



Parish Profile 2019

Anglican Parish of Brisbane
All Saints' Wickham Terrace

A bit of background about us:-

All Saints Church is situated on Wickham Terrace in Brisbane City. It is the Parish Church of Brisbane, with most of the Central Business District of the city coming within its parish boundaries. The church opened for public worship on 23 February 1862¹; and the present church building was dedicated on 8 September 1869.²

All Saints was established 'to serve those members of the Church of England and others who reside in the rapidly growing localities of Spring Hill and Wickham Terrace, etc.'³ and developed and flourished as the parish church of expanding residential areas. By the time the parish celebrated its centenary in February 1962, the suburbs along the western railway – Auchenflower, Milton, Taring and Toowong – had become independent parishes.⁴ The changing demography in the inner city impacted on the remaining residential area of the parish. All Saints is now an inner-city parish church where the majority of parishioners live outside the geographic boundaries of the parish. Some live as far as 200kms away, but are regular worshippers, drawn by the parish's traditions, liturgy and faith.

Since its establishment in 1862, the Parish has followed and promoted the churchmanship born out of Catholic Revival that exerted a major influence on the development of Anglicanism in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.⁵ The Founders of the Oxford Movement sought to emphasize the historical Catholic roots of a liturgy and faith practiced by Christians pre-dating the English Reformation with the aim of re-energizing the English church. The first clergy at All Saints benefited from the Movement's diaspora, developing into the parish where the fullest expression of catholic believing Anglicans found its expression in the Diocese⁶

The Parish strongly asserts that ours is an earthy religion which lifts us up to the heights of heaven. The Church is the community of love gathered around Him, and it is a community that spans earth and heaven. The risen Jesus is the centre of our worship, and so we try to make our worship the best we can offer.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated at All Saints' in order to glorify God, and to pray for the Church and the world in which we live. We are reminded of this by the words of Genesis 28:17 painted on the chancel arch – "This is none other but the House of God and this is the Gate of Heaven"

The Parish is an associate member of "Forward in Faith", an international network of Anglican parishes standing together against departures from the faith of the universal Church. It has been a flagship of Anglican catholic faith since its establishment some 160 years ago and we believe that with the aid of the Holy Spirit it will be into the future. We seek to remain true to the founding traditions of the parish through the practice the true Catholic Faith because we believe that nothing less can bring men and women into the fullness of God's blessing and grace

¹ *Courier*, 22 February 1862, p. 2. Electronic version at Trove. Dorothy Kissick, *All Saints' Church, Brisbane, 1862-1937* (Brisbane: All Saints Church, 1937), p. 2. Electronic version available at Project Canterbury.

