

Daniel Mannix, Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne

Born in County Cork, Ireland in 1864, Daniel Mannix studied for the Catholic priesthood at Maynooth seminary (County Kildare) and was ordained in 1890. A gifted scholar and theologian, he became a member of the teaching staff at Maynooth in 1895 and gained appointment as the seminary's president in 1903. He was consecrated a bishop in 1912.

In 1913 Mannix accepted appointment as coadjutor archbishop of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, which provided a path of succession to the ageing Archbishop Thomas Carr. On Carr's death in 1917, Mannix became Archbishop of Melbourne, a position he occupied for 45 years until his death (at age 99) in 1963.

Mannix was well known for his involvement in the campaigns opposing the 1916 and 1917 conscription referendums in Australia, which went against the views of Prime Minister Hughes. He also supported the cause for home rule in his native Ireland and as a result, while travelling through Europe in 1921, British security forces refused him entry into Ireland.

Through the 1940s and 1950s, Mannix lent his support to Catholic initiatives that opposed the growth of communism in Australia, including the Catholic Social Studies Movement, the National Civic Council and the charismatic Bartholomew Augustine ('BA') Santamaria.

In recognition of his service as Chaplain-General to the Australian Armed Forces from 1917 until his death, the 'Last post' was played at Mannix's funeral in November 1963.

Records relating to Daniel Mannix

Records held by the National Archives on Daniel Mannix relate principally to his role opposing conscription during World War I and security concerns over his support for Irish home rule. Records relating to his role as Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne are also held. A selection of records is listed below, including some photographs.

You may also identify further sources on the [RecordSearch](#) database using the keyword 'mannix' along with terms such as 'archbishop', 'rev*', and 'doctor or 'dr'.

World War I and aftermath

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>Archbishop Mannix</u>	1920–21	A1606, F42/1
<u>Press reports and correspondence</u>	1917–22	A1606, F42/1 attachment 1
<u>Representations regarding Archbishop Mannix</u>	1920–21	A1606, F42/1 attachment 2
<u>Disloyal utterances – Dr Mannix – oath of allegiance</u>	1921	A1606, F42/1 attachment 3
<u>Dr Mannix – Archbishop of Melbourne</u>	1927	A1606, F42/1 attachment 4
<u>Archbishop Mannix</u>	1917–20	A11804, 1920/751
<u>Lieutenant JF Fletcher – intercepted correspondence with Dr D Mannix – re conscription</u>	1917–20	A11804, 1920/751
<u>Reverend Dr D Mannix – anti-conscription and anti-British utterances – Sinn Feiner</u>	1918–24	A8911, 240
<u>Dr Mannix – return to Australia</u>	1921	A1, 1921/15177
<u>Photograph of fourteen Victoria Cross heroes forming guard of honour to Dr Mannix – St Patrick's Day</u>	1921	A1861, 4691
<u>Photograph of group of Roman Catholic clergy, including Archbishop Mannix, at Hotel Canberra</u>	1927	A3560, 2679
<u>Appointment of Most Reverend D Mannix</u>	1917	A2023, A82/1/215
<u>Reinforcements Referendum Council – re Councillor May's public reaction to Archbishop Mannix's anti-conscription campaign</u>	1917	MP367/1, 582/1/176
<u>Activities of Irish Republican Brotherhood and Dr Mannix</u>	1919	B741, V/159
<u>Official History, 1914–18 War – biographical and other research files (includes a file on Dr Mannix)</u>	1914–19	AWM43, A565

Later years

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>JB Chifley papers – correspondence 'M' (includes letter from Most Rev D Mannix relating to Melbourne Catholic Diocesan Centenary)</u>	1946–48	M1455, 317
<u>Photograph of Dr Daniel Mannix standing in front of church entrance</u>	1948	A9121, L2680
<u>Photograph of Dr Daniel Mannix in grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne</u>	1948	A1200, L2678
<u>Decorations and awards – Italian awards – Archbishop Mannix</u>	1953–54	A1838, 1535/18/3
<u>RG Menzies papers – consecration of colours – religious ceremony dispute 1954 (includes correspondence with Archbishop Mannix)</u>	1954–56	M2576, 112
<u>Appointment of Archbishop Mannix as Vicar Delegate for US Forces in Australia – complaint</u>	1942	MP508/1, 56/701/151
<u>Archbishop Mannix – arrangement of solemn requiem mass for the soul of the late General Sikorski, Prime Minister of Poland</u>	1943	MP150/1, 462/201/2259

For more information

To read more about the two conscription referendums and opposition to conscription please see *Fact sheet 161 - Conscription referendums, 1916 and 1917.*