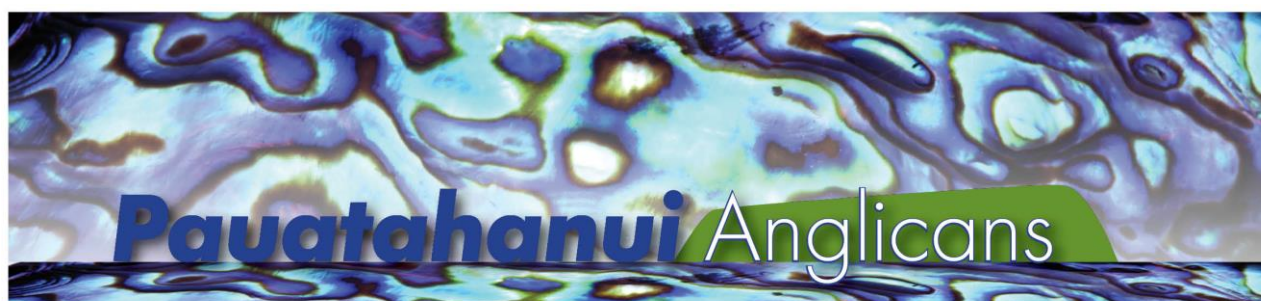




## Parish of Pauatahanui Parish Profile

3 December 2019

*This profile has been prepared to support applicants for the position of  
Vicar at the Parish of Pauatahanui*



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Community ~ Transformation ~ Good News ~ Legacy

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## Preamble

It's tempting, when talking about the life of a Parish needing a new Vicar, to put a positive spin on things. We have prayerfully sought instead to try to reveal our situation with transparency and vulnerability in the hope that the Holy Spirit will enable and discern who will come and walk and share this journey with us. We have dealt with a lot of hard things in the last five years but we know this is bearing fruit.

We wait with expectation and with God's grace.

## Introduction

The Parish of Pauatahanui occupies the northern villages of the city of Porirua and stretches from Papakowhai in the south through to Pauatahanui/Judgeford (but excluding Whitby) and Pukerua Bay. We have two main congregations – St Andrew’s in Plimmerton, which has young families and more of an all-age type of worship, and St Alban’s, a Category 2 historic building, at Pauatahanui, which has a more traditional Prayer Book style service. The Parish Centre is located at Plimmerton.

## Our vision



Four themes express the working vision of our Parish life together:

<b>Legacy</b>	<i>Our history and connections in this area are important, our family of all ages, our passing of the baton of faith to the next generation</i>
<b>Community</b>	<i>We are a family of Christians, supporting and nurturing each other, part of the community and working with the community, with tangata whenua, with other churches, with ministry and mission</i>
<b>Transformation</b>	<i>We seek to be transformed, to become what Christ wants us to be, and to share and seek that transformation within our Parish and the wider community; embracing change where needed to become better</i>
<b>Good News</b>	<i>We want to know and share the good news of Christ, to become His disciples and grow in our faith as individuals and as a Parish</i>

How these themes thread the aspirations and life of our Parish is best understood from our Parish prayer:

*God of opportunity and change, we give you thanks for calling us into community together as your church, brothers and sisters in Christ. We pray that you would renew and transform our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit so that we may bring the good news of the gospel to our neighbourhoods. We also pray we may be a part of leaving a faith legacy in this place for generations who do not yet know you. We ask these things through the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.*

