



WAGGA ANGLICAN PARISH PROFILE

July 2023

Anglican Parish of Wagga Wagga



Anglican Diocese of
Canberra & Goulburn



Wagga Anglican

Wagga Anglican

Church has a vision to be a:

Connecting Christian Community

“We dream of a city church that is mission minded, with Christ at the centre, with multiple centres, great facilities and great worship, infused by friendliness and joy, at the heart of our city, with doors flung open, making disciples for Jesus.”





Our Prayer for a new Rector

Bountiful God,
give to this parish a faithful pastor
who will faithfully speak your word
and minister your sacraments;
an encourager who will equip your people for ministry
and enable us to fulfil our calling.
Give to those who will choose, wisdom,
discernment and patience,
and to us give warm and generous hearts,
for Jesus Christ's sake.

AMEN

About Wagga Anglican

(Anglican Parish of Wagga Wagga)

Wagga Anglican is a mission minded, welcoming Christ centred church in the Anglican tradition, located in the Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn. We are a church with compelling worship, cherished buildings, caring people all connecting to Jesus.

Our vision is to: Compelling Worship; Our worship services are conducted at Cherished Buildings; Caring People; St John's the Evangelist Church, and Connecting to Jesus. We value and hold also our smaller centres at St Luke's, fast to our Anglican heritage and seek central, St Saviour's, Ladysmith, and to express our faith in ways that gives Anglican Community of the Redeemer, meaning to the past, and is expressed Ashmont and Wagga Anglican Family in new and creative ways in the future. Church (located at The Riverina Anglican College).

Key to this vision is Christ being at the centre of all that we do as we bring people to know and love God.

We are a community of faith with God at the centre of our lives, serving him sacrificially. We treasure God's word and communicate its message to our city with passion. We are friendly, meeting people where they are at in their journey, modelling warmth and humility. Our worship has a strong base in biblical preaching and teaching reflected in the joyful praise of our parishioners and community members.

Our ministry encompasses Space Playgroup, two preschools, The Riverina Anglican College, and three aged care facilities, as well as chaplaincy to two hospitals, and CAMEO (Come and meet each other).

Our vision is to be:

Connecting Christian Community



A new Rector

The parish has been blessed with strong traditional Anglican leadership. We find ourselves seeking a new leader; someone who will pick up the reins where they are and continue the Parish on its mission of strength in God and corporate Christ centred vision.

We seek a new Rector who:

- Demonstrates great communication skills especially in reaching out to a diverse congregation where ever they are at in their Christian journey, and who can connect the gospel to local, national and international issues
- Will take a medium to long term approach to the mission and growth of the Parish
- Is a faithful pastor who welcomes all people, is non-judgemental, and practices inclusiveness
- Thrives on being a good Shepherd - Places pastoral care as a priority and has demonstrated a commitment to ministering to their flock
- Demonstrates an ability to work with and lead a team in a wide range of Parish activities, including Outreach activities, while recognizing and using the many and diverse skills and talents of others
- Is comfortable with Anglican traditional and contemporary ways of worship; we have different styles of worship in our various centres and our new Rector must be able to lead, support and work with the different styles of worship
- Demonstrates an ability and willingness to engage with and work collaboratively with other Anglican agencies and church communities as well as the wider community
- Is a Christian of the Spirit – who values liturgy, scripture, reason and demonstrates a willingness to explore the possibilities/potential of our Christian communities (past, present and future)

About Wagga Wagga

Wagga Wagga is the largest inland city in New South Wales and is considered the main commercial and administrative centre in the Riverina region, situated half way between Sydney and Melbourne on the Hume Highway.

Wagga Wagga, located on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River with a population of 69,000. 'Wagga', as it is known to the locals, is a city of fine buildings, tree-lined streets, excellent museums and galleries, parks and gardens, sporting and recreation facilities, diversity of restaurants, and mental wellness facilities.

The city's appeal lies in its diversity. The community is blessed with an ever growing number of people from a variety of ethnic backgrounds.

The cultural, educational and economic life of Wagga is greatly enhanced by but not limited to: Kapooka Army Base, Forest Hill Airforce Base, Charles Sturt University (including St Martin's - an Anglican residential college), TAFE, The Riverina

Anglican College (TRAC), a Christian College, two Catholic High Schools, three state high schools, a number of primary schools (denominational and public), Wagga Base and Calvary Hospitals, and the Riverina Conservatorium of Music. There are areas within the city bounds that are affluent and areas of poverty.

