of Grievances to be issued to Peers and Members of Parliament, being vice-presidents of the Catholic Institute, regarding a complaint by Bishop W.G. Broughton about Bishop Polding appearing at a levee at Government House, Sydney, in the Court dress of his order, 22 Jan. 1840. (printed, 4pp)

- K354 Father Thomas Heptonstall to Prior Joseph Brown, 14 March 1840: letter from Bishop Polding on decision of Father Ullathorne to leave New South Wales; Ullathorne is sadly altered and his spirits affected by calumnies heaped on him by the press.
- K423 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 4 Sept. 1840: negligence of London publisher; urgent need for more clergy; Governor has issued a notice that stop must be put to influx of clergy; Polding wants to stock a local Catholic bookshop.
- L2 C.H. Chambers (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 11 Jan. 1841: Bishop Polding on voyage to England; Chambers's son to attend Stonyhurst or Downside school.
- L14 William Reynolds (London) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 12 March 1841: education of his son in Paris; requests estimate of his college expenses.
- L27 Father Francis Murphy (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 12 April 1841: acknowledges money from Lyons; organ almost erected; expects it to open with a grand oratorio.

Reel M997

Correspondence and documents, July 1841 – November 1848

The bulk of the letters on this reel relate directly to Australia and New Zealand and are listed below. Other letters may refer incidentally to Archbishop Polding or Australian matters, but are mostly concerned with the Catholic Church in England and the affairs of Benedictine houses. The correspondents include Cardinal Charles Acton, Bernard Barber, president-general of the Benedictine congregation in England (1842-50), Peter Wilson, prior of Downside Priory (1840-54), Bishop Joseph Brown, vicar apostolic of the Welsh District (1840-50) and Father Bernard Ullathorne, who was stationed at Coventry until 1846, when he became a bishop and vicar apostolic of the Western District.

The letters from Australia were nearly all written to Father Thomas Heptonstall, who was the agent of most of the Benedictine priests in Australia. The principal correspondent was John Bede Polding, who was made Archbishop of Sydney and Metropolitan of Australia in 1842 and who held the offices until his death in 1877. Other correspondents include Robert Willson, bishop of Hobart (1842-66), Francis Murphy, bishop of Adelaide (1844-58) and Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier, vicar apostolic of Western Oceania (1836-48).

Australian letters

- L68 Bishop Bede Polding (London) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 31 July 1841: securing priests for New South Wales; urges Heptonstall to accompany him and take charge of all temporals.
- L82 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, Aug. 1841: business to be negotiated with Colonial Office as to number of clergy on estimates 1838-40: return of Rev. Patrick Geoghegan from Port Phillip in a huff.
- L88 Bishop Bede Polding (Dublin) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 29 Sept. 1841: has as many young men as he wants; departure of priests for New South Wales; Reynolds returning to Sydney.

- L105 Bishop Bede Polding (London) to W.H. Coombes, 17 Nov. 1841: petition to Holy See to divide his district and appoint bishops in ordinary; Van Diemen's Land and South Australia should be districts; when other colonies are formed their civil boundaries should be episcopal boundaries.
- L106 Roger Therry (Sydney) to Prior Peter Wilson, 24 Nov. 1841: gratified at good news about his son; business matters.
- L85 J. Daniel (Stonyhurst) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 22 Sept. 1841: admission of a boy from Australia.
- L117 Bishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 12 Jan. 1842: progress of his negotiations; Charles Acton to be made a cardinal; arrival of Bishop William Morris; will not present his petition for division of his Vicariate until Acton is a cardinal and gone to Propaganda.
- L123 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Coventry) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 30 Jan. 1842: financial matter; progress of his book.
- L130 Bishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 17 Feb. 1842: progress of his affairs; Bishop Peter Baines reproved; Bishop Morris evidently out of favour; Roman statuary; has been made an assistant at the Papal Throne.
- L137 Bishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 7 March 1842: success of his plans; three sees created in Australia; names of proposed bishops.
- L139 C.H. Chambers (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 19 March 1842: his son D.D. Chambers returning to Australia; thanks for being guardian; return of balance of money.
- L143 Archbishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 10 April 1842: created Archbishop of Sydney on 9 April; property in Rome bought for English Benedictines; chance of having Benedictine nuns in Australia; seeks help to get bells for Sydney; Cardinal Acton; five Passionists engaged for service with Aborigines.
- L145 Thomas Ling ? (Derby) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 30 April 1842: arrangements for supplying books to Australia.
- L149 Archbishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 7 May 1842: Henry Gregory made a doctor of divinity; Father Robert Willson of Nottingham; Father Bernard Ullathorne; has been labouring hard ineffectually for Bishop Morris.
- L151 C.H. Chambers (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 16 May 1842: plans to recall his son but he will visit Paris and Dublin first; education under William Cape is as good in Sydney as in England; criticises internal administration of Stonyhurst.
- L152 Archbishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 18 May 1842: priests for Australia; proposed foundation of Benedictine nuns.
- L154 Archbishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Father Robert Willson, 24 May 1852: Pope has selected Willson for see of Hobart; advises him to accept.
- L155 Archbishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 26 May 1842: business matters; Fathers Robert Willson and Bernard Ullathorne; has applied to Lyons for a grant to support Bishop of Adelaide.

- L159 Archbishop Bede Polding (Naples) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 6 June 1842: high costs in Rome; Monte Cassino; business at Malta for the Pope; bulls for bishops of Hobart and Adelaide; Father Ullathorne resigned but will be a bishop in England before long; final interview with the Pope.
- L166 Bishop Joseph Brown. Address to General Chapter on subject of Australian Mission, 9 July 1842. (6pp)
- L167 Prior Peter Wilson [Downside] to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 13 July 1842: meeting with Bishop Brown; determined not to consent to Bishop Polding's proposal.
- L172 Father Francis Murphy (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 30 July 1842: affairs of Sydney Mission; progress in church building; Government refuses to pay him salary as vicar-general until it knows that Father Ullathorne has resigned.
- L178 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Henry Gregory, 16 Aug. 1842: urges him to obtain nuns for Australia; arrangements for embarking large party on *Templa*; troubles about Van Diemen's Land bishopric.
- L182 Abbé Bourgeois (Cape of Good Hope) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 11 Sept. 1842: voyage to Australia; debts of Reynolds; meeting with Bishop Griffiths in Cape Town; Rev. O'Reilly going to New Zealand.
- L188 Archbishop Bede Polding (Liverpool) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 2 Nov. 1842: authorises him to send three students to Propaganda.
- L190 George Hope (Colonial Office) to ?, 8 Nov. 1842: salary of Father Francis Murphy as vicar-general; granted provided he resigns post of chaplain to gaols. (copy)
- L198 Cardinal Charles Acton (Rome) to Father Bernard Barber, 28 Nov. 1842: address of English Benedictines to the Pope; pleased with bishops of Australia, Wales and Mauritius; Father Peter Wilson of Downside does useful work; will welcome Father Richard Prest as procurator of English Benedictines in Rome.
- L218 Archbishop Bede Polding. Appeal to Catholics of England for help. [Probably 1846-47]
- L219 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi en faveur des Missions Étrangères des Deux Mondes (Lyon) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 9 Jan. 1843: funds granted for Australian Mission.
- L237 Colonial Office to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 11 April 1843: deaths of two priests in Australia and request for replacements.
- L238 Colonial Office to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 18 April 1843: no allowance for successor to Father Francis Murphy as vicar-general unless official notice is received from governor that position is vacant.
- L244 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 9 June 1843: shortage of money; *Chronicle*; missionary journeys; settling Passionists among Aborigines; need to establish a monastery; dismissal of some priests; purchase of library of Father Ullathorne; foreign missionaries have little or no aptitude for the work.
- L249 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 30 July 1843: arrival of delayed luggage; sermons of Bishop W.G. Broughton at the factory; sends letters and pamphlets to be forwarded to Rome.

