

Although the collection is mostly books, a small number of audio and video cassettes are available for loan.

Special Collections

1. *Rare Books*
The library has a good collection of the works of various 16th and 17th century Anglican Divines. A considerable number of these works are early editions and many are quite rare and valuable. These include a number of volumes published before 1800.
2. *Children and Family Collection*
In 1986, in response to the growing number of families and children on campus, a special collection of children's books was started. The Friends of St Barnabas' College have been responsible for this small but important part of the library.

BASIC RELIGIOUS LIBRARY INFORMATION SOUGHT

This is a call for basic information on scholarly religious libraries world wide. The Scarecrow Press, Meuchen, NJ, USA, has contracted with John F. Harvey to compile and edit a new edition of the World Directory of Theological Libraries. This standard reference work, the leading authority in its field, was originally edited by L. Martin Ruoss and published by Scarecrow in 1968. However, it has been out of print for several years.

The project covers the following types of institutions:

- Seminaries and departments of religion
- Religious organisation administrative offices
- Monasteries, convents, abbeys and priories
- Bible and Christian colleges
- Religious historical and archive societies
- Public library religion departments

The Directory will cover all religious faiths, sects and denominations without exception:

- Christian (including Eastern Orthodox, Protestant, Roman Catholic and many others).
- Confucian, Buddhist, Hindu, Sikh, Shinto, Taoist.
- Jewish (Conservative, Orthodox, Reform and Reconstructionist).
- Moslem (including both Sunni and Shiite).

Little is known about this large field so two directory chapters will discuss 1992-93 factual questionnaire findings for a sizeable body of the world's theological libraries and also provide a longitudinal or trend comparison of 1992-93 with 1968 replies. In addition, the Directory will contain a geographic index, an index of institutions and an index of specific faiths and denominations.

In order to develop the Directory plan successfully the editor must extend coverage well beyond the 1778 libraries and 119 countries reached in the first edition. The Directory questionnaire must go to every scholarly religious library in every country in the world. The assistance of librarians, theologians, and others is sought in assembling an exhaustive questionnaire mailing list.

Information about local, national and denominational religious library address lists or directories which are available in any country should be sent to the editor immediately. Lists from non-English-speaking countries are especially needed since they are hard to this editor to find. Librarians wishing to receive copies of the short directory questionnaire in order to list their own libraries free of charge should send full name and address information to John F. Harvey at one of the addresses below.

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