

**St Bartholomew's
Anglican Church
Mt Gravatt**

Parish
Profile

2019

Table of Contents

1	1. Our Community.....	3
2	2. Our Vision.....	4
3	3. Our Parish Plan.....	5
4	4. Our Team.....	6
5	5. Our Ministries.....	7
6	6. Our Facilities.....	14
7	7. Our Finances & Compliance.....	16
8	8. You.....	17
9	9. Contact Details.....	18



Church Background

St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, affectionately referred to as **St Bart's**, was established over 100 years ago and has a rich history. It forms part of the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane, which is one of the twenty-three dioceses that comprise the Anglican Church of Australia. Various Anglican traditions are evident in our **diverse worship** services, as we seek to meet people where they are, spiritually and personally. Our church continues to flourish and grow due to the hard work of the ministry team and parishioners in the community. Many in the Mt Gravatt area know of St Bart's, not merely as a Church, but as an organisation which has a significant community outreach to all generations and cultures.



Our Congregation

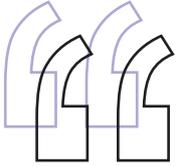
Our congregation is blessed to be comprised of a range of men, women and children of various ages and cultures with **one desire** - to worship and serve our Lord Jesus Christ. We are a typical Anglican 'middle of the road' congregation, reflecting mainly an 'evangelical' tradition with modern influences. There is a strong involvement by laity in a range of ministries and in worship services. When people attend St Bart's for the first time, they are generally surprised by the **intergenerational** and **multi-cultural** composition of our parishioners. There are many families, some with three generations in attendance! Sri Lankan, Indian, South African and other communities are well established within our congregation. We are non-exclusive and **our doors are open** to all who seek to know Christ.

Our Area

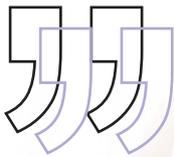
The Church is in a **prime location**, on the corner of the very busy Logan Road and Mountain Street. Situated in Mt Gravatt, just ten kilometres south of the CBD, St Bart's is fortunate to be in a rapidly developing area, with an established lower-middle class residential community evolving into a higher density mixed use suburb. Mt Gravatt has a predominately Anglo-European population, and forms a part of the '**Brisbane Bible-belt**', known for its large church communities.

Our Vision

The core of our present strategic statement is our parish vision. This vision underpins our ministry, community outreach and direction for St Bart's.



To be the Anglican community of faith in Mt Gravatt that seeks to know Christ and to make Christ known.



Our Parish Plan

The parish's current 'strategic statement' (MAP) for the period 2016-2019 is the product of many years of strategic planning statements. Structured according to the categories of the NCD (Natural Church Development) program, the Strategic Priorities for St Bart's 2016-2019 are:

Communication...

Passionate Spirituality...

Gift-based Ministry...

Holistic Small Groups...

Loving Relationships...

Need-oriented Evangelism...

Empowering Leadership...

Effective Structures...

Inspiring Worship Services...

The above areas are all standing items on the Parish Council agenda, and are the focus of developing parish life and ministry in accordance with our vision.

Lately, the parish has had a desire to engage increasingly in, and reach out to the local community. Increasing involvement in mainly music, youth groups, the Mt Gravatt Men's Shed, Queensland Community Alliance and the Hope Haven is seeing this come to fruition.



Our Team

Ministry Team

Rector (full time - paid): current locum is Gary Smith

Assistant Curate (full time - paid): currently Scott Windred

Children's Ministry Coordinator (part time - paid): usually a member of the congregation

Support Ministers (presiding monthly): Rev'd Trevor Butler (retired, President of Order of St Luke healing ministry) and Rev'd Cheryl Selvage (Hospital Chaplaincy Coordinator)

Organisational Team

Administration Coordinator & Treasurer (part time - voluntary)

Parish Secretary (part time - paid)

3 Church Wardens

9 Parish Councillors



Laity Team

For Worship Services: we have many voluntary LA's, altar servers, sidespeople, welcomers, readers, a prayer team, morning tea coordinator (voluntary) and nursing home supporters across all the generations of the parish