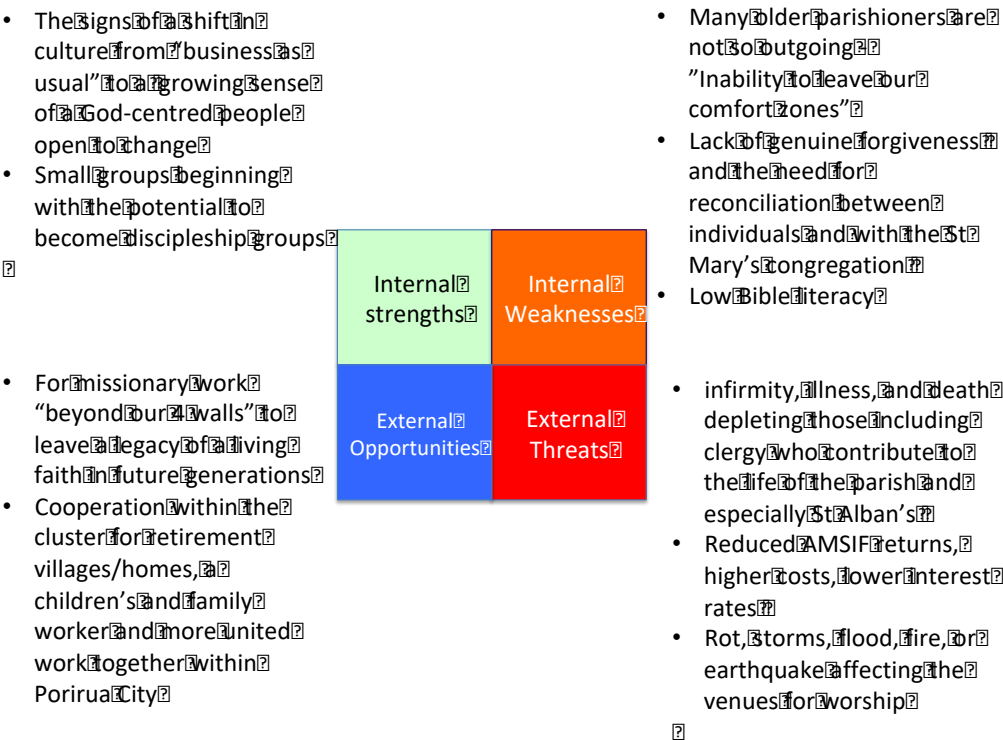
**Amen**

We often incorporate this prayer into our worship, including it as at midday prayer every Tuesday at St Andrew’s, Wednesday at Prayers and Squares, and Friday at St Alban’s.

The previous Vicar and a few Parish members have united in prayer with other churches across the denominations in Porirua City to pray four times each year.

The four themes of Legacy, Community, Transformation and Good News emerged from a **2017 Parish consultation** on the vision of the Parish.

A SWOT analysis of contributions from the consultation<sup>1</sup> showed:



Almost completely invisible in the consultation was reference to prayer and this aspect of our Christian life is still patchy within the Parish. One Parishioner wrote about the usual activism: *“Pray! - we may want to DO IT but we need to involve the Holy Spirit”*.

A number of comments from those contributing were for present groups and buildings continuing - implicitly IN (community) not UP (prayer) or OUT (good news, legacy of faith for future generations). Discipleship, like prayer, tended to be ‘out of mind’. The Parish prayer on the previous page embodies the intent behind each theme.

The Vestry members are unified around the challenge of these themes for the Parish and Vestry also acknowledge that the growth in numbers and the beginning of discipleship that has occurred since 2017 remains fragile, i.e. numbers are growing but attendance is not always consistent and level of engagement fluctuates.

<sup>1</sup> St Mary’s is our neighbouring Parish in Whitby. It separated from the wider Parish around 25 years ago.

The Parish has one of the highest rates of Parishioners attending Cursillo 3-day weekends in the Wellington Diocese (28) with 19 currently in the Parish including 6 who attended in 2019. In 2018, the Vicar of St Mary's congregation offered an apology for past hurts caused by the manner of the separation of the Whitby congregation from Pauatahanui.

This year Vestry have agreed to make overseas mission a more visible presence in the life of the Parish by linking up with, and financially supporting, Dean and Amanda who are a NZCMS missionary couple involved in preventing human trafficking. This personal link has been well received within the Parish, which previously just sent money to mission organisations without knowing where the support went. Dean and Amanda are prayed for diligently at the Tuesday and Friday midday prayers.

In the **2016 External Review**, approved at the Parish AGM in 2016, the authors noted that Rev Pete Watson inherited a Parish in mourning after the unexpected death of Rev Danny Te Hiko in December 2014, and whose short period as Vicar was bounded by two interregnum periods. This whole period had been unsettling for the Parish, with dwindling congregations and support.

The report also noted the following points, nearly all of which have been addressed by the Vicar, Wardens, and Vestry over the last three and a half years:-

- The consolidation of the Parish around two congregations, with weekly Sunday worship and clearly identified worship leaders at St Andrew's (Vicar Pete) and St Alban's (Ven Monty Black). *Prior to this there were five congregations, including an 8am and 9:30am service at St Andrew's; only the St Andrew's service was weekly, the others were fortnightly and struggled with low numbers and consistent attendance.*
- The closure of St Philip's in Paremata. *The church was deconsecrated in Oct 2016 and the land sold. The invested funds have helped to fund ministry and mission in the Parish including capital investment at St Alban's.*
- Allowing St Mark's to become fallow unless a champion could be found for mission. *St Mark's was deconsecrated in October 2019, after community hub options were explored. The land has been approved in principal by the Parish for use for housing, a vision that aligns with the diocesan vision. It is hoped that the building can be re-purposed as a place of worship elsewhere in the Diocese or relocated in the Pukerua Bay community (some interest already expressed for its use as a community centre or men's shed).*