- L259 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 18 Oct. 1843: sends circulars for Archbishop Polding and Bishop Francis Murphy.
- L260 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 23 Oct. 1843: awaiting arrival of Bishop Willson; progress of monastery; idleness of Italians, church tower; requires treatise on campanology.
- L265 Archbishop Bede Polding (Parramatta) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 16 Nov. 1843: D. Francisco Garroni returning to Italy; four suspended priests; training of missionaries essential and they ought to become religious; death of Bishop Peter Baines; fears it will upset his plan of having Father Ullathorne in Australia.
- L271 Father Bernard Ullathorne (Coventry) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 22 Dec. 1843: Duncan has much under-valued Ullathorne's books in Australia; necessity forces him to accept £140; criticises Bishop Polding in relation to Passionists.
- L274 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall: sends copy of *Retreat Ordo*; financial difficulties not of his own creation; progress of monastery.
- L278 Father Francis Murphy (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 3 Jan. 1844: bells hung in temporary stone tower; all Sydney in a commotion when they were first rung.
- L279 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 16 Jan. 1844: Mission £2400 in debt; mortgage of land; delay in arrival of Bishop Willson; bell-ringers contest; Governor considers that Catholics are encroaching too much.
- L280 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi (Lyon) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 25 Jan. 1844: orders to draw for 16960 ff for Bishop Polding.
- L282 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 29 Jan. 1844: French priest returning from New Zealand; Mission debts; non-arrival of Bishop Willson; fighting against Bishop W.G. Broughton and the Governor; work among Aborigines; hopes Father Ullathorne will be made a bishop.
- L283 Bishop Robert Willson (at sea) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 19 Feb. 1844: events of the voyage; his brother has powers to act for him.
- L291 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 19 March 1844: missionary work; progress of monastery; Bishop Willson daily expected in Hobart; wants Stations of the Cross.
- L306 Father Francis Murphy (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 28 May 1844: date of his consecration; arrival of Bishop Willson in Hobart; Willson and Bishop Pompallier will come to consecration; asks Heptonstall to act as his agent; financial matters; state of religion in Adelaide.
- L314 Father L. Hand (Drumcondra) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 17 June 1844: all three students for Australia have broken down, but they have been replaced by three others.
- L319 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 4 July 1844: requires certain books; general news. (last page only)

- L320 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi en faveur des Missions Étrangères des Deux Mondes (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 6 July 1844: sorry for Archbishop Polding's financial difficulties; promises 20,000 ff.
- L321 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 13 July 1844: has been examined before an educational committee; requests various works on education; he will summon Bishop Willson; trouble in Adelaide; Polding's fight with Bishop W.G. Broughton.
- L323 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 27 July 1844: has to go to Hobart; Father John Therry causing trouble there; needs money for trip and consecration expenses; education work.
- L324 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 1 Aug. 1844: orders crosses of a particular pattern and pictures.
- L327 Father L. Hand (Drumcondra) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 16 Aug. 1844: sends account of Australian students.
- L335 Father L. Hand (Drumcondra) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 7 Oct. 1844: business matters; has seen Father James Brady.
- L337 Deed of appointment of Henry Gregory as vicar-general of New South Wales, 10 Oct. 1844.
- L339 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Lyon) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 23 Oct. 1844: allocation of 12,320 ff for Diocese of Adelaide in 1844.
- L341 Bishop Francis Murphy to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 21 Nov. 1844: has heard Leigh gave £2000 and 500 acres of land to endow an Anglican bishopric in Adelaide but has since become a convert; asks Heptonstall to find out truth; prospects of religion in South Australia.
- L343 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 6 Dec. 1844: progress of monastery; difficulty of training novices; describes buildings; consecration of Father Murphy; missionary journeys to Hobart, Launceston, Port Phillip, Geelong, Port Fairy and Portland Bay.
- L346 Authority from Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall to receive moneys for him, 16 Dec. 1844.
- L362 Authority from Bishop Francis Murphy (Adelaide) to Father Thomas Heptonstall to keep £150 for passage of two missionaries, 12 Jan. 1845.
- L364 Bishop Francis Murphy (Adelaide) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 31 Jan. 1845: authority to send money to Mrs Leigh.
- L371 Propagation de la Foi.. (Lyon) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 28 Feb. 1845: remits 9605 ff for Sydney; 800 ff were given to Father Brady.
- L372 Archbishop Bede Polding. Lenten Pastoral letter, Feb. 1845. (3pp)
- L376 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 12 March 1845: account of his journey to Hobart to settle church differences; violence of Bishop Willson; speaks well of Father John Therry.
- L377 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 15 March 1845: allocation of grants to Sydney.

- L378 John Willson (Lincoln) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 15 March 1845: payment of loan for his brother, Bishop of Hobart.
- L379 John Willson to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 19 March 1845: receipt of deeds.
- L390 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 26 May 1845: activities of Father Brady in Europe; troubles with Passionists; need for building; further fruitless attempts to pacify Bishop Willson; praises Bishop Pompallier.
- L395 W. Leigh (Leamington) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 7 June 1845: Society for Propagation of Gospel have paid back £2000 and £233.10.11; suggests money be used for church and bishop's house in Adelaide; difficulty about conveyance of land.
- L396 Father Bernard Ullathorne to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 16 June 1845: has seen W. Leigh about Adelaide affairs; explains site at Adelaide; suggests A.W. Pugin be asked to furnish suitable plans cheaply; consecration of Father Brady.
- L408 Abbé Prosper Gueranges (Solesmes) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 23 July 1845: recommends a novice to accompany Bishop Brady and two Spanish Benedictines to Western Australia; letter from Father Petra.
- L410 Bishop Robert Willson (Hobart) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 8 Aug. 1845: arrival of three priests; his finances; Father John Therry has ruined religion for years; recommends that Father Ullathorne be persuaded to return; agreement with Archbishop Polding to make diocese free of debt and retire Father Therry to New South Wales.
- L413 S. Harding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 16 Aug. 1845: orders books for Bishop Polding; sudden death of Father Mahony at Maitland; Father James Dunphy drowned crossing Mudgee River; illness of Father Bede Sumner; slow progress of monastery; foundation stone of new church laid in Sydney; new regulations for chaplains to prisons.
- L414 H. Johnson (Adelaide) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, Aug. 1845: requests all of Bishop Murphy's money in Heptonstall's hands be sent out to meet building expenses.
- L420 Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 15 Oct. 1845:
- L431 Bartholomew Woodlock (Drumcondra) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 28 Nov. 1845: payment for and selection of subjects for Archbishop Polding and Bishop Collier.
- L436 Charles Hanson (Coventry) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 30 Dec. 1845: plans of Blackmore Park Chapel for Bishop Francis Murphy; reopening of Acton Burnell chapel; great reunion of Benedictine Order.
- L441 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 26 Jan. 1846: allocation of grants for Sydney, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth.
- L444 Father Joseph Serra (Perth) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 13 Feb. 1846: sends books and museum objects; Bishop Brady has given a district for Benedictines; Brother Tootell refuses to leave Perth; his plans; seeks help from England.
- L445 Lord Lyttelton (Colonial Office) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 23 Feb. 1846: approval of W.E. Gladstone for six priests to go out at government expense to New South Wales.

