Anglican Diocese of Auckland

Parish Profile

Mangawhai

Christ the King, Mangawhai
St. Paul's, Kaiwaka
St. Michael's and All Angels, Hakaru

A Warm Welcome

Thank you for taking the time to read our Parish Profile. Whether you are prayerfully discerning a call to ministry with us, or simply curious about our parish family, we're glad you're here. In the pages that follow, we've tried to share not just the facts about our churches and our community, but a genuine sense of who we are — a small, faithful and close-knit parish with a big heart, looking for a leader to walk alongside us into our next chapter. We hope you'll come away with a real feel for the warmth of our community and the opportunity that awaits our next vicar.

Our Mission Statement

To awaken and nurture spiritual growth, so that, empowered by Christ within us, we actively respond to the needs of our community — "God cares, we care."

Who We Are

We are a parish of three churches, each with its own character and history, united by shared worship, warm fellowship and a genuine care for one another and our wider community. Across Mangawhai, Kaiwaka and Hakaru, our congregations bring together long-time locals and newer arrivals, traditional faith and contemporary expression, quiet reflection and lively community spirit. Here's a little about each of our churches.

Christ the King, Mangawhai

Our Mangawhai church is a light, modern space built in 2012, with a welcoming feel. Folding wooden doors open the nave onto an attached lounge and kitchen, along with an office and toilets, making it a flexible and comfortable place for worship and gathering alike. There's a large carpark and landscaped grounds, and the church itself (9 Molesworth Drive, Mangawhai Village) sits elevated and visible on a slight rise above a busy road, a real presence in the heart of our growing community.

The church facilities are widely used by the community for a range of activities including exercise, weddings and funerals.

The church seats 100 with the option of opening the rear wall to extend into the hall, doubling the space. A sound system ensures everyone can feel included.



Weekly services are held at 9am, apart from the 5th Sunday when we all gather at Hakaru. Originally comprising farming families from surrounding area, this has grown to include others who have moved to the area but retaining a particular link to the rural community.

Currently the Parish roll sits at 44 with approximately half worshipping at Christ the King.

The services follow the Anglican liturgy accompanied by hymns and songs led by the organ.

St. Paul’s, Kaiwaka

Built in the 1930s and extended in 1962, St. Paul's has real history and character. It sits in the center of Kaiwaka village, right next to the primary school. It seats 60–80 people, with an adjoining hall, toilets and kitchen for shared meals and gatherings. Kaiwaka is a growing village, and so, we're pleased to say, is our congregation — about half of our group are long-time locals, while the other half have made Kaiwaka their home within the last decade or so, bringing fresh energy alongside deep roots.



Our fortnightly Sunday services are usually a Eucharist. With a rich and varied history, our group brings together a lively mix of denominational backgrounds. We're a small congregation, but one with real leadership gifts among us. Our annual Carol Service is always well attended by the wider community, and we're long-standing supporters of the Kaiwaka and Te Whai Food Bank. We've stayed flexible with service times, we welcome a wide range of music, and we try to keep up with new technology. We understand pastoral care and do our best to look after one another. While we're serious about our faith, we know we need the focus, encouragement and challenge that a gifted and skilled pastoral leader can bring.

St. Michael’s and All Angels Church and Cemetery, Hakaru

St. Michael's and All Angels is a truly special place — a lovely historic church, 137 years old, set in an idyllic rural setting at 61 Valley Road, Hakaru. It is roughly halfway between Kaiwaka and Mangawhai, right alongside its cemetery. The cemetery has been in continuous use since 1863, from its first burial — an infant child — through to its most recent in 2026, a quiet thread connecting generations of our parish family.

The original church building was gifted to Hukatere, in the Ruawai District, and the church that stands today was built in 1886 and consecrated by the then Bishop of Auckland, Bishop Cowie, on 1 April 1887. It comfortably seats 80 people, and we hold a service here on the 5th Sunday of

the month whenever one falls in the calendar, along with a much-loved Carol Service each Christmas Eve.



Given its idyllic setting, St. Michael's is also a popular choice for weddings, and burials and the interment of ashes still take place here today — a living church woven into the rhythms of the community it has served for well over a century.

The Vicarage

Our vicarage, built in 2014, is a comfortable family home at 8 Matuku Place, in the Vista Verana subdivision in Mangawhai Village, within easy reach of the church. Built of light-coloured brick with a colour steel tile roof, it offers three bedrooms, a lounge, dining room, kitchen, office, bathroom and separate toilet, plus an attached garage with laundry and a heat pump in the main living area. The section is fully fenced, with a covered outdoor patio and a pleasant garden — a private, settled base to call home while serving our parish. The house is presently tenanted and would become available to our new Vicar.