- Exploring sharing the resourcing of retirement village/rest home and children's and families' ministries within the Porirua cluster. *Ministries to older people are now better shared, but the joint children's and youth ministry has not yet happened.*
- The need to develop a missional and discipling culture, with encouragement for all Vestry members to undergo training in the Diocesan training days. *This is an emerging feature of the Parish in terms of hospitality, small groups, missionary support, Cursillo attendance, and attendance at training days by Wardens and Vestry. The atmosphere of worship at St Andrew's has largely shifted from impatience and irritation with children to delight in their presence and participation.*
- The need to foster unity as a Parish rather than as a collective of diverse and divergent congregations. *The cultures and make-up of the two congregations are very different but there is now more evidence of participation in joint events such as the annual Parish walk and picnic days, and in Parish-wide hospitality on Patronal days, and at other occasions in people's homes, as well as combined services of the Porirua cluster twice a year. Limitations in terms of reciprocity of using venues has been the lack of toilet facilities at St Alban's. This is in train for addressing in summer early 2020.*

The culture of the Parish is still in transition from a "consumer" to a "missional church" (see figure below) and is best described as emerging and tender as the first two leaves on a growing plant.

**Consumer Church – I go to church**

Church is seen as a dispenser of religious goods and services. People come to church to be "fed", to have their needs met through quality programs, and to have professionals teach their children about God.

**Missional Church – I am the church**

A body of people sent on mission who gather in community for worship, community encouragement, and teaching from the Word in addition to what they are self-feeding themselves throughout the week.

In a workshop about "Navigating Change" at a Diocesan Training Day in 2018, the previous Vicar and Wardens noted that the Parish still had some signs of sickness but it was "recovering".

## Alignment with Diocesan Values

The Parish vision of Legacy, Community, Transformation and Good News align well, though the language is different, with the values of the Diocese. The Vestry are committed to the Diocesan values of “being family”, and seeking the “last, the least, and the lost” participating in Diocesan Training days, and being agents of change in the Parish. It has made a difference within the Parish that the previous Vicar and his wife both undertook a Cursillo retreat. The Parish have actively supported the vision of St Mark’s property being a site of affordable housing, and look forward to working with the Diocese in this venture. The Parish have actively supported reduction in plastic waste, sewing of “Boomerang Bags” - cloth shopping bags, and the recycling organic waste through composting for a GEOH garden for children.

## Demographics and membership

The Pauatahanui Parish encompasses some of the “well-off” suburbs in Porirua City and within New Zealand. The local school deciles range from 9 to 10. Parishioners tend to be well educated, professional or business people who can afford the expensive housing in the area, or retired people with the same attributes who have already paid off their mortgages but are on a fixed and generally reducing income.

Forty four percent of people in the Parish catchment area identify themselves as Christian.

As in many mainline denominations, the people of Pauatahanui Parish tend to fall into two distinct groups of adults. Missing tends to be the 40- through 60-year olds who make up the biggest demographic group in the Pauatahanui area – a third of the adult population (based on the 2013 Census).

As at the AGM in 2019 there were 140 members out of a congregation of 172 people. Only six of these people were not European/Pākehā in ethnicity. Overall, 608 are on the Parish roll as at the end of 2018. The table below shows total church attendance between 2014 and 2019 YTD (Source: Wellington Diocese). The downward trend reflects in part of the closure of two of the churches for services, an evening service at St Andrew’s that was started in 2017 and discontinued in early 2019, and the loss of regular, older parishioners. It does not, however, reflect the pattern of increase at St Andrew’s, particularly younger families.

Total church attendance						
2013	2014	2015	2016*	2017**	2018**	2019***YTD
4 churches	4 churches	4 churches	4 churches	3 churches	2 churches	2 churches
6296	6307	6779	6122	6101	6014	4824

\* St Philip's, Paremata, deconsecrated Oct 2016;

\*\* St Andrew’s Sunday evening service held 2017 to early 2019, St Alban’s moved to weekly services

\*\*\*St Mark's, Pukerua Bay, deconsecrated Oct 2019 after 2 years fallow. Figures to end November 2019

### **Older Parishioners**

Those who are retired (currently half the Parish) are in their 60s through to 90s, are European/Pākehā in ethnicity and tend to be regular attenders and givers. In the Parish the largest group in this age span are in their 70s. A number of older Parishioners attend St Andrew's to encourage young families and a few worship at this venue because the Parish Centre has toilets. A weekly congregation of about 35 people, that is slowly increasing, attend St Alban's and prefer the NZ Prayer Book, hymns played by an organ, and a sermon. A few of the older Parishioners at St Andrew's have mentioned they will also attend St Alban's when there is a toilet on site.

### **Younger Parishioners**

Younger Parishioners are mostly parents in their 30's and early 40's with preschool or primary school-age children come to St Andrew's. There is more ethnic diversity among the younger families. Five of the 12 families with children come regularly and they have a church background. The others have had some connection with the church and are less regular on Sundays and some of them attend the groups. Noah's Ark, a Tuesday ministry for parents and carers and young children, led by our children's worker, provides an entry point for some new families.