- L446 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 23 Feb. 1846: grants to Adelaide, Hobart and Sydney.
- L450 Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier (New Zealand) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 12 March 1846: going to Europe for assistance with money and men; a brief puts more islands under his jurisdiction so he seeks a coadjutor, Pere Viard; he will be consecrated by Archbishop Polding.
- L454 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 31 March 1846: allocation of grants.
- L455 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 7 April 1846: allocation of grants.
- L462 Bishop Robert Willson (Port Arthur) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 1 May 1846: on his way to Norfolk Island; financial situation; books received; all convicts now in Van Diemen's Land; upwards of 30 prisons; three priests and three catechists; calamitous state of church affairs; trouble with Father John Therry.
- L465 Lord Lyttelton (Colonial Office) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 9 May 1846: selection and passages of priests and students to New South Wales.
- L467 Lord Lyttelton (Colonial Office) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 2 June 1846: issue of passage money for those selected to go to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land.
- L468 Father Henry Gregory to Sister Catherine O'Brien, 28 June 1846: permission to profess Eliza Walsh. (last page only)
- L478 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 8 Sept. 1846: allocation of grants to Sydney, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth.
- L482 Bishop Francis Murphy (London) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 8 Oct. 1846: passage to Adelaide of Father Coyle from Melleray.
- L500 Archbishop Bede Polding. Reply to farewell address on his departure from Sydney too visit Rome and Europe, [1846].
- M12 Bishop Francis Murphy (London) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 13 April 1847: business matters to be settled prior to his departure for Australia.
- M13 Authorisation from Bishop Murphy to Father Thomas Heptonstall to endorse drafts in his name, 14 April 1847.
- M23 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Lyon) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 28 May 1847: allocation of grant of 25,000 ff to New Zealand.
- M24 Father Bernard Barber to Prior Peter Wilson, 7 June 1847: thanks for consolatory letter on death of Father Appleton; Archbishop Polding announces that Father Burchall is nominated by Holy See as coadjutor of Sydney; Archbishop Polding in low spirits; loss of prestige.
- M31 Archbishop Bede Polding (Dublin) to Father Bernard Barber, 10 Aug. 1847: seeks consent for Dame Magdalene of Stanbrook Abbey to go to Australia to found a Benedictine convent.
- M33 Archbishop Bede Polding (Liverpool) to Father Bernard Barber, 22 Aug. 1847: asks leave to take out Brothers Henry Moore and Bernard Caldwell.

- M35 Bishop Francis Murphy (Adelaide) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 9 Sept. 1847: boisterous passage from Cape of Good Hope; expecting Protestant bishop in October; colony flourishing; now 2500 Catholics with weekly accessions; orders and commissions.
- M42 Brother Henry Moore (Liverpool) to Brother Alphonsus Morrell, 3 Oct. 1847: preparations for departure.
- M43 Archbishop Bede Polding. Draft of letters regarding reason why Christian Brothers left Sydney, Oct. 1847.
- M46 Father Thomas Heptonstall. Notes of a letter from Colonial Office about leave to send three priests to New South Wales, 18 Oct. 1847.
- M52 Monsignor Grant (Rome) to Father Bernard Barber, 10 Dec. 1847: rubrical information; substitution of Father Charles Davis for Father Burchall as coadjutor of Sydney and bishop of Maitland.
- M64 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 31 Jan. 1848: allocation of grant to Adelaide.
- M69 Brother Henry Moore (Sydney) to Brother Alphonsus Morrell, 8 Feb. 1848: arrival in Sydney; reception for Archbishop Polding; impressions of Sydney; St Mary's more of a monastery than Downside; rule followed is lenient but not lax.
- M71 Brother Henry Moore to Brother Alphonsus Morrell, 18 Feb. 1848: names of community; describes monastery and seminary; dress and fashion of wearing their hair; Archbishop Polding and Father Gregory looking for a place for Benedictine convent. (crossed)
- M73 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 6 March 1848: money for Australian bishops.
- M74 Father Bede Sumner (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 7 March 1848: business matters; conversion of two Protestant ministers and their families has caused a sensation.
- M84 Propagation de la Foi to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 14 April 1848: allocation of grants to Australia and Mauritius.
- M91 Bishop Robert Willson (Hobart) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 27 May 1848: has blessed Holy Oils; two ignorant priests from Waterford; Father John Therry; neglect of Norfolk Island; regulations in force in New South Wales.
- M94 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 3 July 1848: commissions for cloth for habits, music, stained glass; church bells; ordination of first native born priest; sad state of Church in Van Diemen's Land and Western Australia; ordination of Father James Goold as bishop of Melbourne.
- M103 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 20 Oct. 1848: local news including Father Gregory and Bishop Goold; establishment of Benedictine convent at The Vineyard, Parramatta, now called 'Subiaco'.
- M104 Sir Charles FitzRoy (Sydney) to Lord Grey, 23 Oct. 1848: acknowledges despatch on application by Archbishop Polding for passage money for three priests coming to Australia. (copy)

- M105 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 24 Oct. 1848: sending Father Henry Gregory to Europe; requires young men for Mission; Irish priests jib at authority, hence need for native-born priests; time to build seminary; news of Bishop Pompallier.
- M106 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 1 Nov. 1848: progress of Australian Mission. (draft to be translated into German for distribution in Australia)
- M108 Archbishop Bede Polding (Parramatta) to Father Bernard Barber, 18 Nov. 1848: purchase of property on Parramatta River for Benedictine nuns; dispersal of grumblers; progress of novices and postulants; awaits arrival of Bishop Charles Davis; Sisters of Charity.

Reel M998

Correspondence and documents, November 1848 – February 1862

There are relatively few documents dating from the years 1850-61. The bulk of the letters filmed on this reel relate directly to Australia and are itemised below. There are a few letters written from England and Europe to Thomas Heptonstall and also some correspondence of Bernard Barber, the president-general of the Benedictines, and Peter Wilson, the prior of Downside Priory. In addition, there are a few documents relating to the early career of Roger Bede Vaughan (1834-1883), who was eventually to succeed Bede Polding as archbishop of Sydney and metropolitan of Australia. Vaughan was educated at Downside in 1850-53, professed in 1854, and was ordained as a priest in 1859.

The Australian letters were generally written to Heptonstall, who was the agent of most of the Australian bishops and a close friend of Archbishop Polding. The principal correspondents are Polding and Bishop Charles Davis. Davis had been educated at Downside and was parish priest of Downside from 1844 to 1848. In 1848 he was consecrated bishop of Maitland and coadjutor to Polding. He died at Parramatta in 1854. From 1861 onwards Polding also wrote regularly to Henry Gregory, who had been his vicar-general since 1844 and also prior of St Mary's Priory in Sydney. (Polding gave him the honorary title of 'Abbot' in 1856.) Following numerous complaints from monks, secular clergy and laity in Sydney, Gregory was recalled by the president-general, Father Placid Burchall, and left Sydney in February 1861. He was later exonerated by the Vatican, but decided to remain in England.

Australian letters

- M109 B. Hawes (Colonial Office) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 22 Nov. 1848: passages of Fathers Ryan and Caldwell.
- M110 W. Elyard (Colonial Secretary's Office) to Prior Henry Gregory, 1 Dec. 1848: payment of £150 for passages to Sydney. (copy)
- M113 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Prior Peter Wilson, 9 Dec. 1848: his arrival in Sydney.
- M114 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 9 Dec. 1848: his arrival in Sydney; account of the voyage.

- M115 Brother Henry Moore (Sydney) to Brother Alphonsus Morrell, 9 Dec. 1848: arrival of Bishop Davis; his manners.
- M122 Address from students of Downside to Bishop Charles Davis, n.d. (draft, 3pp)
- M124 Diary of Sister Scholastica Gregory on her voyage to Sydney, Dec. 1847- Jan. 1848 (incomplete, 21pp)
- M127 Bishop James Brady to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 8 Jan. 1849: his appointment of Rev. J. Smith as his agent; Benedictine Fathers have done much good in Western Australia but have created a great debt; is sending Father Serra to Europe to beg.
- M129 Brother Henry Moore (Sydney) to Brother Adolphus Morrell, 16 Jan. 1849: description of 'Subiaco' which Archbishop Polding intends to be a monastery; delicate health of Bishop Davis; his singing and vestments greatly admired; organ to be moved to another part of the church.
- M130 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 18 Jan. 1849: £150 was originally intended for outfit and passage of Father Burchall; should be transferred to account of Bishop Davis.
- M136 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 31 Jan. 1849: passage money for six priests; requests a set of traveling pontifical; other commissions; arrival of Sisters at Subiaco.
- M138 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to [Father Thomas Heptonstall], 3 Feb. 1849: Davis to remain in Sydney while Archbishop Polding visits his vast diocese; accounts; St Patrick's and St Benedict's churches; Cathedral organ in bad state; has replaced the paid choir with monks; arrival of emigrant ship with 200 Catholic orphan girls.
- M152 Brother Henry Moore (Sydney) to Brother Adolphus Morrell, 25 Feb. 1849: disappointed with state of things at St Mary's Cathedral; ordination as deacon.
- M154 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Prior Peter Wilson, 28 Feb. 1849: his onerous responsibilities; Archbishop Polding erred with his last importation of priests; foreigners not fit for the mission; disapproves of proposed 'Rule interpreted by the Abbot'; Father Henry Gregory; differences with Bishop Willson not yet settled; hears that Father Bernard Ullathorne is out of touch with his Benedictine brethren.
- M155 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 1 March 1849: business retreat; Mrs Martin and her son keeping a school at Goulburn; has given retreat to 200 orphan girls; imbroglio with Bishop Willson; Archbishop Polding should be more severe with Father John Therry; recruitment of priests for Melbourne diocese.
- M167 W. Elyard (Colonial Secretary's Office) to Archbishop Bede Polding, 27 March 1849: repayment of passage allowances by priests who quit their posts within three years. (copy)
- M177 Benjamin Hawes (Colonial Office) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 11 April 1849: remittance of £450 for outfit and passages of three priests going to Sydney.
- M180 Brother Henry Moore (Sydney) to Brother Adolphus Morrall, 18 April 1849: illness of Bishop Davis; not expected to live; Moore's disappointment with St Mary's; alteration of Benedictine calendar; community chapels in Sydney;

