

^TS. JAMES'

Bicentenary 2019-2024



As Sydney's oldest church, St James' is a place of soul-stirring worship, challenging preaching and fine music. We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of age, race, sexual orientation or religion.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2020 PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 21 MARCH 2021

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RECTOR'S REPORT TO THE 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Reflection

As part of our Parish Strategic Planning process, we have been challenged to think about the nature of St James' Church and its relationship both to the wider community and Anglican Church. The phrase 'Classically Anglican' has emerged as a self-description, but what does this mean?

Worldwide Anglicanism is a 'broad Church' but defining it can be challenging because of the large and varied aspects to its life, some of which are in conflict with each other. Nevertheless, the phrases 'via media', 'catholic and reformed', and a church that is 'scriptural, traditional and reasonable' seem appropriate to our circumstances.

The origins of the Anglican Church date back to the arrival of Christianity in the British Isles sometime in the 2nd Century AD out of which grew a Celtic church before it was pushed to the margins by the invasion of pagan Angles and Saxons from Europe. The next significant moment came in 596AD when Pope Gregory sent the monk Augustine to evangelise Britain and re-establish the church. This branch of the Latin church grew and became strong until the time of reformation under the Tudors and the creation of an independent Church of England. The church subsequently faced attacks from Oliver Cromwell and the Puritans but survived to be renewed under the later Stuarts and Hanoverians.

Anglicans have tended to teach and maintain their understanding of the Christian faith through liturgy and pastoral work rather than by dogmatics and confessions of faith, although certain documents have given shape to the church and its culture. These include the Book of Common Prayer, the Ordinal, the 39 Articles, the Constitutions and Canons of 1604, and the King James Bible.

In the 18th and 19th centuries the Anglican Church became a global phenomenon because of British colonialism. This led to local adaptations of both the Church of England and the Scottish Episcopal Church in the new colonial countries. To provide unity in this diversity, it became necessary to provide a guide to 'Anglican identity', and to this end the 1888 Lambeth Conference adopted the following four-point statement, known as the **Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral** as a basis of unity:

1. The Holy Scriptures, contain all things necessary to salvation;
2. The Creeds (specifically, the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds), which are sufficient statements of the Christian faith;
3. The practice of the dominical sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion; and
4. The historic episcopate locally adapted.

The 1962 Constitution of the Anglican Church in Australia reflected these points in its fundamental declarations on the nature of the church.

More recently, the Church has shifted its strategies from a pastoral to a missional emphasis that is inclusive, hospitable, and transformational. This has required a new statement of the Church's

priorities, leading to the Anglican Consultative Council developing a statement known as the **Five Marks of Mission**. It encourages Anglicans to live out the work of Christ in the world by:

1. Proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom,
2. Teaching, Baptising, and nurturing new believers,
3. Responding to human need by loving service,
4. Transforming the unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and to pursue peace and reconciliation, and
5. Striving to safeguard the integrity of creation, by sustaining and renewing the life of the earth.

The proposed Strategic Plan commits our Parish to be an expression of both these historic and contemporary understandings of classical Anglicanism through our governance, beliefs, advocacy, and activities.

In this time of our church's Bicentenary celebrations, it is exciting to be looking to the future and our role in the life of the City of Sydney as a place of authentic Anglicanism, borne out in our preaching, teaching, worship, fellowship, and community service.

COVID-19 and Parish Life.

2020 has proven to be one of the most unusual in my thirty-three years of ordained ministry. For me, the year began with three months of long service leave with much of Australia in the grip of one of the worst droughts in recent memory followed by some of the most ferocious bushfires. Many lives and livelihoods were lost, and the effects of these experiences continue in many communities today. The nation was in crisis because of a natural disaster that arose from high temperatures and profound lack of rain. When rain came the situation reversed dramatically and we had a wet and mild winter followed by a lush spring and summer.

Of course, 2020 was not only about extreme weather. Much of the world has experienced one of the worst pandemics since the Spanish Flu in 1918. We are still dealing with the consequences of this virus, but we are thankful that Australia has managed to minimise its impact in comparison with other countries. Nevertheless, it has had a sizeable impact upon church life and will be ongoing.

It was strange to come back from leave in April last year to both an empty church and office in lockdown, but thanks to the St James's staff under the leadership of Fr John Stewart parish life was adjusted to comply with the new restrictions. Importantly, services continued with the involvement of the choir and servers right through the lockdown and into the current series of restrictions. Thanks to the adjustment of service times and liturgical practices, as well as the adoption of live-streaming technology, we have been able to continue regular worship; something that has not been achieved in a notable number of other parishes in the Diocese.

Livestreaming began with an initiative by Brooke Shelley and Christopher Waterhouse and grew to fruition through the efforts of Simon Turnill, Tony Papadopoulos, and James Farrow. I thank all those who have helped address the challenge.

Over the past year, the Archbishop, Regional Bishop, and other Diocesan officers have provided top-level advice on how to respond to the pandemic, including on the use of church buildings, the conduct of services, the management of staff, and the availability of government financial support. This has continued as we came out of lockdown mid-year and on to the present times. It has been greatly appreciated.

Because of the pandemic, many parish activities had to be postponed, including:

- Development of the new Strategic Plan;
- Several Church Bicentenary celebrations;
- The Camino pilgrimage; and,
- Fundraising for the new Dobson Pipe Organ.

Likewise, our Annual Meeting last year, held on 28 June 2020, was an unusual one held with a small group of people in the hall and others on the Zoom Conference platform.

On the diocesan side, the election of a new Archbishop was postponed until May this year, with Archbishop Davies being given an extension to remain in office until then. Likewise, the 2020 Diocesan Synod was also postponed until this year.

Despite these challenges, the staff and people of St James' Church have remained in good heart, demonstrating a resilience and adaptability to the unusual circumstances, and responding through the use of technology and ongoing pastoral engagement with each other. In this respect, I especially acknowledge the contribution of the parish staff and musicians who have worked hard to adapt to the continually changing regulations and special needs that have arisen over this past year.

*We give thanks for the good news of salvation for all people.
Strengthen us for our work in the world,
empower your Church to proclaim the gospel in service, word and sacrament.
Unite in the truth all who confess your name,
that we may live together in love to your glory. Amen.*

Strategic Plan

This year the Parish Council will release a new Strategic Plan to cover the years 2021 – 2025. This will be distributed in a separate document for endorsement at the Annual Meeting. It continues the broad framework of the previous plan, but with some refinements and well as new responses to the key focus areas.

I acknowledge the hard work of the working group that has developed it, and especially Nick Ingram from Clear Thinking who has developed the plan. An overview of the draft plan is attached to this report.

Governance

Parish Council. The role of Parish Council is to set policy, allocate resources for ministry, and create a structure by which the Parish's ministry can be facilitated. The Council is made up of the Rector, three church wardens, and eight elected or appointed members. The following staff

members also attend Parish Council but are not members of it: The Associate Rector, the Director of the St James' Institute, the Head of Music, and the Parish Secretary.

Parish Executive. The Parish Executive consists of the Rector, Churchwardens and Parish Treasurer. Its responsibility is to oversee the use of property, finances, and parish staff. The Facilities Manager and Parish Secretary also attend meetings of the Executive.

I thank the Churchwardens and members of Parish Council for their hard work and dedication to the welfare of the Parish. In 2020, the Parish Council was made up as follows:

Rector's Warden & Treasurer:	Chris Lock
People's Wardens:	Holly Raiche and Sid Blairs
Education Coordinator:	Roger Pitcher
Mission & Outreach Coordinator:	Holly Raiche
Pastoral Care Coordinator:	Christine Cheetham
Worship Coordinator:	Steven Samild
Other members of Parish Council:	Liz Barton, Christopher Day, Nixon Gill, Alan Melrose & Carol Webster.

St James' Hall Board of Management. In addition to the Council and Executive, the Parish has a Board of Management to advise on the oversight of the St James' Hall. Members of the Board are appointed by Parish Council and are Stuart Westgarth (Chair), Chris Breach, Tim Edwards, Robert Koch, and Ian Williams. Non-voting attendees are the Rector, Churchwardens, the Parish Treasurer, a representative from the ACPT and James Balfour (who is Secretary of the Board). The Parish is very appreciative of the service given by members of the Board of Management.

St James' Trustees. As a feature of its unique history, St James' Church has its own trustees for the oversight of the building. Much of what the Trustees might do have been devolved to the Wardens, but they remain in place as a backstop to the good management of the church building. The current trustees are Geoffrey Bray, Timothy Edwards, Robert Marriott, John Wotton, and Fiona Balfour.

Staff and Organisational Structure. The parish programme seeks to address several ministries, which are overseen by both staff and Parish Council coordinators. They are principally:

1. Worship (The Rector and Worship Coordinator)
2. Pastoral Care (The Associate Rector and Pastoral Care Coordinator)
3. Education (The Director of the St James' Institute and Education Coordinator)
4. Music (The Head of Music and Organist)
5. Mission and Outreach (the Rector and Outreach Coordinator)

These activities are supported by the Parish Administration and Facilities Management. A chart outlining the governance and operational structure of the Parish is at Annex A and a 2020 Parish Directory is at Annex A.

