



## **Parish Profile 2023**



**Church of the Saviour  
Anglican Church  
Parish of Blockhouse Bay, Auckland**

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Greetings, kia ora, nī hāo, namaste, mālō e lelei, talofa  
from Church of the Saviour.





# Introduction

We are Church of the Saviour (affectionately known as COTS). Thank you for your interest in the position of Parish Vicar of our church. Welcome! Kia ora, nī hāo, namaste, mālo e lelei, talofa!

COTS is a welcoming and friendly place, where people can meet with God and experience Christ's love and the warmth of Christian fellowship. Everyone is welcome and there is a real sense of belonging here. It is our prayer that the person God is calling to lead us over the next years will read this profile. Please pray to discern whether God is encouraging you to apply for the position, and if so please do apply!

The Parish has a mix of ages although the majority of the regular Sunday worshippers are of the older generation. In recent years, the cultural makeup of the parish family has become increasingly diverse due to changes in the Blockhouse Bay demographics. A number of families and individuals of different ethnicities and backgrounds have enriched Church of the Saviour and contributed to the life of the church. We have a desire to continue growing and developing as an intergenerational and intercultural community of faith.

There is a long tradition of active lay involvement in worship, leadership, preaching and in all the ministries and activities of the church. Many parishioners enjoy being actively involved in parish life, using their spiritual gifts, skills and abilities to serve God and others.

There is a desire to serve the local community by providing missional activities and ministries such as Mainly Music, School Holiday Programmes, Seniors @ the Bay Selwyn Foundation programme, and the annual community Christmas family event run by the churches in Blockhouse Bay.



## Our Vision



At Church of the Saviour, we are called together to glorify, go, grow, gather and show generosity to enable people to become lifelong followers of Jesus Christ in Blockhouse Bay and beyond.

We endeavour to live out and practice these 5G's in our daily lives. It is our prayer and goal that Church of the Saviour will be an intergenerational, intercultural, and intentional community of faith to be relevant in our times in Blockhouse Bay and beyond.

# Our Worship Services

## Weekly Services

### Sunday

- 9:00am Contemporary Holy Communion. This is our largest congregation. This service is live-streamed on Facebook for those who can't attend in person.
- 11:00am Conversation style gathering. This is a smallish group who enjoy a short talk, discussion and fellowship over tea and coffee.

### Wednesday

- 10:00am Holy Communion with a traditional liturgy. A number of people join our mid-week service. Some seniors find this gathering a smaller, more intimate group to worship with. This service is live-streamed on Facebook for those who can't attend in person.

### Monthly Service

- Messy Church (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month). Both church and non-church families in the community enjoy coming to Messy Church. There is a short talk, creative prayer, activities and fun for the whole family with a shared meal together.

### Distinctives

- Mostly contemporary music and songs.
- Significant lay involvement in worship leadership and preaching.
- Our worship services are more informal and contemporary. The liturgy we use and music lyrics are projected onto a screen
- Holy Communion – wine and grape juice is offered in individual cups in trays and gluten free wafers are available.
- Informal attire is the norm, robes are optional on formal occasions.



# Our Worship Style & Ethos

## Our Worship Style

Our worship services are more informal and contemporary, and less liturgically based than many Anglican churches in New Zealand. The parts of the New Zealand Prayer Book liturgy we use are projected onto a screen at the front of the church.

In our 9 am Sunday Service we intentionally welcome all ages. We believe we can learn from everyone and that it is important to share in growing in faith with all ages. Everyone is important. We are dedicated to developing lifelong faith formation for all our ages and stages.

All our teaching and preaching is based on the Scriptures, and people are encouraged to be engaged in their own daily Bible reading and devotions. Many Life Groups also provide opportunities for further sharing in the study of the Bible.

Church of the Saviour people have an appreciation of music in worship and generally prefer a more contemporary style of worship music.

## Our Theology and Ethos

Our theology and ethos is best described as conservative evangelical / charismatic. We are orthodox in our beliefs and practices and in our view of the authority of the Scriptures.

We seek to be evangelistic and are committed to supporting local and overseas missions. We have a number of evangelistic ministries. We encourage people to be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. There are always opportunities for people to receive prayer for healing and the empowering of the Spirit.