- M183 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney). Testimonial to good order and discipline of St Mary's Cathedral and to missionary work done in short time since establishment of vicariate, 9 May 1849.
- M188 Bishop Robert Willson (Hobart) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 18 May 1849: disappointment with Irish priests; poor health of Bishop Davis; Father Therry 'as mad as ever'; Bishop Polding has reversed decision he made in Rome; he had decided to force Therry to return to Ireland.
- M190- Letters from Benedictine brothers to Father Henry Gregory concerning the conduct of Brothers Henry Moore and B. Caldwell since their arrival in Sydney and their opinions of religious life at St Mary's Cathedral, May 1849.
- M201 Archbishop Bede Polding (Subiaco) to Father Bernard Barber, 21 May 1849: critical illness of Bishop Davis.
- M202 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Bernard Barber, 21 May 1849: his decision to return Brothers Moore and Caldwell to England; statements that members of the community are contented.
- M203 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Bernard Barber, 22 May 1849: recalls favourable expressions used about Brothers Moore and Caldwell.
- M204 Archbishop Bede Polding to Gauch, 5 June 1849: requests Gauch to go to Fulda and procure a suitable relic of St Boniface; possible acquisition of body of Oliver Plunkett (1625-1681).
- M205 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 5 June 1849: reasons for sending Brothers Moore and Plunkett back to England; request for relics.
- M207 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 9 June 1849: enquiries about a practical joke; Father Geoghegan of Melbourne going to Europe in search of a mitre.
- M208 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 19 June 1849: newspapers; death of Bishop Thomas Walsh; need for brass band music; illness of Bishop Davis.
- M209 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 26 June 1849: allocation of grants for Australian missions.
- M210 Archbishop Bede Polding to Bishop of Fulda, 7 July 1849: requests a notable relic of St Boniface. (in Latin)
- M211 Bishop Francis Murphy (Adelaide) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 17 July 1849: has raised £80 for the Pope; wants money badly from Lyon; rapid rise in population of South Australia; mining flourishing; Anglican bishop has protested against Murphy's episcopate.
- M212 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Bernard Barber, 6 Aug. 1849: illness of Bishop Davis; Sister Scholastica Gregory and Sisters of Charity; progress of St Mary's community; his low opinion of foreigners.
- M213 Bishop Robert Willson (Hobart) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 18 Aug. 1849: his appeal to Rome; Archbishop Polding takes no notice of him; mission to Norfolk Island; Father Norbert Woolfrey.
- M214 Benjamin Hawes to Bishop Nicholas Wiseman, 24 Aug. 1849: establishment at Port Essington will probably be broken up before bishop arrives; grant of land is not in our power. (copy)

- M216 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Bernard Barber, 24 Sept. 1849: withdraws his strong statements about Brothers Moore and Caldwell and Sister Magdalene; has given the community a retreat and habits to some novices; school; health of Sister Scholastica.
- M217 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 25 Sept. 1849: progress of Bishop Davis; Brother Henry Moore; happiness now reigns; progress of Subiaco; Bishop John Brady running up debts; Polding's farm operations and need for seeds; death of his cousin Father Anselm Brewer.
- M218 Brother B. Cardwell to Father Bernard Barber, 2 Oct. 1849: exculpates himself and Brother Moore from charges brought by Archbishop Polding and Father Gregory; seeks an interview.
- M219 Brother Dominic Urquhart (Cadiz) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 5 Oct. 1849: party of missionaries under Father Serra embarked on *Ferrolana* for Western Australia.
- M221 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 13 Oct. 1849: allocation of grants to Australian dioceses.
- M222 Brother Henry Moore (Downside) to Father Bernard Barber, 18 Oct. 1849: seeks to justify his departure from Sydney and his statement concerning discontent in the community.
- M225 Oeuvre de Propagation de la Foi.. (Paris) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 10 Nov. 1849: further grants.
- M226 F.B. Urquhart to Bishop Joseph Serra, 16 Nov. 1849: repudiates Bishop Serra's jurisdiction and charges him with inveigling him to Western Australia under false pretences.
- M229 F.B. Urquhart to Bishop Joseph Serra, 23 Nov. 1849: accuses Bishop Serra of 'fiendish maliquity'.
- M231 Bishop Charles Davis to Prior Peter Wilson, 12 Dec. 1849: resumption of his duties; good opinion of Brother George Moore; James Sheridan from Ampleforth; plans to visit Hobart to settle dispute.
- M240 Dame Magdalene (Subiaco) to Father Bernard Barber, 8 Feb. 1850: St Mary's flourishing; Archbishop Polding takes nuns out in carriage occasionally; enclosure at Subiaco three times as large as that of Stanbrook Abbey.
- M244 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Prior Peter Wilson, 28 Feb. 1850: deplorable state of Church affairs in Van Diemen's Land; fault on both sides; Father John Therry; concessions made by Government.
- M245 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 28 Feb. 1850: Aboriginal boy sent for education; negotiations in Van Diemen's Land; arrival of Bishop Pompallier and a large party en route to New Zealand; adventure in Sydney Harbour; arrival of Bishop Serra in Perth; progress at St Mary's.
- M246 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Father Norbert Sweeney, 28 Feb. 1850: sends him a musical composition; singing of plain chant in Sydney; wants music for all churches in the diocese; seeks organ for St Benedict's Church.
- M247 Archbishop Bede Polding. Lenten Pastoral letter, Feb. 1850. (printed, 3pp)

