



Booval Parish Profile



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MISSION



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Parish of All Saints' Anglican Church Booval is situated at 144 Brisbane Road Booval on the eastern side of Ipswich. It adjoins the parishes of Ipswich and Goodna and forms the eastern boundary of the Western Region within the Diocese of Brisbane. The parish encompasses the suburbs of Booval, Silkstone, Bundamba, Ebbw Vale, and Dinmore.

The Parish of All Saints' is 127 years old, having previously been part of the Ipswich parish of St. Paul's. It became a parish in its own right in 1959.

All Saints has a long and faithful history within the Christian community of Ipswich. Over the years many people have set out from the parish into fulltime ministry and a significant number to service on the mission field both within Australia and overseas. To coincide with the 125th anniversary of All Saints in 2021, a book titled *UNLEASHED* was published. The book focuses on the ministries of two dedicated priests, the Rev Colin Ware and the Rev Don Douglass and is a collection of stories recalling the years between 1955 to 1965 in the parish of All Saints', Booval, and the remarkable group of people called into full-time Christian service from the church during that era, including seven ordained priests and 11 missionaries.

The current church building is now 39 years old. A friendly and spacious building comfortably seating 170. This building replaced an older wooden building with the interesting history of having been moved on barrels to where our present church is located. The original building needed to be replaced due to growth of the congregation.

The church is ideally located, close to shopping facilities, services, and transport. Being situated near a busy intersection controlled by a set of traffic lights it potentially provides a prime location for a Church noticeboard.

The area surrounding the church has become more commercialised over time, yet still enjoys the benefit of being located within a primarily residential area. An increase in unit development in the vicinity of the church now gives rise to a potential for change in the demography of the area.

The Church is very accessible being located on a bus route and a 10-minute walk to the Booval Railway station. The church has dual access, the main entrance located on Brisbane Road, with a side entrance in Booval Street between two residential properties which are also owned by the parish.

Over the past 63 years All Saints has enjoyed a history of long tenured priests having had only had 7 Priests since it became a Parish in its own right in 1959. These are as follows:

Revd. Colin Ware 1959 – 1961
Revd. Don Douglass 1961 - 1965
Revd. Herbert Robey 1965 - 1977
Revd. Kevin Ellem 1978 – 1990

Revd. Leslie Fernance 1990 – 2009
Revd. Keren Terpstra 2009 – 2016
Revd. Christopher Bate 2018 – 2022

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

The city of Ipswich has a rapidly growing population, presently nominated at 233,302. Although a significant number of people commute to Brisbane for work, the city of Ipswich boasts many industries and services within its boundaries. The projection for the city is major growth in the immediate future, with new residential developments opening in the Ripley Valley and Springfield areas.

Both the Ipswich City Council and the Mayor of Ipswich keenly promote the city of Ipswich, and the many aspects that commend the city. Within the region there are many schools, including West Moreton Anglican College, Springfield Anglican College, Ipswich Girls' Grammar, Ipswich Boys' Grammar, and several other private schools which complement the many State Primary and High Schools. Ipswich has two campuses of the University of Southern Queensland, together with a long-established TAFE Queensland. The city's proximity to Brisbane allows easy access to Brisbane Universities and further education facilities.

The Ipswich region has two private hospitals and one general hospital with access to the many specialists and services available within the city.

The city has a modern, attractive, and progressive library with a mobile library which visits Booval each Thursday. The City Council has continued to develop services and recreational outlets for the citizens of Ipswich, which now boasts a large number of parks and play areas including the Nature Park, Animal Nursery and Japanese Gardens within Queens' Park. The Railway Museum, Ipswich Art Gallery, and Willowbank Raceway are attractions known beyond the boundaries of the Ipswich region.

Ipswich is also home to many of the defence personnel based at Defence Base Amberley, which is also a big employer of civilian staff. RAAF Amberley also includes an Aviation Heritage Centre which is open to the public every third Sunday of the month.

The city is rich in choral and dramatic talent, boasting a number of state acclaimed choirs and theatre companies. Sporting facilities and opportunities are readily available. The region supports many community events – including the Ipswich Festival, Multicultural events, and numerous other events throughout the year catering for all ages.

The city is known for its heritage listed homes and has also become a reasonable option for people wishing to purchase homes within accessible reach of Brisbane City.

Within the parish itself there are two primary schools, one high school, a Catholic primary school, and a TAFE. Christian Religious Instruction (CRI) is provided through a dedicated network of volunteers from different denominations.

