

SALT
CHURCH

ANGELICAN PARISH OF MURRUMBURRAH-HARDEN

MURRUMBURRAH-HARDEN CHURCH

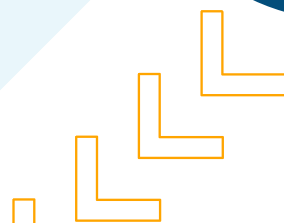
Profile

**FAITHFULLY TRANSFORMING
LIVES IN OUR COMMUNITY
THROUGH CHRIST.**



**GROWING, LOVING AND OUTWARD-LOOKING CHURCH THAT
CONNECTS PEOPLE TO JESUS**

120 Swift Street, Murrumburrah, NSW 2587





OUR CHURCH

Our core mission

Faithfully transforming lives in our community through Christ.

Our church vision statement

A growing, loving and outward looking church that connects people to Jesus.

The Murrumburrah-Harden Parish is a Christian church who are part of the Anglican Dioceses of Canberra and Goulburn. The Parish consists of four places of worship, each with its own distinct characteristics. These four congregations have a combined regular attendance of 52 parishioners. Located in a rural town, the parish is situated about half an hour from Young, an hour from ACT, and an hour and a half from Wagga. Additionally, it is conveniently positioned three and a half hours away from Sydney, offering the advantage of a central country location while still being close to major centers.

The Services

We are ordinary people who gather to worship an extraordinary God, hear from His Word, pray and give praise to Him. Our services are conducted in the Anglican tradition, but our ultimate allegiance is to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour. He is the reason we gather; we are His body.

St. Paul's in Murrumburrah is a place of worship for a congregation of 15-20 parishioners who prefer a more traditional Anglican style of service and practices. The church service takes place in the original church building of St. Paul's. The service occurs every Sunday at 10am, providing a consistent and reliable opportunity for the parishioners to come together meet in a place of worship.

SALT church service attracts between 15 to 20 people of various ages and families. It was founded in 2016 to cater to those seeking a more evangelical, contemporary, relaxed, and family-oriented service compared to the town's more traditional options. The service takes place every Sunday at 4pm in the Church Hall located on the main road, Albury Street.

St Marks's is a historical church in Currawong. It is a stand-alone building in the middle of farmland, where 13 parishioners gather for services who prefer a more traditional Anglican style of service and practices. The congregation meets together on the first Sunday of every month at 8am to worship and celebrate their faith, as well as at Christmas and Easter.



OUR CHURCH

St Thomas, is a nearby township (Binalong) located around 36 km to the east of Murrumburrah. Nine parishioners faithfully participate in the 5pm service on every third Sunday of the month.

Overall Parish Official Activities in the past 12 months

- Weddings - 3
- Baptisms - 5
- Funerals - 9
- Recent confirmations - 0
- Recent history of Parish rectors - David Rajasekaram for 8 years

Desired Qualities of a Minister

The ideal candidate for the position of Minister should possess a strong commitment to their faith as an Evangelical Christian, demonstrating a deep understanding and passion for sharing the gospel with others. Additionally, they should be a faithful Bible teacher, equipped with sound biblical theology to effectively communicate and interpret the teachings of the Bible to the congregation.

It is crucial that the Minister exhibits enthusiasm and drive to grow the church through the power of the Holy Spirit, showing a genuine interest in expanding the church community and reaching out to new members. The Minister should have the energy and vision to propel the church forward, implementing innovative ideas and strategies to foster growth and development within the congregation. Lastly, the Minister should serve as an encourager, equipper and trainer of lay people for gospel ministry in the Church and the community, providing support, guidance and mentorship to enable individuals to spread the message of Christianity effectively. Along with providing a loving, pastoral care approach in the hospital and in the aged care facilities.

Strengths of the Parish

The Parish has a wide array of services catering to a diverse group of individuals, encouraging inclusivity and a welcoming environment. Comprised of Bible-believing, Christ-centered, and evangelical members, the Parish is deeply rooted in faith and desire to spread the Gospel. Over the past 8 years, the Parish has experienced growth in spiritual development, particularly in Bible teaching and knowledge. The community within the Parish is characterised by acceptance and harmony, with minimal conflicts arising among its members. The Parish is equipped with excellent facilities, including various buildings such as churches, hall and an op-shop. A car and a spacious 4-bedroom rectory are provided, located conveniently in the town adjacent to St. Paul's.



