

# **POLICY CONCERNING VISITS TO THE DIOCESE OF ICONS, CHOIRS, LECTURERS AND ENTERTAINERS FROM ABROAD**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Diocesan Council of the Australian and New Zealand Diocese (“the Diocese”) of the Russian Orthodox Church outside Russia (ROCOR) is increasingly asked to host visits to the Diocese of icons, choirs, lecturers and entertainers from abroad, generally from outside ROCOR. Such visits are largely unofficial, in that they are not arranged or sponsored by the Diocese.

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to set a consistent standard for such unofficial visits, thereby minimising the risk to the Diocese of

- Diocesan clergymen and employees having to dedicate excessive time to the organisation of such visits
- Unexpected expense

## **POLICY**

The Diocesan Office will be the primary contact for all requests to visit the Diocese. Requests are not to be made directly to the Ruling Bishop or to individual members of the Diocesan Council.

Diocesan clergy and monastics are not to issue a formal invitation to the custodian(s) of an icon or to a choir, lecturers or entertainers to visit the Diocese without first obtaining the blessing of the Ruling Bishop and the approval of the Diocesan Council.

The blessing of the Ruling Bishop and the approval of the Diocesan Council will only be given upon receipt of a written undertaking from the organisers that

- Visitors will arrange their own travel insurance, including full medical insurance
- Visitors will take complete responsibility for their own travel arrangements, including travel between destinations within Australia, and for their accommodation
- Visitors will not request any financial assistance from the Australian & New Zealand Diocese or from parishes, missions or monasteries of the Diocese

The Australian & New Zealand Diocese will not sponsor visas.

## **Related Documents**

- Nil

## **Authorisation**

*+ Metropolitan Hilarion*



## **Australian and New Zealand Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church**

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