The Parish is also linked to AFFIRM, The Anglican Community of St Mark (see page 14) and New Wine NZ.





# Our People

## Vicar

As a Parish we are looking for a Vicar who will journey with us, sharing our vision and mission.

## Youth Ministry ~ part-time paid position

The position is currently vacant with the leaving of our youth pastor in Dec 2022.

## Children's Ministry and Senior's Ministry ~ part-time paid position

Claire Wyeth is our co-ordinator of ministry with children, which is a part-time role. She is also the Seniors @ the Bay Co-ordinator. The Seniors role is also part time, funded by a grant from the Selwyn Foundation. Claire enjoys her work with people of all ages! She is also a member of vestry and undertakes the secretary role.

## Lay Leaders ~ voluntary role

We have 5 Licenced Lay Ministers - Claire, Christine, Donna, Lysie and Sujoy.

The lay leadership team consisting of the Church Wardens, Vestry members and Licenced Lay Ministers are very committed to COTS.

## Administrator and Church Manager ~ part-time paid position

Claire Wyeth manages most of the administrative and day-to-day details of our church along with some other willing volunteers.

## Volunteers

At every level, volunteers ensure the ministry of the church is alive and vibrant. There has been a long tradition of active lay involvement in all the ministries and activities of the church.



Our Lay Leaders – Vestry, Church Wardens & Licenced Lay Ministers.

# Our Thanksgiving to God

Back in 2019 our church experienced a challenging time when a significant number of parishioners left us over the decision made by General Synod to allow blessings of couples in same-sex relationships. Through this painful time, God remained faithful to us and by his love and grace we have returned to being a strong, healthy and vibrant church and we continue to flourish.

We give thanks to God that he has brought stability, healing, unity, peace and wholeness amongst us. Our church is a happy place filled with people who genuinely care for each other. Our people love Jesus and are committed to serving him in our local community, sharing the good news of Jesus and the love of God. God has helped us at Church of the Saviour to be resilient, to bounce back and to keep moving forward in him. We are immensely grateful for God's continued faithfulness, goodness and blessings to us. We are very positive for the future and the good plans God has for us.

We give thanks to God that our community of faith is increasing in numbers following the church split in 2019 and the Covid lockdowns and restrictions. Over the past 6 months we have seen an average combined attendance of 105 people per week attending all our church services on Sunday, Wednesday and at Messy Church. We are excited to see new people joining us. We are excited for what God plans for us in the future. We look forward to what God is doing with a positive faith filled attitude.

We give thanks to God that he continues to bless us with sufficient income to meet all our financial commitments for ministry and operational expenses, and employment of church staff. Our financial budget this year is forecasted to have a small deficit of \$1800.00, but in faith we believe that our income and expenses will match and there will be no deficit. A copy of our 2023 budget is available upon request to those considering applying for the vicar role.

We are thankful to God for our committed and dedicated lay leadership team and our parish staff. They work harmoniously together and with previous vicars, and have a strong sense of unity. We are very grateful for everyone in our church family, and the way they lovingly serve God and others through the different ministries and activities of our church. We value all our volunteers and give thanks to God for them; we couldn't function without them!

We look forward with anticipation for the new vicar God is calling to lead us into the next chapter of our church's journey. God is good and we glorify his name!



# Our Ministries

## Pastoral Care

Our parish values the importance of offering pastoral care and support to those in need. We have a number of caring networks, some organised and others just happen naturally because of a sense of being in the family of God together.

Our primary Pastoral Care Team consists of:

- Staff
- Lay Leaders
- Life Group Leaders
- Parishioners

Pastoral Care



## Life Groups

We have a number of Life Groups meeting in homes or at church helping us to follow Jesus and experience God in our lives. These small groups give an opportunity for people to share their lives, prayer together, have fellowship and fun, provide care for each other, and discuss and understand Scripture.