For Music Ministry: there are various musicians, including a music coordinator (9am service, voluntary), pianists, guitarists, instrumentalists and singers from a wide variety of parishoners

For Youth Ministry: there is a team of three coordinators/leaders (voluntary) and other assistant leaders from the young adults community

For Childrens Ministry: we also have sunday school assistants and a mainly music team

For Church Upkeep: we have a church cleaner (paid), flower arrangers and grounds maintenance

Worship

Sunday 7am Service

The 7am service is a **traditional sung Holy Communion** service run in accordance with *A Prayer Book for Australia*. Traditional hymns are sung from hymn books, predominantly *Together in Song*, and supported by either an organ or piano. Attendee numbers vary, but tend to be approximately 40 parishioners per service at present.

Sunday 9am Service

A more **contemporary, family oriented service**, the 9am Holy Communion service also utilises *A Prayer Book for Australia*. Modern hymns and songs are sung during the service, with music provided by a rotation of instrumentalists and vocalists. The service has a high level of lay involvement in addition to the music team, including liturgical assistants, altar servers, intercessors, readers and prayer teams. During the service, Kids Biz for children (Sunday School) is held every week of the school term, and Kids No/Know More (teenagers) is held on a monthly basis. Worship numbers are stable, averaging around 100 regular attendees.

Wednesday 10am Service

A eucharist is held every Wednesday at 10am, as part of the **Wednesday Ladies group**. Other members of the community are welcome to attend.

Other Services

Healing service: the Church has an active healing ministry, with one Sunday each month devoted to offering anointing for healing during the Sunday morning communion services

Youth service: a worship circle (reflective, quiet worship space) is held every fortnight, which is attended by the young adults of the parish

Family service: the 9am service devotes every 5th Sunday of the month to a more youth involved worship space with lay positions being completed by the young adults, teenagers and children in the parish

Nursing home services: the ministry attend a number of nursing homes during the week to run regular services



Children's Ministry

mainly music

Description: songs, activities and morning tea for families with young children

Time: Monday mornings, run weekly

Attendees: over twenty families, comprised of pre-school aged children and their parents

Facilitators: a team of approximately 12 volunteers from the St Bart's community

Kids Biz

Description: Sunday School, interactive and engaging teaching and activities based on the weekly readings

Time: Sunday mornings in school term during the 9am worship service

Attendees: numbers fluctuate but the program is designed for children in primary school (ages approx 5 - 12)

Facilitators: coordinated by the Children's minister, with a team of volunteers from the parish

Kids No/Know More

Description: facilitated Bible study working through various New Testament studies

Time: held monthly on Sunday mornings concurrent with the 9am healing service

Attendees: teenagers in high school (ages approx 13 - 18), usually around a half dozen attendees

Facilitators: several volunteer adults and parents from the St Bart's 9am service



Youth Ministry

Avalanche

Description: onsite and offsite youth activities combined with regular topical Bible discussion sessions

Time: held fortnightly on Friday nights from 6pm - 8.30pm during the school term

Attendees: Grades 5 - 8, with around eight regular participants

Facilitators: coordinated by three volunteer young adults, with assistance from other youth and young adults in the parish

The Gathering

Description: onsite and offsite youth activities, with challenging Bible discussion nights and a yearly weekend retreat

