Nundah Anglican Parish

Parish Profile

Our Vision Statement

We strive to be a vibrant, growing, self-sustaining Anglican Parish serving and representing Jesus to the communities of Nundah, Northgate and Wavell Heights.

St Francis of Assisi, Nundah

Holy Spirit, Wavell Heights

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge all First Peoples of the land on which live, walk and work. We honour them and their Ancestors for their survival, continued traditions, and spiritual connection to and caring of country, land, sky, water and sea. We pay respect to their Elders past and present and will continue to support their right to self-determination.

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What is Nundah Parish?

General Overview / History

Where we have been

The Nundah Anglican Parish has a rich history. It is the traditional home of the Turrabul people, and it was to these people that a mission was sent in 1838 by German Lutheran missionaries who dubbed the area 'German Station' and which later became 'Nundah' derived from the Aboriginal name for the area, meaning "string of waterholes".

Originally part of the Sandgate Parish an extract from the Moreton Times says "The Nundah Anglican Church was opened by Bishop Webber. It is a neat little wooden edifice, seating 100 people on land fronting Sandgate Road."

The church was dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi. This small wooden building was to have two moves. First in 1905 to Donkin Street a short distance away and then in 1914 to the corner of Cavendish and Cameron Streets the site of the present-day St Francis.

The "Brisbane Theological College" was founded in 1896 at Wickham Terrace. One year earlier the Sisters of the Sacred Advent (SSA) had founded the "Eton High School" at Nundah. The SSA had taken the school over from a Mr A.J. Boyd who had founded the Eton School (for boys) in 1876 and was the oldest established private school in Brisbane. When the school was closing in 1907, the diocese acquired the land and moved the Theological College to Nundah renaming it "St. Francis College".

In 1936 the college was moved to Milton, and the parish purchased the chapel of "The Holy Spirit." This small chapel was designed by the famous architect Robert Smith (Robin) Dodds who designed many prominent buildings around Brisbane. Land had been purchased on the corner of Olive and Imbros Streets, and the chapel was then moved a short distance to this site.

The parish continued to grow and between 1929 and 1953 three more churches would become part of the parish – St Oswald's at Banyo, (now an independent parish), St Peter's at Northgate and St Georges Mission Hall at Toombul (both now demolished). Another congregation at Cribb Island was disbanded to make way for the new Brisbane Airport.

By the late 1940s it became apparent that the small wooden church built 60 years earlier no longer met the needs of the parish and a fund was established with a view to building a new church.

Twelve years after the initial raising of funds the first soil was turned, and work began. On 10 May 1959, the present-day church was dedicated by Archbishop Halse. There were 1,000 people inside and outside on that occasion and Solemn Evensong was sung by the students of St. Francis College.

Who we are today

Our combined faith communities of St Francis of Assisi in Nundah and the Church of the Holy Spirit in Wavell Heights enjoy and embrace a sense of caring and loyal fellowship with one another.

The Community at St Francis has a weekly worship community of between 25-30 comprised mostly of elderly congregants but we have several young families with very young children who worship with us regularly and would benefit from a dedicated children's ministry. Our Sunday service at St Francis at 9.00am is the traditional communion service using the Second Order of Holy Communion. We also have a morning Eucharist or lay led Morning Prayer service on Thursdays at 9.00am.

Holy Spirit church services were suspended in mid-2024 due to decrease in congregation numbers, scheduling difficulties arising from one priest trying to accommodate three Sunday morning services for Holy Spirit, St Francis, and St Oswald's, and the deteriorating condition of the church building. The majority of those who were worshipping at Holy Spirit Church now join in worship at St Francis regularly. The Holy Spirit Church Hall is a versatile space used by community groups each week and generates approximately $15,000 per year. We would welcome a priest who has ideas of how we could reinvigorate this part of our parish. The character filled church lends itself to other forms of worship such as Taizé.

