

# ANGLICAN PARISH OF COFFS HARBOUR

## PARISH PROFILE 2019

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**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF A COMMITTED FAITH COMMUNITY AND TO WORK AND LIVE IN THE MOST LIVEABLE CLIMATE IN AUSTRALIA?**

**DO YOU LIKE BEACHES, RAINFORESTS, MAGNIFICENT COASTAL AND HINTERLAND SCENERY AND A RELAXED LIFESTYLE IN A MAJOR REGIONAL CITY THAT HAS IT ALL?**

**THEN COFFS HARBOUR MAY BE THE PLACE FOR YOU.**

## **Location & Context**

Coffs Harbour is a city located on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales about 540kms north of Sydney and 440kms south of Brisbane. It is well serviced by three major airlines (providing direct flights to Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane), as well as good train and bus services.

The subtropical climate, tranquil rainforests and clean uncrowded beaches of Coffs Harbour ("Coffs" to locals) make it one of the most popular family holiday destinations on the New South Wales coast. The CSIRO has assessed Coffs Harbour as having the most liveable climate in Australia. With natural attractions, adventure activities and sporting and cultural pursuits in equal measure, Coffs Harbour works well for singles, couples and families.

Educational facilities are excellent with a good choice in State schools as well as an Anglican college and a Christian Community school. We also have a major shared campus consisting of a senior college, a TAFE and Southern Cross University

Coffs Harbour Health Campus is a modern facility that has been continually undergoing upgrades. The city also supports a high quality private hospital. They are well supported by a vast array of medical specialists.

The Coffs Harbour City Council area population from the 2016 census totalled 75,000

St John's Anglican Church services part of that council area ministering to a region with a population of approximately 33,000. The other two parishes in the local council area are Northern Beaches (Woolgoolga) and Sawtell and Bonville.

St John's also supports the Parish of The Orara Valley, including conducting weekend worship services. There is a memorandum of understanding between the two parishes organised by the Bishop.

The population of the area continues to grow with increased housing construction and employment opportunities.

From the latest census, most employment in the area is in:

1. Health Care and Social Assistance
2. Tourism and Hospitality
3. Local fruit production and distribution

## **Staff**

Rector	Vacant
Locum	Rev'd Richard Temby
Assistant Priest/ Chaplain Coffs Harbour Health Campus	Rev'd Anne Goode
Deacon in Charge of Pastoral Care	Rev'd Carol Ford
Office Administrator (Part time)	Ms Kerry McLaughlin

We also have 11 Licensed Lay Ministers (LLMs) who regularly assist with worship and pastoral ministry.

## **Parish Facilities**

St John's was designed with a floor plan based on the Star of David and the altar was originally placed at the centre of the church beneath the spire. This was seen as highly innovative, allowing for worship "in the round". The altar was moved during the 1980's to allow for a more traditional service structure. The building can accommodate over 200 people in the comfort of air conditioning.

Offices and meeting rooms for the church are in an adjacent building (formerly the rectory).

St John's also has a small hall that is now used by the adjoining Op Shop. These buildings are situated on a large block of land that has a cottage which is presently rented.

## **Parish Rectory**

The Rectory is at 10 Cotswold Close, Coffs Harbour, a distance of approximately 4 kilometres from St Johns Church. It is a large, modern house, with 4 bedrooms, a small office, a family room as well as a large lounge area and it has a well-appointed kitchen. It is air conditioned, and has a fully fenced yard. There is a great choice of schools in Coffs Harbour but the nearest to the Rectory are Narranga Primary and Orara High.



## **Worship**

We are an inclusive congregation, catering for people at all different stages of their spiritual journey and welcoming people of diverse opinions and practices.

Worship is at the centre of our life. Each weekend there are three services of Holy Communion: 6 pm Saturday, 7 am. Sunday, and 9 am. Sunday. Each of these services has their own particular flavour. The 6 pm Saturday service is quiet and meditative with no music. At 7 am we conduct a traditional service with sung responses. At 9 am we project the service onto the screen and have a variety of liturgy, instruments and music- contemporary and traditional.

Sunday afternoon at 5.30pm, during school terms, we have a Family Service. The families often gather together for a meal afterwards.

On Wednesdays at 10.00am there is a Eucharist. This service is a more informal in which interaction can take place through discussion. There are no hymns and it is usually completed within 35 minutes.

An informal cuppa is provided after the 7 am, and 9 am Sunday services and after the Wednesday 10 am service where people can enjoy conversation and encouragement for the week ahead. Morning Prayer is held each weekday at 8.30 am Monday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday evening there is an evening prayer service at 5.45pm.



