

# St. Matthias

Anglican Church

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PARISH PROFILE  
2022



# WELCOME

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The Bishop of Auckland is inviting applications for a new Vicar of the Parish of Panmure - someone to strengthen and grow St Matthias' Church as we strive to follow Jesus.

St Matthias' was established in 1866 and its location is now close to a growing and intensifying multi-cultural urban community. The church occupies a tranquil historic site which overlooks the Panmure Basin.

The church has grown over the last several years. A number of people have come from outside the parish boundaries with a sense of being led by God to make this their church home.

As a place where God has been worshiped for many years, we regularly receive comments of parishioners' awareness of His presence.

We enjoy seeing God bring healing. In order to create a space for God to move, we offer Prayer Ministry mid-week and after Sunday services.

# MEET THE TEAM

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Paul Manson  
Vicar's Warden



Gordon Rose  
People's Warden



Wendy Leitch  
Administrator



Dave Neal  
Treasurer



# MISSION & MINISTRY PLAN

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As a church, our vision has been to encounter God in us, through us and beyond us.

During the past year, the Vestry have worked through the diocesan 'Healthy Church Consultation' process to identify our goals and plans under the following four areas:

## **Knowing God**

As a church, we seek to deepen our relationship with Him through worship, our prayer life and listening. We enable this by providing opportunities to be present to the presence of God in worship, for prayer at the end of each service, reflection, sharing and support through home groups and valuing learning from excellent preaching (which is a shared role).

## Shaping Community

One of our strengths is our church community which shows acceptance and welcome to all. We do this through hospitality, social activities, prayer ministry and pastoral care. We are looking at ways to build on this through child-friendly services, and using multiple languages in our services e.g. Te Reo Maori, Tongan and Chinese.

## Growing in Christ

As a church, our focus has been to encourage further growth and maturity in our relationship with Christ. We are aiming to support this by establishing discipleship programs and courses which will be made available to all.

## Living Beyond Ourselves

Our focus has been on developing and implementing opportunities to connect with our local community. Our International Hearts ministry offers an opportunity for newcomers to NZ to meet and find friendship with us. We plan to achieve this further by; offering courses, using signage in the town centre, formalising our prison ministry policies and publicising this ministry to our parish.





# OUR NEW VICAR

We are looking for a new Vicar who will embody and contribute towards our vision and mission as a church. With our unified desire to interact with and serve our local community, we seek the following attributes:

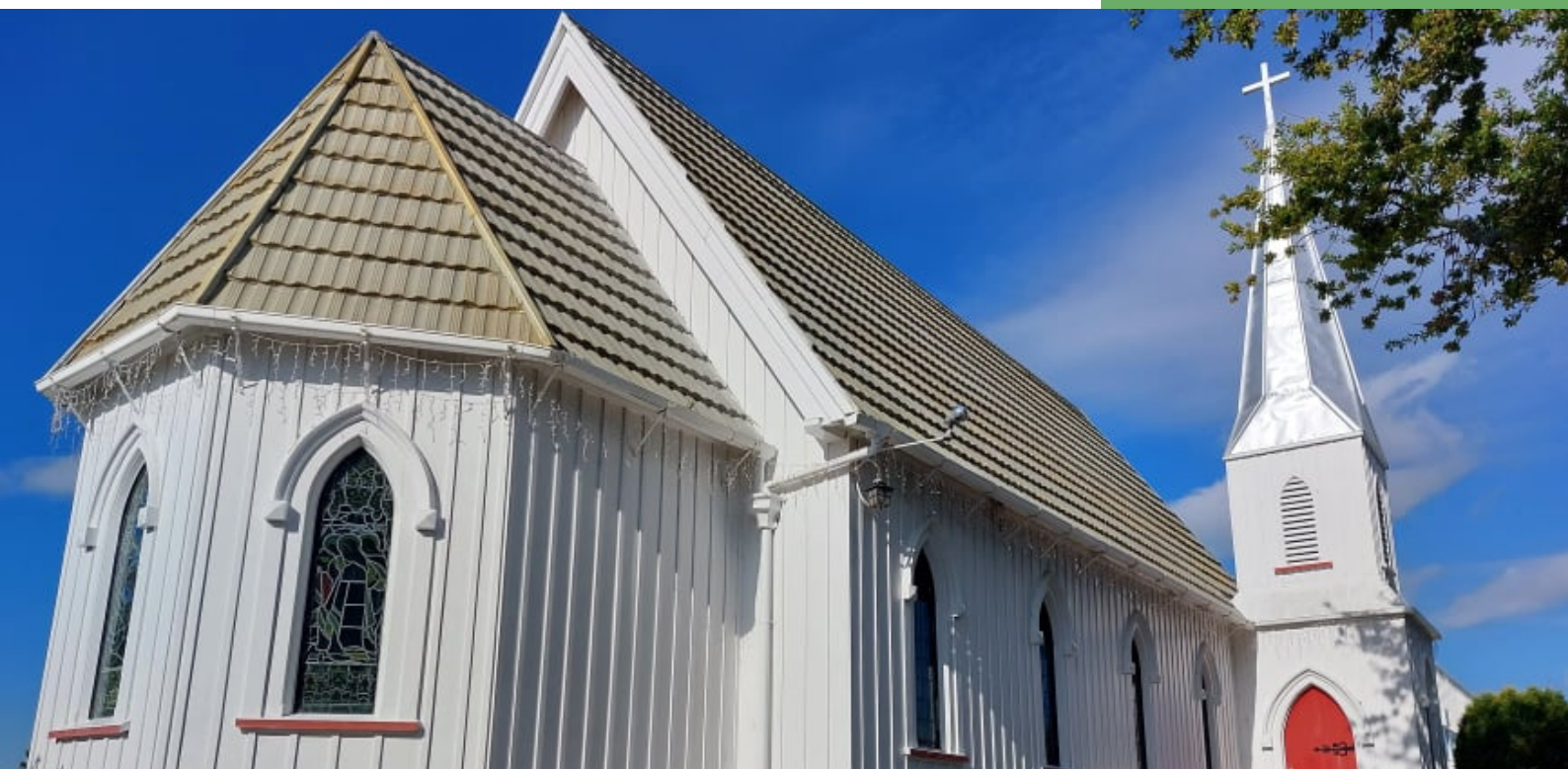
- A discipling evangelist with a heart for the lost
- Someone who values community and has the ability to lead the church to connect with the neighbourhood
- One who draws out the ability/gifting of each person and encourages spiritual growth in all
- Ability to get teams working together
- Faith expressed in words and actions
- A person of God / Gospel believer and preacher
- Strong pastoral values / caring and listening in communication
- Innovation and energy to try new solutions in changing times