Parish Life

Bicentenary Celebrations. Much of what we had planned to do as part of our Bicentenary celebrations were curtailed in 2020 because of the pandemic. The following activities, however, were achieved or continue to be addressed as part of the programme.

- 1. The *Mass for St James*' by Gabriel Jackson.** The *Mass for St James*', written by Gabriel Jackson for our Bicentenary, was first sung at our Patronal Festival on 26 July 2020. While it had been hoped to have it sung with an orchestra, COVID-19 restrictions prevented this from happening and it was accompanied by the organ. We thank Professor Doug Jones AO, Professor Janet Walker, and Mr Philip Miller, who sponsored the composition the St James' Music Foundation.
- 2. St James' Church History Project.** Professor Mark Hutchinson continues to work on the production of a book on the history of St James Church.
- 3. Dobson Pipe Organ Project.** Work toward the building of the new pipe organ by Dobson Organ Builders continues and has had only a small disruption because of COVID-19. At this stage, it is anticipated that the current organ will be removed in November this year and the new organ installed from late April 2023, for dedication at the 2023 Patronal Festival.

Two committees are working on this project, one to supervise the design and construction work chaired by Chris Lock, and the other to conduct fundraising chaired by Robert Marriott. Unfortunately, many of the fundraising activities could not be conducted in 2020 but there are plans for activities to be held this year, including another parish dinner held in a local venue.

Around \$1.7M has been raised so far, with the goal to raise at least another \$500K in 2021. I thank Robert Marriott and our consultant Peter Jewkes, and the members of these two committees who have worked so hard to ensure that the project is on track.

- 4. The Academy of St James.** A proposal for the establishment of a school of music remains on the agenda for the Parish. The timing of this proposal will be contingent on funding both for the school itself and completion of the Dobson Pipe Organ.

Easter in Lockdown. The conduct of Holy Week and Easter services, while in lockdown, proved to be quite a challenge. Nevertheless, through a series of livestreamed and pre-recorded services we were able to provide a full range of services over this time. I especially thank Mother Catherine Eaton for her fine series of sermons as well as her adaptability to the circumstances.

There were around 5,290 views of our Good Friday and Easter services, which proved the value of the livestreaming facility. This included people from across Australia and around the world.

Patronal Festival. Last year's Patronal Festival was held amid the COVID-19 pandemic, which restricted the number of people who could attend activities as well as the nature of those

activities. This meant that the usual Solemn Eucharist and Parish Dinner, that would have been held on St James' Day (25 July) was cancelled and all celebrations transferred to Sunday 26 July. These included a Festal Eucharist, a lecture, and a Festal Evensong.

The Guests of Honour at the Festal Eucharist were Her Excellency, The Honourable Margaret Beazley, AC, QC, Governor of New South Wales and Patron of the Benefactors of St James, and her husband Mr Dennis Wilson. Bishop Richard Hurford OAM presided and Fr Peter Kurti preached. The service also included the premiere of a motet composed by Brooke Shelley.

The St James' Talk was presented by Professor Mark Hutchison on the topic of 'The Early History of St James' King Street'. This was followed by a Festal Evensong with the Benefactors of St James' and at which Bishop Hurford preached.

Ministry Matters

Licensed Lay Assistant – Alan Melrose. Alan Melrose was licensed by the Archbishop as a Parish Lay Assistant (AKA Lay Reader). He was formerly a Lay Reader at St Paul's Church, Burwood. He is a Parish Councillor, member of the St James' Singers, and is an intercessor and reader.

Recognition of Long and Exemplary Service. From time to time the Parish Council recognises those who have served our church in a special way. During the past year, four people recognised with Parish Commendations in this regard.

1. **Michael Horsburgh**, who has long been a Licensed Lay Reader / Minister of this church, along with service as Warden, Parish Councillor, Synod Representative and Parish Nominator;
2. **Christine Cheetham**, who at various times has been a Parish Councillor, Lay Assistant, Pastoral Care Coordinator, Head Server, and Licensed Lay Minister; and,
3. **Robyn and David Carver**, who have provided exemplary service as Coordinators of the Sister Freda Mission.

Certificate of Appreciation. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Julie Edwards for her coordination of the Bicentenary Dinner in November 2019.

Worship

2020 has provided many challenges for the provision of parish worship. These range from the restrictions associated with total lockdown in March to a rolling series changing restrictions during the second half of the year.

The Parish eventually settled on a pattern of services that met the attendance demands as well as requirements for registrations, limitations on participation and attendances, social distancing, the use of hand sanitiser, wearing of face masks, and the requirement for cleaning between activities in the building.

The following pattern developed over the course of the year and will probably remain, with minor adjustments, until the COVID-19 restrictions are removed.

- **Sunday 8am - Holy Eucharist:** is a said service conducted with the congregation entering by the North Porch and seated forward of the cross aisle.
- **Sunday 10am - Choral Eucharist:** is a sung service with the Choir of St James' and livestreamed. The congregation enter by the tower entrance and are seated to the rear of the cross aisle.
- **Wednesday 6:15pm - Choral Evensong:** is a sung service with the Choir of St James' and livestreamed.
- **Weekday 12:30pm - Lunchtime Eucharists:** are held in the Chapel and restricted to 10 people.
- **Weekday 8:30am - Morning Prayer:** is conducted using Zoom Conferencing.
- **Resting Space:** meets every second Tuesday at 7:45pm using Zoom Conferencing.
- **Kids @ Church:** meets each Sunday using Zoom Conferencing.

In all of this we have tried to retain as normal a pattern of worship as restrictions have allowed, while also using new technology to facilitate activities.

Livestreaming and Zoom. One of the major changes in 2020 was the introduction of livestreaming of several of our services. Indeed, the lockdown made it a necessity and we have suddenly become an online church. Views of our services range between 600 to 1,000 people and include regular viewers from across Sydney, regional NSW and Australia, as well as from across the world. I especially thank those who contributed to the fundraising appeal to pay for the equipment.

Another significant change has been the move to holding Morning Prayer each weekday using the Zoom Conferencing facility. It has led to a much higher participation with around 30 to 40 people being present each day. Likewise, Kids @ Church, Resting Space and Meditation Groups have also been operating online with success.

Pastoral Care

During the time of lockdown, pastoral care continued principally through social media, telephone, text, and email. Parishioners have demonstrated a good level of concern for each other and an ability to engage in this way. Now, with the easing of restrictions, more people are engaging with parish activities and we look forward to the time when we can recommence several social activities including morning teas and dinners.

Later in the year, and following objectives in the Strategic Plan, we will conduct a review of the pastoral care programme with a view to making changes that will provide for greater effectiveness.

The St James' Institute

The activities of the St James' Institute continued through 2020 principally through Zoom Conferencing. Books and resources relating to the Institute programme were also made available

by way of the online shop. During the year we farewelled Christopher Waterhouse from the position of Director and welcomed Dr Aaron Ghiloni.

Governance. During 2020 the Parish Council made changes to the governance of the Institute. This was the result of a report from the Board of the Institute recommending a new Terms of Reference document. The main changes adopted were:

1. A new appointment process for members of the Board;
2. Some transitional arrangements for Board membership; and,
3. The removal of Kids @ Church from the Board's oversight.

As a result of the governance changes the current Board members are:

- Parish Council appointees: Dr Keith Carpenter (Chair), Belinda Howell and Kumar Rasiah
- Parish Council Representative: Roger Pitcher
- Institute Director (ex officio): Dr Aaron Ghiloni

The Board is an important part of the life of the Institute and will be vital in providing management oversight for future developments.

Mission and Outreach

Financial Support to Parishes. In September Parish Council agreed to fund five grants of \$5,000 to parishes in the Diocese suffering financial stress from the effects of COVID-19. The funds for these grants were in lieu of payments of the Diocesan Property Acquisition Levy, which has been suspended for 2020. The parishes of Bankstown, Berkley and Mount Druitt were pleased to receive grants.

Sister Freda Mission. The Sister Freda Mission halted operations during the lockdown but has since resumed its ministry holding lunches in Queen Square, rather than in the crypt. The safety of both guests and team members alike was a priority in making this decision at the time, along with guidelines from the Diocese.

Administration

St James Hall Ordinance. A major strategic matter for the Parish is the adoption by the Synod Standing Committee of a new ordinance for distributions from the St James' Hall. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the previous ordinance was extended until the end of June 2021. A new ordinance will be presented to the Standing Committee in May.

Bequest – Est. Late Jean Olsen. During 2020 a bequest was received from the Estate of the Late Jean Olsen. The proceeds of the bequest are to be applied to Institute to assist with expenses incurred in holding retreats.

Staff

On behalf of the Parish, I thank our clergy and staff for their dedication to the Parish, especially in the challenging times we have had over the past year.

Pritchett Staff Review. In 2020, Mr Ken Pritchett completed his review of Parish staffing including the production of position descriptions, reporting and delegations.

Jonathan Elcock. Jonathan commenced work in July 2020 as part-time Office Administrator (in conjunction with Dianne Ward).

