

## Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish of Katoomba to a parish

(A report of the Western Sydney Regional Council.)

### Proposal

1. A proposal is being made to the Archbishop by the minister and wardens of the provisional parish of St Hilda's Katoomba, under clause 4(1)(b) of the Parishes Ordinance 1979.

### Details of meeting

2. The Western Sydney Regional Council met on 10 July 2014 to consider the proposal under clause 4 of the ordinance. Council certified that all requirements under clauses 4 and 6 have been complied with and recommends that the provisional parish of Katoomba becomes a parish from 1 January 2015.

### Proposal

3. The proposal is to change the provisional parish of Katoomba to the parish of Katoomba.

4. The provisional parish has applied for this change of classification following the steady growth in membership, ministry and Christian maturity.

### Parish information

5. Anglicans have been meeting in Katoomba since 1885, with the current church dedicated in 1915, around which time the Parish became independent. According to the 2011 census, the population of Katoomba is 8,016 with 1,306 Anglicans.

6. In 1992 the Parish became provisional. In 2005 with the assistance of the Western Region Council and the Archbishop's curacy fund the Rev Ramon Robinson was appointed after a two year interregnum at the death of Rev Robin Muers. The Parish has slowly grown in recent years in the goodness of God, and has been self-supporting since 2010.

7. Due to the sacrificial effort of many people, a wide ministry base has developed including children and youth ministries, an arts ministry, a ministry in the Solomon Islands, and a ministry to the poor and marginalised. A partnership with Anglicare has developed that has significantly assisted in reaching the needy in our community.

8. With the generous giving of many people, the Parish is now supporting three part time workers as well as the rector. In the last year or so with the completion of a new safe front entrance, the church has also seen significant growth in numbers and ministry opportunities. The Parish is grateful to God for congregation members giving \$160,000 and raising another \$60,000 in government grants towards the cost of the entrance over the last few years.

### Future plans

9. In the coming days the Parish plans to further develop the ministries to youth and young adults, continue to develop their partnerships with Anglicare and address capacity issues at the 10am service.

### Size of congregations

10. Average attendances are currently –

8.00am	20
10.00am adults	90
10.00am children	20
5.30pm	20

### Particulars of all church trust property

11. Details of property held by the Anglican Church Property Trust upon trust for the provisional parish are as follows –

	Value of Land	Value of Buildings
Rectory	\$534,000.00	\$657,000.00
Church		\$4,105,400.00
Church & Hall Contents		\$1,632,000.00

### Summary of consolidated receipts and payments

12. A summary of the financial position over the past three years is set out below –

	2011	2012	2013
<b>Receipts</b>			
Offeratories	\$149,247.76	\$195,349.76	\$153,076.63
Received for others/donations	0	0	0
Grants	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$19,100.00
Hall rental income	\$14,359.63	\$9,903.26	\$13,856.67
Rectory rent	\$21,855.00	\$22,614.50	\$21,800.00
Total Income	\$213,828.49	\$265,281.38	\$238,482.78
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Ministry staff and admin staff	\$97,488.68	\$122,636.56	\$125,002.91
Ministry housing	\$18,560.00	\$19,980.00	\$18,500.00
Parish cost recoveries	\$19,951.54	\$17,939.41	\$24,385.86
Resources for ministry	\$2,193.20	\$790.16	\$1,417.33
Parish donations	\$3,873.08	\$1,705.69	\$3,648.61
Parish administration/general expenses	\$12,909.15	\$11,372.04	\$12,335.93
Parish property expenses	\$42,265.87	\$32,139.33	\$45,186.09
Other expenses	\$13,952.11	\$18,511.61	\$24,375.37
Total Expenses	\$189,997.59	\$202,178.11	\$232,978.51

### Recommendation

13. The Western Sydney Regional Council recommends that the provisional parish of Katoomba be reclassified as a parish with effect from 1 January 2015.

For and behalf of the Western Sydney Regional Council.

IVAN LEE  
Bishop

10 July 2014