
Anglican Parish of Coorparoo

St Stephen's Parish Profile

June 2021



Anglican
Church Southern Queensland

ST STEPHEN'S COORPAROO
ANGLICAN CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES:
7:30am | 9:30am | 6:30pm

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Who we are

We are a diverse, multi-generational Parish who come from Coorparoo and from surrounding south-eastern suburbs. A number of us have come from other denominations but we share a commitment to Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, a love for one another and a desire to share and demonstrate God's love and saving power to those around us. St. Stephen's, has been "a light on the hill", a source of inspiration, in sharing the Good News of God's love, locally and overseas.

Our church's vision and mission

Vision: A loving community of Jesus' disciples making Him known.

Mission: To make and mature disciples of Jesus, for God's glory.

OUR VISION IN ACTION

St Stephen's Coorparoo

WE FOLLOW JESUS

Jesus is at the centre of all that we do

We want all people to know God's love and know Jesus personally



WE GROW DISCIPLES

Through Biblical teaching
By praying regularly
Through regular fellowship

By developing leadership
By raising up our next generation



WE ARE A LOVING FAMILY

We show grace and love
We forgive one another
We care for one another in practical ways
We intentionally connect



WE'RE COMMUNITY-FOCUSED

We find ways to connect with and serve our community, locally and globally



Where have we come from?

St Stephen's Coorparoo is an Anglican Church in the Diocese of Brisbane. Our parish is in the established Brisbane suburb of Coorparoo, approximately ten minutes' drive south-east of Brisbane's Central Business District.

St Stephen's was founded in 1922, as a daughter church of St Philip's at Greenslopes. St Stephen's has always had a reputation for strong, biblically based preaching and teaching, for commitment to mission, for innovation in ministry, and pastoral care.

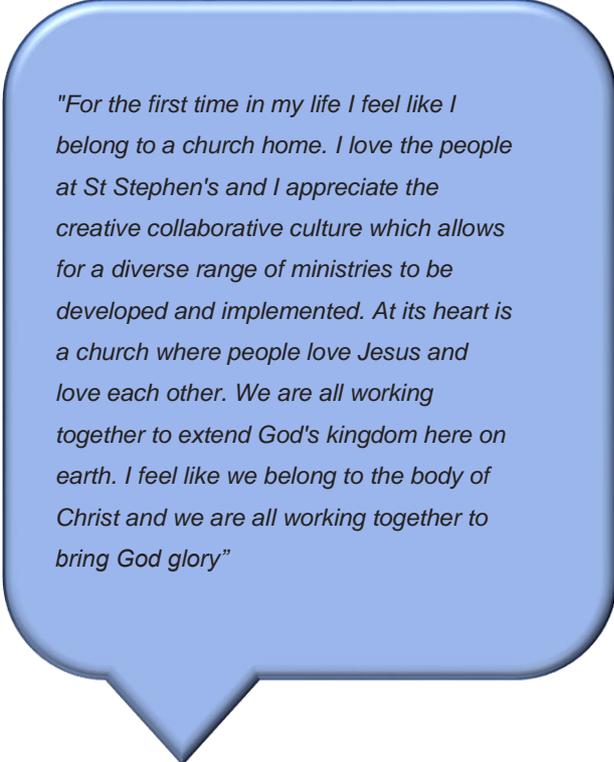


As we move towards our hundredth year of ministry, we seek to continue to uphold our traditions of teaching and outreach, helping people in our parish and beyond to know the love of God the Father, through the saving work of Jesus, in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. You can find out more about St Stephen's on our [church website](#), and more about Coorparoo through its [most recent ABS Census data](#).

Our hope for our future

St Stephen's lay leadership is strongly committed to the support of our clergy and staff, and to the future of our church. We are a church in transition, after a number of somewhat difficult years, and we are looking for strong leadership, pastoral care, prayer and vision to match with our energy. We believe the next five years at St Stephen's will be particularly important in the nurture and growth of our current congregations.

We hope to build on our outreach to young families, children, and youth, as well as expand our pastoral care and outreach to all members of our community including those in nearby retirement living and residential care.



