



Parish Profile

St Oswald's

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we live, walk and work.
We acknowledge their continued survival and spiritual connection to country and the surroundings
We pay our respects to their Ancestors and to Elders past and present.

Our vision

**With God's help we seek to share our faith, to make and nurture new disciples,
proclaim the Good News and bring hope by being a visible and inclusive Christian Community.**

Introduction

Our Parish lies 12 km northeast of the centre of Brisbane and embraces the Brisbane suburbs of Banyo, Nudgee, Nudgee Beach and parts of Northgate and Virginia. The Parish lies between Sandgate Road and the Gateway Arterial Road with the Shorncliffe Railway line passing through the centre of the area. We belong in the Northern Region of the Brisbane Diocese.

Our story:

The hall was the original church, opened on 17 February 1929 by Anglican Archbishop of Brisbane, Gerald Sharp.

Fifty years ago, the worship centres of St Oswald's Banyo and St Peter's Northgate were separated from the Parish of Nundah to form a new Parochial District. A declining congregation meant that in 1991, St Peter's Northgate was closed and sold, leaving the single parish centre at St Oswald's in Froude Street Banyo. Funds from the sale of the Northgate centre provided the capital necessary to extend and add the verandas and the double doors to the church at Banyo which sits on a large block of land alongside the rectory and the parish hall.

St Oswald's Church is known as "the church of many doors."

We are a small parish and we are proud of our reputation within our wider community.

Our history is worth remembering though our focus is our present and our hopes are for our future.



Mission Activities

OUR MISSION:

As a community of faith, we are committed to making Christ known in all that we think, say and do, to grow God's Kingdom.

Our mission activities are part of our everyday church life.

We regularly collect for the pantry in a neighbouring parish.

We take an active interest in social issues and seek to respond effectively within our resources.

We reach out to our local community via our Craft group and Twilight markets and Parish Fete.



Our Priest

We are looking for a Priest who respects that our priority is our worship.

We are informal though traditional, with a strong emphasis on Comprehensive Anglicanism and regular celebration of the Eucharist.

The sermon is printed in the pew bulletin and on our facebook page for those who wish to reflect at home or take to friends and family who are unable to attend our church services.

We have a deep desire to look after all those who have some sort of contact with our parish.

We hope for a mid-week eucharist and formal clergy-led opportunities to attract new disciples with whom we can share the love and excitement that God brings to our lives.

We desire, and are prepared to work for, a sound future. We believe this will be achieved with good leadership, mutual respect and teamwork.

We would like our priest to lead by example, possess a good sense of humour, to be a “person of the people”, be approachable and have good communication skills.

Our People

Our core congregation is skewed towards the elderly. In the past, St Oswald's had a busy children's ministry and those families remain connected to our parish. They join us at Christmas and Easter, bring family members to baptisms and support our Twilight Markets and Annual Fete.

We love to sing and music is core to our Sunday worship. Hymns are generally chosen from *Together in Song* and our musician has a choice of piano or organ for accompaniment.

We have four licenced liturgical assistants who are rostered for Sunday services. LAs also take communion to the sick and infirm.

We roster readers, intercessors and welcomers for our Sunday Service.

We have a volunteer who is trained as a Safeguarder to work towards ensuring the safety of children and vulnerable people in our parish.

We have a team of volunteers who like to get things done.

We welcome and like to get to know new people in our community.



Profile areas of active interest

We are grateful to have received funding from various community grants, enabling us to further our outreach in the community.

We fundraise through our Twilight Markets and our Annual Fete, both of which are well supported by our local community.

Our parish has an Anglicare Ambassador. This helps to encourage our church's congregation to support Anglicare's goal in stopping the cycle of generational poverty in our community. It also helps to raise awareness and support groups, events and causes through education, fundraising and donation drives.

Our parish supports the work of ARRCC (Australian Religious Response to Climate Change) and is active in sharing information on their work. In addition, we acknowledge the object of Angligrreen within the parish in fulfilling the fifth mark of mission of the Diocese, i.e. "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth".

Mothers' Union

Banyo Caritas was founded in 1990 by Mrs Joy Freier. In 2006 it became a branch of Anglican Mothers' Union Australia. The main focus of AMUA is on prayer.

The Caritas banner displays our first ministry of taking flowers to those who are sick, troubled or bereaved. We are now a very active branch of AMUA, contributing towards its many projects and enjoying fellowship with other branches.

We knit blankets, beanies and scarves for the Mission to Seafarers and those in need. We knit teddies for the newly baptised, and for children suffering trauma.

We host a fortnightly Craft, Coffee and Chat group, where anyone is welcome to join us with their craft projects or just to come for coffee and chat.

We take part in the "16 Days of Activism against Domestic Violence" each year and were inspired by the Red Rose Foundation to erect a Red Bench in the church grounds as a reminder that domestic violence is happening in every community.

We visit and pray for the sick and elderly in our parish.



Parish Campus



Banyo Parish Hall

In 2021, we secured a single long-term tenant for our hall which was renovated for the new tenancy including painting the outside of the building. The rent from the tenancy provides about 45% of our annual income.



Banyo Parish Rectory

Our rectory sits on the same campus as our hall and church. It is currently occupied by a small family, on a three-year lease. Currently we do not have a rectory to offer our priest, however we do though have the finances to pay the appropriate housing allowance as defined by the Canons.



St Oswald's

In 2022 we painted the inside of our church. At the back of the church is a multifunctional space that allows for a variety of uses for ministry outreach.

We are currently investigating, with the Diocesan Property Office, the inclusion of a kitchenette and toilet facilities within the current footprint of our church.

While our parish does not own a vehicle, our annual budget allows for payment of the appropriate motor vehicle allowance as defined by the Canons.

We employ an office assistant 8 hours a week and have a well-equipped office situated within the parish hall. This space does not form part of the leased area.



Memorial Garden

A memorial garden was established on the northern side adjacent to the church. Memorial plaques are added to a Memorial Board situated on the northern wall within the church building. There is also a Memorial Book located at that position with photographs and details of those persons whose ashes have been placed in the garden.

Banyo / Nundah Alliance

In early 2023, we entered into an agreement with the Parish of Nundah to explore a number of initiatives. The first step has been to jointly fund a full-time clergy position. We recognise that we are more likely to fill a full-time position than two part-time ones. Nundah parish funds 2/3 of the full-time position and Banyo funds 1/3 (ie 2 clergy days per week.)

We combine with Nundah Parish for Lenten and Advent studies.

Our parish councils and our finances remain independent from Nundah Parish, and our collaboration is supported by our bishop.

We recognise the benefits of extending our alliance with the Nundah Parish.

Our Parish Prayer

*Loving Creator,
Source of all life,
fill us with your love
that we may reflect the love
of your Son Jesus
in all that we think and say and do.
Help us to share our faith
with those around us
and give us your Spirit
to be our strength and guide,
For Jesus' sake. Amen*

Facebook : www.facebook.com/stoswaldsbanyo

If you have a sense that God may be calling you to Banyo Parish and would like to discuss this further; or, if you have some questions about the role, please contact Bishop for the Northern Region:

Bishop Jeremy Greaves
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