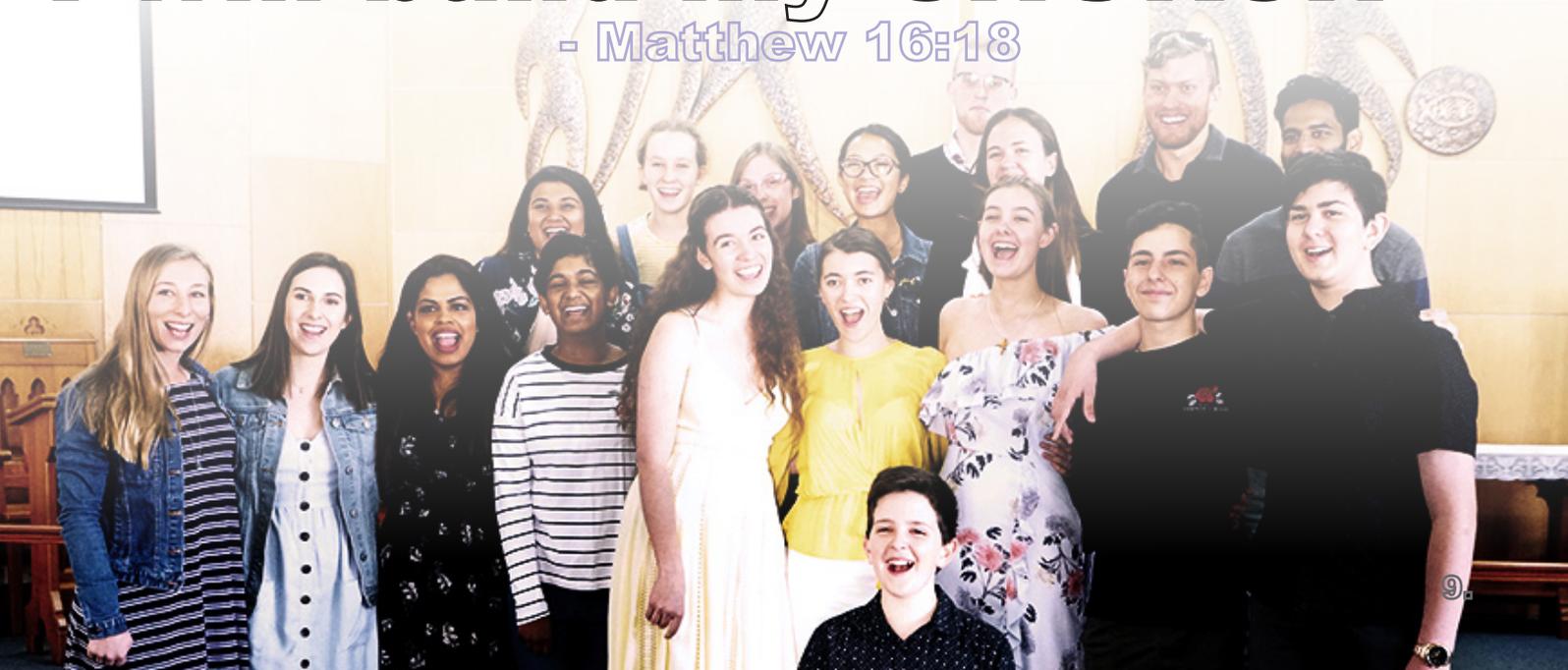
Time: held fortnightly on Friday nights from 6.30pm - 9pm during the school term on opposing weeks to Avalanche

Attendees: Grades 9 -12, with around twelve regular participants

Facilitators: coordinated by three volunteer young adults, with assistance from other young adults in the parish



“You are a **ROCK**,
and upon this foundation
I will build my **CHURCH**”
- Matthew 16:18



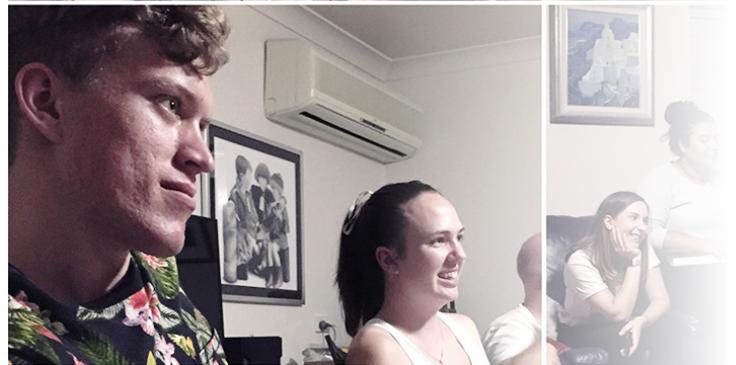
Young Adults Ministry

St Bart's Young Adults

Description: regular activities include Bible studies, worship and social events throughout the year
Time: fortnightly Bible studies with worship held on opposing fortnights and social events are every quarter