OUR CHURCH

Current Greatest Needs

The most pressing requirements at present include the presence of an evangelical pastor who can lead the congregation in spreading the message of the Gospel. There is a need for more active engagement in evangelical outreach within the local community to reach and fulfill our Church's mission and vision of connecting people to Jesus. Furthermore, there is a necessity for increased participation in various church ministries and activities such as Kids Church, Youth Group, prayer meetings, Bible studies, and other programs to cater to different age groups within the parish. This will help in fostering a sense of community and spiritual growth among the members.

Lastly, there is a need for a more strategic approach in utilizing the parish finances to achieve specific goals that align with the parish vision. By carefully planning and allocating resources, the church can effectively carry out its mission and make a meaningful impact on the lives of its members and the community at large.

Hopes and Plans for the Future

In the coming years, one of the main goals is to witness an increase in the number of individuals embracing Christianity. It is hoped that more people will come to know and accept the teachings of Christ and the cross, leading to a growth in the congregation of SALT and other church communities. Additionally, there is a desire to see greater participation from church members in various church-related activities, such as the Kid's club, youth group, men's breakfast and other outreach programs.

Another key objective for the future is to expand the church's outreach programs to better serve the wider community. This includes fostering a culture of generosity and encouraging practical acts of love towards those in need. By engaging in more charitable endeavors and community service projects, the church aims to make a positive impact on the lives of individuals beyond its regular congregation.

Furthermore, there is a strong desire to strengthen community engagement, to see increased involvement from individuals who attend our Parish's congregations in the broader life of the parish. Building connections and fostering relationships within the community is essential for creating a sense of belonging and unity. By encouraging active participation and collaboration, the church hopes to create a welcoming and inclusive environment where all members feel valued and supported.





OUR CHURCH

Local Community

Murrumburrah was established on Murimboola Creek during the 1840s. A significant railway station on the Sydney-Melbourne line emerged a mile uphill in 1877, named Harden. While Murrumburrah retained its status as a township, Harden became synonymous with the station. The town has a rich history from the gold rush era, the twin towns of Harden and Murrumburrah are surrounded by the vineyards and cellar doors of the Hilltops wine region. Notably, the area hosts the vibrant Harden Kite Festival and a monument to the Light Horse Calvary. Apart from the Anglican church, the region has a Uniting Church and a Catholic church. The Harden-Murrumburrah area has a rich historical church presence. The population of the town is approximately 2000.

The town has a strong agricultural industry, in a climate ideal for various crops like wheat, oats, canola, lupins, and fruits such as nashi pears, cherries, strawberries, peaches, and apricots. There are cattle, sheep and horse studs in the area. Both towns serve as vital agricultural service centres for the surrounding district, accommodating large grain-storage silos, sheep, cattle, horse studs, and vineyards, driving the local economy.

Harden-Murrumburrah has 2 primary schools (a Catholic school and a Public school) and a public high school. The local families are from a diverse background both socially and economically. There is strong community involvement in local sporting clubs.

Parish Finances

The parish's financial report indicates diverse revenue streams: \$144,470 (including Direct Credit Offertory, Op Shop, donations, fundraising). The expenditures amount to \$150,339.





OUR CHURCH

Provisions and Conditions of Service

The position for a full time Rector offers a stipend of approximately \$87,000 along with superannuation at 13.682%. Housing includes a rectory covering utilities such as electricity, gas, water, rates, phone, internet, as well as appliances like a fridge and washing machine. Additionally, the parish provides a parish vehicle, covering all associated costs including fuel, a Mitsubishi ASX 2019 with 46 000km.

Leave entitlements consist of four weeks per year, with additional leave granted for conferences and study upon arrangement with the Parish council. There will be one or two days off per week, allowing for a balanced work schedule.

Diocesan expectations on clergy.

The position entails attending the Annual Clergy conference, typically held over four days in May at Narooma, as well as the Synod, typically spanning from Friday to Sunday in September in Goulburn. Additionally, occasional participation in other short Synod or Clergy Conference days is expected. Participation in an annual retreat, whether Diocesan or otherwise, is also required, along with attendance at ordination services whenever possible.

Furthermore, regular attendance at Deanery meetings is necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of the position.



ST PAUL'S, MURRUMBURRAH



SALT AND OP SHOP, MURRUMBURRAH



ST THOMAS', BINLONG



ST MARK'S, CURRAWONG