

PARISH MISSION PLAN 2007 - 2009

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ARARAT

Holy Trinity Ararat, Christ Church Great Western,
Christ Church Moyston, All Saints' Willaura.



The people of the Anglican Parish of Ararat are disciples of Jesus who are seeking to love God and their neighbour.

The Anglican Parish of Ararat shares in the mission of Jesus Christ as guided by the Holy Spirit.

The Anglican Parish of Ararat seeks to fulfil its vocation by:

1. Being centred on God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit (celebrate)
2. Being responsive to the world and its needs (care)
3. Being called to follow Christ and lead others to him (cultivate)
4. Being connected to people, their communities in new ways (connect)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Children's Ministry teams have a responsibility of developing and supporting ministry to children in parishes and across the deanery. They are to explore ways of helping children to come to know Christ, to assist parents and families in nurturing the faith of children and to assist children and families in participating fully in the life of the church family. Even though a parish community may not have a functional children's ministry, they still need to be looking at the needs of children in their area and how they might address these needs.

CURRENT PROGRAM

Sunday School at Ararat and Willaura
Kid's club fortnightly after school

Servers in Sunday worship
sharing in Sunday liturgy (singing & sharing Sunday
School experience

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

- 1 Increase numbers in Sunday School and Kid's club in both students and teachers / leaders
Invitations to people / running quality programs

More family BBQ's and social events

Invite kid's club and Sunday School and their parents to special event in the church

Invite recently baptized to a special event. Teddy bears picnic. Decorate candles.

Develop resources for children's ministry

Explore ways to link into the Schools — art competition etc

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

Annually and to Parish Council
Police checks for all staff

RESOURCES NEEDED

Educational materials
Craft materials
Catering facilities

teddy bears / candles
teachers / leaders
transportation

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Lack of numbers
Difficult to get support from schools

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Jenny Wells, Janet Anderson, Peggy Moorfoot, Sue Halvorsen,

YOUTH TEAMS

The Youth Teams are responsible for developing and supporting initiatives both for and by young people in parishes and across the area covered by the deaneries. These teams need to look beyond the traditional youth group ministry and too explore the needs and the talents of young people and how the wider Church might best engage with young people. This ministry should be explored with all young people whether or not they go to church or are affiliated in any way with the church.

CURRENT PROGRAM

A Youth Group is currently running on a monthly basis
A team of servers is being developed of young people
Young people are being encouraged and prepared for confirmation.
Involved young people in our fete and other programs

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

Continue developing the existing youth group. Invite young people within the Deanery and other churches to join in activities

Continue to recruit and train servers for our church

Continue to encourage young people to be confirmed

Develop the possibility of a Deanery Youth Service once a term (even a Rock Mass)

We would like to link in with LENZONE (Community Youth Resource Centre) and assist in their programs
Fr John is now on their advisory committee.

Involvement with the Secondary School Chaplaincy Committee (assist with fundraising)

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

Annually and to Parish Council
Police checks for all staff

RESOURCES NEEDED

Finances for equipment etc
Leaders
Young people

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Contacting young people
Getting young people to commit

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Fr John Peter Hawkins Jo Clugston

STEWARDSHIP

The Stewardship teams are responsible for initiating and supporting the work of stewardship in parishes and the deanery. This includes the development of appropriate stewardship programmes, teaching materials and supporting the running of workshops. They are not necessarily responsible for the actual running of stewardship training days or awareness days just for making sure that they facilitate those things in all church communities.

CURRENT PROGRAM

A thanksgiving program is run annually to encourage people to take envelopes and to increase their giving. A duplex envelope system is used so people can give to the parish and to mission.

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

1. To expand the philosophy of Stewardship beyond just fundraising.
Develop a new educational program to define stewardship to include all God's gifts (talents, time)
Develop increased giving in all areas (including money, time and talents)
Support people to be more regular in using the envelope system.
- 2 To explore the developing of talents and time. Developing other ways in which people can give other than money only. Validating people to give in different ways.
3. Ensure we are using our resources to the fullest. This includes using our halls and other facilities.

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

Reviewed annually and accountable to Renewal Committee / Parish Council

RESOURCES NEEDED

Stewardship ideas and philosophies so as to develop strategies and program.
Photocopying of booklets and resources
Teaching guides

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Resistance to change. Reluctance to give.
Families concerned about increased expenses with petrol, drought and bush fires etc
Difficulties in parish budgeting to meet expenses and support projects ie Anglicare.

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Chris Wells

OVERSEAS MISSION

The Deanery Mission Teams are responsible for ensuring that Anglicans across the Deanery meet their responsibilities with regards to overseas mission, particularly the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea. In this regard they should work closely in with the Diocesan Missionary Committee. They need to look at educating our communities on mission, promoting ongoing prayer for missionaries and for the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea (ACPNG) and look at ways of establishing fruitful links between the diocese of Ballarat and communities in Papua New Guinea. It is also their responsibility to promote the raising of funds for overseas mission.