Farewell to Christopher Waterhouse and Marianne Close. The Parish farewelled Christopher Waterhouse and Marianne Close in October. Christopher has taken up a position as Chaplain to the City at St David's Cathedral, Hobart. Recently, around 14 parishioners enjoyed being present in Hobart for Christopher's ordination as Deacon.

Welcome to Dr Aaron Ghiloni. Aaron was commissioned as Director of the St James' Institute in November 2020 and we welcome him to the team. Application has been made to the Diocese for his appointment as a Licensed Lay Minister.

Honorary Parish Archivist. Dr Gordon Cooper has decided to step down as Parish Archivist but is also happy to keep assisting with the archives. I thank Gordon work all his work over the years in what can sometimes be a challenging position. Mr Alan Ventress has agreed accept the position. Alan has formerly held the positions of Director of State Records and as Mitchell Librarian.

Personal

Appointments. I advise that I stepped down as Deputy Chairman of the St Paul's College Council at the University of Sydney but remain a Fellow of the College. I also continue as Honorary Chaplain to the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association (NSW) and was appointed by the Standing Committee of the General Synod as Chair of the Anglican Board of Mission in November 2020.

The Reverend Andrew Sempell

Rector of St James

12 Mar 21

Annexures:

- A. St James' Organisational Chart (Sep 18)
- B. Parish Directory 2020

Attachment:

- 1.2 Draft Strategic Plan (Overview)

Parish Directory 2020**Clergy -**

Rector:	The Reverend Andrew Sempell
Associate Rector:	The Reverend John Stewart
Honorary Associate Priests:	The Reverends Dr John Deane, Ron Henderson & Glenn Maytum

Worship Assistants/Coordinators -

Parish Readers:	Christine Cheetham, Associate Professor Michael Horsburgh AM, & Christopher Waterhouse (until Oct 20)
Head Server & Pastoral Coord:	Christine Cheetham
Sacristans:	Jackie Dettmann, Peter Douglas, Ross Douglas, Leigh Hess & Ian McDonald
Lay Assistants Coord:	Vivien Whitfield
Readers/Intercessors Coord:	Martha McRae
Head Sidesperson:	Peter Blunden
Flower Coord:	Pippa Naivasha
Bell Tower Captain:	Jackie Dettmann

Director, St James Institute:

Christopher Waterhouse (until Oct 20)
Dr Aaron Ghiloni (from Nov 20)

Music Staff -

Head of Music:	Warren Trevelyan-Jones
Organist:	Alistair Nelson
Organ Scholar:	Callum Knox

Vergers -

Gilbert Santayana & James Farrow

Other Ministries –

Kids @ Church Coord:	John Wiltshire
Safe Ministry Rep:	Christine Bishop
Meditation Coord:	Richard Cogswell
Sister Freda Mission Coords:	David and Robyn Carver
Parish Library Coord:	Julie Shepherd / Anna Green
Hospitality Coords:	Sue Mackenzie & Colleen Hodge

Administrative Staff -

Facilities Manager:	Tony Papadopoulos
Secretary/Office Administrator:	Dianne Ward
Communications & Media Officer:	Brooke Shelley
Accountant:	Michelle Chan
Hon Archivist:	Gordon Cooper
Archives Assistant:	Colin Middleton

DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN (OVERVIEW)



Saint James King Street

2021 - 2025 Strategy - DRAFT

Version 0.5

Following feedback from 15th October and 22nd October committee sessions, feedback from staff, and feedback from Feb 2021 focus groups. This version incorporates feedback from Parish Council at meeting on 22nd Feb 2021.



INTRODUCTION

St James is a classically Anglican church within the Anglican Diocese of Sydney. We value our vital links with the broader Anglican Communion around the world, enabled by our communion with the See of Canterbury.

Completed in 1822, as part of the major construction programme initiated by Governor Lachlan Macquarie, St James' Church is now the oldest existing church building in the City of Sydney. It has been the venue for many historic events including the enthronement of the first, and only, Bishop of Australia, William Grant Broughton (for whom the church became his first cathedral).

Through history, St James has been a place of ministry to a diversity of people ranging from the Governor, military personnel and convicts at its beginnings to the great array of people who work and live in the city today and those who come from the wider metropolitan area for Sunday worship.

The building itself exercises its own ministry as a place of peace and refuge. It is open each day for prayer and reflection and it is a venue for regular cultural events, especially through the church's music programme. The church is also a place of education, hospitality and gathering for people from across Sydney and further afield.

Today, the Parish has a vital ministry to those who live and work in its environs, especially to the law courts, Parliament and government departments, Sydney Hospital, and the many corporate offices and shops. Its ministry has extended to people in greater Sydney, and more recently to a range of online communities.

The St James Parish seeks to reach out to the people of Sydney through its mission to the City; including its worship, welfare support to the homeless and needy, pastoral care, spirituality and educational programmes. It is an open and inclusive Christian community of faith that exists to live out and share the good news of Christ through its daily life.



Classical Anglicanism

St James’ Church describes itself as ‘Classically Anglican’, but what is this? A description of Anglican culture could well defy definition because of its breadth politically, economically, socially and theologically. Nevertheless, there are several tropes used by Anglicans to describe themselves that may be helpful, such as: ‘the via media’, ‘Reformed and Catholic’, and a church that is ‘Scriptural, traditional and reasonable’.

The origins of the Anglican Church date back to the arrival of Christianity in the British Isles in around the 2nd Century. From this grew a Celtic church that spread out and evangelised the populace, but it was later pushed to the geographical margins by the invasion of Angles and Saxons from Europe. In 596AD Pope Gregory sent the monk Augustine to evangelise the Anglo-Saxons and re-establish the church. This church continued in its work until the Reformation under the Tudors and the formation of an independent Church of England.

The Church of England is not especially dogmatic in its approach, preferring to employ liturgical and pastoral expressions of theology rather than through fixed doctrinal or credal statements. Historic practices therefore give an insight to its character, the Book of Common Prayer, the Ordinal, the 39 Articles, the Constitutions and Canons Ecclesiastical of 1604, and the King James Bible are all things that have helped give definition to Anglican culture and provided a basis for its later development.

With the rise of British Colonialism in the 18th century, the Anglican Church spread around the globe, which added to its complexity. To adapt, systems of governance were changed, new prayer books were published, and ecumenical relations grew with other churches to facilitate the wider church’s mission. In the face of this growing diversity, it became desirable for the church to provide guidelines of Anglican identity. The 1888 Lambeth Conference adopted the following four-point statement, known as the Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral, on Anglican belief and practice:

1. The Holy Scriptures, as containing all things necessary to salvation;
2. The creeds (specifically, the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds), as being sufficient statements of the Christian faith;
3. The dominical sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion; and
4. The historic episcopate, locally adapted.

In 1962, a new Constitution was adopted by the Anglican Church in Australia. It made a series of fundamental declarations as to the nature of the church; including it being part of the 'One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church'; recognition of the authorities of the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds, and the Old and New Testaments; and commitment to obeying Christ, administration of the sacraments of Baptism and Communion, and maintenance of the three orders of bishop, priest, and deacon.

By the late twentieth century the concept of church had shifted from a pastoral emphasis to a missional one that is inclusive, hospitable and transformative. A growing importance was therefore placed on the activities of the church rather than its ideas. During this time, the Anglican Consultative Council worked on a shared missional statement for the world-wide church that emerged as the Five Marks of Mission. This statement encourages Anglicans to live out the work of Christ in the world by:

1. Proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom,
 2. Teaching, baptising and nurturing new believers,
 3. Responding to human need by loving service,
 4. Transforming unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation, and
 5. Striving to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.
- St James' Church commits itself to be an expression of these historic and contemporary understandings of classical Anglicanism through its governance, beliefs, and activities.



VISION

This Vision explains what we hope to achieve for Sydney and the world (to bring God’s presence, activity and a blessing to those around us).

St James’ Church brings God’s presence, activity and blessing to the people of Sydney and beyond

We have been bringing God’s blessing to Sydney for the last 200 years. We are committed to maintaining this outward focus as we enter our third century, as we continue to stand in two millennia of Christian tradition.



MISSION

Our Mission sets out how we will go about achieving our Vision...

Our mission is to transform lives with the love of God

We transform lives with the love of God founded on three fundamental ministries/truths:

- *The **incarnation**: we live in a reality where God became flesh. As such, we expect to see God at work in our own lives; and we aim to be “Christ’s body” in the world.*
- *The **word**: we live in a reality where God has spoken and speaks. As such, we expect to hear God’s voice in the Scriptures and in the tradition of the church – interpreted by our God-given reason.*
- *The **sacraments**: we live in a reality where God nourishes us. As such, we participate in the sacraments to be strengthened and changed for our work in the world.*



ASPIRATION FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

Our Aspiration for the next five years sets out the over-arching direction of our strategy. While the Vision and Mission declare our purpose and identity in a timeless way, the Aspiration should start to set a concrete direction...