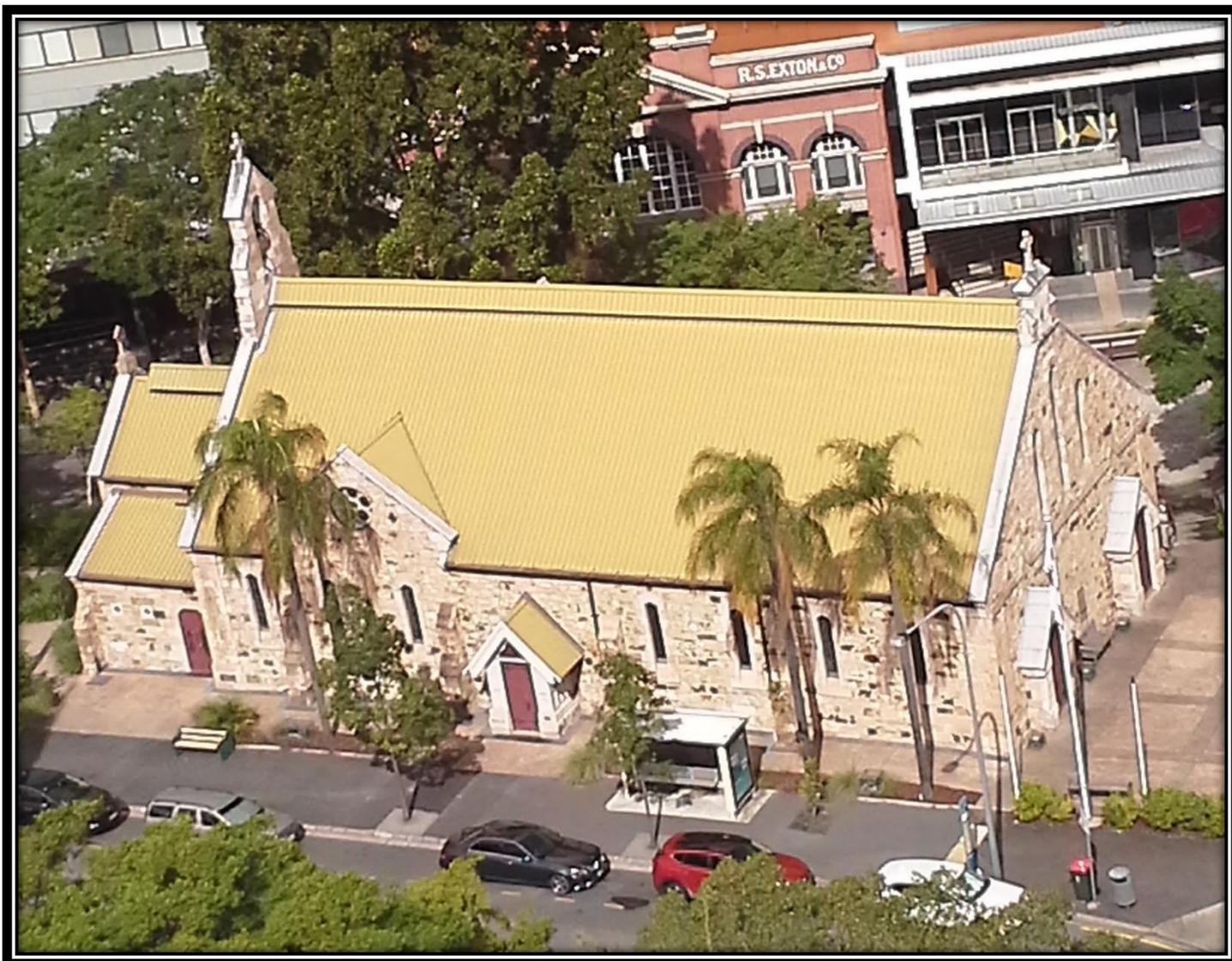
² *Brisbane courier*, 9 September 1869, p. 2. Electronic version at Trove. Kissick, *All Saints Church*, pp. 15-16

³ Kissick, *All Saints' Church*, Chapter 1, p. 1. The development of Spring Hill has been discussed in Ronald Lawson, *Brisbane in the 1890s: a study of an Australian urban society* (Brisbane: University of Queensland Press, 1973)

⁴ See, for example, Helen Gregory and Noel Henriksen, *A church for its times: the story of the church of St Thomas the Apostle, Toowong* (Brisbane: Anglican Parish of St Thomas, 2007)

the Development of Anglo-Catholicism in Australia see David Hilliard, 'The Anglo-Catholic tradition in Australian Anglicanism', *St Mark's review*, no 158 (Winter 194) [electronic version at <http://anglicanhistory.org/essays/hilliard1993.pdf>] and Colin Holden, *From Tories at prayer to Socialists at Mass: St Peter's Eastern Hill, Melbourne, 1846-1996* (Melbourne: Melbourne University Press, 1996 and in Queensland, Keith Rayner, *The history of the Church of England in Queensland* [PhD thesis, History Department, University of Queensland, 1962] [An electronic copy of this thesis is available on Project Canterbury]

⁶ H J Richards, Brisbane's first bishop: the Right Reverend Edward Wyndham Tufnell, MA DD, *Queensland heritage*, vol 3 no 5 (November 1976), pp. 17-25; Kissick, *All Saints Church*, pp. 13-15.