At St Andrew's, when the previous Vicar first came in 2014, there were six children (his two children, three of the Parish children's worker and one other). On some Sundays there were no children in the St Andrew's congregation at all. Most of this growth in families with children has happened between 2016 and 2019. The grounds behind the church are now gated (out of bounds for vehicles) for health and safety reasons on a Sunday because this area is for children's play. There is a crèche and Sunday Explorers children's ministry every second Sunday during term time, which is led by the parents and the children's worker.

### **Teens and middle aged people**

Within the Parish, teenagers are almost entirely missing, and regular attenders aged from the middle 40's to 60's are relatively few in number. However, a number of the children are in the 10-12 age bracket and ready to move beyond basic children's Sunday Explorer's activities.

### **Growth**

Encouragingly, the Parish has met the 4-5 percent net growth goals of Diocese in the last couple of years with a net growth of 8 more people now than at the end of 2018. The stories of the new people reflect two things: they say they "feel they belong"; it is clear from their stories that the Holy Spirit has been active in their prompting their coming. Growth is, however, offset in part by the loss of older Parishioners (leaving to housing outside of the Parish or at end of life).



## Parish Finances

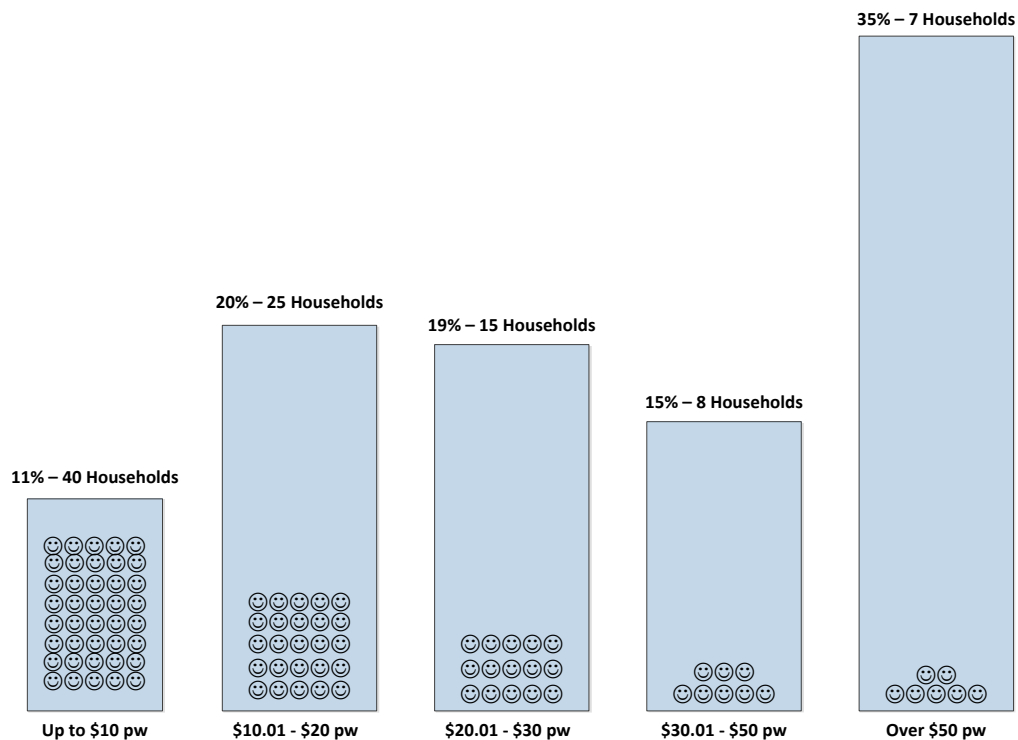
Over the last five years the Parish has been able to afford a full-time priest, invest in allowances for an ordinand, and pay the coordinator (children's worker) of the Noah's Ark preschool and a part time Parish Administrator.

This initially meant depleting funds on deposit in the Parish bank account, but since 2018 draw downs from AMSIF investments of \$561,994 (as at March 2019) has been used for ministry and mission.

In Lent the stewardship campaign did not result in more giving. However, in August 2019 through another stewardship campaign, the two congregations in the Parish reviewed their generosity and giving over a period of 4 weeks resulting in a modest increase in direct giving, including giving by new Parishioners. We encourage direct payment giving and some Parishioners now submit their tax rebates on donations back to the Parish to increase their giving.

In the graphic below, the pattern of giving in the Parish at July 2019 showed a distribution that is shared by many voluntary organisations: fifteen households give \$30 or more a week contributing 50 percent of the income; forty households give up to \$10 a week contributing 11 percent of the income. We therefore remain financially vulnerable – many of the older Parishioners are on fixed income, while those with young families may not be regular givers on the envelope or direct pay options.