"For the first time in my life I feel like I belong to a church home. I love the people at St Stephen's and I appreciate the creative collaborative culture which allows for a diverse range of ministries to be developed and implemented. At its heart is a church where people love Jesus and love each other. We are all working together to extend God's kingdom here on earth. I feel like we belong to the body of Christ and we are all working together to bring God glory"

Staff and Lay Ministry

Aside from the appointment of a full-time Rector, which we currently seeking, our present staffing consists of:

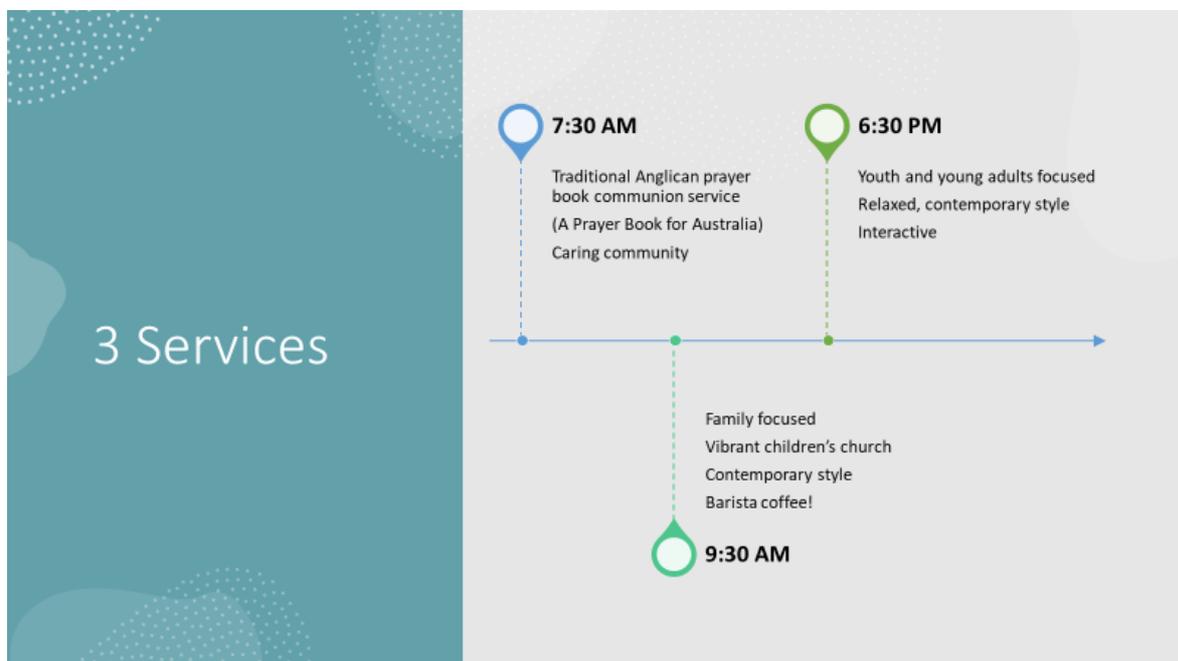
- a full-time Children's Pastor;
- a locum currently supporting us until the appointment of a new full-time Rector; and
- Two part time Office Administrators.
- A full-time Youth and Young adults minister.

St Stephen's has a history of appointing both men and women to lay and ordained positions.

Our philosophy is that all members of our church should be involved in ministry, depending on their gifts. We are very blessed by the willingness of our parishioners to serve God and our parish has volunteers in many different capacities.

Our Congregations

We currently have three active congregations across three Sunday services each with its own individual character.

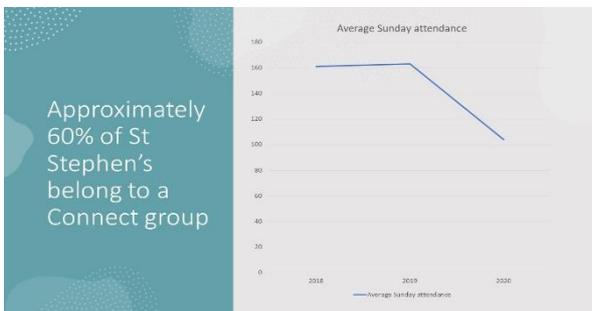


Other Services

In addition to our three weekly services, St Stephen's Coorparoo provides a **monthly Holy Communion service** at The Village which is a local retirement community. The Mother's Union Group has a monthly meeting which starts with a short communion service.

Our Ministries

Our aim is to offer a church ministry experience that combines traditional Anglicanism with evangelical ministry where we seek to love God, embrace those made in his image with word and loving service, and grow disciples.



Other outreach, events and ministries

The annual **Gingerbread House Making Evening** is a highlight of our social calendar in the lead-up to Christmas, where we encourage families to come and decorate gingerbread houses together as a social event. This is an effective outreach opportunity and much anticipated in the local area.

We have a **Prayer Group** which meets one evening a week in the Church to pray for the needs of the parish and beyond.

