

**Regarding the Historical Materials Collection and Preservation Project  
Toward the Publication of the Kyoto Diocese  
100th Anniversary Commemorative History**

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The Diocese of Kyoto will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its establishment in 2037. In preparation for this significant milestone, and with the future publication of a “Kyoto Diocese 100th Anniversary Commemorative History” in mind, the Diocese will begin a project to collect, organize, and preserve historical materials kept in parishes, diocesan organizations, Catholic institutions, and related communities within the Diocese of Kyoto.

**1. “Memories of Faith” Preserved in the Diocese**

Within the Diocese of Kyoto, many records remain that testify to the journey of faith throughout its history. Parish commemorative publications, historical documents, old photographs, records of liturgies and events, materials related to churches and buildings, records concerning former priests, religious congregations, lay associations, apostolic groups, Catholic institutions, newsletters and bulletins, as well as testimonies of lay faithful, priests, religious, and others connected to the Church — all these constitute precious “memories of faith” that have shaped the history of the Diocese of Kyoto.

**2. Preventing the Loss and Dispersal of Historical Materials**

These materials may gradually be lost or dispersed over time due to changes in personnel, building renovations, relocation of storage spaces, or the deterioration of the materials themselves. It is anticipated that the editorial work for the 100th anniversary commemorative history will begin in earnest around 2033. If the search for materials begins only at that stage, some important items may already have been lost. Therefore, it is important to begin now to identify the whereabouts of such materials and preserve them as much as possible.

**3. Confirmation, Organization, and Digital Collection of Materials**

As a general principle, this project will collect materials in digital form. Each parish, organization, and Catholic institution is asked, within reasonable limits, to identify and organize materials whose location is known, materials at risk of being lost, materials already digitized, and materials considered to have significant historical value. Paper documents, photographs, and similar items should be digitized whenever possible.

At the same time, for valuable materials of high historical significance that are at risk of deterioration or dispersal, careful preservation of the original documents and physical items is strongly encouraged.

Detailed procedures and methods for submitting materials to the diocesan office will be communicated at a later date.

**4. A Heritage of Faith to Be Handed On to Future Generations**

The 100-year history of the Diocese of Kyoto has been shaped by countless lay faithful, priests, religious, and others who have preserved the faith and supported their communities even amid difficulties. This history is not merely a record of the past, but a precious “heritage of faith” to be handed on to future generations.

As we prepare to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Diocese of Kyoto, and as we look back with gratitude upon our journey of faith and seek to pass its blessings on to the future, I sincerely ask for your understanding, cooperation, and support for this project.