

General Information Series



Latin Terminology in Roman Catholic Church Registers

Many Roman Catholic Church registers were written in Latin. This, combined with poor handwriting, scratchy pen-nibs, watery and faded ink and discoloured paper, makes the documents difficult to read. There is little that can be done to improve the physical condition of the documents but this list should help to make it easier to understand the terminology used.

Baptism

LATIN WORD/PHRASE	ENGLISH EQUIVALENT
Baptizandi nomen	Baptism name of the child
Baptus est	Was baptised (male)
Bapta est	Was baptised (female)
Filius	Son
Filia	Daughter
Nomina parentum	Name of the parents
Nomina patrinorum	Name of the godparents
Domicilium	Place of residence

Marriage

LATIN WORD/PHRASE	ENGLISH EQUIVALENT
Nomina sponsorum	First names of those married
Cognomen	Surnames
Eorum residentia	Their place of residence
Testes adfuerunt	Witnesses present

Other Common Words

LATIN WORD/PHRASE	ENGLISH EQUIVALENT
Die	Day
Mensis	Month
Anno Domini	Year

Personal Names

ENGLISH	LATIN EQUIVALENT	ENGLISH	LATIN EQUIVALENT
ALBERT	<i>ALBERTUS</i>	HENRY	<i>HENRICUS</i>
ALFRED	<i>ALFREDUS</i>	HORACE	<i>HORATIUS</i>
ALICE	<i>ALICIA</i>	HUGH	<i>HUGO</i>
ANDREW	<i>ANDREAS</i>	JAMES	<i>IACOBUS</i>
ANTHONY	<i>ANTONIUS</i>	JOAN	<i>IOANNA</i>
ARTHUR	<i>ARTURUS</i>	JOHN	<i>IOANNES</i>
BASIL	<i>BASILIVS</i>	JOSEPH	<i>IOSEPHUS</i>
BEATRICE	<i>BEATRIX</i>	JOYCE	<i>IOCOSA</i>
BEARNARD	<i>BERNARDUS</i>	LAWRENCE	<i>LAURENTIUS</i>
CECIL	<i>CAECILIUS</i>	LOUIS	<i>LUDOVICUS</i>
CHARLES	<i>CAROLUS</i>	LOUISE	<i>LUDOVICA</i>
CHRISTOPHER	<i>CHRISTOPHORUS</i>	LUCY	<i>LUCIA</i>
CICELY	<i>CAECILIA</i>	LUKE	<i>LUCAS</i>
CLAUDE	<i>CLAUDIUS</i>	MARGARET	<i>MARGARITA</i>
CLEMENT	<i>CLEMENS</i>	MARK	<i>MARCUS</i>
CYRIL	<i>CYRILLUS</i>	MARY	<i>MARIA</i>
DENIS	<i>DIONYSIVS</i>	MATTHEW	<i>MATTHAEUS</i>
DOROTHY	<i>DOROTHEA</i>	MAURICE	<i>MAURITIUS</i>
EDWARD	<i>EDUARDUS</i>	NORMAN	<i>NORMANNUS</i>
ELLEN	<i>HELENA</i>	OLIVER	<i>OLIVARUS</i>
EMILY	<i>AEMILIA</i>	PATRICK	<i>PATRICIVS</i>
FRANCES	<i>FRANCESCA</i>	PAUL	<i>PAVLVS</i>
FRANCIS	<i>FRANCIVS</i>	PETER	<i>PETRVS</i>
FRANK	<i>FRANCIVS</i>	PHILLIP	<i>PHILIPPVS</i>
FREDERICK	<i>FREDERICVS</i>	RALPH	<i>RADVLVVS</i>
GEOFFREY	<i>GAVFRIDVS</i>	RICHARD	<i>RICARDVS</i>
GEORGE	<i>GEORGIVS</i>	ROBERT	<i>ROBERTVS</i>
GILLIAN	<i>IVLIANA</i>	STEPHEN	<i>STEPHENVS</i>
GODFREY	<i>GODEFRIDVS</i>	THOMAS	<i>THOMAS</i>
GRACE	<i>GRAYIA</i>	TIMOTHY	<i>TIMOTHEVS</i>
GREGORY	<i>GREGORIVS</i>	WALTER	<i>GVALTERVS</i>
GUY	<i>GUIDO</i>	WILLIAM	<i>GVLIELMVVS</i>
HELEN	<i>HELENA</i>	WINIFRED	<i>WINIFRIDA</i>

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