



ANGLICAN PARISH OF  
COFFS HARBOUR

# *Parish Profile*



2 McLean Street  
Coffs Harbour 2450

*'Proclaiming the Gospel  
on the Coffs Coast'*

## Who we are:

Coffs Harbour Anglican is a church committed to preaching and teaching the Good News of Jesus Christ. We are a welcoming and inclusive congregation, open to engaging in different styles of worship and fellowship to suit people from all walks and stages of life. We love gathering together and sharing fellowship as the Anglican Community of Christ in Coffs Harbour.

As a parish we our strengths include:

- Resilience
- Welcoming for all people
- Understanding the importance of working as a team
- Lay Ministry
- Commitment
- Vocational Deacons
- Dedication and involvement in the wider diocese
- Op shops and social groups designed to share faith in practical way with the wider community
- Breaking bread together
- Creative and Traditional Services
- Connections to Bishop Druitt College
- Dedicated Wardens and Musicians



## **What we do:**

Coffs Harbour Anglicans are actively involved both on a parish level, diocesan level and on a community level with the following activities:

### **Aged Care Home Ministry**

Worship is offered at six aged care facilities each fortnight. These services are led by a Vocational Deacon and a team of lay volunteers. Ministry to those housebound is also provided.

### **Study Groups**

Lenten and Advent studies are offered to parishioners based on a chosen study booklet. Some meet in weekly groups and others reflect as individuals or with friends.

### **Men's Group**

All are welcome to this social gathering of men, meeting regularly on the second Monday of the month at 5.30pm at St John's, for a shared meal and time of fellowship.

### **Ladies Lunch Group**

Meeting from time to time at different venues around Coffs Harbour, all women are welcome to register for any of the lunches that are planned. Details of upcoming dates are advertised in the Parish Bulletin and on the noticeboard at the rear of the church. Cost depends on the venue.

### **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 open from 10am to 1pm Monday and 10am to 4pm Tuesday to Thursday. Exciting things are happening in this space as we are relocating our Shop.



### **Anglicare Disaster Recovery**

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



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

The MU group has been part of the St John's community for many years. It is a small group that meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. It commences with Eucharist at 10.00am combining with parishioners for that weekly service. Fellowship continues with morning tea, sometimes a guest speaker or other activity.

The main project for the group is the supply of hospital emergency 'comfort' bags, which are put together by the members and friends. Many of St Johns congregation help with donations for the bags. Several of the local members are involved with the diocesan executive of Mothers Union.

### **Cursillo**

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

### **BBQ's and Picnics**

Parishioners gather for a social get together on an irregular basis. Other parish functions and fellowship are encouraged to build the family community.

### **Children's Christmas Play**

The Children's Christmas play is performed early on Christmas Eve. This has become a very popular event and brings together a large attendance of local families, visitors and regular parishioners.



## Worship

Worship and Mission are at the centre of parish life.



Each of these services has its own flavour.

- 6pm Saturday is a quiet, meditative Eucharist with no hymns.
- 8am Sunday is a Eucharist with sung responses and traditional hymns.
- 10am Sunday is contemporary worship, includes a Eucharist and a variety of modern music and has a focus on attracting families, younger people and enquirers.

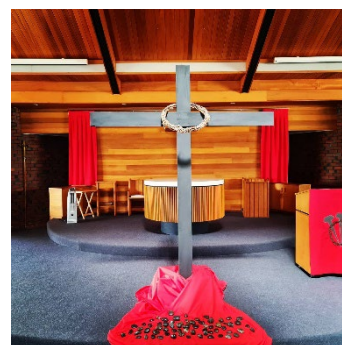
Each Sunday service is followed by an informal cuppa and catch-up time.

On Wednesdays at 10.00am there is a Eucharist followed by time for a cuppa. This service is more informal in which interaction can take place through discussion.



Evening Prayer is held each Wednesday in the Chapel at 5:45pm.

The parish values the cycle of the liturgical year marking different seasons with variations in the liturgy, music and the dressing of the church. Worship is very much the work of the whole people of God, involving a well-coordinated team of welcomers, musicians, sacristans, readers, florists, servers, intercessors, sides persons, counters, licensed lay ministers, priests, deacons, and faithful worshippers.