- M248 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 1 March 1850: baptism of Aboriginal boy being sent to Europe.
- M261 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 20 July 1850: illness of Sister Scholastica Gregory; Father Gregory will probably go to Europe after her death; Archbishop Polding not anxious to return to Europe; their numbers quite inadequate for their work.
- M264 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 22 Aug. 1850: business matters; Archbishop Polding premature in establishing convent; ignorance of Father O'Keefe from Waterford; choir progressing admirably; Legislative Council composed of infidels; their efforts to introduce an educational system that will destroy religion.
- M268 Bishop Charles Davis (Sydney) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 16 Sept. 1850: enlargement of Cathedral; enquiries about slates; difficulties with infidels; requires stock of hosiery cloth.
- M276 Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier to friends, 18 Oct. 1850: account of his journey from Antwerp to King George's Sound and Sydney; hospitality of Archbishop Polding; reception on his arrival in New Zealand; proposed erection of seminary at Auckland. (copy)
- M286 Report to Prefect of Propaganda on the Mission to Australia, n.d. (draft, 21pp)
- M287 Translation of report. (19pp)
- M352 Archbishop Bede Polding and Bishop Charles Davis. Lenten Pastoral letter, 10 Feb. 1852. (printed, 3pp)
- M365 Thomas Little (Perth). Record of submission of Bishop John Brady to papal sentence of suspension, 5 July 1852. (printed)
- M366 Archbishop Bede Polding. Promulgation of sentence of excommunication on John Dearden for publication of an address derogatory of his authority in *Perth Gazette*, 29 July 1852. (printed)
- M402 Archbishop Bede Polding and Bishop Charles Davis. Lenten Pastoral letter, 29 Jan. 1853. (printed, 4pp)
- M451 Report of Committee of St Mary's Society, Sydney, for liquidation of debt on church and schools, 4 Feb. 1854. (printed)
- M456 Dame M.M. Le Chere (Subiaco) to Father D. Davis, 21 May 1854: death of Bishop Charles Davis.
- M457 Father D.M. O'Connell (Sydney) to Mrs Davis, 22 May 1854: death of Bishop Davis.
- M453 Appeal from St Mary's Monastery, Sydney, to Propaganda, 20 March 1854.
- M458 Father M. Wallburge (Subiaco) to Abbess of Stanbrook, 22 May 1854: account of death of Bishop Davis.
- N206 Archbishop Bede Polding. Lenten pastoral letter, 6 March 1859. (printed, 3pp)
- N209 Archbishop Bede Polding to Cardinal Prefect of Propaganda, 14 June 1859: has learnt that Abbot Henry Gregory was passed over in his nomination for see of Maitland; defends his character against aspersions. (draft)

- N256 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Joseph Short, 16 April 1860: sends defence against charges sent to Holy See brought against Polding by a nun of the Sisters of Charity; charges against Abbot Gregory.
- N262 Ellen Davis (Subiaco) to Father R. Davis, 28 Nov. 1860: beautiful mortuary chapel built over remains of Bishop Charles Davis.
- N303 Bishop James Goold (Melbourne) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 21 Jan. 1861: difficulties with religious offering themselves; gives instances; departure of Abbot Gregory for Europe; hears good reports from Dr Woodlock of his 18 students.
- N308 J.H. Wills to Abbot Henry Gregory, 3 Feb. 1861: grieved at his departure from Australia.
- N312 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 17 Feb. 1861: changes at St Mary's and Subiaco; stiff dealings with Grant and others; asks Gregory to look for priests 'free from the cursed love of money'.
- N316 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 Feb. 1861: sends *Herald* with speeches of counsel against alienation of Church and School Estates; number of boys at Lyndhurst College; asks Gregory to ascertain powers of Visitors to Dublin University.
- N320 Archbishop Bede Polding (Subiaco) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 27 March 1861: news of various members of Subiaco; 31 girls at school; Lyndhurst College improving; collections at St Mary's improving; anxious to get on with building while labour is cheap.
- N322 Cardinal Alessandro Barnabo (Rome) to Archbishop Bede Polding, 17 April 1861: no difficulty about coming to Rome on grave business.
- N323 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 19 April 1861: invalids among clergy; trouble with clergy; something radically wrong with method of choice or education; school at Subiaco; Holy Week.
- N324 Father T.F. Neville to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 22 April 1861: money for his outfit to Melbourne and for farewell visit to his parents in Ireland.
- N325 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 May 1861: unhappy with domestic worries; arrival of Bishop James Quinn at Brisbane wit queer lot of foreign priests; 30 boys at Lyndhurst; progress of College.
- N326 Thomas Makinson to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 May 1861: arrival of Bishop James Quinn; Archbishop Polding complained of his reserve; unpleasant domestic matters at St Mary's; Father Bede Sumner; hopes Gregory will be able to dispose of misrepresentations; advises caution and diplomacy.
- N328 Archbishop J.B. Polding (Subiaco) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 17 June 1861: has sent 'anonymous' letters to be sent to Rome; letter from Cardinal Barnabo; sensation caused by Government circular decreeing that Anglican bishops have precedence over all others; condemns certain priests and their ways.
- N329 Thomas Makinson to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 June 1861: movements of Archbishop Polding; changes of priests; letter of Cardinal Barnabo; believes Bishop Robert Willson and Father John Therry are at bottom of it.

- N330 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 19 July 1861: believes Bishop Bernard Ullathorne brought about Gregory's recall; affairs of St John's College; parish news; sermon by 'a wild Irishman'.
- N331 Archbishop Bede Polding (Subiaco) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 July 1861: suggests boys from Father Nugent's institute in Liverpool be educated for priesthood; no use in relying on men from country districts of Ireland.
- N334 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 Aug. 1861: trouble with persists; Bishop Quinn going his own way; bishops want a synod; news from Rome.
- N335 Father Bede Sumner (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Aug. 1861: increase in funds of the Church; complains he has not charge of all money matters; Subiaco; lack of firmness of Archbishop Polding.
- N336 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 22 Sept. 1861: unfortunate appointment of Father Jerome Keating as vicar-general; movements of clergy; wants to resign or be put aside like Bishop Brady; criticises letter of Cardinal Barnabo about Gregory's recall; further trouble over question of precedence.
- N337 Thomas Makinson (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 22 Sept. 1861: no hope of Gregory's return; his canonical position; Father Bede Sumner wants to get Archbishop Polding out of St Mary's; Holy See has recalled Gregory not for his faults but because of events in Sydney; urges him to go to Rome but to be cautious with his tongue.
- N340 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Henry Gregory, 19 Oct. 1861: fears of Gregory going to Rome; reminds Gregory of Bishop Baines; warns him against censures of over-righteous; Bishop Ullathorne; Lyndhurst College going well with 30 boarders and 20 day boys; local news; Polding's missionary work at Goulburn; mistakes of Bishop Quinn.
- N341 Thomas Makinson (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 22 Oct. 1861: Father Bede Sumner; urges Gregory to return if possible; Archbishop Polding plans to tell priests what Cardinal Barnabo said about Gregory; possible appointment of Father Sweeney as Coadjutor.
- N342 Archbishop Bede Polding (Singleton) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 11 Nov. 1861: discourages Gregory from going to Rome lest he get a freezing reception; no comfort at St Mary's with Father Bede Sumner there; wishes he had left Sumner at Parramatta; progress of St John's; Methodists and Presbyterians have given up; not one student at St Paul's College; Bishop James Quinn.
- N343 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Dec. 1861: examinations; success of university students; considers making Makinson's house a school; damage at Subiaco due to great hailstorm; his missionary tours to Hunter Valley and Armidale; is assured that Bishop Bernard Ullathorne is beginning and end of Gregory's recall.
- N378 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Jan. 1862: St Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne left in great debt by Dr Leary; Bishop Patrick Geoghegan going to Europe; several others going to Rome who will be witnesses in favour of Gregory; unpleasant news from Brisbane.
- N384 Thomas Makinson (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 19 Feb. 1862: meeting of bishops; sees an end to his present troubles; Judge Roger Therry and priests were movers in it.

- N385 Father Richard Burchall (Woolton) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 Feb. 1862: asks if lay brothers in Sydney made solemn or simple vows; information required from Propaganda.
- N386 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 Feb. 1862: letters in favour of Gregory sent to Europe; Makinson drawing up papers of accusations; farming operations; Bishop Goold's distress over Barry scandal; likely to be held responsible for debts of £6000; Lyndhurst College flourishing; 200 attending St John's College; clerical changes; increase of nuns.

Reel M999

Correspondence and documents, February 1862 – September 1869

Most of the letters and documents filmed on this reel were sent to either Abbot Henry Gregory or Father Thomas Heptonstall. Gregory was stationed at Stanbrook Abbey, Worcestershire, in 1861-62, Bullingham in 1862-63 and Broxwood, Herefordshire, from 1863 until his death in 1877. Heptonstall, who was also stationed at Stanbrook, became the Abbot of St Edmundsbury in 1862 and died in 1869. Nearly all the letters relate to Australia and are listed below. There are also a few letters relating to Roger Bede Vaughan, who became prior of Belmont Priory in Herefordshire in 1861 and remained there until his appointment as coadjutor bishop of Sydney in 1873.