**Contributions by Households – July 2019**



The assessable income of the Parish over the last 5 years is shown in the table below.

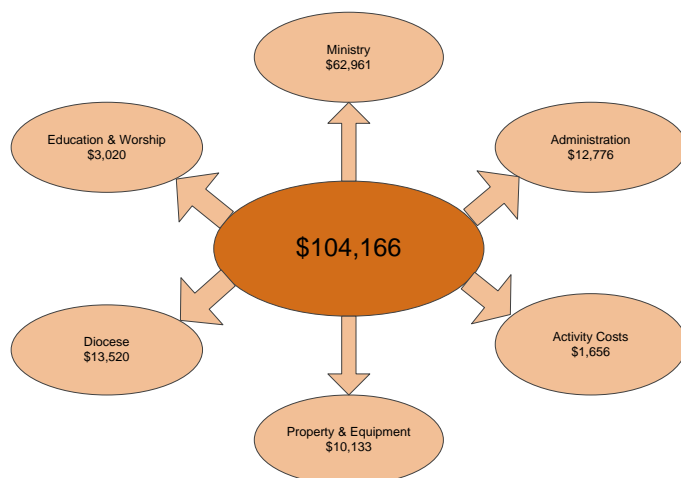
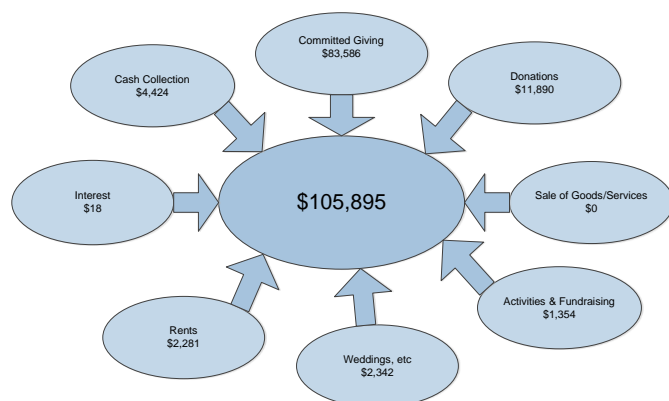
**Pauatahanui Assessable Income 2014 to 2019**

Year	Total Assessable Income	Offerings direct	Offerings cash	AMSIF return	Interest and fees	Other receipts	Donations appeals grants	Property income	Fund-raising
2014	158,654	95638	8456	33198	1778	3107	5767	4383	6327
2015	147,185	103,118	8,537	8,309	1,950	2,746	758	3,200	18,567
2016	132,048	98,260	7,390	5,190	1,567	11,162			8,479
2017	186,518	108452	7475	52022	900	5919	2548		9202
2018	115,819	98,573	15,382	14,074	722	10,365	4,497		11,542
2019 as at Oct	197,956	85,209	12,343	90,373	18	4,692	5,529		-208

The finances of the Parish have been put on Xero since the beginning of 2018 and the Parish was commended at a recent training day for excellence in financial management.

The two figures below show Parish income and expenditure in the year to date as at October 2019.

**2019 YT5 - Where the money came from**







**2019 YT5 - where the money went**

## Worship services, groups, and missional outreaches

### Services

The Pauatahanui Anglican website <http://www.pauanglican.org.nz> shows all who access it the three worship services of the week at the two locations including the address, time of service, and worship format to expect. The website also states that children are welcome at all services, though families with young children are usually then referred to St Andrew's.

St Andrew's	St Alban's
11 Steyne Avenue, Plimmerton	4 Paekakariki Hill Road, Pauatahanui
	
	
Sunday 9:30am (Creative family orientated service with communion, contemporary music, sermons, interactive activities, kids church & creche) Thursday 10:00am (Said Eucharist service, short homily, morning tea)	Sunday 11:00am (Eucharist using NZ prayer book, organ hymns and sermon) (credit to nz exposed for the above photo of the church)

### Groups

*(in alphabetical order)*

#### AAW

Association of Anglican Women's fellowship meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm.

#### Boomerang Bags

Meets monthly to make free cloth bags to reduce plastic waste.

#### Conversations Group

This small group meets once a month in the Parish Centre after morning tea following the morning Eucharist on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. The program and format are aimed to help equip older Parishioners who face the spiritual challenges of aging.

#### Cursillo reunions and 3 day retreats

The Parish has one of the highest rates of attendance at the three-day weekends in the Diocese, and has a regular re-union meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month.

