

Cookie Policy (Diocesan Website)

Ely Diocesan Board of Finance

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Cookie Policy

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Version Control

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Introduction

This Cookie Policy explains what cookies are, how we use them on our website (www.elydiocese.org), and your choices regarding their use.

For further information on how we manage your personal data, please see our [Privacy Policy](#).

1. What Are Cookies?

Cookies are small text files that are stored on your device (computer, smartphone, tablet) when you visit a website. They help websites recognise your device, improve user experience, and provide anonymised data to website owners.

2. How We Use Cookies

We use cookies to enhance your experience on our website, including:

- Enabling essential functionality (e.g., logging in to secure areas).
- Improving site performance and usability by tracking visitor behaviour.
- Providing relevant content and personalised features.
- Analysing website traffic and visitor trends through analytics tools.

3. Types of Cookies We Use

Our website uses cookies to ensure its functionality, enhance your browsing experience, and improve our services. Below is a breakdown of the cookies we use:

1. Necessary Cookies:

- CookieControl: Stores your cookie consent preferences (expires after 90 days).
- laravel_session: Manages user sessions and ensures secure login states (expires when your session ends or after 1 year).
- XSRF_token: Protects your session against Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF) attacks (expires when your session ends).

2. Analytics Cookies:

- _ga: Tracks user behaviour via Google Analytics to improve the functionality and usability of our website (expires after 2 years).

By continuing to use our website, you consent to the use of necessary cookies. You may manage or disable optional cookies using the Cookie Control banner available on our website.

4. Third-Party Cookies

Our website may use third-party services that set cookies, such as:

- Google Analytics: Tracks and reports website traffic anonymously.
- YouTube: Sets cookies when videos are embedded on our site.
- Civic Cookie Control: Manages your cookie preferences.

We encourage you to read the privacy policies of these third-party providers to understand how they manage your data.

5. Your Cookie Choices

You have the right to manage your cookie preferences. When you first visit our website, a pop-up will allow you to accept or decline non-essential cookies. You can also change your preferences at any time via our Cookie Settings Panel (accessed via the cog icon in the bottom right corner of the screen/window when viewing our website). Note that disabling certain cookies may impact the functionality and user experience of our website.

We use the [Civic Cookie Control](#) tool to manage user consent for cookies on our website. This tool ensures compliance with privacy regulations by allowing users to choose which cookies they accept, including necessary and optional cookies. Preferences set using the Cookie Control tool are stored in a functional cookie (CookieControl) and retained for 90 days.

Additionally, you can control cookies through your browser settings which allows you to:

- Disable cookies for all websites or specific ones.
- Delete cookies already stored on your device.

To opt out of Google Analytics tracking across all websites, you can install the Google Analytics Opt-out Browser Add-on, available at <https://tools.google.com/dlpage/gaoptout>

For more guidance on managing cookies, visit allaboutcookies.org.

6. Updates to This Policy

We keep our Cookie Policy under regular review and may update it to reflect changes in regulations or website functionality. This policy was last updated in **January 2025**.

If you have any questions about this policy, please contact our Data Protection Team at privacy@elydiocese.org.