The principal correspondent is Archbishop Bede Polding, who wrote to Gregory almost every month and less frequently to Heptonstall. There are also some letters from the Spanish Benedictine monk Rosendo Salvado (1814-1900) who founded the Aboriginal mission at New Norcia, Western Australia, in 1846. He was made bishop of Port Essington in 1849 and became abbot of New Norcia, with a diocese attached, in 1867.

Australian letters and documents

- N388 Abstract of false and calumnious charges against Abbot Gregory and answers thereto, drawn up by Thomas Makinson, Feb. 1862.
- N389 Archbishop Bede Polding. Lenten Pastoral address, Feb. 1862.
- N390 Rev. R. Walsh to Abbot Henry Gregory, 2 March 1862: assertion by Walsh that Irish priests had done harm in Australia; condemns action of Father Patrick Bermingham; does not think Archbishop Polding will come to Europe.
- N394 Archbishop Bede Polding. Pastoral letter on completion of St Mary's Cathedral, 19 March 1862.
- N395 Rev. R. Walsh to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 March 1862: his letter to Rome has stunned Father Patrick Bermingham; sent a letter to Archbishop Cullen.
- N397 Bishop Joseph Brown (Bullingham) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 15 April 1862: important letters received from Archbishop Polding; arrangements for visit to Rome; fears that Bishop Geoghegan will not arrive in time to be of service.

- N398 Bishop Joseph Brown (Bullingham) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 17 April 1862: has had a hint from Rome on how to act; Abbot Gregory must arrive in Rome first; Brown's movements; preparation of answers to accusations.
- N400 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 24 April (?) 1862: young bishops inclined to be rigorous; successful meeting although absence of many made a Council impossible.
- N401 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 19 May 1862: terms of his letter to Cardinal Alessandro Barnabo; Father Patrick Bermingham is not to return to Australia; Bishop Ullathorne has changed his visit to Rome; some priests will be dismissed for insubordination; Sydney University successes; 40 boarders and 30 day scholars at St John's College.
- N404 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 16 July 1862: astounded by credence in Rome of wild charges; visits of bishops to Rome; in circumstances a provincial council is impossible.
- N405 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Sept. 1862: news of Gregory's fever in Florence; he should not go to Rome until Bishop Geoghegan arrives; grieved at his audience and its result; Bishop Brown confident that Gregory will return to Australia; progress of collection for St Mary's; Father Therry frittering away his money.
- N407 Bishop Patrick Geoghegan (Dublin) to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 2 Oct. 1862: replacement of priests in Adelaide; extraordinary dearth of priests in Ireland; expenses for students.
- N412 Abbot Henry Gregory to Father Patrick Bermingham, n.d.: upbraids Bermingham for using threats to extort information against Gregory and for his conduct towards Archbishop Polding.
- N413 Abbot Henry Gregory to Cardinal Alessandro Barnabo, n.d.: wishes to visit Rome to exculpate himself but was told by President that it was inadvisable. (draft)
- N441 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 Feb. 1863: shipwrecks; some newspapers becoming anti-English rags; news from Monsignor Talbot that Gregory is reinstated but Rome averse to his return; unsatisfactory letter from Cardinal Barnabo.
- N447 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 April 1863: urges Gregory not to think of becoming a Cistercian; still hopeful of his return; Gregory should do some missionary work; boundaries of Diocese of Armidale; needs three bishops; infirmity of Bishop Geoghegan; Rome ignorant of their situation; would like Father Bede Sumner to be recalled.
- N449 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 May 1863: deaths in England; dreads his own death; improprieties of Father Sumner; troubles at Subiaco; new sees of Goulburn and Armidale; missionary news; an Irish priest causing scandal in Sydney streets; begging by Franciscan lay brothers; offence caused by Judge Roger Therry's reminiscences.
- N450 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 22 May [1863]: return of missionaries from Ireland; Polding will not attend levee on account of precedence given to Anglican bishops.
- N452 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 June [1863]: passing of State Aid Abolition Bill; grievances of Father John Therry; news from Rome; likelihood of Gregory's return; inaccuracies in Judge Therry's book.

- N453 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 July 1863: many look forward to Gregory's return; all Australian bishops discontented with treatment by Cardinal Barnabo; case of Bishop Robert Willson; has heard that Father Bermingham has gone to Rome; local news; beggars without end from Ireland.
- N454 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 22 Aug. 1863: Bishop Willson staying with Polding in Sydney; delighted with St Mary's services; local news; St John's College; trouble with Father Peter O'Farrell; Therry now regrets Gregory's absence from his real sphere of usefulness.
- N455 Archbishop Bede Polding, Bishop Robert Willson, Bishop James Goold. Circular warning faithful against unauthorised beggars and informing bishops in Europe that such persons will not be countenanced, 10 Sept. 1863.
- N457 Archbishop Bede Polding (Melbourne) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Sept. 1863: journey with Bishop Willson to Melbourne; impending opening of St John's College; situation in Melbourne resulting from Barry's mismanagement; reasons for dismissal of Father O'Farrell; trouble of Bishop Goold with priests and friars; wishes Father Bede Sumner would leave.
- N458 Archbishop Bede Polding (Melbourne) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 5 Oct. 1863: leaving for Ballarat to see its fine church; plans for return to Sydney.
- N459 Archbishop Bede Polding to Prioress of Subiaco Priory, 11 Oct. 1863: chaffs the nuns for their fright at his prolonged absence from Sydney; assisted Bishop Goold in opening a fine new church.
- N464 Second appeal of the Anti-Transportation League of Victoria to the people of Great Britain, Melbourne, 26 Nov. 1863. (printed, 4pp)
- N465 Archbishop Bede Polding (Ten Mile Creek) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Oct. [1863]: illness; course of his return journey from Ballarat and Geelong; missionary work; dreads another visit to Rome; pleasant association with Bishop Robert Willson until their parting when Willson objected to Benedictines having taken possession of Sydney.
- N466 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 Dec. 1863: overland journey from Melbourne to Sydney; missionary work; Irish priests are not good Catechists; Bermingham clique still at its dirty work.
- O8 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Jan. 1864: illness; death of Dr Nathan; marriages; foundation stone of new school-church; mission appointments and troubles; asks Gregory to encourage Father Henry Vaughan with idea of a missionary college in England.
- O13 Bishop Rosendo Salvado (New Norcia) to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 16 Feb. 1864: requests new edition of Monastic Breviary and Missal; regrets that Western Australia will not be much good without convicts; pamphlet of Florence Nightingale in which she approves of his methods of educating Aborigines.
- O14 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 Feb. 1864: still hopes for Gregory's return; terrible fall of Father Anselm Curtis; Polding's despondency and thoughts of resigning mitre; news of Subiaco; regulations.