Contents:

- Page 4: Faith, Compassion, Social Justice
- Page 4: Mission
- Page 5: Worship and Liturgy
- Page 7: Supporting the Work of the Parish
- Page 8: Stewardship
- Page 9: A Parish Priest for All Saints'

Faith, Compassion, Inclusion, Social Justice — Demographic

Many people come into the church to sit and to pray during the day. There are also those who pass through on Sundays when services are in progress. They are drawn through finding something missing from their lives and the liturgy offered at All Saints' provides a focus for what they are seeking.

An identifiable strength of the Parish has been and continues to be tenacity. The founders of the Parish determined in 1862 to worship as Catholic Anglicans, confidently accepting that this journey would often be lonely and difficult. They were guided by faithful priests who nurtured the faith through service and teaching. Those priests understood the sense of mission and purpose, even when that mission would be distinct from the rest of the Diocese. This is a position which is still the case today although the Regional Bishop is keen to reduce the barriers as far as possible.

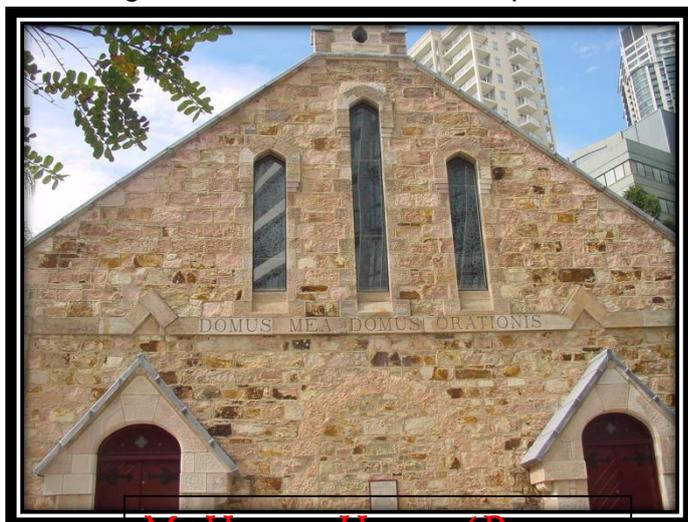
Mission

All Saints' Church stands within the Anglican/catholic tradition of Anglicanism, with the emphasis on traditional teaching, worship, and pastoral care, including care for the disadvantaged. The word of God and the sacraments, particularly the Mass are at the heart of our parish life. Services are in the traditional language of the Book of Common Prayer and are characterised by dignified ceremonial and fine music. We use traditional 'Prayer Book' language in all liturgies and offices.

People travel from all parts of Brisbane and beyond to worship regularly at All Saints', attracted by the traditional liturgy, orthodox teaching and fine music. Many others have a link with the church through a baptism, wedding or funeral where All Saints' has touched their lives.

Our Mission is to expand upon our origins established by our forebears in Brisbane and particularly at All Saints' over the last 160 years. We aim to make our presence in this city notable by our outreach into the lives of the local residents as well as those who live and work in this capital city of Queensland

We aim to increase our outreach to the poor and disadvantaged who live on the streets by offering sustenance and other help on an as needed basis.



My House a House of Prayer

Locally we have the Spring Hill State Primary School, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), two Grammar Schools and a number of Roman Catholic schools and colleges within the boundary of the Parish.

In the ABS 2016 Survey 30% of Australians reported they had no religion but of those who did report religious affiliation 13.3% or 3,101,200 reported Anglican affiliation.



Worship and Liturgy

The Principal Sunday services are BCP/English Missal Low Mass with Hymns at 7:30am, Solemn High Mass with Choral Settings in both English and Latin at 9:30am and once a month Solemn Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 6:30pm.