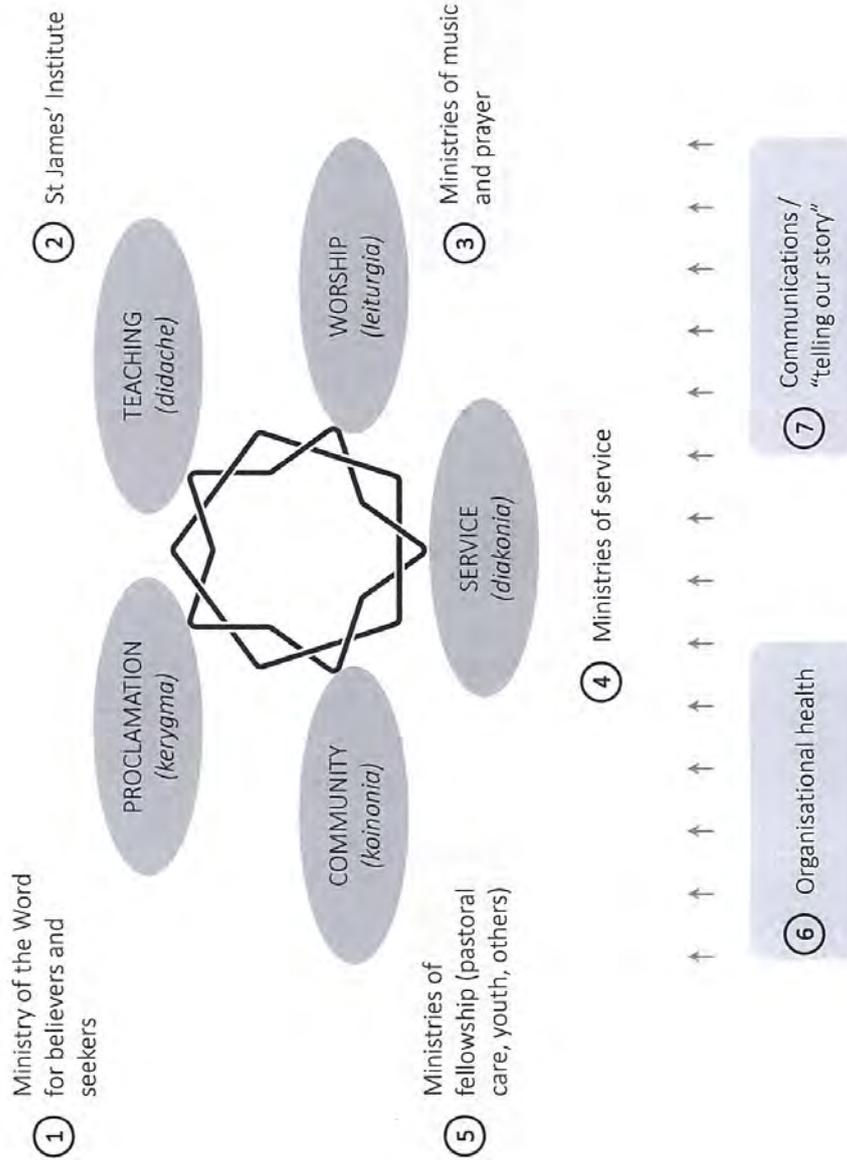
Over the next five years, we will be recognised as a classically Anglican Church that is inclusive, diverse, reasonable, and hospitable through its ministries to the people of Sydney and beyond. Expressed by our alignment to the mainstream Anglican voice expressed through the Instruments of Anglican Communion (the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lambeth Conference, the Primates Meeting and the Anglican Consultative Council):

- Exercising liturgies that address a contemporary engagement with God through traditional forms,
- Living a spirituality that embraces both the catholic and reformed traditions of the church,
- Providing pastoral care and advocacy to those who live or work in the city and especially the needy,
- Having an informed and reasonable understanding of theology and the Bible,
- Engaging with the arts and heritage sectors of the community as a way of being ‘church in society’ and to broaden our spiritual narrative,
- Engaging with the diversity of Sydney
- Growing strong on-line communities
- Growing through hospitality with engaged volunteers



KEY FOCUS AREAS

These seven Key Focus Areas outline where we will prioritise our efforts over the next five years. The first five are inspired by the five fundamental forms of ministry discussed in the New Testament. These five forms of ministry are supported by two other Key Focus Areas that ensure the church remains on a sound footing...



WARDENS' NON-FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2020

COVID 19 has impacted almost every aspect of life at St James' this past year. For the Wardens, the impact has been first and foremost, health: the health of the parishioners and staff, and overseeing COVID best safety practices for both. We have all learned how much worship and work can be achieved from the safety of home. COVID has also impacted on the budget; what people can give, as well as what revenue is available to the Parish as the St James' Hall tenants grapple with how to continue their practices and meet their obligations to the Hall. Indeed, we are particularly grateful to our continued giving even during the challenging times of this COVID-19 pandemic. And, as we gradually move back towards worshipping, working and meeting in person, we now value that much more the opportunities to safely work, meet and worship at St James' Hall and St James' Church.

The primary responsibilities of the Wardens are the management of the Parish's finances, the management of the Parish's properties (Church Building, St James' Hall and the two clergy houses) and the appointment of paid staff. The Executive Committee of the Parish, comprising the Wardens, the Rector, the Associate Rector, the Head of Music, the Director of the Institute and the Facilities Manager, meets monthly.

Managing the workload on a voluntary basis, particularly in this past year, would not have been possible without the strong support that we continually receive from Fr Andrew Sempell and Fr John Stewart. We are greatly blessed at St James' with two very hard-working, gifted and long-serving stipendiary clergy. We are also blessed with and acknowledge the hard-working staff and volunteers who enable the Parish to deliver its extensive schedule of worship and related activities. The Wardens greatly appreciate their dedication and commitment.

Finance

Whilst the Wardens are responsible for the Parish's finances, we continue to employ a full-time accountant, Michelle Chan, to assist us in our functions. Our heartfelt thanks to her for what have been a challenging, even difficult role.

Parishes within the Diocese (including St James') were granted relief from paying the Church Land Acquisition Levy for 2020. The Mission and Outreach Committee of St James' agreed to distribute half of the amount saved (close to \$50,000) to five Parishes within the Diocese.

St James' Hall

The Wardens are responsible for St James' Hall. An independent honorary Board of Management (BOM) assists the Wardens in exercising their responsibilities by providing professional expert advice. We are very grateful to the BOM for their diligence. James Balfour is Secretary to this Board and Warden Sid Blairs is Honorary Manager of St James' Hall in 2020. We are grateful to James Balfour for his continuing dedication and assistance to the Parish in this demanding role as Secretary to the Board of Management. Jones Lang LaSalle is the managing agent.

The St James' Hall is a fully-tenanted commercial office building. The Parish offices are on Level 1. There are eight barristers chambers on levels 2-14 and a café and a convenience store at street

level. Four of the basement's seven car spaces are leased to building occupants while the Parish retains the remainder. Diocesan and Parish archives are held in the sub-basement.

The financial statements for St James' Hall are included with the Wardens' financial statements and speak for themselves. If any Parishioner seeks additional information, please contact one of the Wardens or the Manager of St James' Hall. It is worthy of note that the St James' Hall is now debt-free.

St James' Hall is the Parish's major property asset and produces a substantial revenue stream which is a critical part of the Parish's annual income. With the accumulation of funds in the St James' Hall Trust Account, funds amounting to \$800,000 have been invested in the Long Term Pooling Fund of the Anglican Church Property Trust. The Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney (ACPT) is the Trustee and acts as a bare trustee, meaning that it acts at the request of the Wardens. The powers of each body are set out in the St James' Phillip Street Property Ordinance 1962 (as amended).

The Principal Ordinance (amended in 2015) sets the distribution ratio of the revenue from the St James' Hall between the Parish (80%) and Diocese (20%). The Hall continues to provide \$90,000 monthly to the Parish as well as \$22,500 to the Diocese of Sydney. In 2020 it was decided not to provide a special end-of-year distribution to the Parish and the Diocese as had been the practice in previous years, as it provided the Parish with additional borrowing power for purposes of repairs and maintenance to the building and the replacement of a new pipe organ (\$2m borrowing), on the proviso that the debt was serviced by the Parish. However, no additional funds have yet been borrowed against this provision. The Standing Committee of the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney, on 12 February 2018, varied the provisions of the Principal Ordinance to allow the Trustee to borrow up to \$13 m to purchase additional property adjacent, or nearby, to the Property.

St James' Hall was built over 50 years ago and is nearing the end of its economic life. The Wardens, assisted by the BOM and the Manager of St James' Hall, have been investigating ways in which to best utilise this asset. Future possible options include minor refurbishment, major refurbishment, demolition and redevelopment, or sale (although this last option is highly unlikely as it doesn't fit with the strategy for the Parish).

St James' Foundations

The St James' Music Foundation

The Music Foundation provides financial assistance to the Parish to enable production and performance of:

- Sacred and secular music with a particular focus on choral and pipe organ music;
- Sacred and secular dramatic works and artistic performances; and,
- Sacred and secular performances of dance and movement, at or in association with the Parish of St James.

The Music Foundation allows two kinds of donations: those toward current expenditure and those toward capital. Donations toward Current Activities Fund are intended for immediate use. This is the way that people support the Orchestral Masses and other projects.