- O15 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 3 March 1864: death of Dean John Grant; Father Bede Sumner returned to Parramatta; progress of Subiaco under new prioress; school has only 14 students; thinks of economising by selling horses and carriage; fears that Bishop James Quinn in Brisbane is deeply embarrassed; priests leaving his diocese.
- O16 Bishop Rosendo Salvado (Perth) to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 19 April 1864: journey by foot to Perth where he is buying stores; Aboriginal boys at New Norcia; Florence Nightingale; mistakes of a doctor in treating Aborigines.
- O21 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 22 April 1864: congratulates Gregory on his missionary success in England; business matters; deaths; decline of Lyndhurst College; economising at Subiaco; clerical changes; news of Father John McEncroe's declining health.
- O28 Bishop Rosendo Salvado to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 16 June 1864: plans for visit to Rome; affairs in Western Australia.
- O29 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 June 1864: fall of Father Anselm Curtis now widely known; effect on Lyndhurst College; death of Father John Therry; his many wills; anxiety about school at Subiaco.
- O30 Archbishop Bede Polding (Subiaco) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 July 1864: death of Father Mellitus; will of Father Therry; accident at convent buildings at Subiaco; hears that Father Sweeney is to go to Rome; his possible appointment to Sydney, Adelaide or Armidale.
- O37 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Sept. 1864: illness; delinquencies of priests; has taken a dislike to St Mary's Cathedral; bequests of Bishop Patrick Geoghegan. (incomplete)
- O39 Archbishop Bede Polding to Father Abbot Heptonstall, 21 Oct. 1864: serious illness; blundering of Dr Smith in Rome over his affairs.
- O40 Archbishop Bede Polding (Wollongong) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Oct. 1864: seeks particulars of Bishop Brown's synod; likely appointments to sees of Armidale and Goulburn; has recommended to Holy See that a secular be appointed to Adelaide; will of Bishop Geoghegan; decision in favour of Church as to certain wastelands; removal of three priests.
- O41 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 21 Oct. 1864: illness; trouble with Bishop James Quinn over a Sister of Mercy; needs help for her from convent at Liverpool; need for young priests; finds fault with new breviary.
- O47 Bishop Rosendo Salvado (Rome) to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 20 Nov. 1864: journey from New Norcia to Rome; meeting with Cardinals Barnabo and Petra.
- O51 Bishop Rosendo Salvado to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 18 Dec. 1864: business matters; Pope asked Salvado for news of Archbishop Polding; hurrying to get his work finished.
- O78 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 22 Jan. 1865: adventures on journey to Bathurst; hopes of founding a convent of Sisters of Mercy; beautiful church at Bathurst; arrival of new priests.
- O79 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 20 Feb. 1865: change of ministry; no intention of pursuing litigation on Church and School Lands; business matters; request for books; his view of Jesuits.

- O86 Cardinal Alessandro Barnabo to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 27 May 1865: Chinese priest going to Melbourne to work among Chinese; Bishop Goold has sent £20 for his voyage; Heptonstall to supply the remainder.
- O87 Cardinal Alessandro Barnabo to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 27 May 1865: Bishop Goold has asked that James Terry be admitted to College of Propaganda; asks him to send the youth when letters arrive from Melbourne; Chinese priest.
- O92 *History of St Mary's Cathedral with ten illustrations*, Sydney, W.G. Mason, [July 1865]. (16pp)
- O102 Archbishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 17 Nov. 1865: hopes Dr John Crookall's objections to a bishopric will be put aside; proposes conditions for Gregory's return; other projects for his employment in New South Wales; case of Benedictines almost hopeless; fears there will be no English appointments.
- O104 Bishop James Goold (Melbourne) to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 25 Dec. 1865: business matters; if Augustinians come out it must be at their own expense; fears Bishop Willson is breaking up; not pleased with priests from All Hallows College, Dublin; Archbishop Polding will be taken aback when he learns of appointment of James Murray as bishop of Maitland.
- O106 Archbishop Bede Polding to ?, n.d.: reasons for appointing two vicars-general; duties at St Mary's Cathedral. (draft)
- O140 Archbishop Bede Polding (London) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 7 Jan. 1866: his movements; visit to Mallines to see Institute to take charge of reformatories; fire at Douai.
- O142 Father Austin Sheehy (Sydney) to Archbishop Bede Polding, 22 Jan. 1866: bad state of community at Subiaco; diocesan retreat; trouble with priests; arrival of bulls for Australian dioceses.
- O143 Rev. John Smyth (Adelaide) to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 27 Jan. 1866: death of Father Ryan; passage money for Father Kennedy from Waterford; students; financial matters; appointment of Laurence Sheil of Ballarat as bishop of Adelaide.
- O144 Archbishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 Feb. 1866: latest news from Sydney; conduct of priests on way out to New South Wales; Dr Neve translating his report into Italian; needs a good map of Australia.
- O145 Bishop James Goold (Melbourne) to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 23 Feb. 1866: business matters; money for his nephew's journey to Rome; papers for Bishop Willson; wants to send a young fallen priest to All Hallows College.
- O148 Father Austin Sheehy (Sydney) to Archbishop Bede Polding, 21 March 1866: glad that Polding will see Australian bishops before they leave for Australia; has no confidence in two nuns who wish to leave Subiaco; another break out by Father Bede Sumner; part of walls of old cathedral demolished; fine new church in Newcastle; arrival of bulls for Bishop Sheil.
- O151 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 3 April 1866: state of affairs at Subiaco; Cardinal Petra thought permission would be given for nuns to go out and teach; is assured he is making progress with cardinals of Propaganda; kindness of the Pope.
- O152 Archbishop Bede Polding (Belmont) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 15 April 1866: apprehensive about Father Sumner; going to Birmingham to visit Bishop Ullathorne.

- O153 Thomas Makinson (Sydney) to Archbishop Bede Polding, 21 April 1866: death of Father Patrick Magennis; his funeral; Protestants showing their disunion; tenders for Cathedral foundations; grieved that reports of disgraced men should cast doubt on good done by Polding; no boundaries yet for new dioceses.
- O155 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 26 May 1866: movements from Rome to England.
- O156 Bishop Rosendo Salvado (Rome) to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 28 May 1866: sends instructions for regular missionaries; things going well at New Norcia; hears Father Pietro Casaretto is going to England.
- O165 Archbishop Bede Polding (Blackheath) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 17 July 1866: still lingering in London; anxieties and uncertainties; no news from Rome; meeting with Father Lockhart at Kingsland; visit to convent of Little Sisters of the Poor.
- O166 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 18 July 1866: candidates for coadjutor bishop of Sydney; Dr John Crookall and Father Herbert Vaughan; has made retreat and General Confession of his whole life.
- O168 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 12 Sept. 1866: delays; hoping to get Herbert Vaughan as coadjutor; asks Gregory to sound out Father Roger Bede Vaughan; a bitter complaint from Subiaco.
- O170 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 2 Oct. 1866: interview with secretary of Propaganda who is averse to return of Gregory; Archbishop Henry Manning and president-general opposed to either of Vaughans going to Australia; extract from paper showing cause of opposition; Polding still wants Gregory in Australia.
- O171 Father Placid Burchall to Abbot Henry Gregory, 5 Oct. 1866: has received document from Propaganda authorising Gregory to return to Australia; Burchall regrets it but permits it during lifetime of Archbishop Polding.
- O172 Bishop Rosendo Salvado (Rome) to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 30 Oct. 1866: Archbishop Polding plans to leave Rome in a fortnight; portable atlas; meeting of consistory; Father Sheehy of Sydney has been preconised bishop.
- O173 Archbishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 10 Nov. 1866: hopes to hear Father John Crookall has accepted mitre; other names suggested; Monsignor George Talbot interferes too much; Polding has been making retreat and general confession; Jesuits carrying all before them in Melbourne; Benedictines will never be able to stand their ground.
- O174 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 20 Nov. 1866: puzzled by telegram; Archbishop Manning has given exeat to a student in Rome for Australia.
- O176 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 4-6 Dec. 1866: Crookall has refused mitre; discusses fitness of Gilbert Wenham; Polding now thinks Gregory should not return; Pope has given him permission to make his will.
- O177 Archbishop Bede Polding (Rome) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 11 Dec. 1866: William Lanigan to be bishop of Goulburn; Armidale remains vacant and to be filled by synod; departure of French troops from Rome replaced by Zouaves; rumours of attempt by Garibaldians to take Rome.