It is a city of sports, gardens and cultural activities, surrounded by rich rural lands, where one can swim in the Murrumbidgee; walk along an Aboriginal trail; visit impressive galleries and museums including the National Art glass Gallery; have fun at a boutique brewery; admire truly impressive historic buildings and parks; and engage with the Riverside Precinct - the premier entertaining area for the city.



Location and Demographics

The parish currently draws its members from the wider Wagga Wagga region

The Wagga Wagga City Council Local Government Area lists a population of 67,609 in the 2021 Census with an estimated growth to approximately 69,000 in 2023. Due to COVID, a number of people have relocated from capital cities to Wagga Wagga.

There are two Anglican Parishes within the Wagga Wagga LGA – The Anglican Parish of Wagga Wagga (the focus of this profile, also referred to as Wagga Anglican – <https://waggaanglican.org.au>) and the South Wagga Anglican Church (<https://swac.church>) Wagga Anglican works closely with Anglicare (<https://www.anglicare.com.au>) who are collocated in the St John's office and in the Ashmont Community Resource Centre (Anglican Community of the Redeemer <https://www.facebook.com/ashmontcommunityresourcecentre/>).

Historically the primary catchment area for the Anglican Parish of Wagga Wagga has been described as the area north of the railway line which crosses the city, east-west and approximately encompasses approximately a population of 32,600 with considerable and rapid growth in the northern suburbs of Estella, Gobbagombalin and Boorooma, This growth area houses The Riverina Anglican College (<https://trac.nsw.edu.au>) as well as St Martin's College (<https://stmartinscollege.org>) within the Charles Sturt University (<https://csu.edu.au>) There are five churches/centres of worship within the Wagga Parish – St John's, St Luke's, St Saviour's, Anglican Community of the Redeemer and the Wagga Family Service @ TRAC .

Ethnicity: The catchment is increasingly multicultural with the vast majority of residents born in Australia, though this is changing with an ever increasing number of people moving to Wagga from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. There is sharp discrepancy of social disadvantage with some areas having significant numbers of disadvantaged people while other areas are more affluent.

Employment: Wagga Wagga has a 64.4% participation rate in the workforce; 60.3% are in full-time work and 30.03% are in part-time work; unemployment is 4.0%; 16/6% of the population is 65 years or more. The city has a good cross section of blue and white collar employment with Kapooka Army and RAAF Base Wagga, and Charles Sturt University. The median income is \$85,176. The Special Activation Precinct an the Intermodal Railway Hub will provide future employment

Religious affiliation: The number of people in the Wagga area allying themselves to Christianity is significantly higher than the state and national average, with 15.3% affiliated with the Anglican faith. With an increase in the number of Baptisms in the parish in recent times, people are reaching out.

An Abbreviated History of the Anglican Parish of Wagga Wagga

1839	Itinerant Ministry
1855	Parish of Gundagai, Tumut & Wagga
1857	Wagga Wagga became a parish in its own right
1861	Church of St John the Evangelist consecrated
1875	A new church built on the current site
1900	St Mary's, North Wagga built
1910	Transept plans drawn and building begun
1910	St Saviour's, Ladysmith built
1913	St Luke's Church built opposite the then new hospital
1963	Decision to consolidate all parish building to one site
1964	Foundation stone laid for the Parish Centre and Rectory began
1964	Bell tower and spire at St John's
1966	Narthex constructed on western side of St John's
2004	Parish Centre refurbished into office space in partnership with Anglicare
2010	Upgrade of Narthex and western front of St John's
2013	Space Playgroup launched
2015	Western front stained glass windows and doors installed
2018	Anglican Community of the Redeemer subsumed into the Parish
2018	Wagga Anglican Family Church established at the Riverina Anglican College
2020	St Luke's Complex redevelopment
2022	Acquisition of property next the Community of the Redeemer





Our Worship Services

Wagga Anglican recognises that the Anglican Church is a broad Church. The Parish aims to reach out to all people equally with the Gospel of Jesus. Our services are varied in the sense that we try to include traditional prayer book services with other services which reflect a contemporary modern family style of worship. In the Parish we have multiple centre, all centres reflect the diversity of our tradition. St John's, WAFC (TRAC), St Luke's, St Saviour's, Ladysmith; and Anglican Community of the Redeemer, Ashmont.