Donations to the capital are invested and the income distributed to the Parish. Donations to the Music Foundation are tax deductible.

St James' Church Building and Property Foundation

The Building Foundation provides financial assistance to the Parish for:

- The restoration, preservation, maintenance, improvement, enhancement and upkeep of the church building, its fixtures, fittings and ornaments; and,
- The preservation, protection, maintenance, improvement and enhancement of any property which the Trustee determines is or could be trust property of St James'.

The Building Foundation is principally a capital fund, the income of which is distributed to the Parish. Donations to the Building Foundation are not tax-deductible.

Donations and Bequests

These two foundations are vital for the ongoing ministry of the Parish. You are therefore encouraged to consider, for functions being held in the covered courtyard, making either a donation or bequest to them. A brochure giving details of how to do this is available in the Baptistry or in the Parish Office.

The Church Building

In November 2020 work commenced on the refurbishment of the Crypt Toilets and adjacent Hospitality Room. The work is being undertaken by Lateral Projects and is scheduled for completion in the early part of 2021. These works are being undertaken using reserves accumulated over several years from previous distributions made by the St James' Building Foundation. The Hospitality Room will act as a Servery for the preparation and distribution of food in the covered courtyard. This will considerably enhance the role of the covered courtyard.

A successful grant application was made during 2020 to the Department of Veterans Affairs under their *Saluting Their Services* programme. A grant of \$10,000 has been awarded, the maximum allowable under the project's category. This is to be supplemented by an amount of \$4,790 plus GST from Parish funds. The grant is provided for the cleaning of plaques of significant historical military history within the church building.

As a result of COVID-19 restricting the size of live congregations within the church building, a decision was made to livestream services from St James' Church. This has resulted in a significant online presence reaching Parishioners unable to attend services, as well as a significant national and international 'congregation'. Livestreaming equipment used initially was kindly loaned and operated by Parishioner Simon Turnill. The parish is extremely grateful for Simon's expertise and use of his equipment for livestreaming. An appeal has been launched for donations to allow the Parish to continue its livestreaming presence by acquiring its own livestreaming equipment. To date, donations in excess of \$32,000 have been received, but additional donations are needed.

Supply of the livestreaming equipment and the necessary cabling of the church building has been carried out by Pacific Live Media. Pacific Live Media have temporarily loaned equipment to allow the new system to be brought on line where equipment components sourced from overseas have been delayed due to COVID-19. A mixing desk to house the livestreaming equipment has been custom-built for us by Lateral Projects. A team of volunteers will operate the livestreaming equipment on a roster basis. Some parishioners have expressed an interest in filling this role, but more volunteers are needed.

Clergy Residences

A Development Application for a potential future upgrade of the Paddington Rectory to meet Diocesan Standards was approved by the local Council in early 2019. The Development Application remains valid for several years. Repairs and maintenance of the Paddington and Chatswood Residences was carried out during 2020 on an as needs basis.

New Pipe Organ

2020 was a year of significant progress on the new pipe organ project, most of it behind the scenes. In the United States, where the organ is being built by Dobsons Pipe Organ Builders, work continued on the final design, the ordering and delivery of the hundreds of parts that come together to make up the new instrument and the early building process. As with most of the world, COVID-19 struck Dobsons—both company and employees—and delays occurred to organ projects preceding our project. A force majeure event was declared, extensions to installation times agreed to suit both Dobsons and the parish and a nil-extra-cost arrangement was agreed.

At St James', preparatory work has proceeded with haste. We received and actioned a Section 60 environmental approval, a report on the roof structure (necessary to ensure safety for the acoustic works), and an acoustic recommendation for improving the acoustics of the existing building (including pinning the ceiling panels and adding acoustic mass in the roof. We made progress on a felt trial to the apse (to improve acoustics), the electrical and lighting designs, and the design for the shades to the pipes. Some pipes were removed from the old organ, transported to the US and are being worked on for incorporation by Dobsons into the new organ.

2021 will be a year of disruption and change. At the moment, our plan is to have the last Sunday with the existing organ on 31 October and the last service on 2 November (All Souls). The old organ will then be removed. Acoustic work to the ceiling and other structural works will happen early next year, with Dobson arriving from 26 April 2022. We hope that, whilst the new organ will not be completely contractually finished until 5 September 2022, we have negotiated a special service dispensation to use the new pipe organ for our Patronal Festival on 25 July 2022 (subject to progress being achieved and no further COVID-type restrictions (apart from normal construction risks, the biggest risk to the project programme is the international travel ban).

The Wardens are immensely grateful for the hard work of numerous experts, consultants, our Music Department, donors and patrons, the St James' Music Foundation, and the many others who are contributing their time and resources. This is truly a team effort by St James'—as John Panning from Dobsons recently remarked, "It is probably just as well that buying an organ is a

once-in-a-lifetime experience for most people. If they knew what would be required, they'd never sign on!"

Staffing

Mid-year, the Wardens commissioned Ken Pritchett to undertake a review of staff including the organisational structure and individual staff responsibilities. As a consequence, all staff documentation including position descriptions and contracts have been updated and clarified to reflect outcomes of the review. Dianne Ward and Jonathan Elcock now job-share the position of Office Administrator to ensure the office is attended during office hours five days a week. Christopher Waterhouse left the Parish to pursue his theological studies and was replaced by Dr Aaron Ghiloni.

Office

With the outbreak of COVID-19, the office was closed to non-staff and, wherever possible, staff worked from home. As restrictions eased, staff has returned to working from the office, but can still choose to work from home.

One of the outcomes of the Staffing Review was the suggested redesign of the Office. As a consequence of COVID-19, and both the possibility of staff working from home, and the budgetary impacts of the pandemic, however, alterations to the office have been temporarily shelved.

Facilities

The Facilities Manager has responsibility for the day-to-day maintenance of the Church Building and Clergy Residences. Current and ongoing maintenance matters are reported at monthly meetings of the Executive.

Tony Papadopoulos manages our facilities day-to-day. He keeps a close eye on all aspects of maintenance and refurbishment, cleaning, and security, as well as liaison with the Jardin St James café. He has been instrumental in reviewing and efficiently administering our many service contracts including IT. Recent projects where Tony has had a hands-on oversight include the recent cabling of the church building for the livestreaming project and the current Crypt Toilets/Hospitality Room project. The pending cleaning of selected military plaques in the church building will also be monitored by Tony.

Tony is supported in the running of the Church building by the principal Verger, Gilbert Santayana and Assistant Verger James Farrow.

Music

Warren Trevelyan-Jones continues his impressive leadership of music in our Parish with inspiring worship settings while staying within the allowable number of choristers permitted by COVID-19 restrictions. He is very well supported by our Organist, Alistair Nelson, who is responsible for the St James' Singers, and the Organ Scholar, Callum Knox.

St James' Institute

Christopher Waterhouse largely completed another very successful year as Director of the Institute before he left St James' to pursue his theological studies in Tasmania. Aaron Ghiloni replaced Christopher as Director in October, and has launched an informative and interesting program for the Institute for 2021.

Jardin St James

This French-styled café has now established itself as a unique feature of the Parish and Queen's Square, providing coffee and light meals to parishioners, the local legal profession and their clients, as well as passers-by.

The operating lease is due for renewal on 4 March 2021. The commercial relevance of Jardin St. James' operation to the Parish is to be reappraised.

Clergy

The Wardens feel particularly blessed to be able to work alongside our Stipendiary and honorary clergy. We believe that together they will lead our Parish to great things for the glory of the Kingdom through to our Bicentenary.

Any Questions?

The Wardens feel privileged to serve the Parish and are happy to answer any questions related to their role.

Sidney Blairs, Holly Raiche, Chris Lock

Wardens

March 2021

ST JAMES' INSTITUTE

The St James' Institute's activities were restricted in 2020 due to COVID-19. However, a number of events were able to be held, with some offered exclusively online. The following events took place:

- Twenty Minute Talks on the Orchestral Masses (three Talks)
- Book Launch of *Journeying with Bonhoeffer* by Andreas Loewe and Katherine Firth
- Trip to La Perouse, including Aboriginal Stations of the Cross, with The Rev'd Glenn Maytum
- Guided tour of Hyde Park Barracks
- Robin Sharwood Lecture: Bruce Kaye, 'From Colonial Chaplaincy to Responsible Governance: The Anglican Church of Australia and Ecclesiology'
- Lent Study Groups using *Journeying with Bonhoeffer* by Dean Andreas Loewe and Katherine Firth (two groups online)
- Interview of Holy Week Preacher, The Rev'd Catherine Eaton (online)
- Mid-year studies using *Even the Stones Will Cry Out* by Sue Mackenzie (online)
- Tour of Christ Church Oxford (online)
- Seminar on Evelyn Underhill with Robyn Wrigley Carr (online; 42 participants)
- Panel on ordination/vocation (online)
- St James' Day Talk with Professor Mark Hutchinson (online and Hall; 52 participants)
- Seminar on Revelation with The Rev'd Dr John Deane (online and Hall)
- Seminar on Disagreement and a Christian Future for the Anglican Communion with The Rt Rev'd Professor Stephen Pickard (online and Hall; 61 participants)
- NAIDOC: Voice, Treaty, Truth with Kathryn Farrawell interviewed by Libby Hindmarsh (online; 29 participants)
- Advent Studies using *The Meaning is in the Waiting* by Paula Gooder (four groups: online and Hall; 40 participants)

Certain events were cancelled, including:

- Camino pilgrimage
- Parish retreat
- Advent quiet day

Director

The Director of the St James' institute, Mr Christopher Waterhouse, departed the role in October for a new ministry position in Tasmania. A new Director, Dr Aaron Ghiloni, was appointed in November.