We value the cycle of the liturgical year marking different seasons with variations in the liturgy, music and decorations in the church. We believe worship is very much the work of the whole people of God.

## **Connecting with Bishop Druitt College**

We seek to build relationships with our local Anglican School, Bishop Druitt College. BDC bring students to St John's for a range of services during the year. Students are often invited to contribute to our special community services. They have their own chaplains at the school who have a good working relationship with the St John's ministry team.

Students from BDC under the guidance of a teacher, run the Op Shop on Saturday mornings. This is a valuable exercise for them, gaining retail experience and interacting with the community.

**Parish Statistics**

Weekly Services		Average Attendance	
6.00 pm.	Eucharist	Saturday	14
7.00 am.	Eucharist	Sunday:	30
9.00 am.	Eucharist	Sunday:	75
5.30 pm.	Family Service	Sunday:	18
10.00 am.	Eucharist	Wednesday:	12
8.30 am.	Morning Prayer	Monday, Wednesday & Friday	

2018	Baptisms	Marriages	Funerals
	17	1	18

**Some of the 7 am and 9am Congregation - Pentecost 2019**



## **Special Services**

Special church services include:

- Daffodil Day Service,
- Blue Christmas Service
- Taize Services
- Blessing of the animals
- Migrant and Refugee Sunday
- Launch of the Christmas Bowl
- Seniors week
- Police Service
- International Peace Day



Police Service



Daffodil Day Service

## **Hospital Chaplaincy**

Rev'd Anne Goode, Assistant Priest at St John's, is also the hospital chaplain at Coffs Harbour Health Campus. Other churches in Coffs Harbour make a contribution to the funding of this ministry. Rev'd Anne seeks to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of hospital patients, their families and the staff, by being available to people where they are and whatever their beliefs may be.

The Chaplaincy service offers:

- Friendly support and a listening ear
- Someone to talk with confidentially
- Prayer support
- Blessing and anointing of the sick
- Holy Communion
- Support in grief and loss

Clergy (ministers) of various denominations and faiths visit the hospitals as required, and can be contacted by Rev'd Anne on behalf of patients.

There is also a team of Pastoral visitors who regularly visit patients of their own denomination or faith, who have indicated on their admission form they would like to be visited.

## **Parish Activities**

### **Aged Care Ministry**

Extended Communion is offered to seven aged care facilities in our community each fortnight. One of our LLMs, Bob Walsh, coordinates the team and services for this ministry.

#### **Services:**

1st & 3rd Tuesday	1.15pm	Masonic Hostel
	3.00pm	St Josephs
2nd & 4th Tuesday	10.30am	Legacy
	1.30pm	Coffs Harbour Aged Care
1st & 3rd Wednesday	10.00am	Ingenia Gardens
	11.00am	Freedom Aged Care
2nd & 4th Wednesday	11.00am	Opal Aged Care

### **Women's Bible Study**

Two Bible study groups have been offered (currently coordinated by Rev'd Anne Goode). They usually do one study during each school term.

### **Opportunity Shop**

St John's Op-Shop is situated beside the church in McLean Street. It is staffed by volunteers from the parish and the community, who work on a roster basis by serving, sorting, cleaning, ironing and a myriad of other duties required to keep the op shop productive.

The Op Shop is an important financial support for the church and is a valuable outreach to the community. The Op Shop is open from 9am to 4pm Monday to Fridays and from 9 to 12.30 pm Saturdays.

### **Anglican Mothers Union Australia – Coffs Group**

The MU group has been part of St John's community for many years. It is a small group that meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Commencing with Eucharist at 10.00am combining with parishioners for that weekly service, it is followed by morning tea, fellowship, and sometimes a guest speaker or other activity. The main project for the group is the supply of hospital emergency 'comfort' bags that are put together by the members and friends. Many of St John's congregation help with donations for the bags. Several of the MU members are involved with the diocesan executive of MU.

### **EFM**

Education For Ministry has been a key program for lay formation in the parish. Currently we have a group in their first year and another in their fourth year.

### **Cursillo**

Cursillo continues to be a significant experience for deepening faith for many parishioners. A significant number have been involved in leadership positions in the Cursillo movement.

## Children's Christmas Eve Service



This service is held early on Christmas Eve. It has become a very popular event and brings together a large attendance of people from the community as well as our own members and their families. Our young people tell the Christmas story each year in a variety of different ways.

## Anglicare Disaster Recovery

A number of members have undertaken training to enable them to be of assistance at any major disasters that may occur in Coffs Harbour.