They are:

- **Sunday 9am (St John's)**
A traditional prayer book Holy Communion service with choir on rotation and beautiful organ playing for hymns - attendance average **50-70**
- **Tuesday evening (St John's)**
Holy Communion Service
- **Sunday 4pm Wagga Anglican Family Church (TRAC)**
A contemporary family service
- **Sunday 7:30am (St Luke's)**
A traditional prayer book Holy Communion service - attendance average 15
- **Sunday 9am (Anglican Community of the Redeemer)**
A traditional prayer book service with Holy Communion on the first and third Sunday and Morning Prayer on the second and fourth Sunday - attendance average 15
- **Sunday 11am (St Saviour's)**
A traditional prayer book service with Holy Communion on the second Sunday of the month and Prayer, Praise & Proclamation on the fourth Sunday of the month - attendance average 7
- **Wednesday Worship 11am (PMR)**
A traditional Holy Communion Service held in the Parish Meeting Room - attendance average 12-15
- **First Sunday and Tuesday of the month at 11am and 2pm (Settlers Village)**
Holy Communion service - attendance average 20



Parish Strengths

Worship

- Strong Anglican tradition and practice
- Commitment to new styles and places of worship to meet people where they are in their journey with Jesus.
- Solid support for new ministry
- Bible Studies
- Weekly recording of service virtually shared

Parish Community Development

- Empower, encourage and connect all as they grow in their love of Jesus and its expression through ministry
- Collective wisdom and professional experience of the people within the parish as the basis for future ministry (skills & talents)
- Positive long-standing relationship between the Parish and Anglicare at the Anglican Community of the Redeemer, caring for those in need (food pantry) and the disadvantaged

Stewardship of Property

- Stable processes and plans are in place for property stewardship
- Ability to maximise property use for ministry purposes

Preschools

- Well established oversight and management of two high quality centres
- Outstanding leadership within each centre
- High-quality long serving staff
- Capacity enrolments and waitlists
- Expansion in progress—current and planned

Opportunity Shop

- 44 years of service to the community with a main street presence
- Management Committee in place for oversight
- Coordinator employed leading a volunteer team
- Building and supporting relationships with the community.
- High quality merchandise, stylishly presented in a fresh refurbished environment

Space Playgroup

- Coordinator employed leading a small committed group of volunteers
- Outreach ministry connecting and building relationships with parents/carers and bubs and Baptism families
- Essential steppingstone on the pathway to formal worship
- Excellent venue for youth ministry

Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care

- Commitment, connection and engagement with preschools, The Riverina Anglican College, hospitals (Wagga Base and Calvary) and aged care facilities; significant ministry at the Forest Centre (Mary Potter and Loreto Home of Compassion).
- Established shared ordained and lay pastoral care network within the parish
- Provision of care for people with a strong sense of social justice for all
- Commitment to establish and develop partnerships with agencies and community organisations

Parish Opportunities

Worship

- Establishment of new expressions and places of worship, engaging those we connect with (Baptism families, playgroup families, preschool families, school families, Op Shop volunteers and visitors)
- Continue to encourage development of lay ministry, and the role it plays in the parish and its agencies
- Continue to grow Wagga Family Anglican Church located at the Riverina Anglican College
- Continue to grow virtual congregation

Parish Community Development

- Establishment of a regional Deanery hub providing administration and management support, empowering and creating stronger more connected communities
- Collective action in Deanery to increase skills, knowledge and empowerment, enhancing social inclusion and community connection
- Enable and encourage a broad approach to ministry, partnering with agencies and other parties
- Develop parish support of agencies (Anglicare staff and carers)

Stewardship of properties

- Increasing impost on parish resources - ministry, financial and property management
- Determine assets to maximise growth for pilgrimage - development and deployment

Preschools and Space Playgroup

- Capital Grant for relocation and planned development of St Mary's Rainbow Preschool to northern suburbs of Wagga
- Develop pathways between Space Playgroup and our preschools
- Foster opportunities for growth
- Chaplaincy ministry to remain a priority