## Prayer

Prayer is important to us and we have:

- Prayer Meetings
- Prayer Groups
- Prayer Chain
- Prayer Ministry during services and at other times



## Ecumenical Activities

We share a common faith ethos with the Blockhouse Bay Baptist Church (BBBC), the Blockhouse Bay Community Church (BBCC) and the Blockhouse Bay Presbyterian Church (Iona) with whom we work quite closely. We share the Ash Wednesday service and an Advent service with these 3 churches plus St Dominic's Catholic Church. The churches in Blockhouse Bay also share in Christmas and Easter letterbox drops and a community Christmas event which is held the week before Christmas, at either the local beach or park, attracting up to 2,000 people. We also participate in the Blockhouse Bay Christmas Parade. There is a ministers group with the leaders from COTS, BBBC, BBCC and Iona, which meets monthly.



**Linked Church - Light of Grace Chinese Church** meets weekly In our church building for a service in Mandarin led by Pastor David Deng. The service is at 2.30pm every Sunday and anyone is welcome to attend. We occasionally have combined services and social functions together.



# Our Ministry with Children

## **Our Sunday services are intentionally intergenerational**

Our primary-aged children are included as part of our services each week. They add a richness of voice to our readings and we love hearing their answers to the questions of the day. We have tables with activities that our creative people of all ages use. Our services are where all ages and stages worship and explore faith together. We think we can learn from everyone and that it is important to share in growing in faith with all ages. Everyone is important.

## **School Holiday Programme**

Twice a year in July and October we run a programme on the mornings of the first week of the school holidays. It attracts about 50-70 children each day for the week plus up to 20 youth who help lead.

## **Messy Church**

Messy Church runs once a month for families and includes a message, a meal, lots of crafts, fun and games. It is usually the third Saturday of the month from 4-6pm.

## **Mainly Music**

Mainly Music for pre-schoolers runs on a Tuesday morning for a half hour of songs and fun followed by a morning tea and playtime for the children.

## **Special events**

Blockhouse Bay Christmas Trail for local shops and families.  
Participation in the Blockhouse Bay Christmas Parade.



# Our Ministry with Youth

For the past 3 years our Youth Group (for school years 7 to 13) was led by Thomas Banks. He left us in December 2022 for his OE now that Covid travel restrictions have lifted. We are now looking for someone to replace him.

## Friday Youth

Friday night fun from 7 pm to 9 pm during the school term. It features a mixture of games, activities, discussion nights and social events. Our youth group is reasonably small so we often combine with the Lynfield Community Church youth group for Friday night activities and discussion.

## Sunday Youth

Our Sunday youth join our Sunday 9am service that is intentionally intergenerational. They can catch up with each other and people from other age groups, look into the Bible with everyone and explore our relationship with God and others.

Our young people also take part in camps, sports, Easter camp and youth activities within the Diocese and New Wine.



# Our Ministry with the Elderly

We have a thriving community of seniors here at Church of the Saviour.

## Seniors @ the Bay

Funded by the Selwyn Foundation which includes a Monday and Friday Seniors Centre with chairbics, board games, morning tea and special features. There are regular visiting speakers, themed days and other activities. We use the 5 ways of wellness from The Mental Health Foundation of NZ. Our values are mental stimulation, social interaction and FUN!

## Home Visiting

Staff and volunteers offer pastoral care through visiting elderly people, taking home communion, helping with transport for medical treatment, and arranging meals.



Monday's Seniors @ the Bay Group – Feb 2023



Friday's Seniors @ the Bay Group – Feb 2023



# Our Ministry & Outreach to our Community

**We seek to serve our community and reach out with the love of Jesus through a variety of ministries and activities such as:**

- Mainly Music
- School Holiday Programme
- Messy Church
- Seniors @ the Bay
- Blockhouse Bay Food Pantry
- Food parcels
- Prison Ministry – a team are involved in taking services at Mt Eden Prison.
- COTS Quilters Group – for all craft activities
- Community Christmas event



## We Support Local & Global Mission

We give 10% of our core non-targeted income to local and overseas mission.

The church invests in local mission to our community and also in global mission.

We support mission both globally and locally through the Auckland City Mission, Church Army, Anglican Trust for Women and Children, Anglican Missions Board, NZCMS, amongst others.