Mangawhai – Your New Home

Mangawhai sits on the east coast of the North Island, about 50 minutes south of Whangārei and 45 minutes north of Auckland City — close enough for city access, far enough to feel like a genuine escape. Inland, west of the coast, rolling farmland gives way to boutique vineyards, olive groves and avocado orchards. The area's early settlers, arriving in the mid-1800s, made their living from kauri felling, gum digging and farming — a heritage still visible in the landscape today.

Mangawhai's beautiful estuary and surf beach draw swimmers and surfers alike, and the community spirit here runs deep: MAZ, the Mangawhai Activity Zone, has been built almost entirely by volunteers and funded through community donations over the past seven years, and now hosts the Mangawhai Bowl Jam each year, drawing competitors from across New Zealand, alongside a wonderful playground for children of all ages.



There's plenty to enjoy day to day, too — cafés, craft shops and other local retail, a tavern, a motor camp, backpackers and two Christian motor camps. The Mangawhai Museum tells the story of the families who settled the area, and its pioneer village is also home to the hull of the Daring, recovered from the sand dunes between Muriwai and South Head. It's no surprise Mangawhai is such a popular holiday destination, especially in summer, as families increasingly look to escape busy Auckland life.

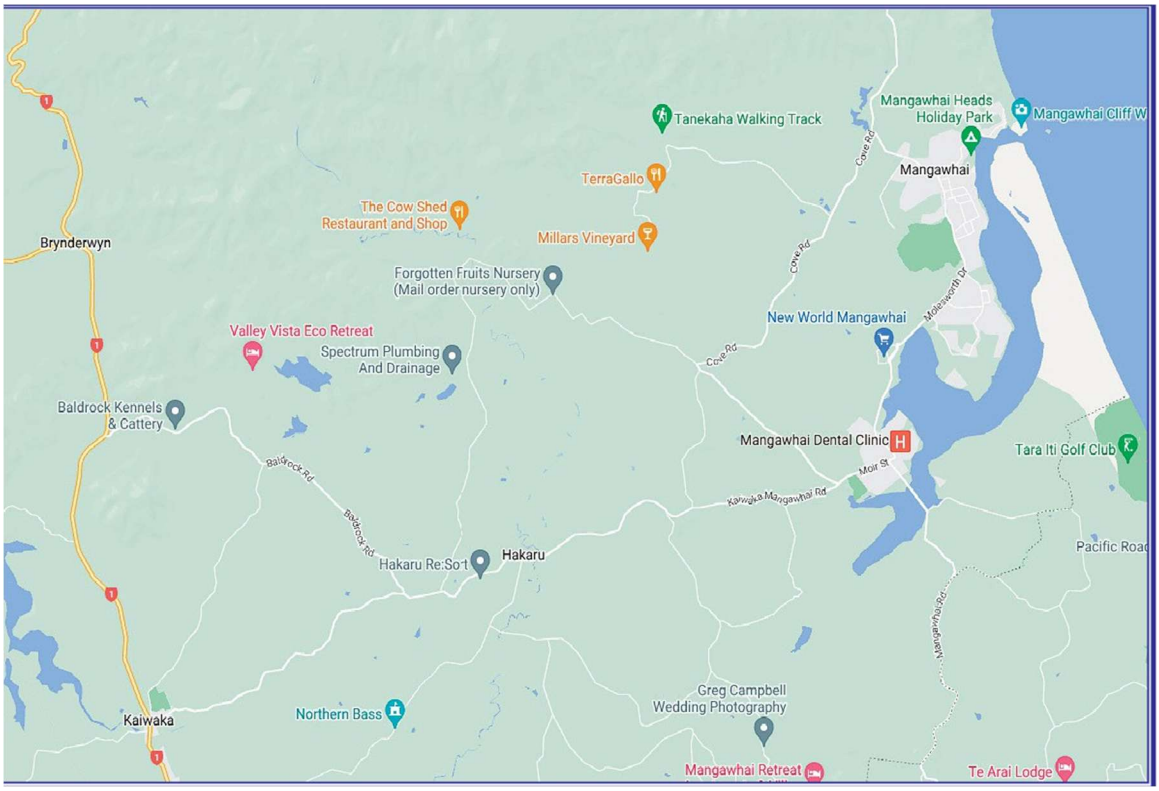


New Year hosts the very popular Northern Bass outdoor music festival with crowds of 6000 people staying for two days of concerts. This is now in its 15th year.

Just south of Mangawhai lies Te Arai. Renowned for its pristine white-sand beaches (left), world-class golf courses, and critically endangered wildlife, it offers a perfect mix of outdoor adventure and luxury.

A Thriving, Growing Community

Mangawhai's estimated permanent population of 7,200 (2025) makes it one of the fastest-growing areas in New Zealand, with demographics shifting as people move out of Auckland in search of a less congested lifestyle. The population is expected to grow by more than 20,000 people over the next two decades — many residents already commute daily to Auckland for work.



