

Christ Church St.Lucia

– Parish Profile



Summary

Christ Church St.Lucia is seeking a new full-time Priest in Charge to become its Rector.

Our Parish is praying for a person who

- can take us forward in mission and ministry,
- is an energetic and committed Person-of-God,
- is able to lead our Parish in rich worship experiences,
- has a strong vision for outreach and growing the Kingdom of God in St. Lucia and beyond,
- is enthusiastic about and sympathetic towards the musical ministry of the Parish,
- is committed to organising and encouraging parishioners in pastoral care,
- is willing to work ecumenically and with other Anglican parishes in the local area,
- has proven ability to bring a high level of coordinating skill to managing teams and enhancing Parish activities.
- is creative in encouraging youth and family ministry.

Christ Church is a well-established, single centre parish located in the leafy suburb of St.Lucia, 6km from the Brisbane CBD and close to the University of Queensland. The Parish has a strong musical tradition, with an accomplished traditional Anglican choir and a new Allen digital organ. Our Director of Music is the internationally renowned

organist, Christopher Wrench. We are looking for a priest who is inspired by God and comfortable with the liberal Anglo-Catholic tradition of the Parish and who is enthusiastic about and sympathetic towards the musical traditions of the Parish. We are seeking a Rector with a vision for outreach to grow the Kingdom of God in St. Lucia and beyond, who shows great energy and a high level of coordinating ability.

The Location

Christ Church is located on Central Avenue in St. Lucia, a sought-after and established inner suburb in Brisbane which is home to the University of Queensland. It is adjacent to the local primary school (Ironside State School) and close to several large independent and government schools. As the student population of the University of Queensland has increased over the past years, and due to its proximity to the city centre, housing in St. Lucia has increased in density, particularly mid-rise apartment living. Despite this, St. Lucia retains the character of a leafy and prosperous suburb with “the avenues” region zoned for individual family homes. Adjacent are the other western suburbs of Brisbane from which many parishioners travel to Christ Church, attracted by the type of worship offered.

The Parish



Christ Church St Lucia is part of the Anglican Church of Southern Queensland. The 2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census indicated that of a multicultural population of approximately 12,220 in St. Lucia, 71.9% had tertiary education and approximately 32% identified as Christian. There are currently 218 entries on the Parish roll. The typical weekly service attendance has recently been about 80 weekly communicants.

We currently have about 8 families with teenage or younger children and we see this as an area for potential growth which may involve exploring a different type of service more suited to families. Better ministry to the University of Queensland students is also a goal. Possibilities are being discussed with the chaplain of St. John's Anglican College there.

The church was built in 1962 and was designed by award-winning architect Ron Voller. As well as the church, the Parish has a rectory located across the road from the church, and a spacious church hall and a curate's house on the church block. The Parish has recently renovated the curate's house. The rectory is in the process of being sold, as it is expensive to maintain and built on a valuable large 800 m² allotment. It is planned to buy a more suitable house to replace it. The Parish Council has also recently renovated and enlarged the Vestry of the church. The Parish car has been recently replaced with an electric vehicle.

Christ Church St Lucia has a projected income of \$301,250 for 2025 and has several additional endowments. However, it has become apparent that the impact of COVID and an interregnum in 2021/22 have adversely affected the finances of the Parish. The Parish Council has taken steps to mitigate the effects on the budget and is actively looking sources of income in addition to parishioner giving. In 2026, the Parish will employ a part-time Director of Music and a part-time Administrator and a full-time Rector, subject to a suitable appointment. Two Church Wardens and an active Parish Council assist with executive and leadership responsibilities in the Parish. A major activity for many years is an annual community Garage Sale.



Parish Worship

The style of worship in the Parish is in the Australian Anglo-Catholic tradition using A *Prayer Book for Australia* and (mostly) hymns from *Together in Song*. The Parish currently holds two services each Sunday at 7:00 and 9:00 am, with the choir singing at the 9 am service. We are also part of an ecumenical roster providing a regular worship service at the local AVEO Taringa facility. In recent years we have had worship on Sunday evenings; this has gone through phases of meditation, Eucharist and Evening Prayer services. A Choral Evensong is held at least four times a year.

Services have been sung at Christ Church St Lucia continuously since 1969 and several previous Directors of Music have gone on to become Directors of Music in cathedrals or to academic careers. The choir, The Lucian Singers, is an accomplished, traditional Anglican church choir of approximately 12 singers in the Australian RSCM tradition. The choir sings at the 9:00 am Sunday service (except January and holidays), at choral evensong, which is held at important feast days such as Christmas, Easter, All Souls and our patronal festival, Christ the King.

The organ is an Allen digital organ with three manuals and pedals. The organ was installed in 2019 under instruction from our current organist and Director of Music, Mr. Christopher Wrench. As well as the organ, the Parish has a Yamaha grand piano in the church and an upright rehearsal piano in the hall. The Parish has also provided stipends for an Organ Scholar in some years and is doing so in 2025.

Parish Activities

The Parish conducts several activities outside of the regular services. Bible studies are held in a variety of locations for different groups. Studies throughout Advent and Lent are also given priority. Weekly English language classes are offered to the local community as well as coffee mornings twice per month. There is a reading group which meets monthly for secular study of spiritual-related texts. A social committee coordinates hospitality for services and other activities. Our Youth and Family Ministry Team runs Sunday School once a month and child-focussed Easter & Advent events. Youth events are being coordinated with Indooroopilly Parish. Organ recitals are held to support the music ministry and organ scholars.

Further Information

More information about the parish is on the parish website:

stlucia.anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Any further enquiries may be made directly to Bishop John Roundhill via his secretary, Ann Armitage aarmitage@anglicanchurchsq.org.au