# Our Local Community

## Local Schools

- Blockhouse Bay Kindergarten
- Blockhouse Bay Primary School
- Glenavon Primary/Intermediate School
- Chaucer Primary School
- St Dominic's Catholic School
- Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School
- Lynfield College



## Local Rest Homes & Retirement Villages

- Peacehaven Carehome
- Capella House
- Blockhouse Bay Rest Home
- Bupa Sunset Retirement Village and Care Home
- Murray Halberg Retirement Village
- Powley – Metlifecare Retirement Village
- Bupa Glenburn Care Home
- Crestwood - Metlifecare Retirement Village

Blockhouse Bay Beach on the Manukau Harbour



# Our Affiliation with The Anglican Community of St Mark and Implications



This Ministry Unit is a member of The Anglican Community of St. Mark (ACM).

This membership was ratified at a general meeting of parishioners (AGM or SGM) following a period of consultation, in accordance Title B Canon XXXVIII agreed by General Synod/Te Hinota Whanui, 2018. The constitution of The Anglican Community of St. Mark has been approved by the Standing Committee of General Synod/ Te Hinota Whanui, also in accordance with the Canon, and therefore has recognised standing within the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia (ACANZP).

While the chosen candidate will be licenced by the Diocesan Bishop, only clergy who are members of ACM (or otherwise subscribe to the beliefs and discipline of The Anglican Community of St. Mark) can be appointed to this Ministry Unit.

There are four things that ACM sees as important for candidates to consider:

1. ACM was established to support, encourage, and communicate biblically founded Christian doctrine in keeping with the Anglican Tradition. ACM, therefore, holds traditional views on matters of ethics and morality within society and the church. In all things, we seek to be gracious in the outworking of these views and doctrines. Any candidate for this Ministry Unit must be willing to hold, espouse, and share such doctrines and views.
2. ACM embraces the ACANZP four-fold mission statement and that is contained within the Constitution/Te Pouhere of the Church, Namely:
  - a) Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - b) Teaching, baptising, and nurturing believers within eucharistic communities of faith.
  - c) Responding to human need by loving service, and
  - d) Seeking to transform unjust structures of society, caring for God's creation, and establishing the values of the Kingdom.

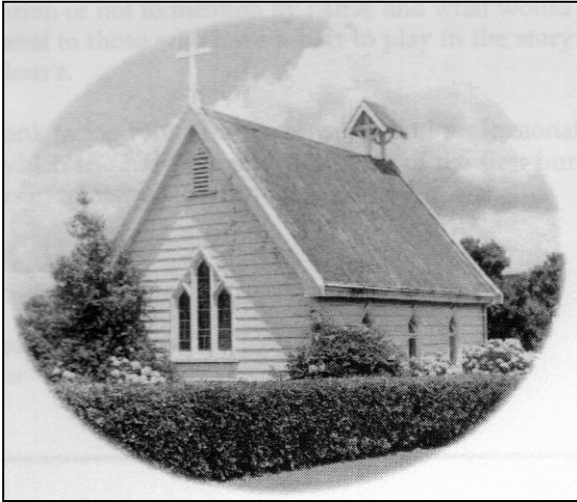
While not neglecting the other marks of mission, "Proclamation" is ACM's top priority. We are committed to finding ways of proclamation that are respectful (1 Peter 3:15) while proclaiming the unique hope that is found in Jesus Christ, Lord of all.

3. The ACM Constitution pledges our commitment to the three Tikanga nature of this Church and accepts the responsibilities and privileges of working in partnership with the whole Church.
4. ACM exists to support and encourage all members of the Community and have a positive influence in the ACANZP. ACM offers prayer, support, encouragement, and resources to each of its members and looks for clergy and leaders to enhance that fellowship by assisting in the building of a sense of belonging to ACM and encouraging their members to do the same.

Further details about the Anglican Community of St Mark can be found on the following link:  
<https://acm.net.nz/>



# Our History



## **Church of the Good Shepherd 1898**

The first church was built in 1898 through the combined work of Anglicans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Baptists. It was consecrated as the Anglican Chapel of the Good Shepherd by Archbishop Cowie on 31 August 1898. In 1900 it was re-named St Saviours. This building is now at the Museum of Transport and Technology.

## **St Saviours 1900-2000**

Various building and development took place during this time, including the building of a hall in 1951, which was later to become the church. A "temporary" church was built in 1962. In 1979 extensive developments took place and in 1989 the office and creche wing was built. At the end of 1999 this church building was demolished in preparation for the new centennial project church.