Greater Holy Days and Festivals during the week are marked usually with a High Mass at 6:30pm.

At present there is a mid-week Mass said at 10am on Wednesday and Friday. During Lent and Advent Mass is said at 9am on Saturdays. The Parish hopes to increase the mid-week masses to a daily offering with variation of time to accommodate office workers – either early morning, mid-day or evening.

Seasonal Services include:

- Stations of the Cross during Lent
- Palm Sunday liturgy partly shared with the adjacent Lutheran congregation
- Maundy Thursday ceremonies
- Good Friday Liturgy with Communion of the Pre-sanctified
- Pascal Vigil and first Mass of Easter
- Patronal Festival – All Saints' and Mass for All Souls'
- Corpus Christi with Procession of the Blessed Sacrament
- Major Saints Days and Festivals during the week with High Mass
- Christmas Vigil Mass, First Mass of Christmas



A Choir leads the music at 9:30am High Mass and other major festivals singing from the organ gallery. The SATB Choir is made up of Choral Scholars who are paid an annual honorarium. The Director of Music is also a paid position. The DoM plays for both Sunday services and other festivals, funerals and weddings as required.

All Saints has three retired priests who help as needed and as they are able.

There are a number of men who assist in the Sanctuary as servers and as Sub Deacon and Deacon at High Mass.

The Sidespeople are the first point of contact for visitors. Children who attend from time to time have colouring books etc. at the back of the church. The Verger/Sacristan is an unpaid position and the occupant of the position spends considerable time preparing for services, maintaining the gardens and other tasks needing to be done.

There is a small group of ladies who look after the flowers from Sunday to Sunday and other parishioners provide champagne and orange juice after Low Mass and full morning tea after High Mass.

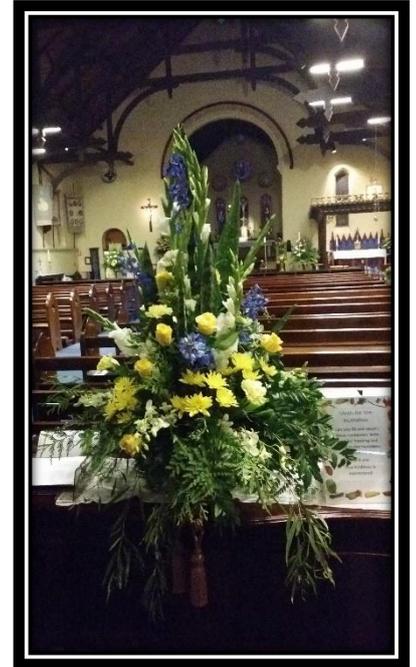
Working Bees are held bi-annually to give the church an extra clean and to decorate for Christmass and Easter Services.



Supporting the Work of the Parish

Flower Group

With the high cost of flowers the Flower Guild use artificial flowers augmented by fresh flowers for major festivals and for funerals and weddings if requested. Parishioners are invited to pay for a full church setting of fresh flowers or specific bowls which can be given as a memorial or thanksgiving.



Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary

Although no longer officially a member of the Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary the parish nevertheless maintains a Servers Guild run by a Secretary and with rosters for Sundays and other festivals. The servers have three basic colours of cassock – red, purple and black and the cottas are both laced and plain. The main information/training book is a publication produced by a previous Rector, Rt. Rev. David Chislett SSC. A copy is available from the Parish Office.

Hospitality Group

As mentioned previously a number of Parishioners provide orange juice and champagne following Low Mass on Sundays and also a fuller, sit-down morning tea following High Mass. The latter is sometimes replaced by a full meal for times such as our Patronal Festival, at Christmas and other times as appropriate. A group also has luncheons at venues around the city from time to time.