CHARACTER OF THE PARISH

Although a smaller congregation, the parish is friendly with an earnest desire to grow in faith and outreach. The parish has a significant proportion of retired folk. The Parish is actively pursuing younger families for growth. There is a regular attendance of approximately 35 dedicated and committed people who steadfastly support the parish and have been faithful in their stewardship of time and finance. A number of parishioners have been in the parish for most of their lives.

The services follow a traditional but informal format with a strong musical influence. Liturgical assistants play an integral role in all services and an overhead data projector is used for all parish services and events.

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

As a small congregation, there is opportunity for most people to get to know each other and the informality of the services allows for some interaction within the service as well.

The parish welcomes and enjoys the interaction of young family members of the congregation within our worship service and social activities. It is our desire to encourage young families and young adults into our midst. Families seeking baptism of their children are welcomed.

We are keen to make all visitors feel welcome in our church and encourage them to stay after the service for morning tea and a chat. We provide an opportunity for follow-up contact.

For some time, members in the parish have had concern for the people in developing residential area in Ripley where there is currently no Anglican presence.

CHURCH FACILITIES AND PROPERTIES

There is one worship centre at 144 Brisbane Road Booval. It has the potential to seat around 170 people. It is a relatively modern and accessible building.

A hearing loop to improve the quality of sound for the hearing-impaired members and visitors of the parish is installed in the church building.

The courtyard is largely covered and is an inviting and flexible space, currently used for all our social /communal activities. It has been modified to specifically cater for small groups and functions.

Parishioners and visitors alike are invited and encouraged to stay and chat over morning tea in the courtyard after the Sunday service. Where possible the people of the parish maintain the grounds and property.

PARISH HALLS

Anglicare currently leases the main hall. This hall also houses the main toilets for the complex. Considerable internal refurbishment is planned by Anglicare, with potential to continue to extend the current lease expiring on 30 June 2024.

The smaller hall has been leased by Anglicare for another of their services. The lease on this hall expires on 30 June 2024 and a new lease is dependent upon the continuation of Anglicare's funding for the provision of these services.

Both halls are in good condition, and an additional toilet is located in the Parish grounds.



RENTAL PROPERTIES

The old Rectory (7B) – a modest three-bedroom home also on the same grounds - has been rented for many years. (This facility does not meet the diocesan requirements for a rectory).

Adjoining this property and abutting Booval Street are two properties, number 7, and number 9 Booval Street, which the parish owns. These have been long term rental properties.

Whilst these are older properties, they previously have been a source of income for the parish and provide access to church property and much needed parking space for Anglicare. Currently, they provide lower cost rental housing for tenants.

Maintenance of all property is carried out as needed. Internal renovation work has recently been completed on number 9. The properties of the parish are maintained to a reasonable standard for their age and within the scope of the parish's capacity.

PARISH VEHICLE

A parish vehicle will be negotiated.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Members of the congregation are very faithful in their giving.

The finances of the parish are assisted by the lease of two halls to Anglicare and the rental of the three houses.

Additional fundraising is undertaken, if required, to supplement financial needs. This fundraising has most often taken the form of a social nature, with most funds used for community projects. Although the parish is completely debt free, it has a non-benefice status.

STAFFING

The only employed person in the parish is the Priest-in-Charge. Administrative tasks have previously been undertaken by the priest assisted by a part time administrative assistant. Some of these tasks are now undertaken by administration staff at St Pauls Ipswich under their Resource Parish arrangements. Additionally, the Treasurer and Wardens share the residual workload cooperatively.

Our parish membership includes a retired priest who worships with us on a regular basis. He is at present offering his services three days a week, on Sundays to conduct our services and some weekdays to attend to pastoral matters. He will also attend to urgent pastoral needs should they occur.

Three people perform liturgical duties for the services of Holy Communion on a rostered basis.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

There is one Holy Communion service each Sunday at 9.00 am. The order of service is provided through a Power Point presentation which also provides musical accompaniment for the hymns and songs. Worship is family friendly and contemporary, including a Kids video/talk where appropriate. Liturgical Assistants play a significant part in the service. The congregation is open to having a Prayer and Praise service on occasions as well. Morning tea follows the service.

With a very strong focus on Bible study in small groups, there are currently five such groups in operation– one of long standing, meeting every two weeks in people's homes. Two groups are held weekly on Tuesday mornings: one at church and another at a café. A group meets via Zoom on Thursday nights and another group meets at the church on Friday evenings.

All groups have been studying the same material based on the sermon series of various books of the Bible.

Prayer meetings are held on Wednesdays at 1.00pm and Saturdays at 4.30 pm.

Pre Covid, on 2nd and 4th Friday of the month a Communion Service was held at Milford Grange Nursing Home, Eastern Heights. The resumption of this service is being considered.