Special church services include:

- Daffodil Day Service
- Blue Christmas Service
- Blessing of the animals
- Launch of the Christmas Bowl (on rotation)

## **Who would be a good fit for us?**

Someone who is....

- Energetic
- Will commit to a 7 year term
- Outgoing, friendly and sociable
- Visionary and Innovative
- Team Player
- Patient
- Collaborative
- Pastoral
- A relevant and engaging Preacher
- Prayerful and considered

## **Diocesan Restructure**

Grafton Diocese has committed to restructuring for the purpose of Ministry and Mission. For Coffs Harbour Parish this means working collaboratively in the Coffs Coast Network of parishes.

## **Affiliations**

### **Bishop DrUITT College**

The local Anglican School, brings staff and students to St John's for a range of services during the year. Students are often invited to contribute to our special community services. BDC employs a full-time and a part-time Chaplain ensuring the staff and students are world prepared with Anglican ethos

<https://www.bdc.nsw.edu.au/>

### **Hospital Chaplaincy**

Under an agreement between the Bishop of Grafton and the Coffs Harbour Health Campus, a chaplaincy service is provided by the Anglican Diocese of Grafton to Coffs Harbour Hospital. The position is part-time and is presently occupied by the Rev'd Anne Goode, Rector of The Bellinger Parish.

Funding for the chaplaincy comes from the Hospital itself and from surrounding, benefitting parishes. Coffs Harbour Parish presently contributes \$10,000 per annum.

### **Worship and Pastoral Services**

Whilst we are aware weekly Services Average Attendance has declined during COVID, we are pleased to say that we are still able to provide Eucharistic Services on Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays.

In 2021 there were 9 Baptisms, 2 Weddings and 6 Funerals

## **Staff**

Locum Incumbent

Vocational Deacon in Charge of Pastoral Care

Rev'd Carol Ford

Vocational Deacon

Rev'd Kassimiro Yanga

The Parish has 8 Licenced Lay Ministers, who assist with weekly worship and conduct services in several aged care facilities in the city as well as providing home communion services

#### Wardens

Andrew Beswick

Stephen Campbell

David Ford

#### Parish Nominators

Stephen Campbell

Lesley Miller

Judy Bailey

#### Parish Council

Parish Council meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month in the Parish House meeting room. The wardens meet on the Thursday prior to the Parish Council meeting.

#### Looking Towards the Future of the Parish

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022, a Vacancy Consultation for the Parish was facilitated by Archdeacon Zoe Everingham. Parishioners provided positive input to the creation of a report outlining the vision the Parish had for its future as both providing meaningful worship and growth opportunities to its members and being active in outreach to, and care of, the community of which it is a part

We are praying for the person that we know that God has already called to come to our parish. If that is you, please send an Expression of Interest to:

Bishop Murray Harvey

bishop@graftondiocese.org.au

**Read on for a little more about us and our history.**

## **What does our Plant look like?**

### **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 1990's to allow for a more traditional church layout. The building can accommodate over 200 people in air-conditioned comfort.

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

The Op Shop is an important financial support for the church and is a valuable outreach to the community

The Parish Rectory is in a modern residential area 4 kms from St John's.

The Rectory is a comfortable modern home with four good size bedrooms, a large lounge area and a separate large dining room. The master bedroom has a large walk-in robe and ensuite and there is a separate three-way bathroom. The double garage has internal access. There is also NBN fast internet to the premises

### **Location & Context**

Coffs Harbour is a city located on the North Coast of New South Wales about 540 kms north of Sydney and 440 kms south of Brisbane. It is well serviced by 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.

With natural attractions, adventure activities and cultural pursuits in equal measure, Coffs Harbour works well for singles, couples and families.

The City has a strong educational focus with a wide choice of primary and secondary schools, including Bishop Druitt College, a K-12 low-fee Anglican school. There is a campus of Southern Cross University offering a breadth of courses and similarly so at the large TAFE College.

The City is well served medically both through its many GPs and specialists and has a large, modern regional hospital as well as a busy private hospital.