There's a real range of clubs, societies and support groups catering to sporting, cultural and youth interests, including a golf club, a bowls club and winter football at the domain, along with a Rotary Club and Zonta. A small picture theatre operates in the pioneer village next to the museum.

Our primary school (with attached kindergarten) is growing quickly, alongside four other pre-school facilities, and secondary students attend Rodney College in Wellsford, or Otamatea High School in Maungaturoto. Mangawhai Hills College provides independent secondary education in the heart of Mangawhai.

Well underway is Mangawhai Central, a new town centre between Mangawhai Village and Mangawhai Heads that will eventually provide homes for a further 2,500 people, and already boasts a new Bunnings Hardware and New World supermarket, with more retail to follow.

Our Parish Life

Our parish life is rich and full, and currently includes:

Worship

- Sunday service 9.00am at Christ the King, Mangawhai
- Sunday service 11.00 am fortnightly at St Paul's, Kaiwaka
- Sunday service 11.00am, 5th Sunday of the month at St Michael's and All Angels, Hakaru (no service at Christ the King, Mangawhai on this Sunday)
- Special services (Easter, Christmas, St Francis Day pet blessing)

Fellowship and Small Groups

Beyond Sunday worship, there's a warm and active community life to be part of, including:

- Bible study (fortnightly)
- Ministry to the elderly and home communion
- Rhythm and Riggle
- Craft group

Serving Our Wider Community

We open our doors to the community too, hiring our halls for local Garden Club meetings, yoga and a fitness group, and we have a dedicated team of parishioners committed to home and housebound visiting, following up warmly with anyone who drifts away from us. We're also keen to build stronger links with local schools.



The original Christ the King Chapel at Mangawhai, which now sits in the grounds of the local museum.

Our Vision for the Future

We're a parish that knows where we've come from and is excited about where we're headed. Here's what we're working towards together:

Our Goals

- Regular weekly services
- Sustain and grow an active faith community across the Parish of Mangawhai, in numbers and in diversity
- Maintain vibrant, open and welcoming congregations, making full use of the versatile worship space our churches offer
- Keep our church buildings open, well maintained and available to the whole community
- Establish small groups for study, support and growth
- Regular social events to encourage fellowship
- Being aware of needs in our community and how we can provide support
- Visiting and praying with congregation members
- Seasonal celebrations in the community
- Having a more visible presence in the community (including social media)
- Support a current overseas mission project with a fundraising activity

Our Priorities for Mission and Ministry Over the Next Five Years

Outreach and Evangelism

- Grow the size and diversity of our congregation by equipping people to share their faith and invite others into a relationship with God
- Establish a “drop in” outreach

Focused Attention on Worship

- We see ourselves as grounded in the Anglican tradition, but are looking to bring more diversity and flexibility to worship
- We’d like to grow the number of worshippers, especially younger members, becoming a place where children and young people genuinely want to worship

What We're Looking For

We're seeking someone with a strong personal and biblical faith and excellent communication skills, a sense of humour, who can inspire and encourage our faith community to get involved in building up the body of Christ. We'd love someone with strong relational skills, who is passionate about strengthening and nurturing relationships both within our parish and across our wider community. Worship is central to our life as a parish across Mangawhai and Kaiwaka, so we're looking for someone with a heart for both new and traditional expressions of worship — able to create something meaningful that genuinely engages parishioners and newcomers alike.

What You'll Find Here

A small but faithful and welcoming parish family across three distinctive churches; a comfortable vicarage in one of New Zealand's fastest-growing and most attractive coastal communities; a congregation that is realistic about the challenges ahead and genuinely excited to face them alongside the right leader; and a community — inside and outside the church — that is ready to welcome you with open arms.

Join Us as Our Next Vicar

We hope this profile has given you a real sense of who we are as a community, the vision we hold for the future, and the qualities we're looking for in our next Vicar. Above all, we hope it's conveyed the warmth, faith and community spirit that make Mangawhai such a rewarding parish to be a part of. We'd love to hear from you.

Making your application

Thank you for your interest in the position of Vicar of the Parish of Mangawhai. We invite you to submit a formal application to the Bishop's Office, via:

bishopoffice@aucklandanglican.org.nz

Your application should include:

- A cover letter of application from you, including how you feel your skills, experience, and strengths meet the needs of our Parish as expressed in this Parish Profile.
- A copy of your Curriculum Vitae.
- Two sermons. These should preferably be provided as video recordings of services at which you have preached. Audio recordings or written sermons may also be submitted.
- The names and contact details of three referees which should include a lay person from your current place of ministry.

Applications close on **Friday 20 November**.

Should you be shortlisted for the role you will be invited to attend an interview.

Please note that your referees will be contacted to complete a standard referee form. They may also be contacted for more information/feedback as a part of the interview and discernment process.