## **GEOH**

God's Earth Our Home is a group expressing concern for our environment. This group used to meet monthly and was well attended by older Parishioners over many years. It pre-dated the more recent concern for the environment that is evident in the Diocese as a whole. Recently the focus has shifted inter-generationally to involve younger Parish parents and children in the vision of caring for God's earth, and to take up challenges such as reducing plastic use and waste in the Parish Centre and at home

## **Home groups**

When the previous Vicar started there were no groups like this in the Parish at that time. Eight members of the congregation participated in a Diocesan 3DM discipleship training program that extended over 2017 and 2018. The previous Vicar, and both Wardens were part of this group.

Two small groups currently run in homes: a weekly group meeting for a pot-luck meal, study and prayer run by one of the 3DM couples; and a monthly group meeting to discuss church history run by the priest leader at St Alban's.

## **Korero and Kai**

Once a month meal to help plan the St Andrew's intergenerational services including music. This important group meets on the last Wednesday of the month to plan services and music.

## **Men's Beer and Study Night**

This again was an initiative by one of the fathers in the Parish to provide a time for men to get together to socialize. It runs on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month. The group now meets more often in a home and this allows an opportunity to focus on the challenge of the Scriptures.

## **Mum's Bible study and prayer**

This group was started by a young mother in the Parish to grow the faith of mothers and carers through bible study and prayer. The group meets on a Thursday morning from 9:15 am once a fortnight at the Vicarage or at the home of one of the mothers. Because a number of mothers are now working, the group will probably continue meeting in the evenings in 2020.

## **Noah's Ark Café & Craft**

Tuesdays during term time between 9.15-11.15am. This ministry provides young parents and carers with a place to stop for a cuppa and socializing, while their children are entertained with craft activities. As the Parish Centre is right next to Plunket, it provides a welcoming introduction to church. This play group is an ERO accredited program for preschoolers - stories, music, craft and cookery for the children. The coordinator is funded as a Parish employee. On average 25 children attend per week and reaches many new families in the area.

Volunteer helpers from within the Parish assist with morning tea and cleaning up. It reaches many mothers, a few fathers, and several grandmothers in the community and has the potential to be developed into a more intentional outreach ministry.



### Prayers & Squares

The Prayers & Squares team meet in the Parish Centre every Wednesday from 9 – 11.30am. The Parish was the first New Zealand chapter of this international ministry.



“A Prayer Quilt is a statement of our faith in God and our belief in the power of prayer. It is a lap-sized quilt hand-tied with knots. As each knot is tied prayer is offered for the person receiving the Prayer Quilt (the recipient). After the quilt’s journey around the churches in our Parish it is given to the recipient as a gift of love & prayer.

Anyone who is facing a need for prayer or a situation to give thanks and celebrate – that person can become a recipient when sponsored by someone who sees the need and asks whether they would like a quilt. Prayer Quilts are not a surprise – the recipient decides on the prayers they want people to pray for them.”

It has been very exciting to have an open door at Hutt Hospital Emergency Department for prayer quilts for the families of patients who suddenly die - a rare opportunity today in the public health system. This is one of the missional groups in the Parish and in touch with many people in the community with particular needs who want prayer and a tangible sign of God’s love but who wouldn’t attend a church.



## Quilts let families know they are cared for

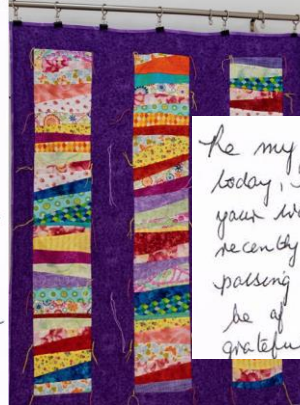
Published Tuesday 1 May 2018



An initiative started by Angela Campbell, one of our wonderful nurses in ED, is making a difference in the lives of families who lose loved ones, in often traumatic and unexpected circumstances.

From left: registered nurse Angela Campbell, Dr Tash McKay, Dr Patricia Baines, registered nurse Heather Hansen and clinical nurse manager Mike Johnson.

Dear Quilters of  
Chapter 398,  
Anglican Parish  
of Pauatahanui,  
The beautiful quilt  
given to my  
husband as he died  
suddenly at the  
Emergency Department  
of Hutt Hospital is  
very much appreciated.  
The prayer given  
with it is a comfort  
-ing a wonderful  
sharing.  
Kind regards,



Re my conversation with Lesley  
today, I enclose a small donation towards  
your work. A Prayer Rug was given to me  
recently at Hutt Hospital on the sudden  
passing of my husband, I found this rug to  
be of great comfort to me & I am very  
grateful, thank you Sincerely, N...