We also have a highly effective network that provides meals in times of need.

We have historically held **English Conversation Classes**, run by a member of our congregation with extensive and expert experience in teaching English as a Second Language. A testament to the success of these classes is that all previous students are now employed and no longer available to attend! As a result we are not holding these classes, but could revive them in future as required.

We have also held Alpha courses both in the evenings and on weekends.

A church for all generations

Children and Families	Youth and Young Adults	Older Adults
Little Lambs Playgroup Kid's Church Sunday 9.30am Religious Instruction in School	Rebel Youth Group Friday nights Young adults Bible Study Monday and Thursday nights 6.30pm Sunday service for the young (and young at heart)	Traditional Prayer book service 7.30am Sunday Mother's Union meetings

Connect groups Outreach events

Missions

St Stephen's has always maintained a strong interest in missions and over the years many of our members have gone out into the world to serve God as missionaries in different countries and cultures around the world. Many people from St Stephen's have also done short-term mission work.

We are presently linked to missionaries in Nepal, Central Asia and Eurasia through the organisations of Interserve and Church Missionary Society (CMS). We partner also with members who work as Chaplains in schools and hospitals. We encourage all our members to support these missionaries both financially and with prayer. A Mission Connect group meets the first Saturday of each month in a parishioners' home.

Our Church Facilities

The present St Stephen's church building was opened in 1957. The site is on the high-visibility corner of Chatsworth and Cavendish Roads, and houses the **church**



building itself, a recently-refurbished multipurpose **parish hall**, and the old wooden church (now known as the **Stephen Centre**). The air-conditioned church auditorium seats

approximately 350 people, although it is currently laid out for smaller numbers in a covid-safe seating plan. There is an audio loop available in the front left 8 rows. The church building is wheelchair-accessible and supplemented by an audio-linked children's room to assist families with active babies and toddlers.

We have a pipe organ, situated in the upper choir loft, which is used in services by our 7.30am congregation. In addition, used by our other congregations, we have a Roland FP-80 keyboard, assorted percussion, microphones, foldback speakers, an AV desk, and the hardware infrastructure to support recording and live-streaming services.



The parish hall

The parish hall was completely refurbished in 2019, making it a fully accessible (including toilets) and accredited space. It has a full WHS-compliant kitchen with plumbed espresso machine, and extensive open indoor and outdoor weatherproof spaces for church gatherings and community hire. As part of the refurbishment, we installed a solar PV system on the roof to reduce our electricity bills and our environmental impact. The renovations were completed in part with a loan, which stands at \$234 605 as of 22 March 2021.





The lower level of the parish hall is the hub of our early childhood ministries including Sunday Kids' Church program and the weekday Little Lambs play group. This area is due for maintenance work.

The Stephen Centre



The original wooden church building is still in existence and is now known as the **Stephen Centre**. It was relocated to the back of our property after the present church was built in the 1950s and is Heritage listed. The building has a large open area with a mezzanine floor and two withdrawal rooms.

The Stephen Centre is not currently in use. Previously, it has been used for the children's and youth/young adults ministries. However, it currently needs re-stumping and repainting and is unsafe for use until that work is completed.

Future planning for church buildings

A Building Life Cycle Condition Assessment Report has been developed to assist our property master plan process in aligning our parish facilities with our current and financial ministry needs.

Residential Properties

St Stephen's has a 25-year-old, double story, 4-bedroom residence with a home office, and two living rooms, one suitable for meetings. The home is in the local area, close to the church and was refurbished in 2010. It is currently used by our children's pastor.



Wishart Rise Villa

St Stephen's also owns a townhouse property at Wishart, approximately 20 minutes' drive from Coorparoo. It is currently leased to tenants and provides income to the church.

Are you our next Rector?

We recognise that all people have a variety of God-given gifts and abilities.

A great love for God and people is essential.

In addition, the following skills, abilities and experiences will be useful:

- good communication skills
- an ability to teach and preach well and creatively, showing how the Bible relates to everyday life
- experience in leading different styles of worship, and an ability to relate to people of all age groups and backgrounds
- an ability to develop lay ministry, identifying and equipping lay leaders
- an ability to lead collaboratively and to work effectively with a leadership team of staff and lay leaders.
- an ability to think and plan strategically, to set a clear vision and pathway for parish renewal and growth
- experience with Diocesan administration systems, or a willingness to learn them
- a passion to reach out to the local community and build strong, meaningful relationships
- A sense of humour

For further information and enquiries, email Bishop John Roundhill:

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