

The background is a detailed stained glass design. At the top, there are ornate golden scrollwork borders. Below them, a central shield is visible, featuring a red field with a repeating circular pattern and a central white shell-like motif. The shield is flanked by golden leafy branches. The entire design is set against a light, textured background.

Director of The St James' Institute

Position Information

What is the St James' Institute?

Education lies at the heart of understanding. An enquiring mind has the capacity to change and grow, which can bring thoughtfulness, meaning and purpose. This is especially important in the spiritual journey by which we seek to encounter God and be transformed.

The St James' Institute is an integral part of St James' Church and operates within a liberal, broad-church tradition within Anglicanism. It hosts studies and events that spark imagination, and seeks to inspire and explore aspects of faith and spirituality to further develop our understanding of Christianity.

*The vision of the St James' Institute is to be more informed,
more articulate and more confident about our faith.*

Part of the mission of St James' Church is to nourish the faith of our church members, to support those seeking God or questioning their faith, to facilitate debate, and to educate those who wish to be better informed about Christianity. This mission underpins the work of the St James' Institute, involving topical seminars and discussion groups. We also seek to connect with organisations and businesses in the City of Sydney by putting together an annual programme of events on a wide variety of topics that engage with questions of faith, belief, religion and spirituality in the public domain.

We are fortunate to have the St James' Institute providing many opportunities to engage with ideas, encounter moving experiences, and lead to nourishment of the soul. Through it we are provided with opportunities for honest intellectual endeavour, with open and respectful discussion, all performed in an adult and non-judgemental learning environment.



The broad dimensions of the St James' Institute are:

1. nurturing the existing St James' Church congregation in the Christian faith,
2. extending this nurturing ministry to related churches in Sydney, and
3. promoting the Christian faith as a form of outreach to the wider community.

Its core themes are:

- spirituality and Christian living,
- engaging with Scripture,
- Anglicanism – history, belief and practice,
- the Christian faith, and
- Christianity and contemporary issues.

The role of the Director of the St James' Institute

St James' Church seeks a person to lead and manage the operations and activities of the St James' Institute both as a church education program and an outreach to the City of Sydney and beyond through learning, debate and other activities that nurture an understanding of, and confidence in, the Christian faith and living, from a traditional Anglican perspective. Special focus is to be given to the promotion and growth of the Institute in accordance with the St James' Strategy 2015-2020.

The Director works collaboratively with the senior staff team at St James, but has independent responsibility for the administration of the Institute. It requires skills in effective liaison, communication, coordination and collaboration as part of the team.

The Director, may be either an ordained or lay person, and must have an appreciation of both theology and education, and also be sympathetic to the aims, beliefs, and practices of the church.



The St James' Institute Board of Management

The Institute is governed by a Board of Management, acting on behalf of the Wardens and Parish Council, to oversee administrative and financial matters. The Board meets four times a year and assists the Institute Director with budget preparation and reporting. The Institute Director attends Parish Council as a non voting member and reports regularly to Council on Institute business.



All images: Chris Shain (images for Business) except St James' Hall image above).

St James' Church, King Street, Sydney - Classically Anglican

Started in 1819 and completed in 1823 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 and is currently celebrating its Bicentenary. It has been the venue for many historic events including the enthronement of the first, and only, Bishop of Australia, William Grant Broughton (and for whom the church became his first cathedral).

Since its consecration in 1824, St James' has been a place of ministry to a great 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, those who come to the church from the wider metropolitan area for Sunday worship, and those who join us online.

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.

St James' Church seeks to bring Christ to the people of Sydney through its worship, welfare support to the homeless and needy, pastoral care, spirituality and educational programmes. We understand ourselves to be an authentic and reasonable expression of mainstream Anglicanism: Biblical, credal, sacramental and episcopal, following the via media by being both Reformed and Catholic. Culturally, there are six aspects that shape our activities: liturgy, theology, inclusion, incarnation, music and heritage. We therefore welcome all people regardless of age, race, sexual orientation or religion.



Application process

To apply for this position, and to obtain further information please visit www.sjks.org.au/life-and-learning/