As a parish we express the classic Brisbane form of Anglicanism we call Comprehensive Anglicanism. This is broadly speaking a form of liberal Catholic worship. We are committed to the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

We have a vibrant team of five (5) Liturgical Assistants who are experienced in leading Morning Prayer services. We also have a dedicated team of parishioners who actively participate in various rosters including, readers, intercessors and provision of morning tea.

We have a talented team of musicians who offer a Sung Eucharist. This ministry is currently funded by a bequest to allow for its continuance at the present time.

We underwent a Visioning Day in 2022, however, a Mission Action Plan was never formalised by the leadership team at the time. We have a desire to create and implement a Mission Action Plan that would help us to open and explore new pathways for our parish to shine the light of Christ in our local community and beyond.

Nundah Parish Worship Centres

St. Francis of Assisi, Corner of Cavendish & Cameron Streets, Nundah

Sunday Eucharist: 9.00am

- *Structurally sound double brick church seating up to 300 people*
- *Vestry with vestments cupboards, drawers for storage, safe and furniture*
- *Wi-fi enabled Parish office contained within the vestry including laptop and monitor set up, multifunctional colour printer and scanner.*
- *Lady Chapel*
- *Digital piano for music*
- *Bluetooth enabled PA and sound system and roaming microphones*
- *Airconditioned Undercroft which contains large kitchen including gas stove/oven, dishwasher, fridge, microwave and cabinetry for storage, 2 toilets with disabled access, meeting/function area. Often used for local, state and federal elections.*
- *Landscaped prayer garden at the front of the church*

Holy Spirit, Corner of Imbros & Olive Streets, Wavell Heights

- *Heritage listed character church seating up to 120 people*
- *Digital piano for music*
- *Church hall leased by various community groups*

Who is Nundah Parish?

Today, the Parish of Nundah is situated in what has become a popular café precinct and hub of community renewal as it attracts younger people from multi-culturally diverse backgrounds who are desiring to be close to the Brisbane CBD whilst enjoying a 'village' lifestyle. Alondra Residences located in Union Street offers a boutique retirement village experience widening the area's demographic, whilst weekly events such as the Nundah Farmers Markets on Sundays welcomes an array of people of all ages and backgrounds.

Organisational Structure

- *2-3 Wardens*
- *3 Parochial Nominators*
- *2 Synod Representatives*
- *1 Treasurer*
- *6-7 Parish Councillors*
- *5 Liturgical Assistants*
- *2 Sacristans*
- *Parishioners*

Our demographic – Taken from NLS Survey late 2019

- *Average age: 67 years old*
- *Female: 67%*
- *Male: 33%*
- *Attendance: 88% attend at least monthly*

Our values and goals

Values

- *Sharing in Holy Communion (71%)*
- *Traditional style of worship or music (63%)*
- *Praying for one another (37%)*
- *Practical care in times of need (20%)*

Goals/Priorities

- *Clear vision for the church (54%)*
- *Worship services that are nurturing (44%)*
- *Growing into a larger church (34%)*
- *Sense of community / ensuring new people are included (20%)*

Parish Ministries

Mothers' Union

A small, devoted group undertaking small projects periodically and working co-operatively with Mothers' Union at St Oswald's, Banyo.

The Guild

The Guild meets the 2nd Saturday of each month. They are very active with in the parish, organising the weekly morning teas, monthly pantry collection as well as catering for special parish events. They engage in a small amount of fund raising to provide essential items for care of the Undercroft and the children's corner. Outreach (such as crocheting blankets for nursing homes etc) is also a focus. They also enjoy craft and other fellowship afternoons.

Home Communion and Zion Home visits

We offer home communion to home-bound parishioners and have an ongoing relationship with Zion Home in Nundah where visits are conducted fortnightly and the Eucharist is celebrated monthly.

Bush Church Aid

The Parish has a dedicated Mission Contact and a number of individual supporters. Parish collections conducted twice a year. We currently prayerfully support Laurie and Bec Carleton based on Norfolk Island.

Pantry Collection

Parishioners generously donate pantry items each month which are delivered to All Saints', Chermside.