# WHAT WE VALUE

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- Connection with God and others
- Wholehearted worship
- Freedom for people to use and develop their gifts
- Biblical teaching
- Music
- Bold prayer
- Hospitality and acceptance of all
- Concern for those who do not know Christ
- Diversity
- Being non-judgmental and supportive
- A place of continuity through the changes of life



# HISTORY

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Settled on top of a hill, between the Tāmaki River and Panmure Basin. The site of the current church lay on the important water trade route between the Waitematā and Manukau harbours, and provided safe anchorage for boats plying the East Coast of the North Island. The soil was generally fertile resulting in a large Maori population from Ngāti Pāoa.

In 1821 Hōne Heke with 2000 warriors and 1000 muskets attacked two pā called Mauinaina and Mokoia because of an ancient grievance in the near vicinity of the current church. He virtually wiped out Mauinaina, except for the chief's children, many from Mokoia escaped, but the pā itself was destroyed with any who remained.

The first Anglican church was built in 1852 after Irish Fencibles (retired soldiers) were stationed nearby to protect peace. The current church was completed in 1866 and opened by Bishop Selwyn. Initially it was linked to the Howick Parish, then to Otāhuhu.

The first full time vicar was the Rev Gould who officiated at both and was also responsible for the Kaipara district and Waiheke Island. He had 16 children and retired after 42 years at the age of 76 in 1903.



# FACILITIES

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The church has a capacity of 110 people (at a squeeze!)

The hall can sit 150 as an area for services/events with space for an altar, lectern and band. For seated dinners we can accommodate 100 people. There is an office and newly renovated kitchen.

Our vicarage is a comfortable family home, located on a private section next to the church, it offers:

- 4 bedrooms plus a small study
- 2 bathrooms and a separate toilet
- Floor area is 232m<sup>2</sup>.
- Land area is 1621m<sup>2</sup>



# OUTREACH

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## **International Hearts**

A weekly evening meeting with a meal where newcomers to NZ can explore kiwi life and faith with us.

## **Prayer walking**

Weekly walking and prayer through our neighbourhood with others zooming in to participate without physically being there (if required under Covid 19 regulations).

## **Prison ministry**

A small group of us are mentoring long term prisoners through letter writing and phone calls to provide social contact for some who have no visitors.





## Evening worship service

To be monthly. This was to start in August 2021 but has been postponed due to the covid 19 restrictions.

## 'Posh Club'

These events ran before Covid, with 3 afternoon teas a year for the elderly and lonely in our community - usually had a theme (1920s, 60s etc), and a live band playing songs from the time.



# SERVICES

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## Sunday

**8.00am** - Traditional Service

Average congregation: 10 - 20 people

Music: Contemporary pre-recorded

**10.00am** - Family Service

Average congregation: 50 - 60 people

Music: Contemporary with a traditional twist  
- live

## Wednesday

**6:30am** - Morning Prayer

**10.00am** - Holy Communion

**7:30pm** - Evening Prayer





# FINANCIALS

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## 2021

- Total income was \$143,000
- Giving/Tithes was \$59,000

Investment income from commercial property fund and three leasehold residential properties \$82,000 (57.5% of total)



# HOW TO APPLY

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We would like to thank you for your prayerful consideration and discernment in filling this special role as Vicar of St Matthias', Panmure.

Applications or enquiries should be emailed to the Linkperson, Allister Samsom.

Allister's contact details are:

asamsomm@gmail.com

021 0269 1693

Please include:

- your curriculum vitae (CV)
- a covering letter
- contact details for three referees.

The closing date is **Tuesday 17 May 2022.**

Short listed applicants will be invited to attend an interview at the Diocesan Office in Parnell.

5 Thompson Road, Panmure  
09-527 6341  
[www.stmatthias.org.nz](http://www.stmatthias.org.nz)

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