- O178 Abbot Thomas Heptonstall (Downside) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 21 Dec. 1866: business matters; hopes Gregory will remain in England; at Downside for a change of air.
- O181 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, n.d.: a bishop's duty as to disposition of property in favour of his diocese. (incomplete)
- O211 Bishop Rosendo Salvado (Rome) to Father Thomas Heptonstall, 6 Feb. 1867: has obtained complete oratory; New Norcia declared separate from diocese of Perth; Abbot Casaretto; all decisions in Salvado's favour.
- O212 Thomas Makinson (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 22 Feb. 1867: disappointed that Gregory is not to return to Australia and that Father John Crookall has declined to come; need for Church to import non-Hiberian element; increase in infidelity; denominational education lost in New South Wales; John Henry Newman.
- O213 Archbishop Bede Polding to B. Smith, 31 March 1867: delay in return; wants documents from Propaganda sent to Sydney; asks for privileged altar for Benedictine nuns at Parramatta and for Sisters of Mercy at Goulburn; has heard of arrival of bishops of Maitland and Bathurst; infidel Education Bill.
- O214 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 5 April 1867: news about St Benedict's Priory, Colwich.
- O215 Archbishop Bede Polding (Belmont) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 18 April 1867: imminent departure; fears that Father Bede Sumner has fallen; fellow travellers; Castelli detained at Italian border; Bishop Goold writes that contract for foundations of St Mary's is £15,000; old foundations cost £8000.
- O217 Account of Bishop James Goold with All Hallows College, Dublin, 1 July 1867.
- O219 Thomas Makinson (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 24 July 1867: critical moment with Education Bill; Henry Parkes a dangerous opponent of the Church; removal of Father Felix from Lyndhurst College; cost of removal of wooden cathedral; regrets that Gregory is not returning; several priests from Queensland gone to Rome to complain about Bishop Quinn.
- O221 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 24 Aug. 1867: storms on passage; grave illness of Father Sumner; infidel education; bishops prepared to accept Polding's decisions; consecration of Bishop Lanigan; Father Sheehy's consecration delayed because of malicious reports; clergy petitioning to be received into Sydney diocese.
- O223 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 23 Oct. 1867: Rome defers consecration of Father Sheehy; outcry against importation of Irish bishops; Education Bill irreligious; *Freeman's Journal* has done great harm with its Fenianism; foundations of St Mary's Cathedral.
- O224 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 23 Nov. 1867: health of Father Sumner; doings at Subiaco; trouble with some nuns; Education Bill difficulties but if 50,000 Catholics give 1d. a week they will survive; Catholic schools mean to put themselves outside provisions of the Act.
- O225 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 24 Dec. 1867: a friar coming out robbed of £200; difficulties at St John's College; hopes Prior Bede Vaughan would head College; longs to be released from his cares.

- O251 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 31 Jan. 1868: decline in his physical powers; intrigues will continue as long as an Englishman rules; relations with bishops; state of Subiaco and community at St Mary's; progress of foundations of new cathedral.
- O252 Impression of Archbishop Polding's seal.
- O253 Archbishop Bede Polding. Pastoral letter directing service of thanksgiving for recovery of the Duke of Edinburgh from the wound inflicted by an assassin, 25 March 1868.
- O254 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 27 March 1868: visit to Duke of Edinburgh; his health; details of Polding's last missionary tour; praises Monaro district and invites Gregory to be its vicar-general; regrets opposition of Bishop Brown to Bede Vaughan coming out as his coadjutor; Roman procedures militate against justice.
- O255 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 22 April 1868: execution of Henry O'Farrell; penitent before death; Henry Parkes has excited populace; attempts to Hibernise New South Wales; wishes to retire to Monaro as a missionary; secret accusations sent to Cardinal Barnabo.
- O256 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 19 May 1868: has written to Rome proposing Father Austin Sheehy for Armidale and Father Bede Vaughan as his coadjutor; religious strife rampant; Henry Parkes has given provocation to Irish and Catholics; the governor Lord Belmore a tool of the Low Church party in contrast to Sir John Young; Parkes trying to make capital out of O'Farrell.
- O257 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 17 June 1868: O'Farrell case; Father Dwyer's letter to Henry Parkes; questions in Parliament; Polding has no trust in Rome or his own bishops; longs to be free of this post; his failing powers; failure of Lord Belmore as governor.
- O258 Archbishop Bede Polding. Address at inauguration of statue of Blessed Virgin Mary at St Matthew's Church, Windsor, New South Wales, 21 June 1868.
- O259 Statement of account of Bishop James Goold with All Hallows College, Dublin, July 1868.
- O261 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 2 Sept. 1868: death of Father John McEncroe; great grief on all sides; his funeral the largest seen in Sydney.
- O262 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 9 Sept. 1868: death of Father McEncroe; disposition of his property; synod to be held after Easter; illness of Bishop Sheil; Bishop Salvado doing great things in Spain; Rome has decided against bishopric for Father Sheehy; disposition of property of Father Bede Sumner has displeased Father Placid Burchall; urgent need for Father Vaughan as coadjutor.
- O264 Abbot Thomas Heptonstall to Abbot Henry Gregory, 24 Sept. 1868: grieved over Archbishop Polding's troubles; if Gregory returns he will have to stay until Polding dies.
- O265 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 9 Oct. 1868: death of Dean Walsh; collection for Pope was £890; Father Austin Sheehy not to be a bishop; Polding fears he will not get Prior Vaughan; illness of Father Bede Sumner; Benedictine community in a poor way.

- O268 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 10 Nov. 1868: his sorrows and troubles; heavy debt of farm at Subiaco; bad management of Father Felix; fears of religious riots; Bishop Frederic Barker and Protestant Association.
- O269 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 2 Dec. 1868: account of a missionary journey to Shoalhaven and Ulladulla; reminiscences of an earlier journey to the same district.
- O272 Archbishop Bede Polding (Sydney) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 30 Dec. 1868: blessing of foundation of St Mary's Cathedral; Lord Belmore improving as a governor; dinner at Government House.
- O273 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, n.d.: would like to resign his See into hands of an Administrator but Rome will not agree; progress with Cathedral building.
- O301 Archbishop Bede Polding (Melbourne) to Abbot Henry Gregory, 1 Feb. 1869: temporary wooden church has been burnt; sacristy and contents destroyed; still hoping for Prior Vaughan as coadjutor; progress of Melbourne Catholics.
- O302 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 26 Feb. 1869: depressed spirits; clerical changes; indiscretions of Father Dillon; purchase of Everleigh House as Polding's residence; fears Benedictine Order wants to die out or be secularised; hears that Prior Bede Vaughan is to be coadjutor to Bishop Joseph Brown; Father Sumner has put Subiaco in perfect order; praises William B. Dalley.
- O303 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Thomas Heptonstall, 26 Feb. 1869: students; vocations in Australia not numerous; thinks English Congregation has shown coldness; fears Ramsgate will be a rival to English Congregation; ; deplorable excitement in Sydney in last year over Prince Alfred and Henry O'Farrell; fears to go to Rome unless he has a coadjutor.
- O305 Address of Archbishop Bede Polding to his suffragen bishops and priests who enjoy the privilege of attending a provincial synod, 15 March 1869. (in Latin, printed)
- O306 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 27 March 1869: Everleigh House and Lyndhurst College; Father John Dwyer responsible for loss in last fire; Father Felix has involved mission in over £1200 of debt; still hopes Gregory will return as Superior; progress of new Cathedral; Provincial Council will be held in Melbourne.
- O308 Handwritten copy of an extract from *The Tablet* referring to a meeting of the Australian bishops, 24 July 1869. (in pencil, poor legibility)
- O310 Abbot Thomas Heptonstall to Abbot Henry Gregory, 29 May 1869: asks if Archbishop Polding plans to attend Vatican Council in 1870.
- O311 Abbot Thomas Heptonstall to Abbot Henry Gregory, 1 June 1869: does not think Archbishop Polding is decided about attending Vatican Council.
- O312 Statement of account of Bishop James Goold with All Hallows College, Dublin, 1 June 1869.
- O314 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 14 June 1869: success of Provincial Council; death of John Plunkett; arrangements for his widow; completion of temporary Cathedral; troubles at St Patrick's; completion of railway to Goulburn; missionary work.

- O316 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 9 July 1869: visitation to southern missions, including Queanbeyan, Braidwood, Araluen Valley and Moruya; mountainous country.
- O317 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, 14 July 1869: business matters; books; uncertain about attending Vatican Council; has written reasons for remaining at home.
- O319 Archbishop Bede Polding to Abbot Henry Gregory, n.d.: missionary activities at Newtown, Penrith and Camden; great increase in numbers of Catholics; death of Abbot Thomas Heptonstall; fears he will have to attend Vatican Council; subscription started to pay his expenses; cost of Everleigh House.