Attendees: the group is comprised of tertiary students and recent graduates, with ages from 18 - 25; there are around fifteen regular members

Facilitators: coordinated by the Assistant Curate and several young adults



Small Groups

St Bart's actively coordinates and facilitates **multiple small groups**. Approximately 40% of parishioners attend regular small group Bible studies, held at the Church or at various homes of the coordinators. Some of these groups have a **rich twenty plus year history**. All attendees are welcome, from young adults to seniors.

Healing Ministry

The Church community is blessed to have a significant focus on healing ministry. Within the parish, a **monthly anointing service** is held. Many parishioners are also actively involved with the **Order of St Luke's ministry**, which holds regular meetings, services and events at the church and within the community. The congregation are proud to welcome and support all those who are in need of healing, no matter the circumstances.



Prayer Ministry

The prayer ministry at St Bart's underpins **the core of our weekly services**. Prayer cover is provided during several Sunday morning services every month, and prayer offered at the after rail after each service. The Church also has a **Prayer Chain ministry** and invites parishioners to contact the volunteers who run this when in need of prayer or a visit. Prayer is also a significant part in the life of all small groups.

Church Fellowship

St Bart's engages with the surrounding community churches on a regular basis. The clergy are active **members of the local minister's fellowship** who meet monthly for lunch. Fellowship and ministry activities are also organised between the churches from time to time, with St Bart's occasionally hosting such events. St Bart's parishioners are also involved in the **annual inter-denominational day of prayer**. A significant number of parishioners have had some involvement with **Cursillo**.

St Bart's also has a **partner parish relationship with All Saints Anglican Church in Charleville**. This relationship has been strengthened over many years, with the parish providing prayer, financial and physical support where and when needed. Every two years, parishioners visit to assist with various projects, the latest visit being in late 2018.

Outreach

Giving

The parish is **compassionate** in its support for those in spiritual and physical need both within the Church and in the wider community. This is reflected in our regular financial assistance in Bush Church Aid, Bush Ministry Fund, Archbishop Appeals, missionary giving and others.

Food Parcel Ministry

Packaged food parcels are available at the church for those in need. **Donations** of food items are provided by the congregation. The Church regularly gives away around six a week.

Men's Shed

The Mt Gravatt Men's Shed is the **largest Men's Shed in Queensland**. Over ten parishioners are members of the shed and are well represented on the management committee of this important men's support network.

St Bart's Youth Accomodation

In 2016, two facilities established by St Bart's, Nathanael House and Bart's Place, were taken over by Anglicare to allow for increasing support services and more personnel. Parishioners continue to have an interest in the facilities, and strong links are maintained within the church from a donation and voluntary assistance perspective. **Nathanael House** offers shelter style housing for homeless young people up to 18 years of age, catering for up to six individuals on a short-term basis (3 months maximum). The facility is a 24-hour staffed service self-supported through government funding. Clients for Nathanael House come from diverse and often difficult backgrounds, facing a range of issues and barriers. The staff and community work to empower these teenagers to make positive choices, take responsibility and make a brighter future for themselves. **Bart's Place** is a longer term accommodation facility. This venue is aimed at assisting young people in their transition from emergency housing environments to becoming independent in the wider community.

Hope Haven

The Hope Foundation have been tenants occupying the old church office on the church grounds since 2011, establishing the building as Hope Haven. **The Foundation aims to assist women suffering from addictions and/or the sex industry**. A number of parishioners volunteer or support the work of the Foundation directly. The congregation feel that it is wonderful to have such an outreach and support ministry on our doorstep.