Environmental Awareness

We have a team of parishioners passionate about preserving God's creation and participate in various workshops throughout the year.

Gardening Group

A team of enthusiastic parishioners maintain and gardening and mowing roster to ensure our church grounds are maintained and flourishing with life.

Interregnum prayer group

A recently formed group meeting bi-monthly before the Sunday service to intentionally pray for and invite the Holy Spirit to help us discern God's desire for our parish's next chapter.

Children's space

We have created a family-friendly space in our church for children and parents to engage with the service. Various activities (colouring in, craft and reading) are available and there are opportunities for children to participate in various aspects of the service (e.g. offertory and music).

Priests with Permission to Officiate at Nundah

- Reverend Nicholas Whereat (current Locum)
- Reverend Tom Sullivan

Advent and Lenten Studies

Conducted by parish clergy and bringing together the parishioners of St Oswald's, Banyo and Nundah parish. Offered on Saturday afternoons in Lent and Advent at 4.00pm in the Undercroft. We hope for continued collaboration and working together to support the respective ministries of each parish.

Online/ Social Media Presence

***Website**: https://www.nundah.anglicanchurchsq.org.au/*

***Facebook**: https://www.facebook.com/NundahAnglican*

Buildings and Resources

Rectory & Vehicle

- *Classic Queenslander style four-bedroom home with elevated suburban views extensively refurbished in 2020*
- *Generously sized kitchen*
- *Air conditioning*
- *4 bedrooms*
- *3 bathrooms*
- *Recently installed Colourbond fencing around perimeter for privacy and security*
- *Parish owned Mazda CX-3 (purchased 2023)*

Goodstart Childcare Centre *- https://www.goodstart.org.au/centres/nundah/contact*

The Goodstart Childcare Centre was built in 2004 on Cameron Street behind St Francis of Assisi. We have maintained a good relationship with the Childcare Centre, and we are interested in discovering new ways of connecting with the centre and the families. Lease renewed in 2025 for a further 5 years (with an option to extend).

Goodstart Childcare Centre

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What does Nundah Parish need?

We have a unique window of opportunity in the next 5 years to grow and enhance the existing core group of faithful parishioners whose perseverance and dedication has enabled the various ministries of our parish to continue. We are all passionate to see Nundah parish flourish to its full potential and see the next generation of God's family to embrace and share in the Good News of Jesus.

We need an enthusiastic priest prepared to stay to consolidate the recent changes in the parish profile whilst maintaining connection with the neighbouring parish of St Oswald's at Banyo. We can offer a full-time stipend complete with all the Diocesan prescribed benefits including, if suitable, a refurbished rectory adjacent to the church in a quiet suburban location.

Qualities we seek in a Priest

We desire a priest who is willing to work full-time and be committed to ensuring that we have a centre of Anglican worship embracing faithfulness, imagination and creativity, courage, authenticity and comprehensiveness, including:

- *Living their faith with prayerful discernment, humility, self-awareness and joy whilst demonstrating their love for people and desire to minister to all with compassion and empathy.*
- *Passionately sharing their faith and love for our Lord in a way that assists the spiritual growth of our parishioners.*
- *Enhancing the energy and spirit of the parish with dynamic and fresh expressions of worship whilst holding firm to Anglican traditions.*
- *Nurturing our existing congregation whilst equipping us to reach out and connect with and become the heart and soul of the community of Nundah, Wavell Heights and Northgate.*
- *Exhibiting collaborative and effective leadership within the parish.*
- *Engage the parish in developing and implementing a Mission Action Plan.*
- *Being attentive to the needs of the Diocesan and Parish administration so that programmes and policies can be implemented.*

To help us to grow in this way, we are supportive in helping our clergy grow as well, so we are happy to contribute significantly to retreats, conferences, and professional development opportunities for enhancing clergy vocations.

Contact information

Please address any enquiries or expressions of interest to Bishop Sarah Plowman
Phone: (07) 3835 2213
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