

## 

Tables and figures Preface Acknowledgements		page xi xiii
		1
	A shy hope in the heart	2
	The setting – Australian society	2
	Postmodern	3
	Secular	5
	Diverse	6
	Defining religion and spirituality	7
	Spirituality, religion, persons and society	16
	Spirituality, religion and hope	18
	Producing religion and spirituality	19
	Spirituality and the sacred	25
	A communal and social hope in the heart	27
	A methodological reflection	28
	Conclusion	30
2	Qualities of Australian religion and spirituality	31
	Religious institutions	33
	Origins of Australian spiritual and religious life	38
	Comparing religious institutions	43
	Pre-1947 Australian religion and spirituality	45
	Organised religion in Australia	47
	Conclusion	48

٧



## vi Contents

3	Quantities of Australian religion and spirituality	49
	Religious identity	50
	Increased diversity	52
	Buddhists, Muslims, and Hindus	55
	'Other religious groups'	58
	Other world religions in Australia	60
	New religious movements	60
	Nature religions	61
	The rise of spirituality	61
	Multiple religious identities	63
	Decline of British protestantism	65
	Catholic growth	67
	Other demographic dimensions	68
	Age and gender	68
	Education	69
	Income and occupation	70
	Family	70
	Demographic implications for the future	72
	National comparisons	74
	Religion and spirituality in social surveys	77
	Declines in participation	78
	Who attends church?	79
	Retention rates	80
	Normal levels of religious practice	83
	Impact of belief and attendance	84
	Conclusion	85
4	Spirituality and cultural change	86
	The cultural shift from rationality to experience	86
	Implications of cultural change	96
	Impact on the churches	96
	Impact on clergy	99
	Implications for theology	101
	Post-secular times	101
	Post-book times	103
	Conclusion	105



	Contents	vii
5	The changing social location of religion and spirituality	106
	Further disentangling church and state	107
	Post-empire times	107
	Post-colonial times	109
	Post-national times	111
	A consumerist society	114
	Australia has become a multifaith society	116
	Having to share	117
	Post-ecumenical times	119
	Critical changes in the social structure of Australia	122
	Post-family times	122
	Post-patriarchal times	126
	New forms of social capital and cohesion	127
	Conclusion	127
6	The mainstream: From Christendom to comfortable on	
	the margins	129
	The move to the margins	130
	The comforts of marginalisation	137
	Two patterns of marginalisation	139
	The marginalisation of monopoly religions	139
	The marginalisation of denominational and sectarian	
	groups	140
	Conclusion	142
7	Religion and spirituality respond to change	143
	Religious revitalisation in Australia	144
	Examples of revitalisation in civic rites	148
	Mega-churches	149
	The rise of high-demand religious groups	154
	Fundamentalisation	156
	Fundamentalism and withdrawal from society	158
	Spiritual innovation	162
	Theological innovation in postmodernity	166
	God in twenty-first-century Australia	169
	Conclusion	171



## viii Contents

8	Religion, spirituality and Australian social policy	172
	How religion returned to the social policy agenda	173
	Religion and the social policy discourse	175
	How religion relates to social policy	176
	Religion as a subject of social policy	176
	The promotion of moderate Islam	178
	Social policy as protection from religious excesses	179
	Religion and education	181
	Religion in the census and social policy	183
	Religion as a source of social policy	185
	Food, health and religion	186
	Employment, law and religion	187
	Religion as a shaper and implementer of social policy	190
	Regulating religions in postmodern secularity	192
	Managing religious diversity	193
	Social institutions of religious diversity management	193
	Managing religious diversity around the world today	195
	Social policy and the religious Right's transition from	
	quietism to activism	196
	Internal diversity	197
	Religious competition	198
	Living with and utilising diversity	201
	Conclusion	202
9	Signs of hope in the twenty-first century	204
	Core drivers	205
	Signs of hope	208
	Youth spirituality	208
	Grass-roots interfaith activities	210
	Interspirituality and bricolage	211
	Religion and politics	212
Fι	erther reading	213
Re	References	
In	Index	