Queensland Community Alliance

St Bart's recently became a member of the Queensland Community Alliance. This is a **collaborative lobbying group** comprising of community groups, churches, trade and professional unions. In Mt Gravatt, the Alliance has responded to the need for greater assistance in the area of social isolation, obtaining funding for a social worker. Many of the parishioners continue to be active individual participants in this group to assist in **improving social outcomes** in our community.

Card Days

Each Friday, older community members attend the church to participate in **card games and fellowship**, with the support of a few parish volunteers.

Christmas Day Lunch

In **collaboration with a local Uniting Church**, parishioners assist in providing a free community lunch on Christmas day.

Hall Activities

The hall is available for use for **various community groups**, the only caveat being that no non-Christian spiritual activities take place and no illicit activities be conducted.



Our Facilities

Buildings

Church: The church has been recently renovated in the last 10 years. The worship space features a large altar space, music area, sound desk, children's play area and approximately 150 comfortable seats. The offices have been tastefully integrated into the building itself, with private offices for four staff members, a larger meeting room, and a reception area for the parish secretary. St Bart's also has a vestry with direct access to the worship space, and a storage area currently used for storing music gear, flowers and church banners. A fully equipped kitchen, undercover alfresco area and outdoor children's play house fulfill the social demands of church morning teas and activities. The church also includes toilets and a parent's room, as does the hall.

Hall: Recently renewed, the church hall features a large open floor space and stage area, which are regularly used for both church and community activities. The hall has full disabled access, a well-equipped and modern industrial kitchen, multiple storage areas, and an annexed meeting room. A number of community groups hire the hall across the week, generating a good income stream for the church. The hall also has a solar system installed on the roof, providing significant savings for the church and reducing the environmental footprint of the facilities. At the time of writing, options to air condition the space are being investigated following a bequest.

Hope Haven: The original parish office was renovated several years ago and is currently rented to the Hope Foundation. The Hope Foundation are an independent Christian organisation ministering to women desiring a life change from addictions and/or the sex industry. The building contains several rooms, a toilet, and a communal space.

Grounds

The church is constrained in footprint; however, the church has a fully sealed carpark and multiple vehicular and pedestrian access points. A number of well maintained gardens are scattered around the church, hall and carpark. There are a number of large parks nearby, including the Mt Gravatt lookout area, which are regularly used by the youth groups for outdoor activities.