Lay Leadership:

At this stage there are 5 licensed assistants with three of those fulfilling the roles of Deacon and Subdean at High Mass

At both Low and High Mass there are Readers for the lessons organised by rosters on a monthly basis. Training is provided for new Readers

Churchwardens and some Parish Councillors as well as volunteers look after the grounds, attend to financial matters including banking, payment of invoices, arranging repairs and maintenance of the parish plant and Rectory

Several members of the laity chair Society of Mary meetings, lead prayer groups, take services in the absence of clergy and visit homebound parishioners.

We recognise that there is a need to rebuild after a number of years of turmoil brought about by groups leaving to move to alternate Anglican/Catholic communities because of their unwillingness to accept innovations of the Anglican Church in Brisbane, Australia and the world.

Stewardship:

The Parish needs to become more accessible and open to the Brisbane community so as to promote the Gospel of salvation through our services and outreach. The Parish recognises that we do not have a natural community base as is found in the suburbs and also that in the immediate area many of the residents are unit dwellers, generally young professionals without children which makes natural regeneration of the Parish more difficult than it has been in the past.

Most parishioners of All Saints' live outside the physical boundaries and some as far as 200km away. Only a handful live within the boundaries.

Notwithstanding our inherent problems the Parish Council comprising eight elected and two appointed members plus the ex-officio members – Wardens, Treasurer and Nominators works to manage the affairs of the Parish and in conjunction with the Treasurer balances the books and funds external missionary giving to various causes they consider worthy and important to the community in which we live.

Members have responsibility for different aspects of the work of the life of the Parish and report back to successive meeting as appropriate.

One of the outreach activities is the provision of food packs prepared by Parishioners which are heated and given to the needy along with a tea or coffee. An external group feed a large number of the homeless who come to the church precinct on Tuesday evenings for a meal, or clothes handout or whatever they may need in the way of blankets and the like.

Money collected from the several shrines in the church are given to Missions such as ABM, Anglican Aid Abroad (after paying for the candles).

Morning Tea and orange juice funds are also given to Missions and specific appeals such as flood and bushfire relief to help affected parishes. We realise it is too easy to look inwards and fail to see the hurt happening outside our parish boundaries.

Wanted:- A Parish Priest for All Saints' to shepherd and lead us forward in faith

The Parish hopes, with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit, to regain its place as a robust focus of the catholic faith in the heart of Brisbane as it has been in the past and hopes to be well into the future. To achieve this the Parish recognises that it needs a priest who is full of energy and with charismatic personality able to attract the young and older people back to the church.

We know from first-hand experience that many people come in to sit and pray in the church during the day as well as pass through on Sundays when services are in progress. They are drawn through finding something missing from their lives and the liturgy offered at All Saints' provides a focus for what they are seeking.

The man the Parish is seeking to be our Rector will ideally have all or most of the attributes listed below.

We seek a man who is:-

- a preacher and a teacher; an evangelist and faithful catholic, who would pass on, through Word and Sacrament, the faith once delivered to the saints.
- in possession of a good singing voice and able to sing the Mass and Offices.
- a spiritual guide with a pastoral heart as he will need to be able to with compassion deal with people whose lives are lived contrary to the Gospel strictures and to bring them back to Christ. We do not want a management guru.
- a team player, someone who understands the need to make better known all the good things that happen here including the good things which come from acceptance of Christ the King enthroned in their hearts.
- a man who will not compromise or roll over to small noisy groups seeking to push their own agendas to the exclusion of others and the true faith. He will also be able to work with those who do not believe what the Parish has stood for without compromising the Parish's position.

Priests who prayerfully discern their vocation at this time is to lead the people of God in the Capital City of Queensland are invited to contact the Bishop of the Northern Region of the Diocese of Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, the Right Reverend Jeremy Greaves at jgreaves@anglicanchurchsq.org.au or for additional information about the Parish, the Parochial Nominators, All Saints' Wickham Terrace, PO Box 574, Spring Hill, Qld 4004.