Dear Prayer Quilt Ministry  
Please accept my sincerest apologies for the time that  
it has taken me to write to you all. Every time I try to  
capture words, they dissolve and swirl off the page  
with tears. These come, not from sadness, but a  
feeling of awe by the depth of love, kindness and  
generosity from ladies who do not know me, but  
obviously love me dearly.  
Words cannot adequately express the thanks I wish to  
convey for your beautiful gift of a prayer quilt...my  
very own. It is only if you have ever personally  
received one of these, that you can really comprehend  
the true measure of such a gift. There is love,  
compassion, prayer in every stitch. It is overwhelming  
in its beauty and significance. It is truly a physical  
manifestation of love. What a beautiful ministry!  
Thank you to the wonderful ladies who commit to  
this. Bless you all! You will never truly know how  
much the prayer quilt has meant to me and I will  
cherish it forever. Please recognise that you make  
such a difference to the lives of those who receive  
such a gift. May you always feel inspired to sew  
beautiful gifts where yes, you can indeed touch a  
prayer.  
With much love, thanks and sincerest appreciation

### Shared Lunch

3rd Tuesday of every month, 12.30pm at the Parish Centre. This is a long-standing fellowship group attended by older Parishioners

### Sunday Explorers

Sunday Explorers is run by parents for children every other week during the service at St Andrew's. Children learn about the stories of the faith, do craft and music, pray and then join the wider congregation for communion; they share what they have with the congregation.

## Current outreach opportunities

The Parish supports a number of local ministry and mission initiatives that reach out into our community:

- St Anne's Food-bank
- Refugee resettlement
- Noah's Ark
- NZ Christian Mission Society overseas mission partner to Dean and Amanda
- Prayer Quilt Ministry
- Retirement village worship
- Wellington Shoebox Christmas

The Vestry acknowledge the value of the witness and expressions of love, and also acknowledge that mission is different from witness though both may be intentional.



## Current staffing

**Vicar:** Lead priest for the Parish and congregational leader at St Andrew's

Full time, with usual allowances for travel, entertainment, books, leave, superannuation, provided with 3-bedroom Vicarage with double garage and basement area suitable for groups on the hill in Camborne suburb.

**Office Administrator:** 12 hours per week Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday mornings.

**Noah's Ark Coordinator:** 1 morning a week on Tuesdays during term time

**"Retired" clergy:**

- Lead priest for St Alban's - Ven Monty Black
- Assistant priests - Rev Graeme Olgilvie and Rev Derek Lightbourne (mainly at St Alban's)
- Rev Graeme Olgilvie is asked to conduct many of the funerals for people who want a church service for a loved one because he has ministering in the area for 30 years.

## Buildings and Property

**St Alban's, Pauatahanui** (Historic Places Trust Category 2) Opened 1896



- St Alban's Anglican Church sits on the hill above Pauatahanui village very near an interchange with State Highway 58 to the Hutt Valley and the new Transmission Gully Motorway of State Highway 1
- It has served the surrounding communities since 1896 and is able to seat up to 100 people if the choir stalls are used.
- The present building is the third church on this commanding site where the original native chapel was located in the fortified pa of Ngati Toa chief, Te Rangihaeata. The site is historic (pa site and soldier's camp) and is subject to archeological restrictions.
- It was designed by the famous 19<sup>th</sup> century architect, Frederick de Jersey Clere, who designed many of the early church buildings in the lower half of the North Island. This is considered to be one of his finest.



- St Alban's is a property listed with the Historic Places Trust and includes a fire sprinkler system.
- The land has its own graveyard and five columbariums.
- The church is used weekly for worship, and often for funerals and weddings. It has a superb acoustic for concerts and featured in the recent film musical, "Daffodils".
- A new car-park with asphalt surface was provided by the Porirua City Council in 2019 for people visiting the adjacent heritage rose garden and for church services.
- The lawns are mowed by a contractor paid for by a local resident who is a partner in the Ninness Funeral Home located in Porirua City.

#### Maintenance at St Alban's

- The long deferred external painting (last painted in 1990/91) now requires a full strip back to the wood, repair of rotten timber, and paint

estimated to cost \$55,000 plus replacement of guttering costing \$3,500.

- Fund-raising is currently underway for this as all applications through funding agencies have been unsuccessful.
- Plans are well underway to install a Department of Conservation style drop toilet (there is no water to the site) to support the weekly services and other events (e.g. for weddings, funerals and concerts) – estimated to cost \$21,000. This capital expenditure will be funded from AMSIF draw down.
- A new columbarium kerb has been approved by vestry for \$7,000 with spaces priced to cover costs and make a return for the Parish.
- There is space in the land to the east of the church for a possible new building such as a reception-centre/offices in the future.

### **St Andrew's, Plimmerton Opened 1916**



- This historic building is in the very heart of the little village at Plimmerton.
- The location is excellent with a Plunket base and Toy library next door, a doctor across the road, cafés and eateries nearby, and Plimmerton school and station only a few minutes walk away.
- The building can seat 80-90 people with an overflow into the foyer of another 10
- An arson fire disrupted worship services for most of 2010 and traumatised the congregation.
- Rebuilding included a new roof, nave window sashes, wall linings, larger foyer with separate storage, a new sound system, including looped hearing system data projector, and an electronic organ. The Lynch gate roof was replaced to match the church and fence repainted the next year. The pews were replaced with chairs.
- A large flat screen TV connected to the data system was installed at the back of the church in 2016 to aid in services.