Library

Mrs Anna Green served as the Librarian in 2020. We thank her for her service.

N.B. This report was compiled using data from various papers given to Parish Council; other events may have occurred.

HOSPITALITY

The hospitality teams have had to revise all their practices in arranging morning tea after 8:00am and 10:00am services as all food must be individually wrapped. Hopefully COVID-19 restrictions will ease and we can return to meeting in the crypt instead of Queen's Square, and that morning tea will again become a regular activity.

Chris Cheetham

Pastoral Care Coordinator

Post-8am Morning Tea

Morning Tea following the 8am service became possible in December with a few adjustments. Refreshments were served outside the church in Queen's Square and all food was individually wrapped. Everyone was pleased to be able to come together again on the first Sunday of the month to connect over a cuppa and a bite to eat. Twenty to thirty people have attended each month so far this year.

On Sundays when morning tea is not scheduled, quite a number of the 8 o'clockers make their way to a nearby café for breakfast after the service. This is a valuable time for parishioners who live far and wide to get together.

One positive outcome felt by some parishioners during this COVID-19-affected year has been the adjustment to the starting time of the early service from 7:45am to 8am. Now that attendance at services has resumed, that extra fifteen minutes on a Sunday morning is welcome!

Jackie Dettmann

Pastoral Care Coordinator

Post-9am Morning Tea

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, refreshments were served to parishioners and visitors every Sunday following the 9am Eucharist (except for the second Sunday in December when the Sister Freda Mission would prepare for their Christmas party). At the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, we were still able to serve Morning Tea, but with added hygiene and trying to be as physically-distanced as possible in the Crypt.

Soon, however, the 9am service was no longer able to be held, due to the lack of time necessary to clean the Church after the 7.45am Eucharist and before the 11am Eucharist. Then, of course, came the situation when the movement of most of the population was restricted as we went into lockdown. Services were only provided online at first. Later, as restrictions eased, Sunday morning services were held at 8am and 10am, and numbers restricted to comply with social distancing and other regulations.

Once during this period we did serve refreshments after the 10am Eucharist, when a few willing volunteers helped to provide a limited fare outside the Church in the pedestrianised portion of King Street. These volunteers were drawn from the 9am team and the 11am team, with some extras helping us as well. Thank you to all those who helped on that occasion. Serving

refreshments outside on the street allowed for physical distancing, but was difficult due to the wind and the preparations required to package food for about 100 people. Although we were going to repeat this during the Patronal Festival in July, the weather was too wet.

Until the restrictions due to the pandemic cease, and the 9am service returns, this situation is likely to continue. There is the possibility, however, that we may be able to offer something at Easter 2021 using the Covered Courtyard and the Crypt, if we are able to restrict movement and numbers in each area, in order to comply with government regulations.

Sue Mackenzie

9am Refreshments Coordinator

WEDNESDAY MEDITATION GROUP

Our year has been a different one, which is hardly surprising. This group had been meeting in the crypt at 7.45am for over 30 years. We recommenced as usual in February, but soon became a casualty of the lockdown.

So we introduced ourselves to Zoom. We contacted regular or occasional Wednesday meditators from over the years and invited them to join us on Wednesday mornings at the same time. We also contacted others who might be interested and some contacted us or became interested when we mentioned it in conversation.

Now when we log in on Wednesday mornings a dozen or more faces pop up. Many are from Sydney, but we have some from further afield, including York in England.

We resumed for this year on the first Wednesday in February.

What will happen when the restrictions ease significantly? We'll see. We imagine many in the community are facing the same questions. We might resume in the crypt but conduct our Zoom meeting from there instead of from home. Or we might just stay virtual, like lots of other meditation groups. Feedback on this question is welcome. Also, if you want to try out meditation then let us know and you can join us on a Wednesday morning (or join one of the many other groups that now meet online). Richard's email is richardcogswell@hotmail.com and his phone number is 0438 273269.

Richard and Anne Cogswell

Wednesday Meditation Group

MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

St James' 'tithes' one tenth of the year's offertories, distributing the money to a range of charitable purposes. The task of distributing the 'tithes' funds for this year (\$34,000) was undertaken by the Mission and Outreach Committee, with Parish Council approval.

As forecast in the Committee's report to the 2020 AVM, the amount of offertories was calculated from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020.

The Committee (Robert Marriott, Christopher Day and Holly Raiche) based its allocations on the three themes of the Parish Strategic Plan: social justice, inclusion (of people on the margins)

and Classically Anglican. We also seek to balance allocations between local, national, and international.

The five recipients are as follows:

Social Justice

- Food Bank NSW & ACT for the areas' homeless
- Asylum Seekers for continued assistance to asylum seekers

Inclusion

- Diocese of Willochra, supporting travel to provide ministry services (including baptisms, weddings and funerals) to the very remote areas of South Australia
- Act For Peace – for the COVID-19 International Emergency Fund

Classically Anglican

- St Laurence House for its continued support of homeless youths in Sydney

The Committee also retained \$4,000, looking at either assistance to fire services or projects to address land management in the coming year, as needed.

Mission and Outreach Committee

THE SISTER FREDA MISSION

The Mission continues to thrive much as it has always done since 1895 when it was begun by the Community of the Sisters of the Church, an English Religious Order that started the Collegiate School in Paddington in 1893. Sister Freda, who was a member of the Order, took over the organisation of the Mission in 1899. When she died in 1936 her name was given to the Mission and St James' took over responsibility for its operation.

The need for a basic meal in safe surrounds is as important now as it was in 1895. The number of guests averages at around 30-40 for lunch and continues to be served every Sunday.

COVID-19 regulations have, of course, had an effect on our operations which have been tailored to ensure we comply with those regulations. For example, lunch is now served as a 'take away' from the kitchen end of the crypt as our guests are not permitted to stay. Whilst not ideal from a community point of view we are managing but are looking forward to the time when restrictions can be lifted

We have been fortunate to be able to continue to link in with the rescue food organisation OzHarvest, which collects quality excess food from a large number of commercial outlets and delivers it direct and free of charge to many charities including the Sister Freda Mission. The quantity varies but it is all excellent food within use by dates, and our guests enjoy the variety—often being able to take extra food home for another meal or share with a friend. We even received a large leg of ham near Christmas which was very welcomed.

Streets Ice Creams have continued to donate ice creams and also another leg of ham near Christmas which was very much appreciated

Disappointingly our annual Christmas Lunch could not be held last year because of the COVID-19 restrictions. Special takeaway packages were provided, however, which our guests were able to enjoy.

The annual donation of socks, beanies and gloves during winter time was again well supported by many parishioners. A practical gift and very well received. Thank you all.

We would like to thank all our volunteers who have provided their time throughout the year, and also a big thank you to those who have so generously donated funds to help this important Ministry. Donations (which are tax deductible) are of course always welcome. Cheques should be made out to the Sister Freda Mission and can be sent directly to the parish office or funds can be transferred electronically if preferred.

We always need more volunteers. If you would like to join or simply come along one Sunday to see what is involved, please contact us.

David & Robyn Carver

Sister Freda Mission Coordinators

ST LAURENCE HOUSE REPORT

This last year has been a difficult one for our activities as a result of the pandemic. Although none of our clients or staff were directly affected, we had to be prepared for all contingencies and be particularly diligent.

We now provide a total of 9 beds: 5 in our principal residence and a further 4 in our outreach programme.

The biggest impact on the organisation was our inability to undertake our usual fundraising activities. We held our usual Pancake Night on Shrove Tuesday just before the pandemic struck, but we were not able to hold our annual Big Event. However, we did receive some relief funds from the NSW Government specifically targeted at Homeless Children in the 14 to 16 year age group. This meant that we were able to finish the year reasonably close to our targets. As has been the situation for many years now, we receive only three-quarters of our costs from government sources—the remainder, especially to fund our outreach programmes, we must raise ourselves. We are again very grateful for the benefactors who have responded generously to our annual Christmas Appeal and End of Financial Year Appeal.

This year we have commenced a thorough review of all our Governance systems. Although we are a small organisation, we still need to meet or surpass the quality and professionalism standards provided by larger organisations. This puts a proportionally larger burden on our team, but provides a chance to look again at how best we can deliver a vital service to Children and Young people, to help get them back on track.

We remain grateful to the dedicated staff of St Laurence House, the Management Committee and particularly the well-wishers and benefactors who continue to support us and make our work possible

Alan Soutar

Chair of SLH Management Committee

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?