## Social Activities

### Men's Group

Every second Monday of the month a group of men gather at 5.30pm at St John's, for a shared meal and a time of fellowship.  
All guys are welcome.

### Women's Lunch Group

The 'Lunch Bunch' meet from time to time at different venues around Coffs Harbour. All women are welcome to come. Cost depends on the venue.



### Other Social Activities

To encourage fellowship, we seek to provide a variety of social events. These have included Movie and meal nights, Recipe Auction for Mission, Family Movie afternoons, a 'Biggest morning tea'...

## Wardens

Stephen Campbell  
Richard Dubois  
Lesley Miller

## Parish Nominators

Stephen Campbell  
Lesley Miller

## Parish Council

Our Parish Council has 12 members as well as our Rector, Assistant Priest and Deacon. It meets once a month in the Parish House meeting room.  
The wardens meet a fortnight prior to the Parish Council meeting.

## Prayers for Peace



## Future Development Plans

The Parish of Coffs Harbour is the beneficial owner of 4 and 6 McLean Street with a total area of 2024 square meters on which the Hall, Op Shop and a rented Cottage are located.

Late last year Parish Council appointed a committee of three people to investigate the possibilities for the two blocks.

For many years ideas have been discussed for the development of this area. The latest idea is to build a larger Op Shop, Community facilities and approximately 25- 30 units for Affordable Housing.

We are at the planning stage and are working with Architects and Town Planners and hope to have a viable concept to present to the Diocese in the near future.

## Looking towards the future of the Parish

We are looking for a Rector who can:

- Deepen the Christian experience of those already part of our faith community and to reach out to others in the Coffs Harbour area to join with us on our journey.
- Happily work within various styles of worship from more contemporary to traditional.
- Accurately and relevantly teach the Bible; encourage personal bible reading and prayer, small group ministry and outreach into our community.
- Be an enabler to encourage young families to become part of our Parish family.
- Continue and strengthen our strong focus on ministering to the older people in our community. Currently we have a strong link to nursing homes, conducting services, and we also have home visits to the sick and infirm.
- Build on our ministry to the less fortunate and needy members of our community. Currently we help with food parcels; and in the Op Shop by selling clothing and goods at cheap prices and also providing great ministry opportunities.
- Foster stronger links with Bishop Druitt College.



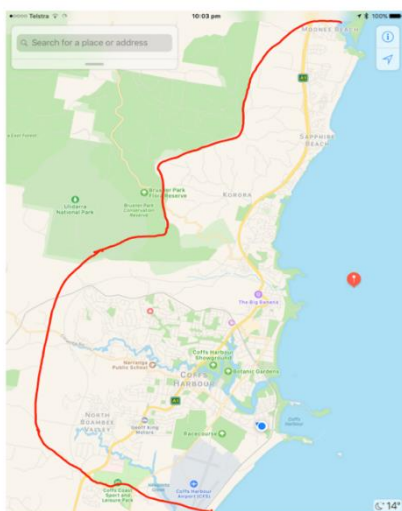
## **Why should a new priest come to Coffs Harbour**

Because:

- God's Call
- A wonderful congregation waiting to welcome you
- The desire to learn and grow spiritually
- There is great potential
- Great opportunities are presented by a growing population
- Excellent facilities available
- Committed lay leadership who are already taking on responsibility
- A supportive team
- Very comfortable modern Rectory
- Excellent educational and medical facilities.
- Terrific climate and location
- A major regional airport and interstate train link

## **Coffs Harbour Anglican Parish**

## **Approximate drawing area**



## **History of St Johns Anglican Church Coffs Harbour**

The first St John's church on the corner of Moonee St & Coramba Rd was dedicated on the 6th April 1899. This site proved subject to flooding and a bullock team moved the church to the present day site in about 1905.

The building of a new church commenced in 1910 alongside the original church. The second St John's church was dedicated the 28th May 1911

Shortly after the dedication, the original St Johns church was moved to High St at the Jetty and renamed St Aidan's by the Sea.

St Johns Hall was built over a period of two weeks in 1927. It was originally 30' x 50' and unlined.

The third St John's church (current) was dedicated on the 3rd March 1973 with 600 parishioners attending

The diocese made the decision that St Aidan's Anglican church, which had served the Anglican community in the Jetty area for sixty years, would be amalgamated with the new, bigger St John's, and the old St Aidan's was demolished in January 1973

In 1980 an Op Shop was added to the hall built by volunteer labour.

On 11th April 1999 a service was held at St John's Anglican Parish celebrating 100 years.