

Anglican Church

St Oswald's Banyo



Parish Profile

We pay our respects to the Turrbal and Yuggera peoples,
the First Peoples of the land on which we live, walk and work.
We acknowledge and respect their spiritual connection to country
and their stewardship of the land that now sustains us all.

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**

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.

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. These include, but are not limited to –

- Regular collections for the pantry in a neighbouring parish
- Support of the Angel Tree Program
- Direct and indirect support of ABM projects, Anglicare and Mission to Seafarers
- Banyo Parish Anglican Mothers' Union Australia (AMUA) branch is very active and supports a number of projects throughout the year
- Outreach to our local community through regular craft, coffee and chat days, as well as Twilight Markets and annual fete

Our Community

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. We also have good public transport links with the Shorncliffe Railway line passing through the area plus local bus services.

The area has primary schools and a state P-12 College and the Australian Catholic University. There is a local supermarket and a large suburban shopping centre 10 minutes away. The Nudgee Beach Wetlands are easily accessed and there are several local parks, recreational and sporting clubs.



	People	Median Age	Families with children	Average children per household	Identify as Christian
Banyo	6,105	37	1,692	2	2,297
Nudgee	4,377	37	1,198	2	1,774
Nudgee Beach	308	47	95	2	115
Virginia	2,395	36	663	2	810
	13,185	39	3,648	2	4,996

Information taken from the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics data.

Banyo has a wonderful village and community atmosphere, and local events are well supported.

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 connections within our wider community.

During 2021, work commenced across the parishes of Nundah and Banyo to strengthen ties and increase cooperation such that it would be possible to appoint a full-time priest to work across both parishes. As a result of this collaboration, from December 2023 our most recent priest commenced working with Banyo and Nundah Parishes. The arrangement was for the priest to attend to Banyo for one third of their available time and two thirds at Nundah. Both Parishes remained independent in their individual management and finances. Due to this arrangement, Banyo's service time was changed from 8am to 7.30am on a Sunday to accommodate the service at St Francis, Nundah.

Because Nundah Parish has recently expressed interest in engaging a full-time priest, Banyo Parish is now seeking to move forward with a half time priest.



Our Priest

Banyo Parish is seeking a Priest in a half time role. This position may appeal to a person with a passion for other ministries or who is working part time in another parish.

The style of worship in the parish is informal though traditional, with a strong emphasis on Comprehensive Anglicanism and regular celebration of the Eucharist.

We would like a priest who:

- will preach the gospel of Jesus in a way that inspires the congregation
- will visit parishioners in their homes, aged care facilities, or hospital
- will lead opportunities to attract new disciples with whom we can share the love and excitement that God brings to our lives
- has a strong sense of social justice
- is community focussed and will work to reach out and connect with community members and also to strengthen the bonds with those who already attend community events in the parish
- will lead monthly services at our local aged care facility
- leads groups such as Lenten and Advent studies aimed at nurturing, challenging and growing our faith
- values mutual respect and teamwork
- leads by example, is sincere, hardworking, accountable and possesses a good sense of humour
- has good communication skills.
- will focus on sustaining and growing our parish



Our People

Banyo Parish's core congregation is skewed towards the over 60s. The current average number of communicants each week ranges from 20 to 25 with 4 parishioners currently receiving home communion.

We enjoy fellowship with each other after church at morning tea each week and celebratory morning teas are held for our Patronal Festival and other special events.

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.

Our parishioners 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 welcome and enjoy getting to know new people in our community.

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

There are four licenced liturgical assistants who are rostered for Sunday services. Liturgical Assistants also take communion to those who are unwell and unable to attend regular services. Readers, intercessors and welcomers are rostered for the Sunday Service.

One of our parishioners is trained as a Safeguarder to work towards ensuring the safety of children and vulnerable people in our parish.

Banyo Parish currently has 2 church wardens who are also parish nominators. Our parish council is made up of 6 parishioners including Synod Representatives.

Our team of volunteers, though small, is very active and works effectively together to achieve goals.



Outreach

Mothers' Union

Banyo Caritas was founded in 1990 by Mrs Joy Freier. In 2006 it became a branch of AMUA (Anglican Mothers' Union Australia). The main focus of AMUA is on prayer. The group also focusses on fellowship and social justice issues.

The Caritas banner displays our first ministry of taking flowers to those who are sick, troubled or bereaved.

We are a very active branch of AMUA, contributing towards its many projects and enjoying fellowship with other branches.

Our ministries include:

- Annually attending the World Day of Prayer with other local churches
- Attending Our Lady Day annually at the cathedral
- knitting blankets, beanies and scarves for the Mission to Seafarers and those in need
- Knitting teddies for the newly baptised, and for children suffering trauma
- Hosting 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
- Taking part in the "16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence" in November each year. We 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 our community
- Visiting and praying for the sick and elderly in our parish
- Supporting annual Retiring Collections
- Annual gathering to sing favourite hymns at the home of our organist / pianist



Markets and Fete

Four Twilight Markets per year are held – 3 in the parish grounds, with the final one for the year currently being held in the Banyo Memorial Park. These markets attract great community support.

Our Annual Fete presents another opportunity for community connection. Our parishioners are grateful for all the support our local community gives at each of our events.

Our parish is fortunate to have received funding from various community grants enabling us to further our outreach in the community.



ARRCC

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 Angligreen within the parish in fulfilling the Anglican mark of mission “to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth”.



Parish Campus



Banyo Parish Hall

In 2021, a single long-term tenant for our hall was secured. The hall was renovated for the new tenancy including painting the outside of the building.

There is a well-equipped office situated at one end of the parish hall and an adjoining room with some further kitchen facilities and space for small gatherings and meetings. These two areas do not form part of the leased area.



Banyo Parish Rectory

Our rectory sits on the same campus as our hall and church. It is currently rented to a small family, on a rolling three-year lease. Though in good repair, the property does not comply with current Diocesan requirements for occupation by a priest, having only 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom. However, we do have the finances to pay the appropriate housing allowance as defined by the Canons.



St Oswald's Church

Our church building is in good condition. In 2022 the inside of our church was painted and in 2024 the outside was painted. At the back of the church is a multifunctional space that allows for a variety of uses for ministry outreach.

In 2024, toilet facilities were installed within the current footprint of the church and at the start of 2025 we installed a kitchenette adjacent to that.

Required rewiring of the church building was done in 2024/2025 in association with the toilet and kitchenette works.



Banyo Parish Grounds

The parish grounds cover an area of 3857m². The rectory has a good sized private rear garden. There is a grassed garden area between the three parish buildings, which is of sufficient size for the markets and fete to be comfortably held.



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.

Finances

We are not constrained by the pressures of debt and have regular income from both hall and rectory.

Our annual budget allows for payment of the appropriate motor vehicle allowance as defined by the Canons.

We employ for 8 hours a week a Parish Administrator, who makes an excellent contribution to the smooth running to the parish. Her current responsibilities include: collation of the weekly pew bulletin; assisting with the preparation of special service booklets; completing rosters for LAs, readers, welcomers and intercessors; assisting with maintenance of the parish website and Facebook page; assisting with audits and annual returns; maintaining and updating the blue card worksheet; assistance with correspondence and much more.

Our property and grounds are in good condition and parish council review maintenance requirements on a regular basis.

We employ a cleaner, gardener, and mowing contractor and the grounds are kept in good order.



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 Sarah Plowman

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