

Proposal to Change the Parish of Artarmon to a Provisional Parish

(A Report from the North Sydney Regional Council)

Initiation of Proposal

1. A proposal was made to the Archbishop by the Minister and Churchwardens of St Basil's Artarmon under Clause 4 (1)(c) of the Parishes Ordinance 1974.

Details of Meeting

2. A meeting of North Sydney Regional Council was held on 3 March 1998 to consider the proposal under clause 5 of the Ordinance.

3. North Sydney Regional Council certified that all procedural requirements under clauses 4 and 6 have been complied with and noted that no objections had been received.

Proposal

4. The proposal is to change the parish to a provisional parish.

5. The parish has been unable to meet the local revenue threshold in the years 1995, 1996 and 1997. The parish could not identify any factors which would reverse this situation in the short term and so the Minister and Churchwardens made the proposal in this report. There are no arrears of assessments.

Parish Information

6. There are some 5,100 persons claiming adherence to the Anglican Church of Australia in the Parish and this figure is diminishing. There has been a very strong change in the social composition of the population over the last twenty-five years so that (especially in the residential area near the church) many people are now of Asian origin especially Chinese, Japanese, Korean and other non-English speaking backgrounds.

7. St Basil's Artarmon has traditionally offered a liturgical style of worship in the 'central-church' stream of Anglicanism. It is felt that some of these services should continue as, increasingly, it provides an important niche ministry.

8. The number of regular worshippers began to decline steeply in the late 1960's. Numbers then plateaued and for the last 30 years, there have been about 40-50 attenders at Sunday services each week. A new ministry began in 1997 and many new initiatives have been introduced.

9. The Parish is hoping to use the services of an experienced consultant (e.g. AYED) to assist it in forward planning and developing a new vision for growth.

Attendances at Services

8.00 am	9.45 am	6.15 pm (newly begun)
18	30	10

Particulars of Church Trust Property

10. Details of property held by the Property Trust upon trust for Artarmon are as follows -

St Basil's Artarmon	Value of Land and Improvements	Condition of Buildings
Church) 6 Broughton Road	\$2,703,700	good
Hall) Artarmon	779,300	very good
Rectory)	425,000	very good

11. The Minister's residence conforms to Diocesan standards.

Summary of Consolidated Receipts and Payments

12. A summary of the financial position over the past 3 years and the budget for 1998 follows -

	1995	1996	1997	1998 (Budget)
Receipts				
Offertries	28,475	32,232	32,561	40,000
Donations	6,763	6,454	8,775	6,000
Missions	1,593	857	844	1,000
Interest/Rent	12,658	12,005	10,214	9,500
Grants	-	-	-	3,000
Other	9,847	5,522	4,607	5,000
Totals	59,336	57,070	57,001	64,500
Expenditure				
Stipend/ Allowances	36,594	26,397 ^a	26,776 ^a	40,582
Assessment	7,000	8,450	9,950	4,400
Missions	1,593	857	844	1,000
Other	15,983	12,864	23,400 ^b	20,000
Totals	61,170	48,568	60,970	65,982
Surplus (Deficit)	(1,834)	8,502 ^a	(3,969)	(1,482)

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a = These figures reflect the p/t stipend paid to the locum tenens.

b = Includes purchase of the photocopier and repairs to rectory for new minister.

13. A summary of assets and liabilities at 31 December 1997 follows -

Assets	\$
Land, buildings, and contents	3,908,000
Investments	74,260
Current	15,780
Total	3,998,040
Liabilities	
Trust Fund Deposits	10,509
Net Assets	3,987,531

14. There are no debts on the property.

15. Archdeacon Reg Platt supports the application.

Recommendation

16. The North Sydney Regional Council recommends that the Parish of Artarmon become a Provisional Parish from 1 January 1998.

For and on behalf of the North Sydney Regional Council.

REG PLATT
Archdeacon of North Sydney

14 August 1998