CURRENT PROGRAM

Duplex envelopes are used in the Parish where people give to the Parish and to mission

We remember Diocese of Apio Rongo in our prayers each Sunday

We send money regularly to ABM and other overseas mission organisations

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

Review our Overseas mission donations distribution.

Support Anglican Board Mission (ABM) as well as Anglicord

Invite speakers from these organization to visit our Parish and speak

Explore the possibility of adopting a Parish in Apio Rongo

This would include writing to members of each church

Raising money for the adopted parish

Trips to visit the adopted parish

Raise money to bring people from the adopted parish to Ararat

Sharing of faith and mission.

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

Needs to be reviewed annually via Parish Council

RESOURCES NEEDED

Information on Overseas Missions and agencies

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Communication problems with PNG

Costs to get to PNG etc

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Marshall Jackson ?? John McRae ??

PASTORAL TEAM

There are two parts to the mission of the Pastoral Team. The team is responsible for initiating, encouraging and resourcing pastoral activities in faith communities across the deanery. Pastoral activities are all of those endeavours undertaken by Anglicans that involve the practical application of the gospel command to love. It includes things like parish visitation, pastoral care of the sick, working in institutions like schools, hospitals, old peoples homes, along with the care of the poor, the needy, the homeless. This group should also be looking at areas of concern in the communities. This will vary from area to area but it will include things like, depression, alcohol abuse, marriage and divorce, domestic violence all those issues where human beings struggle and experience pain, suffering, and difficulties. This does not mean that these teams become initiators in these areas it may well mean that they find ways of enabling the communities to tap into what is already available through federal and state resources and through the local government councils. This is clearly an area in which there is an opportunity for the development of an active diocesan Anglicare movement.

CURRENT PROGRAM

In the past there have been visitation programs in the Parish but they have not been overly successful. Parishioners are reluctant to be part of a new visitation program. The Pastoral Team is looking at alternative programs.

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

1. A Pastoral Team has been formed to develop strategies in the Parish for pastoral care
Members of the Pastoral Team are Gavin Anderson, Kris Hughes, Jenny Wells, Dot Collins, Brian Collins, Pat Day and Fr John Mathes.
2. Pastoral Team Project 01: Welcomers: As well as having people who hand out hymn books, we are proposing to have welcomers who welcome people, distribute and collect name tags, make name tags for visitors, collect names and address of visitors for follow up etc
We need to recruit and train new welcomers and organize roster.
We need to set up name tags for visitors and information sheets for visitors.
3. Pastoral Team Project 02: Care Cells: The Pastoral Team are exploring the possibility of setting up Care Cells as a way of caring for each other and nurturing others into the Church. A document has been written outlining the proposal. It is hoped that this project will start in early 2007.
4. A committee has been formed to look at forming ANGLICARE ARARAT
We currently distribute food in an Emergency Relief Program in Ararat.
The committee is currently exploring other needs in the town and possible directions and programs for an Anglicare Ararat.
Members of Anglicare Ararat Committee are Rick Thomas, Peg Moorfoot, Claire Jackson, Cheryl Haines, Jenny Wells and Fr John Mathes

PASTORAL TEAM con't

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON con't

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

This needs to be reviewed regularly
The Renewal Committee can help in this

RESOURCES NEEDED

Training for welcomers
Resources for Cell Groups

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Setting up cell groups—getting people to participate

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Members of the Pastoral Team are Gavin Anderson, Kris Hughes, Jenny Wells, Dot Collins, Brian Collins, Pat Day and Fr John Mathes.

WORSHIP TEAMS

The worship teams are responsible for assisting all faith communities to worship God in appropriate and theologically sound ways. In doing this they will help people understand better the liturgies of the church. They will also help communities in a wide variety of formal and informal worship. They will look at specific issues that relate to worship that may well link in with other teams. This would include areas like youth liturgy, and worship with children. These teams must always include the parish priest and the deanery level one, the deanery clergy.

CURRENT PROGRAM

Variety of music is being developed with the appointment of a new Choir Mistress and Organist.

A deanery workshop on music was held early in 2006.

In the past we have had sessions (discussion groups) on worship (Anglican Treasure Tour)

Sunday School contribute to worship

Development of Easter Liturgies has been significant

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

The parish is hoping to be involved a Deanery workshop on Worship in October 2006 at Beaufort
It would be good to have worship teams available to occasionally say morning prayer in worship.

We want to further Involve children and youth in worship involving Sunday School and youth group.