Opportunity Shop

- Advance spiritual resources encouraging opportunities for evangelism

Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care

- Deepen relationship with preschools, The Riverina Anglican College, hospitals and aged care facilities including the Forest Centre (Mary Potter and Loreto Home of Compassion)



Mission

We are currently developing exciting new mission in the expanding northern suburbs of Wagga . This mission will incorporate a new preschool that has the potential to reach out to over 200 families in the emerging suburbs. In keeping with the mission of the Anglican Church from its original settlement, the two arms of outreach of the Anglican Church are through education and ministry. This mission will incorporate both with a multipurpose centre in the preschool to enable a church to grow and flourish.

In Ashmont, another suburb in our Parish with our strategic partnership with Anglicare, where we reach out through caring for the underprivileged and vulnerable in our community and provide a centre of worship through the Anglican Community of the Redeemer and our wider church community.

We are continually looking for opportunities to reach out the to the community of Wagga through civic, social and community opportunities.



Parish Statistics

Parish Income

Parish Annual Income (2022):	Total	\$485,767
Planned Giving:		\$78,331
Open Plate:		\$21,362
Other		\$386,074

(e.g. fundraising, rents, Op Shop etc.)

Parish Contributions

Parish Contributions: in 2022

To Diocese:	\$49,310
To missions: (not including time spent)	\$9,400

Staff

Stipendiary

Clergy	Two full time*
	Two part time: 40% & 20%
Office Administrator	One part time
Opportunity Shop Coordinator	One part time
Space Playgroup Coordinator	One part time
Hospital Chaplaincy	One part time
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1FTE between PreSchool Chaplain and Wagga Anglican Family (TRAC)• 1FTE for St John's, St Saviours, St Luke', ACR and the Forrest Centre

Honorary

Three retired priests	
Three Deacons	Two part time One retired



Lay Ministry

Two active lay ministers

Four people authorised to administer the elements

Lay people read the lessons and lead intercessions

To what extent does the parish council 'share with the priest or deacon-in-charge responsibility for planning, organising and executing the pastoral, educational, evangelistic and missionary work of the church'? (Ref: diocesan ordinance 17(c), p.18)

- The Rector and Parish Council have a shared responsibility for planning and vision with all members encouraged to contribute and present ideas for vision.
- A vibrant and active ministry team play a collaborative role, well supported by the Parish Council, in determining pastoral needs.
- Education and evangelism require inspiration, focus and dedication.
- Mission work, supported by Parish Council is a quarterly focus on Anglicare, ABM, BCA and St Mark's Theological College

In what ways do lay members of the parish take responsibility for aspects of the day-to-day administration of the parish?

- The parish employs a Parish Administrator (PA), Monday to Friday 22hrs per week. It is the PA's responsibility for all things outlined in the covenant with the PA, including the full administrative support of the ministry team
- The parish treasurer is an accountant and oversees - in a volunteer capacity - all financial management of the parish and its physical resources, supported by a team of parishioners assisting with money counting, data entry and stipend preparation, and some business support services from an external provider.
- Property management is the responsibility of the church wardens in consultation with the Rector
- Committees are in place for: Finance, Property, Opportunity Shop, Fund Raising, Preschools and special working groups as required
- Anglican Community of the Redeemer has a passionate and committed lay ministry team who lead services on alternate Sundays and run a weekly bible study.
- Two devoted parishioners are responsible for the parish archives, taking extraordinary care to ensure the parish's history is maintained, and accessible to all.





Actions

What are the most important needs of the Parish?

- Sustainability and growth
- Expand established connections with our civic culture
- Advance developing pastoral relationships with parishioners
- Open inclusive approach to the administration of the sacraments - Baptism, weddings and funerals
- Continue to foster the relationship with Anglicare, and The Forrest Centre

What are the hopes and plans for the future?