The group known as '*Who is my neighbour?*' came together in 2013 in response to several challenging sermons at St James' and the policy decisions being made by Australian Governments around the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers.

The group has continued to function during the COVID-19 pandemic and this has been done via email and now including a Zoom meeting every couple of months.

Emails have been sent about every six weeks to inform the group about activities and to update the group about current issues.

'Who is my neighbour?' has several aims:

1. To inform people about issues through emails, articles, and information meetings.
2. To propose a Refugee Family to come to Australia.

St James' is currently seeking the help of Anglican Aid, who have identified a family in Lebanon. This family are refugees from Iraq who fled Mosul when it was invaded by ISIL. Due to COVID-19, it has not been possible to submit the application to Australian authorities for this family to come as refugees. So, currently we are supporting them by sending a monthly payment to them in Lebanon, using the channels set up by Anglican Aid.

We have so far raised over \$13,000.00 and we estimate that we will need more than \$20,000.00 to cover the costs of visas, housing, and money to help them settle in Australia. The process of further money-raising will continue when we have confirmation that the family is coming to Australia. Some of this money is currently being used to send \$100 US to them each month.

3. To advocate for asylum seekers and refugees.

This is being achieved by writing to politicians both individually and as a group. We continue to be concerned about detention of people who have come to Australia by boat being held on Nauru and Manus Island. Some of these people have moved to USA in 2019. There are about 250 people remaining in PNG and Nauru.

There has been a move by people in Canada to propose/sponsor some of these people to go to Canada. Contributions can be made to this process. (See 1. In further information).

New Zealand has also offered to take 150 of these people, but so far our Government has not taken up this offer. We need to continue to advocate on their behalf. St James' is a

member of The Refugee Council of Australia which is an umbrella organisation for the many groups working in this area.

4. To support asylum seekers and refugees already in Australia.

The parish has continued to support the Asylum Seekers Centre in Newtown. During the COVID-19 pandemic there were very few services delivered at the centre, and the staff ran a food distribution to people at home and continued to have contact and to help with housing, medical care, and other issues. This group received no support from the Commonwealth, but the NSW government has given some funding. We have continued to encourage people to donate directly to the Asylum Seekers Centre or to continue to send food vouchers to the St James office. <https://asylumseekerscentre.org.au/contact-us/>

5. To support our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters



St James' acknowledged NAIDOC Week and the celebration was delayed in 2020 due to the pandemic to November when we held a St James' Institute seminar on Zoom. As part of this webinar, we watched the TED TALK on the Uluru Statement from the Heart by Dean Parkin (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xB-31jD4XcA>) and interviewed Auntie Kathryn Dodd-Farrawell an Aboriginal artist and activist.

The Uluru Statement from the Heart was delivered to the Australian Parliament in 2017 and it was dismissed out of hand by the then Prime Minister the Hon Malcolm Turnbull. The Statement was sent to yet another parliamentary committee. St James' sent a statement in support of the Uluru Statement to the committee, which was signed by about 80 members of St James' one Sunday morning. The statement said:

We the members of St James' Church, King Street, Sydney wish to support the Uluru Statement and ask The Prime Minister of Australia the Hon Scott Morrison and The Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition to honour the work done to produce this Statement and to implement the recommendations.

We have continued to support the Uluru Statement and the important issues of the Voice, Treaty and Truth.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples make up about 3% of the current Australian population, and so for a referendum to succeed, at least 60% of the non-indigenous population will need to stand with them and support their proposals. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring healing to our land and to stand with our neighbours. At the last election there was a promise made by the Prime Minister the Hon Scott Morrison to hold a referendum on this issue during this current parliament.

6. To support other issues in our community

2020 saw drought and bush fires destroy parts of our communities and St James' made contributions to the people impacted by these issues. During this last year, the whole community has been impacted by COVID-19 and this has been an opportunity for us to reach out to those around us.

May we as individuals and as a congregation in 2021 continue to look for ways to think about the question 'Who is my neighbour?' and how we can respond?

Who is my neighbour? functions as an email group and holds Zoom meetings. The group is open to members of St James' and their friends. There are currently over 40 people on the email contact list. Libby Hindmarsh is the organiser of the group and can be contacted at: elizabeth@hindmarshsydney.com.au or mobile: 0404 492 444.

For further information

1. Further information about refugees going to Canada - Schwartz enquiries@schwartzmedia.com.au and donations can be made through the Refugee Council of Australia www.refugeecouncil.org.au/canada
2. Articles in Connections <https://www.sjks.org.au/church/our-story/parish-connections/>
In Oct/Nov 2019 (page 6) The Voice and in Dec/Jan Treaty and Truth (page 18)
3. The Uluru Statement and the Makarrata booklet
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/533f347ae4b01599cd0e199d/t/5a78283a71c10bcbfbab270b/1517824101751/Makarrata+booklet+web.pdf>

HEAD OF MUSIC

As we all know, 2020 was like no other year. The COVID-19 pandemic hit the music ministry at St James' in a big way, forcing cancellations, postponements, and a rethink of just about everything we do.

From late March 2020, as restrictions came into place and the church closed its doors to services and concerts, we were instantly challenged to seek new ways of reaching our congregation and audience. Services were livestreamed and some (Holy Week 2020) were pre-recorded. From the most basic of systems (using an iPhone) to the development of a fully integrated livestreaming system. Thanks to Simon Turnill, who has driven this project so professionally, services and latterly concerts have reached far and wide and an online St James' community has come into being.

Over the last 12 months, we have livestreamed every choral service and lunchtime concert, the latter after their resumption later in the year. This has given Music at St James' wide exposure, to which all musicians have embraced and risen to the challenge.

ReVisions, the 2020 concert series, was cancelled. It is hoped that some of these programmes than be performed in the future. Saturday 6 March 2021 marked the Choir's first concert at St James' since December 2019 and the first live concert in exactly 12 months, since a highly successful performance as part of the Mosman Concert Series. *A rose upon a thorn* was a wonderful opportunity for the Choir to perform to a live audience again. It was very well-attended, well-received and gained glowing reviews.

With Lunchtime Concerts now back in full swing, as well as a series of 4 Cantatas starting in March 2021, we look forward to a much fuller programme in 2021.

I would like to thank the Parish and the St James' Music Foundation for their support of the music ministry at St James', and in particular for their support of the choir over this time as choir numbers were restricted and the constraints were ever changing.

Thanks also must go the Friends of Music for their support, and in particular for the opportunity to record two digital concerts at The Concourse Chatswood, watched and appreciated all over the world by more than 1000 people.

One highlight of the year was the first performance of Gabriel Jackson's *Mass for St James'*, specially commissioned for our bicentenary and performed in July 2020 at our Patronal Festival. COVID-19 restrictions prevented a performance with orchestra, and it is hoped that we may be able to perform the full orchestral version in the near future. That service also saw the first performance of a special commission by Brooke Shelley.

A new choir CD was launched in 2020, entitled *Songs of Hope*, bringing together compositions old and new, European and Australian, with works by William Byrd, Philip Moore, Joseph Twist, Owen Elsley, and Brooke Shelley. This was made possible by the generosity of the Music Foundation and the Friends of Music at St James'.

I am very grateful to the dedication of the Organist and Organ Scholar, Alistair and Callum, The Choir of St James' and the St James' Singers—also to the office staff, and Brooke Shelley in particular, who have assisted and supported the music ministry over the last 12-months.

Warren Trevelyan-Jones

Head of Music

THE ST JAMES' MUSIC FOUNDATION ORGAN REPLACEMENT AND RESTORATION FUND

Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic last year, progress on the project to install a new organ in St James' has continued apace. As reported in more detail in the Wardens' report elsewhere in this Annual Report, and minor disruptions aside, construction of the new instrument commenced in the Dobson factory in the USA. Parts of the existing organ, designated to be incorporated into the new build due to their musical and historical value, have been successfully shipped to the US to be included in the building work underway. This is positive news in a difficult year!

To date, the Appeal to pay for the new organ has raised just on \$1.7 million. That's about half the price of the new organ excluding installation costs.

Unfortunately, the pandemic restricted fundraising activities that could be undertaken in 2020. The pace of the Appeal naturally slowed in that period. Even so, with some online communications and fundraising and the payment of some pledged instalments, approximately \$150,000 was raised, a relatively small amount in the overall scheme of things but enough to fund several ranks.

The organ is scheduled for installation by July 2022. There is still some way to go to meet our fundraising target, but there is still time to continue to support this ambitious and exciting project. Now that COVID-related restrictions are being gradually lifted, the Appeal Committee is planning some special events to help raise more funds during 2021 and up to and around the time the new organ will be in place.

The Appeal Committee gratefully acknowledges the support of so many generous donors. Thank you for being part of this major musical project. Please continue to help. Donations are always welcome and can be made at <https://www.stjamesfoundationorganappeal.com.au>

Robert Marriott

Chair, The St James' Music Foundation Organ Replacement and Restoration Committee

THE GUILD OF ST RAPHAEL

The Guild of St Raphael witnesses to the Healing Ministry within St James'. We are under the patronage of St Raphael the Archangel of Healing. (His story is told in the Book of Tobit, found in the Apocrypha).