Continue developing our music program in the Parish

Organise different services such as Blessing of Pets (St Francis) / U2charist etc

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

This needs to reviewed regularly

RESOURCES NEEDED

Recruit new musicians

Explore different music

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

People not dealing with change in worship

Finding children willing to be involved

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Fr John Mathes, Nicholas Hatswell, Kris Hughes, Cheryl Haines

GUILD OF TRANSFIGURATION

The Guild of the Transfiguration team or group is responsible for meeting the spiritual needs of all involved in lay ministry throughout the deanery as well as working on ways of helping lay ministers grow in their specific areas of ministry. While much of this is done at a local deanery level these teams of necessity will link together to form a diocesan team which will help co-ordinate the needs of lay ministers across the diocese. It is important that the deanery teams look at both areas - the spiritual and practical.

CURRENT PROGRAM

We have 5 Eucharistic Assistants (3 active)

Training Programs for the Parish have been run on Deanery level and included workshops on evangelism, music, worship... Including Fr Greg Jones from BCA

Other Parish based workshops have occurred eg: Anglican Treasure Tour

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

- 1 Recruit and train another 1 or 2 Eucharistic Assistants. Recruit and train some more servers
Recruit Eucharist Assistants in Willaura, Moyston and Great Western
2. Continue to be involved in Deanery Training events
3. Organize a Parish workshop discussing "Life issues" such as: What happens when we die? Who created God? Why do we suffer? This hopefully will help us in our evangelism.
This could be done ecumenically.
- 4

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

The parish will need to work with the Deanery in running training events and to review them constantly.

RESOURCES NEEDED

Need to involve Fr Peter Yeats, Ministry Development Officer

Fr John has resources also

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Most training happens on a Saturday, however many also play sport (bowls etc) on Saturday and cannot attend.
Might need to look at occasional evening session.

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Fr John, Cheryl Haines Chris Wells

SPIRITUALITY TEAMS

The Spiritual Teams are responsible for helping Anglicans across the diocese grown in their personal and corporate lives with God. They do this through resources, through training programmes and through the provision of teaching material on the whole area of Christian spirituality. This needs to look at spirituality at all levels for individuals; adults, young people, and children as well as resourcing families in their attempts to have a prayer life and a spiritual life as a family.

CURRENT PROGRAM

The Bishop's bible reading notes are circulated monthly
There has been in the past bible study groups but not operating at the moment
The Parish participates in Lenten study programs
Confirmation programs (catechumenate) happens regularly

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

1. It is hoped to set up one or two bible study groups in the parish in 2007
2. Parish pilgrimage to Camperdown Monastery and / or Cathedral
Explore the idea of pilgrimage and the search for God.
3. Foster the spirituality in individuals. How do we help people searching for spirituality?
This is something we need to grapple with in the future
4. Organise workshop on Spirituality, Prayer and Meditation

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

This is an area we keep saying we will do but run out of time to do. This will be a priority in 2007 and will need to be reviewed regularly

RESOURCES NEEDED

Bible study material
Spirituality resources

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Getting people to commit and participate

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Jenny Wells Fr John

ETHICS & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY TEAM

These teams are responsible for helping Christians across the communities of faith and the whole deanery explore issues of importance in the society in the light of the gospel. This will include areas of importance in conservation, family life, community standards, as well as in areas that cut across political considerations and the broader international situation. It will also look at ways of exploring and helping Anglicans in areas of social responsibility (eg: assisting the diocese to address the needs of people affected by local disasters like bushfires, droughts and floods). They would also help us to become involved in important campaigns on social needs to lead us in areas where the church needs to become involved. It is also the group that will provide forums for issues of morality and ethics. where the church needs to become involved. It is also the group that will provide forums for issues of morality and ethics.

CURRENT PROGRAM

Raised money for relief (eg bushfires, tsunami)

We are involved in emergency relief for the poor (see pastoral committee)

We do little in the area of ethics—we post things on notice boards—but do not really raise issue

The Parish Priest raises ethical issues in the newspaper when writing his column

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

1. We need to explore and be informed on ethical issues and be aware of not only the ethical but also the biblical issues. We need to look at what local issues are contrary to the Gospel and how can we address the issues.
2. Continue to be prepared to raise money for relief (eg bushfires)
3. Encourage the Diocese to produce resources in the areas of ethics to help us be informed.
4. Each edition of the Ararat Chronicle to have a page highlighting an article of ethics or social responsibility.

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

This needs to be done regularly

RESOURCES NEEDED

Information on ethical issues especially from a Christian perspective.

The Diocesan Ethics and Social Responsibility team needs to provide resources along with the Bishop

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Being informed of issues

Getting people to listen

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

We need to find a co-ordinator

EVANGELISM TEAM

The Evangelism team is responsible for promoting and facilitating the ongoing renewal across the deanery. They are the group, with the priest, which is responsible for developing areas of mission and outreach by the communities of faith. They should also assist parishes to move out into areas that are essentially “unchurched”, where people do not “know Christ” as well as to those who may have wandered from active involvement in Church life. In many ways this is the group that provides the theological perspective from which all other groups operate. This is the group which will help to provide a missionary focus to the whole of the parish community.