- Develop diverse styles of worship (meditative, contemporary, healing, etc) to meet the needs of those transitioning through existing pathways – Baptism, funerals, Space Playgroup, preschools, The Riverina Anglican College, St Martin's Residential College (CSU)
- Nurture and grow existing congregations
- Use of a regional hub for all ministry units in the Deanery (Administration, Financial, Management)
- Encourage and grow cooperative relationships
- Evangelism and mission within the wider community
- Source, prepare and encourage parish retreats, quiet days, Home Groups / Bible studies and Diocesan programs
- Expansion of Ministry: facilities and community services at St Saviour's site; facilities accommodating preschool education and care in the northern suburbs; expansion of facilities at the Community of the Redeemer and others; and physical and ministry services at Opportunity Shop



Parish Groups and Activities

- Weekly Bible Study (1)
- Wagga Base Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Visiting
- Parish Opportunity Shop
- Tower Bell Ringers
- Space Playgroup
- Archivists
- St John's Worship - including sanctuary team, hospitality, cleaning, flowers
- Fifth Sunday Parish Lunch
- CAMEO - Come and Worship with each other
- Arts Fund Committee
- Festival of the Christmas Tree



Connecting
to **Jesus**



Cherished
Buildings



Compelling
Worship



Caring
People

Clergy Conditions of Service

Stipend

\$76,700.84 (As per 2023 Administrative Circular)

Housing

Inspection of house by the Regional Archdeacon has been done - see the image below—four bedrooms, study, two bathrooms plus third toilet, large living dining area, modern kitchen with informal dining area, carport (2), garage (1) on St John’s site. Stunning Murrumbidgee River views.

Transport

- New Parish vehicle to be provided (if required)
- All costs associated with the motor vehicle operations and replacement is paid by the parish, the exception is fuel cost when priest is on annual leave
- Stipend sacrifice up to 30% is available

Allowances

- Hospitality allowance up to 5% of stipend - currently \$3,835
- Telephone: As in accordance with Diocesan Clergy Conditions
- Energy: Parish pays all energy costs
- Conferences, etc: Parish pays cost associated with attendance at Synod, Clergy Conferences, Clergy Spouse Conference, Clergy Retreats
- Estimated annual value of surplus fees: 1 Wedding (\$325) and 29 Funerals (\$200) in 2022)
- Discretionary Fund (for helping needy) in 2022 is \$1,500.

Supportive care

The parish members are an extremely supportive group who enthusiastically care for their Rector and family. The ministry team is strong and cohesive, at the same time as being few in number and some are quite aged. The Rectory family are welcomed, encouraged and supported in parish activities and embraced by the parish community – our church. Shared hospitality is a strength of the parish and its members and embraces opportunities to break bread. Parish provides resources for professional supervision.

Outline of proposed Maintenance or Improvements

- Through thorough planning and good management of resources, the maintenance of church properties is in good stead.
- Parish Administration Building foyer works to be finalised
- Plans for an increased Anglicare presence onsite to be encouraged, supported and materialised
- An overall St John’s site Conservation Management Plan to be embraced and actioned in a timely manner
- The preschools have strategic plans in place which include property improvements and growth across multiple sites
- Enhancement and use of digital technology in ministry and other activities
- The establishment of the St John’s Church Building Trust



Final Word

Wagga Anglican has a strong sense of mission and outreach to the city and suburbs of Wagga. St John's Church building is seen as the Anglican Church for the City of Wagga Wagga. The parish supports the provision of a more effective, coordinated and collaborative approach to front line Anglican ministry services for the city; communication between all front line Anglican ministry services as crucial within the city; the need for greater contact and collaboration with Anglican agencies within the city and neighbouring Dioceses; and the parishioner resource base is reducing and sees the need to deliver front line ministry services in a smarter way.

Further detail can be found in the attached documents:

- Wagga Anglican Annual Report
- Wagga Anglican Financial Report
- Vision Statement
- St John's Church Building Conservation Management Plan

Links you may find helpful:

Anglican Parish of Wagga Wagga— <https://waggaanglican.org.au>

The Riverina Anglican College—<https://trac.nsw.edu.au>

St Martin's College— <https://stmartinscollege.org>

Anglicare— <https://www.anglicare.com.au>

Demographic statistics about Wagga Wagga

<https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/LGA17750>

<https://profile.id.com.au/wagga-wagga#:~:text=The%20Wagga%20Wagga%20City%20Estimated,14.14%20persons%20per%20square%20km.>

<https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/community-profiles/2021/LGA17750>



St John's, Church St

Inside St Luke's, Shaw Street

Anglican Community of the Redeemer



St Saviour's Ladysmith