Likewise, a Communion service was led by the priest once a month at Villa Maria, a Catholic Nursing Home at Eastern Heights.

A number of members of the congregation have been involved in Cursillo and group meetings are held from time to time.

A couple of parishioners are always prepared to provide Sunday School during school terms. This is held in the foyer /courtyard of the church.

The people of the parish are very caring and always willing to support a need. Examples of some recent events are:

- Providing and delivering food parcels and/or supermarket food vouchers to those in need.
- Providing parish Christmas gifts for the Angel Tree project through Prison Fellowship Australia.
- Providing occasional meals for parishioners or people known to us in times of stress

A social group meets the first Friday of the month for coffee at a local restaurant and a men's group meets for coffee on the third Wednesday of each month at a local coffee shop. A ladies' fellowship group is also in the process of forming.

Special events during the year such as All Saints' Day are celebrated with a function and special service. A low-key family-oriented carols night with activities suitable for all has been held in recent years to reach out to the community.

The parish has been a very committed church towards Mission, particularly supporting the Church Missionary Society, Bush Church Aid, the Bush Ministry Fund and ABM. In 2021 the parish made a commitment to support the Angel Tree project through Prison Fellowship Australia for 2 years. Guest speakers are invited from other organisations to speak during the year.

The parish continues to support a sponsor child in Haiti through Compassion.

The parish family has become closely knit with people in contact with each other and prepared to provide support – practically and prayerfully.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Parishioners are involved in individual activities in the community such as Meals on Wheels, East Ipswich State School breakfast program, Religious Instruction in local primary schools, volunteering at TAFE in ESL and SES.

On Good Friday, parishioners are invited to, and have participated with the local Catholic Church in Stations of the Cross. This has been an ongoing link forged previously with local Catholic and Uniting Churches in the Booval area.

Parishioners regularly participate in and are involved in the organization of the World Day of Prayer activities.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

The church administration consists of one Rector's Warden and two People's Wardens, and a Parish Council of up to 6 elected representatives.

Day to day administration is managed within the parish with support, as required, through local resource church, St Paul's, in the Ipswich CBD. Access to office space has also been offered.

PARISH PROJECTS

Over the last five years the Parish has investigated a number of ways to establish a church plant in Ripley and this has included partnership with the Anglican Schools Commission, and a possible relocation to West Moreton Anglican College. Statistics provided by the Department of State Development suggest that the Ripley development region will have a population of 120,000 by 2032.

GOALS

- We feel called by God to nurture and equip disciples, and, as individuals and a community, be a faithful witness to Christ in Booval.
- We feel called to reach out to the Ripley community and to make Christ known there.
- We would like to share Christian Faith with a growing number of young families
- We would like to further develop the relationship between Anglicare staff and clients with the congregation.
- We pray that God will send us a leader who can walk with us, inspire us in Christian faith, and help us to follow God's leading in achieving the above goals.

APPENDIX A: The characteristics we seek in our next priest.

As a priest:

- Encourage the members of the congregation to grow in personal faith and commitment to God.
- Be firmly grounded in and directed by biblical principles.
- Have a caring and pastoral heart for people in this faith community and in the wider community.
- Seek opportunities to develop deeper relationship with Anglicare (as the community service arm of our Diocese and tenant of our property!).
- Support the current church congregation's preference for a modern open worship
- Support the local Christian Religious Instruction Network in the local State Schools and take up opportunities to participate in other ecumenical activities in our area.

As a leader:

- Lead the parish by example in prayer and worship and study of the Bible.
- Encourage the congregation to be confident in sharing their faith with others.
- Encourage the members of the congregation to generously share their faith, time, talents, and resources both within and beyond this faith community.
- Identify and encourage the use of the spiritual gifts, skills, and talents of people in the parish and be prepared to facilitate the growth of lay people in leadership.
- Facilitate the process of planning and goal setting to build the community of faith and reach out to the wider community in a desire to share the Good News.

Management/Administration

- Possess skills or have the willingness to gain the administrative skills required for running a parish.
- Be prepared to work independently and carry out some secretarial duties.

Diocesan and Wider

- Be mindful of and supportive of the wider mission and agencies of the church in Australia and overseas and be prepared to work together with local denominations in a spirit of ecumenism, building on the local links already established.

Personal

- Have a strong belief in and commitment to the power of prayer.
- Be grounded in and be able to teach the Scriptures.
- Be experienced in evangelism and be able to lead the congregation in reaching others for Jesus.

APPENDIX B: Some Church photos...



APPENDIX C: CHURCH FACILITIES MAP