CURRENT PROGRAM

We have in the past run a program called Operation St Philip inviting lapsed Anglicans and the unchurched
Kid’s club, youth group, men’s group etc reach out to unchurched
Emergency relief encourages the unchurched to visit our church
The hire of the Hall brings in different people to the church buildings
Involved in Evangelism workshops

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

- 1 Light up the cross, improve the signs around the church
- 2 150th Anniversary celebrations in Oct 2007 All in Ararat and district will be invited to come, Hopefully this will be an evangelistic opportunity as well as a celebration of 150 years
- 3 Explore possibility of involving more children/youth in worship
- 4 Talk with schools to involve them more in the church—art competitions or other activities
- 5 Encourage friends, unchurched and lapsed to attend social activities in the parish
- 6 follow up baptism, marriage and funeral and encourage to church
- 7 To take opportunities to evangelise with friends when possible.

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

This needs to be continually evaluated by the Renewal team
This needs to be one of the priorities of the parish

RESOURCES NEEDED

Continued training
Continued faith development

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Seen by many as too hard

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Cheryl Haines, Rick Thomas, Chris Wells (renewal team) plus Julia Norman-Bail, Kaye Reading

ECUMENISM

The Ecumenism Teams are responsible for helping the Church to move closer towards the fulfilment of the priestly prayer of Jesus that we “be one”. They will help communities of faith to explore ways of living out our covenant commitment with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ballarat as well as promoting ecumenical involvement in all areas of Gospel living. This is to be done in the light of Provincial and national church protocols.

CURRENT PROGRAM

We currently participate in ecumenical service such as the Golden Gateway festival, carol service, Prayers for Christian Unity, World Day of Prayer services

We currently are involved in ministers association

We have attended other churches fund raising/social events and vice versa

GOALS, ACTIONS & RESPONSIBLE PERSON

1. Continue to be involved in the above activities but for more clergy dialogue of ways to come together more often
2. Explore opportunities with other Christian church groups to do things together
Invite other churches to some of our activities

REVIEWING & ACCOUNTABILITY

This is something we need to continue to work at and to review results regularly

RESOURCES NEEDED

Contacts in other churches

Liturgical resources

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Other churches not wanting to be involved with us

Problems with the Eucharist— need to have non Eucharistic activities

CO-ORDINATOR & TEAM

Rod Clugston

GOALS FOR 2007

PRIORITIES

1. Care cells: The Pastoral Team are exploring the possibility of setting up Care Cells as a way of caring for each other and nurturing others into the Church. A document has been written outlining the proposal. It is hoped that this project will start in early 2007.
2. Setting up of Bible Study program in the Parish
3. Develop Anglicare Ararat in the Parish

OTHER GOALS (these are not in order of priority)

- Increase numbers in Sunday School and Kid's club in both students and teachers / leaders. We want to further involve children and youth in worship.
- Continue developing the existing youth group. Invite young people within the Deanery and other churches to join in activities
- Continue to recruit and train servers for our church. Recruit and train another 1 or 2 Eucharistic Assistants. Recruit Eucharist Assistants in Willaura, Moyston and Great Western
- To expand the philosophy of Stewardship beyond just fundraising. Develop a new educational program to define stewardship to include all God's gifts (talents, time) Develop increased giving in all areas (including money, time and talents) Support people to be more regular in using the envelope system.
- Explore the possibility of adopting a Parish in Apio Rongo PNG. This would include writing to members of each church. Raising money for the adopted parish. Trips to visit the adopted parish. Raise money to bring people from the adopted parish to Ararat Sharing of faith and mission.
- As well as having people who hand out hymn books, we are proposing to have welcomers who welcome people, distribute and collect name tags, make name tags for visitors, collect names and address of visitors for follow up etc We need to recruit and train new welcomers and organize roster. We need to set up name tags for visitors and information sheets for visitors.
- Organise different services such as Blessing of Pets (St Francis) / U2charist etc

- Parish pilgrimage to Camperdown Monastery and / or Cathedral
Explore the idea of pilgrimage and the search for God.
- Each edition of the Ararat Chronicle to have a page highlighting an article of ethics or social responsibility.
- Light up the cross, improve the signs around the church
- 150th Anniversary celebrations in Oct 2007 All in Ararat and district will be invited to come. Hopefully this will be an evangelistic opportunity as well as a celebration of 150 years
- Explore opportunities with other Christian church groups to do things together
Invite other churches to some of our activities

2008

It is proposed that the Renewal Committee will evaluate the progress we have made in achieving our goals for 2007. At the end of 2007 set new goals for 2008 in consultation with the Parish.

2009