### **Parish Centre - Plimmerton Re-built in 2004**

- The original Parish hall was replaced by a new construction in 2004. Located alongside St Andrew's in Steyne Avenue, the Centre includes a Parish office, lounge/space (that can be subdivided), storage and attic space, and a well resourced domestic kitchen.
- The back of the property has been laid with concrete lattice to support car parking. Full wooden fence along the rear where the property abuts the railway line provides secure area



for children and family events.

- The carpeted lounge has a flat screen TV and sound system for events and there are comfortable chairs for sitting.
- The Centre is regularly hired out to community groups during the week and weekends through a booking system in the Office.
- On a Tuesday morning it is the venue for “Noah’s Ark” preschool.
- On a Wednesday morning it is the venue for the “Prayers and Squares” ministry
- On a Friday it is a venue for a community play-group.
- The shed at the rear of the Centre houses freezers used by the community support group for new mothers “Bellyfull”.
- The Parish Centre incorporates three toilets, one of which has disabled access and a change table for babies.
- There is still some residual grief about the loss of a large amount of fund-raising money to pay for costs in the Environment court when the Parish was required to do a notified resource consent over the sale of some land at St Alban’s to fund the Centre and four people objected.



Top Left clockwise: the large dividable space of the Parish Centre; Vicar’s office and bookshelves; the secure play area for children/carpark behind with steps down - this area has sensor lighting.

### Maintenance:

- The Parish Centre is in a generally tidy condition and well-resourced for hospitality including a BBQ.
- The entrance foyer and offices were completely repainted in 2018.
- The dishwasher has recently been replaced in the kitchen.
- There are some signs of wear and tear on paintwork inside the building mainly

around entrances and where chairs have rubbed.

- The outside cladding at the rear corner has been repaired and repainted after vehicles have collided with the structure.
- The outside of the building is due to be painted and some minor repair is needed around the eaves at one corner.
- Lawns are regularly mowed by a generous parishioner.

#### Future Accommodation on the Plimmerton site

If the congregation at St Andrew's continues to grow at the present rate, this building will not accommodate the congregation. In the medium-term future this will necessitate a new building. The Plunket base has been approached to see if the consulting rooms and toy library next door could be incorporated into a building across both properties with a favourable initial response.

**Vicarage** 6 Truro Rd., Camborne, 5026 (built in the 1980's)



Top left clockwise: map of location on Truro Road; view to the south from deck off the living room; sunny large deck out the back for washing, with a sandpit; house from the street with fenced off yard.

This family 3 bed-room weatherboard-clad house at near the top of the hill has an open plan kitchen, dining and lounge. It has a basement room suitable for groups. The double garage has internal access, and the front yard is securely fenced off for small children and pet dogs. A large sun-drenched deck to the west allows washing to dry quickly and is large enough for BBQs and entertainment. The Vicarage has a 200L emergency water tank in case of earthquake.

The Vicarage is 5 minutes' drive from the Parish office, two medical practices, a dentist, pharmacy, supermarket, two petrol stations, a play-centre, a kindergarten, and public and Catholic Schools. By bike it takes the same time on the way down, but longer back home unless you have an electric bike to assist you up the hill! There are great tracks and walks only a few minutes further away either on the sea front or round the inlet.

## Other important things

### **Developing Suburbs**

Two large housing developments along the rail-corridor into Wellington are of potential significance to the Parish.

To the south of Pauatahanui Parish boundary lies Aotea block, a relatively new middle-class housing development, which has no community centre or churches. Houses are in typically in the \$700,000 to more than \$1,000,000 range. The neighborhood is within the boundary of Porirua Parish but residents are “aspirational” and socio-economically like the people of the Pautahanui inlet. A new railway station is planned for this suburb in the future, which will make living there more desirable.

To the north east of St Andrew's, between Plimmerton and Pukerua Bay, is a proposed large housing development likely to be populated in the next 20 years.

### **A light in the City**

The cluster of Anglican Parishes in Porirua City have a wonderful opportunity and enormous challenges. The Anglicans in this city of “two halves” - representing some of the most deprived and least deprived suburbs in the country - could be a shining light of love and cooperation between peoples of diverse cultural and socio-economic backgrounds.

We would encourage anyone considering coming to the Parish to spend a day in prayer on Colonial Knob over-looking the city asking the Lord what he has to say.

**View of the Porirua harbour from Colonial Knob** (Photo courtesy of Porirua.govt.nz)