## **Church of the Saviour 2001**

During the building of the new church services were held off-site thanks to the co-operation of local churches. The church was dedicated and re-named Church of the Saviour in May 2000 and consecrated by Bishop John Paterson in September 2001.

**August 2023** - we will celebrate our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of worship, mission and ministry in Blockhouse Bay.

**125 years of worship & mission in Blockhouse Bay**

# Our Church Campus & Housing

The parish is blessed with a good facilities and accommodation.

## The Church campus at 2 Heaphy Street

We have a multipurpose building which includes the following:

- Church auditorium seating up to 230.
- Entry foyer and lounge served by a well-equipped kitchen.
- Community hall with its own kitchen and toilet amenities.
- Playgroup area with its own kitchen, amenities and adjacent outdoor playground area.
- Offices with a small kitchen and amenities, along with other rooms which can be used for various purposes.
- The site is well landscaped with a limited amount of parking.



## House at 50 Kay Drive

Situated 700 metres to the north-west of the church building, this is a four bedroom home with a lounge, kitchen and dining area with laundry and bathroom upstairs. There is an additional large rumpus type room downstairs with its own bathroom. The house has a single garage, carport and other on-site car parking. There is also a reasonable sized deck off the lounge on the western side of the house which catches the afternoon sun.



## House at 4 Heaphy Street

This two level house is immediately adjacent to the church campus. At the upper level is a lounge, kitchen, dining room and four bedrooms with a separate bathroom. Downstairs is a single garage, large storage room, large laundry, office and toilet amenities. This house is currently tenanted providing income for the church.



# Looking to the Future

In preparation for this appointment process, parishioners met to explore and reflect on our life as a Parish. At our *Future Directions* meeting we articulated 4 top priorities for mission and ministry over the next three years.

These priorities are to:

- Focus on the growth of the number of young families attending our church and development of family ministries.
- Revitalise the music ministry to assist us to worship God in song and enhance the worship experience.
- Continued growth and development as an intergenerational church.
- Continued growth and development as an intercultural church, recognising, incorporating and integrating ethnic cultural diversity.

## Our New Vicar

We are looking for a Spirit filled Vicar with a strong personal faith who feels called by God to our church and who will share, embrace and prioritise our vision – “We are called together to glorify, go, grow, gather and show generosity to enable people to become lifelong followers of Jesus Christ in Blockhouse Bay and beyond.”

At our *Future Directions* meeting we identified the following leadership qualities, skills and attributes we are looking for in a new vicar.

We would like our new vicar to:

- Be energetic and enthusiastic, having resilience and perseverance.
- Have well-developed interpersonal and relational skills and able to connect with all ages.
- Be a passionate disciple of Jesus Christ through the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Be able to decipher the voice of God and be led by the Spirit.
- Have strong Biblical knowledge, is an engaging Scripturally based preacher and teacher, and able to apply the Word of God to every day life.
- Be pastorally caring and a prayerful person.
- Have a heart for local mission and outreach, with an ability to develop strategy and practical actions to reach out to people in the community to help grow our church.
- Be a collaborative and consultative decision maker, using a servant leadership model.
- Have an ability to lead and work effectively as part of a team and have a willingness to delegate to others. Able to empower and inspire others, supports and encourages lay ministry.
- Be (or become) a member of The Anglican Community of St Mark, or otherwise subscribe to the beliefs and discipline of ACM by signed assent to the ACM Covenant.



# How to Apply?

Applications or enquiries can be directed to the Parish Nomination Committee Linkperson:

Sujoy Nandy  
sujoynz@gmail.com  
Ph 021 231 5214

Applications are to include:

- Your CV and a covering letter which outlines what appeals to you about the role, why you feel inspired to apply and what you are offering.
- Details for three referees who can comment on your ministry practice and character. (Referees will only be contacted for those candidates who are short-listed).
- Please provide a link to (or the text of) 2 recent sermons.

**Applications close on Monday 8 May 2023.**

**Interviews with candidates that are shortlisted is proposed to occur on Saturday 20 May, depending on the application response.**