We are normally an unseen group but in 2020, virtually invisible. We were unable to celebrate the regular Healing Eucharist because of restrictions but, as always, the Guild members continued to pray for all the people who appreciate supporting prayers but prefer to be on a private and confidential prayer list. Should you like to become a part of The Guild membership, please let Fr John know and you will be most welcome.

It was joyous to be able to pray together again this February after so many months of being locked down. The monthly Healing Eucharist is normally held in The Chapel of The Holy Spirit at 6.15pm on the first Tuesday of each month, excepting January. Everyone is encouraged to come but please remember to register. It is a quiet, tranquil service usually attended by about half a dozen people, some of whom receive the Laying on of Hands and Anointing for themselves, or on behalf of someone else. The homilies are directed towards deepening our understanding of Christ's Healing Ministry.

Fr John Stewart is the Chaplain of our branch of the Guild and we thank him sincerely for his wisdom and ongoing dedication to this ministry.

Nanette Danks

Guild of St Raphael

HOSPITAL VISITING TEAM

Patients are admitted from many parts of the Sydney metropolitan area, NSW country areas, and from Interstate, and also patients from overseas who have the unfortunate experience of being hospitalised whilst visiting Sydney.

The good will and interest in St James' Church, received from most patients, is always a welcome aspect of visits, and is especially important to those people who are away from their homes and family support groups. Sometimes during the conversation with a patient there is the opportunity to make them aware of all that St James' offers in the way of services, music and seminars.

There is also the opportunity for patients to arrange a Pastoral visit from Fr John Stewart, for Anointing with Oil as well as Holy Communion. This has not always been possible this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. These restrictions have also meant that the Hospital Visiting teams were unable to carry out visits in 2020. Hopefully this situation will change in 2021 and visits will be able to resume.

Full mandatory training will be provided to suitable volunteers. Sydney Hospital also holds regular fire drill practices throughout the year. There is a new Government regulation that all volunteers must complete a 100 point Identification Form.

If you feel this could be your contribution as a layperson to a vital ministry and outreach of St James' please contact the co-ordinator Mary Sattin.

Chris Cheetham

Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARISH NETWORKERS

The COVID-19 virus has shown how important it is to have a strong group of networkers, who are able to keep in touch with parishioners unable to attend St James' due to COVID-19 restrictions. Under the direction of Fr John, the Parish Networkers have continued to keep in touch with parishioners. For those parishioners who are on a volunteer roster their Networker is their roster coordinator.

If you would like to become a Networker, please contact Chris Cheetham on 0407 017 377 or email christine.cheetham@gmail.com

Chris Cheetham
Pastoral Care Coordinator

ST JAMES' EATS

The first St James Eats for 2020 was Friday 7 February at Istana Malaysian in Thornleigh. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, no other St James Eats were possible. Dates are still to be set for 2021 depending on availability of restaurants that can accept a large group of people and adhere to COVID-19 restrictions.

Chris Cheetham
Pastoral Care Coordinator

ST JAMES' MENS' GROUP

The first Men's group for 2020 was on Saturday 29 February. The Speaker was Kumar Rasiah speaking on *L'Arche and its Prospects*. Due to COVID-19, the Men's Group then continued throughout 2020 meeting via Zoom. A couple of meetings were held in May and June without speakers, and the speaker for August was The Rev'd Des Cox—his topic was *A Stranger in a Strange Land: The Anglican Diaspora in Hong Kong*. The October speaker was Dr Stuart Piggin whose subject was *Where the Australian Church is At and How it Got There*.

Future dates for this year are 13 February, 1 May, 5 June, 17 July, 28 August, and 9 October. The February speaker will be Dr Aaron Guiloni and his topic will be *Max Müller: Missionary to Anglicans; An introduction to the famous nineteenth century Sanskritist, Friedrich Max Müller*. The paper will focus on a controversial lecture Müller gave at Westminster Abbey in 1873. Müller's project illustrates the intersection of comparative religious studies and missionary work, a sometimes fraught relationship.

If any men are interested in joining please contact David Cheetham on 0405 199 189 or email cheethamdw@yahoo.com.au There is a small charge of \$10 to cover lunch, when it is possible to meet face to face.

Chris Cheetham
Pastoral Care Coordinator

MORNING PRAYER

The past year's The Divine Office was the focus of the parish retreat in 2018, and out of that weekend came the impetus to re-establish the saying of the office of Morning Prayer in St James' Church.

Every week day morning a small number of two or three people gathered in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit to say the service. And then came the COVID-19 pandemic, which upended everything. Morning Prayer was transferred to the Zoom platform at the end of March 2020, and quickly grew in numbers. There is now a regular congregation of about thirty people who find it a very special way to start the day. Particularly during the lockdown period it provided a great point of community contact which has continued to this day. It has become a significant part of the parish's liturgical day, and St James' was very fortunate to have the foresight and resources to set up this online platform.

Thanks are due to the rostered leaders who were all part of the original small team—the weekly services are now emailed to a larger group, and anyone who would like to be on that list or to join this daily service at 8:30am is very welcome. Login details are on the SJKS website sjks.org.au/morningprayer.

Catherine McClellan

Morning Prayer Coordinator

ST JAMES' GUILD OF BELLRINGERS

The past year's ringing was greatly affected by COVID-19. With the lockdown, all ringing ceased. After some months, however, as restrictions eased, a small number of the regular band of ringers was able to return to the tower for the weekly practice night. This was made possible through the use of the simulator whereby one bell is linked to a computer programme enabling that ringer to ring as part of a simulated band. The bell being rung in the tower is 'tied' meaning the bell itself makes no sound and all sound emanates through the computer. As only two people are needed in the bell chamber at a time—one to ring and one to operate the simulator—physical distancing requirements were able to be met. In this way, some of St James' regular ringers gained valuable practice while COVID-19 restrictions were adhered to.

Later, as restrictions eased further, service ringing on Sundays resumed, albeit with a reduced number of ringers as some were not able to return safely to the tower due to their health risk status. During January, however, the COVID-19 risk diminished, and almost all ringers were able to return to service ringing and to join practices, which were also able to return almost to normal. At the time of writing, ringers are still wearing masks when ringing, and physical distancing when not actually operating a bell.

During the year, Lindsay Small took over from Marylon Coates as Ringing Master. Many, many thanks go to Marylon for her skilled, dedicated, and efficient work as Ringing Master over the years. Twelve regular ringers form the core of the St James' band with one new learner, James Farrow, well on his way to becoming a competent ringer. Recently, the band was pleased to be able to ring for a wedding once again in St James'. Quarter peal ringing has also recommenced.

We look forward to a less disrupted year during which the St James Ringers hope to improve our ringing skills and ring joyfully.

Jackie Dettmann
Tower Captain

RESTING SPACE

At Resting Space we are attempting to engage in Spiritual Formation. This is a traditional process for becoming more Christ-like. It is founded on the belief that the practice of certain spiritual disciplines (like meditating on scripture and practicing silence and solitude) can open us to God's deep healing and transforming power.

In March 2020, as a result of COVID-19, we moved our fortnightly face-to-face meetings to weekly online Zoom meetings. We found Zoom to be good for the contemplative practices the group engages in. But we all missed the face-to-face interactions and the eucharist.

Between ten and twenty people attended each week in 2020—some people coming most times, others when they could. Just under half of the people who've attended don't go to a Sunday service at St James'. Some of these people have their own churches they meet with on Sundays. But a small minority don't attend church anywhere else and Resting Space seems to be meeting their 'church need'.

A small number of our members didn't make the transition to Zoom. However, we actually increased the range of people attending, picking up new members who were unable to attend when we were meeting face-to-face. Additionally, two members who had moved to Queensland were able to keep attending because we were online.

In 2021, we are meeting fortnightly on Zoom, but also experimenting with a monthly face-to-face meeting and dinner.

Any questions on Resting Space can be directed to Nick Ingram (nick@clearthinking.co).

Nick Ingram
Resting Space

ARCHIVES REPORT

The arrival of COVID-19 early in 2020 resulted in the Parish Archives being closed for the year. All being well it is hoped that work in them will resume at the end of February, 2021. We have been able to deal with a number of enquiries online, and are grateful to the Rector, Michael Horsburgh, Glenn Maytum, and Catherine Eaton for providing us with copies of sermons they preached to St James' congregations present in the church or participating online. My thanks must also go to my assistant, Colin Middleton, who has kept the Archives 'flag' flying with his excellent column 'Colin's Corner' in every edition of *St James' Connections*.

Early in 2020 a committee was formed to consider in detail, and update, the policies that need to be adopted in the administration of the Archives. The task is made even more important as we move to store material digitally. While our paper-based archives will continue, we will almost inevitably come to rely increasingly on digital technology to store material, and a policy as to how this is done will have to be formulated. The committee, chaired by Stephen Samild, met early in 2020 and put its initial recommendations to Parish Council mid-year. These are currently in progress, and it is expected that the committee will continue its work through 2021.

Gordon Cooper
Acting Honorary Archivist

S.^TJAMES'
Bicentenary 2019-2024