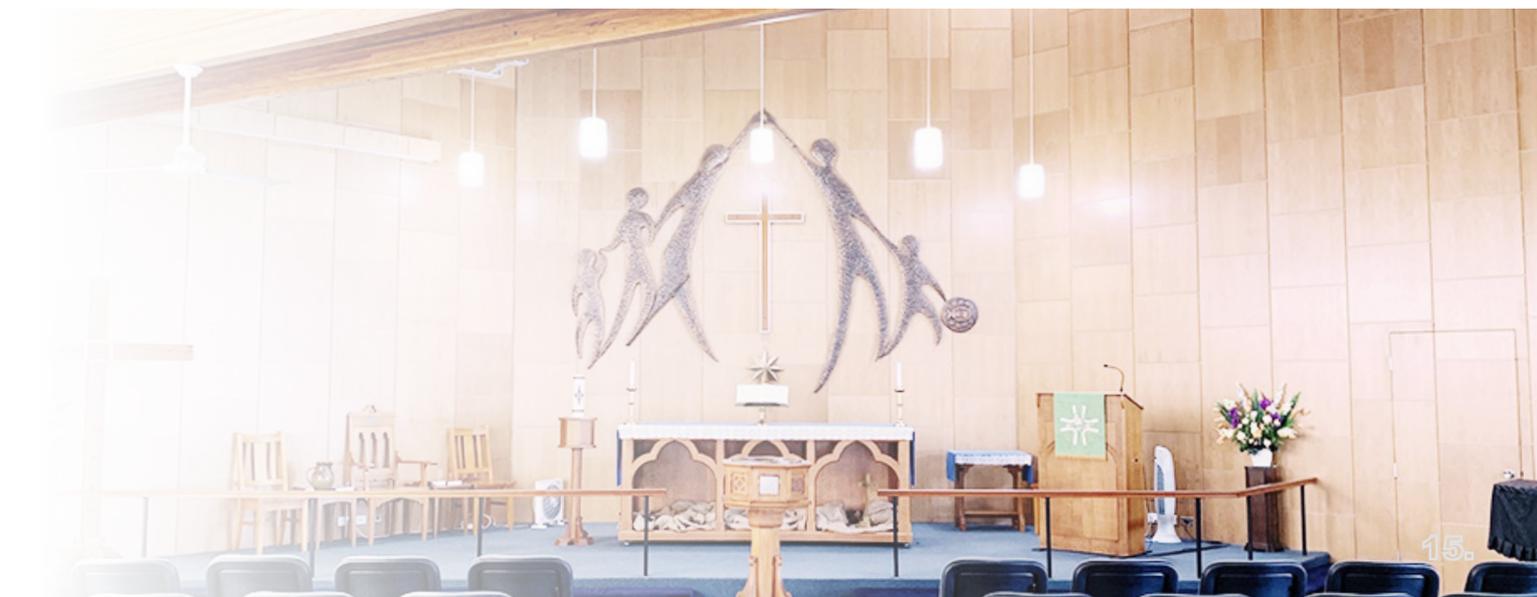
Rectory

St Bart's recently acquired a new rectory with the proceeds of the sale of the old rectory and a parishoner's bequest. The rectory is located in the desirable suburb of **Mansfield**, located approximately **five minutes drive from the Church**. The single storey rectory is in excellent condition, with four bedrooms, a living area, kitchen and outdoor area. Located within the Mansfield State Primary and High School catchment and within easy walking distance of parks and shops, the rectory has many an appeal. Some key points to note about the area:

- Located on the south-side of Brisbane, **just 20 minutes drive from the CBD**
- Leisure - Gyms, sporting groups, community music and arts groups are very active, and **ideally located for a quick getaway** to the Gold Coast beaches or hinterland (less than an hours drive)
- Shops - just a short drive from Mt Gravatt Plaza (supermarkets and boutiques), **Westfield Garden City and Carindale**, as well as several local cafes
- Education - many child care centres, **state and private primary and secondary schools** to choose from with excellent reputations, Griffith University is only 10 minutes away

Vehicles

The Church maintains two new model vehicles for clergy use.



Our Finances & Compliance

Finances

The Parish has a **stable financial position**. This is established and maintained by regular giving provided by a combination of direct debit and plate offerings, significant bequests and multiple assets. **A copy of the budget for 2019 is available upon request**. The budget assumes that the Parish will have a full-time Rector and full-time assistant curate throughout 2019. The parish does not fundraise through fetes, clothing stores or gambling funds, but has run small scale stalls specific to particular needs.

Compliance

St Barts **complies with the Diocesan requirements for Safe Ministry** and all who minister with children. Parish Council members and youth leaders are required to hold Blue Cards and participate in periodic safe ministry and child protection training. There are a number of qualified First Aid representatives, funded by St Bart's. St Bart's **passed the WHS Audit in 2018**.



The congregation of St Bart's are looking forward to our next Rector leading us in worship, encouraging and equipping us to serve others and be a witness to the saving grace of Jesus. In order to continue to grow and mature in our faith journey, we seek a leader who aligns with our desire to know Christ and to make Christ known in Mt Gravatt.

We are seeking a minister who is authentic, dynamic and intergenerational in their approach.



Contact Details

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Office Hours

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Social Media

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/StBartholomewsAnglicanChurchMountGravatt/

[@StBartholomewsAnglicanChurchMountGravatt](https://www.facebook.com/StBartholomewsAnglicanChurchMountGravatt)

Instagram:

[@stbartsmtgravatt](https://www.instagram.com/stbartsmtgravatt) and [@stbartsyouthlife](https://www.instagram.com/stbartsyouthlife)

Expressions of Interest

Expressions of interest for the role of Rector can be made to the Bishop of the Southern Region,
Bishop John Roundhill:

JRose@anglicanchurchsq.org.au



