

Saint Peter's Caversham

Anglican Parish of Caversham Saint Peter – 57 Baker Street, Caversham, Dunedin, New Zealand 9012

PARISH PROFILE – DECEMBER, 2020



Saint Peter's is an Anglican parish in the Dunedin Diocese in the Anglo-Catholic tradition, situated in the south of Dunedin City. There are few other nearby churches and thus the potential to increase its congregation.

The section includes:

- the church, which can seat 150
- a parish centre which hosts many groups both large and small during the week, providing regular income and forming an integral part of the church's wider community outreach. There is a meeting room and kitchen attached which is suitable for catering for reasonably large groups. It hosts occasional conferences and exhibitions as well as the usual church-related activities
- a large five bedroom rectory; the kitchen and 2½ bathrooms have been renovated recently. There is off street parking. The heating of the rectory needs to be improved
- a small house belonging to the parish which is leased to a long-term tenant.

People and finances

Saint Peter's supports a full-time parish priest and has an assistant priest attached to the parish.

Parishioners engage in parish life with a good will and there are no issues of conflict. They participate in visits to other churches, attend the Caversham Lectures which the current vicar has organised and hosted and are part of the roster for all the jobs which need to be done on a regular basis.

Parish finances are sufficient and secure to provide a full stipend. Allowances will be negotiated and agreement reached with the parish. Mileage costs are as per Diocesan guidelines and there is a modest hospitality and book allowance.

Parishioner giving meets half of the monthly costs and bequests the other half.

There are 64 people on the parish roll.

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Liturgy and worship

On Sundays there is an 8am Mass using the 1662 prayer book, a 1030am Mass using Rite A revised (International Commission on English in the Liturgy) and on the first and third Sundays Evensong and Benediction, the only Dunedin parish to offer this. A 10am mass is celebrated each Thursday.

Saint Peter's provides Services for two retirement homes in the area, one large (Frances Hodgkins Retirement Village, one service a month) and one small (St Barnabas, nominally an Anglican residential home which has two services a month).

During Lent a Friday evening Service is held followed by a shared fish and chip supper.

There are few weddings or funerals

A high level of liturgical skill is required for the 1030am Sunday Mass and for the Evensong and Benediction Service twice a month. Liturgical assistants are appointed and trained to participate in these two Services.

At Easter the Paschal Triduum is an essential element of the festival and proficiency in undertaking these Services is necessary.

Preaching ministry is a priority as is theological literacy. Visiting sick and physically frail parishioners is required.

The parish enjoys a high standard of music under the auspices of the Director of Music who has extensive experience in the provision of church music. The church possesses a fine and resourceful Johannus 3-manual Digital Organ and vocal soloists provide seasonal music on a regular basis. Annual Celebrity Organ Recitals have promoted both church and instrument to a Dunedin-wide audience.

Other activities include parish visits to other churches, not all Anglican, celebrating mass there then adjourning to a café or pub for lunch and having a curry meal at an Indian restaurant every couple of months.

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Fellowship and social life

Morning tea is always served after the 1030am mass, once a month after the 8am Service and every couple of months after the Thursday morning Service. A shared supper takes place after Evensong and Benediction.

There is a Women's Fellowship group which meets regularly and The Monday Club which provides considerable funds to the parish.

There is no Sunday school or youth group

The weekly Pebble is available on our website (www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz) which also contains other information about parish activities and copies of *The Rock*, a monthly newsletter. The Vicar prepares the Pebble. *The Rock* is produced by our webmaster and includes contributions from the vicar, parishioners, the Director of Music, a nutrition researcher and others.

Administration and management

The church building, which is listed as an Historic Building, is deemed to be only 20% earthquake proof. Discussions have been held with the Dunedin City Council (DCC) heritage staff and assessments have been made by engineering and geotechnical firms. We are about to engage an expert from Wellington, who oversaw the strengthening of St Mary and All Angels, Willis Street, to provide more strength to our application to the DCC Heritage Committee which has been at odds with the recommendations for the materials to be used for the work. There is approximately \$320,000 available for this. Project reports are available on demand.

Administrative and management skills and financial literacy are required.

The vicar will meet with the wardens at least once a month, preside over vestry meetings at regular intervals (currently bi-monthly) and at the annual general meeting.

Deirdre Harris
Vicar's Warden and Parish Nominator

David Scoular
Parish Nominator

Di Best
People's Warden and Parish Nominator

David Hoskins
Parish Nominator