The Coffs Harbour City Council area population from the 2020 ABS census was 77,000.

Coffs Harbour Anglican Parish services part of that council area ministering a population of approximately 38,000. The other two parishes in the local council area are Northern



Beaches (Woolgoolga) and Sawtell and Bonville plus the Transitional Ministry District of the Orara.

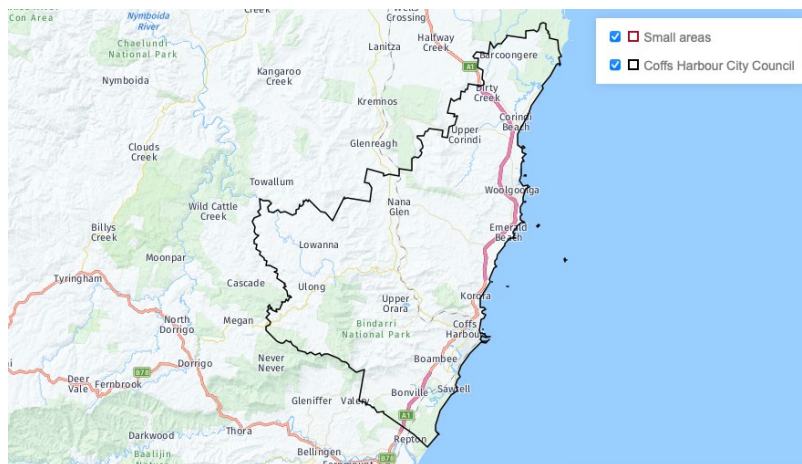
The Parish area has a slightly lower percentage of children and a slightly higher percentage of over 55's than the rest of regional NSW. It also has a slightly higher percentage of people from non-English speaking backgrounds

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

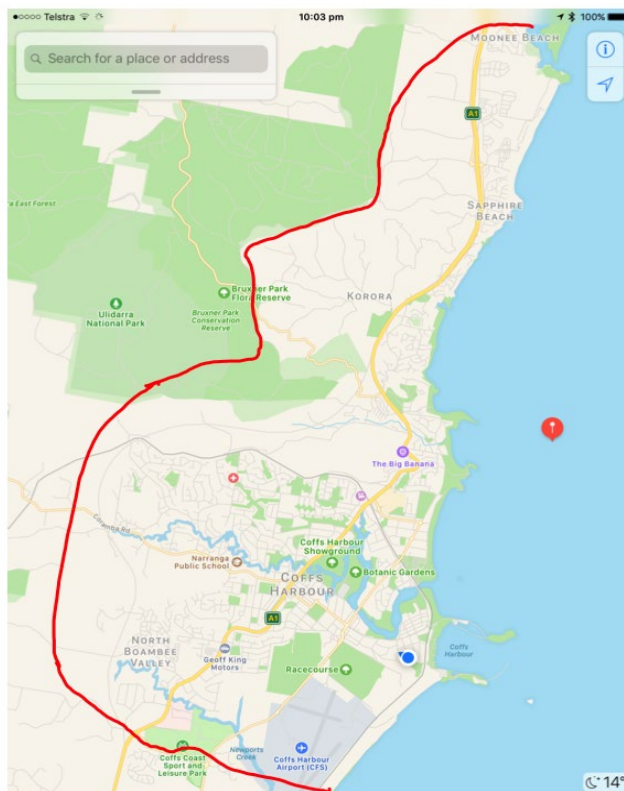
- Health Care and Social Assistance
- Tourism and Hospitality
- Local fruit production and distribution

## Coffs Harbour City Council LGA



Compiled and presented in profile.id by [id](#) (informed decisions).

## Coffs Harbour Anglican Parish



### **History of St John's Anglican Church Coffs Harbour**

The first St John's Church, on the corner of Moonee St & Coramba Rd, was dedicated on 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 on the 28th May 1911

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

St John's 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 was dedicated on 3rd March 1973 with 600 people attending.

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

In 1980 an Op Shop and Parish office was added to the hall, built by volunteer labour.

On 11th April 1999 a service was held at St John's celebrating 100 years of a place of Anglican worship in Coffs Harbour.