

## Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish of Liverpool South (Holy Trinity) to a parish

(A report of the Georges River Regional Council.)

### Proposal

1. The Minister and Wardens of the provisional parish of Liverpool South propose under Clause 4 of the *Parishes Ordinance 1979* that the provisional parish be reclassified as a parish.
2. The various requirements for this proposal under Clause 4 and 6 of the *Parishes Ordinance* have been met and the details of this follow.

### Support of the Georges River Region Regional Council

3. On the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 the Georges River Region Regional Council resolved to support the request that the Parish of Liverpool South be classified as a parish under the *Parishes Ordinance 1979*.

### Parish Information

#### *Historical Background*

4. Holy Trinity Anglican Church (now known as Liverpool South Anglican Church) was formed through the amalgamation of three local churches: St John's Anglican Church in Lurnea, St Alban's Anglican Church in Casula and St Stephen's Church in Prestons in 1979 with a vision to reach and serve.
5. The present location for the Liverpool South Anglican Church was selected for its centrality to the three older centres of worship, and also to growing population moving into the area to maximize outreach initiatives. When the parish was formed out of St Luke's in Liverpool, it was categorized as "Assisted Provisional", however attained Provisional Parish soon after.

#### *Community Profile*

6. The parish encompasses three suburbs (Casula, Lurnea, and Prestons) with a combined population of 37,605 people. The parish of Liverpool South is situated within a region that is considered to be one of the fastest growing areas within Australia. Its population is also very diverse with Lebanese the largest immigrant group (Lebanese 5.7%, Iraqis 4.3%, & Fijians 2.4%) in Lurnea. Whereas in Casula and Prestons the Fijian and Indians constitute the largest immigrant groups (Casula: Fijians 3.8% and Indians 2.4%; Prestons: Fijians 7.4% & Indians 3.1%). It should be noted that in Prestons approx 4% of the population are Filipinos, and a high 40% of the population were born in a Non-English Speaking country. Of those born overseas, the most common birthplace is Iraq.
7. The aim of the parish is to encourage one another to know and trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. It is also committed to sharing the message of hope found in the Bible to those in its community and beyond.
8. The current ministry team consists of Reverend Manoj Chacko, Deryck Rivers (Hon. Associate Minister), Caleb Rivers (Youth Worker), Margaret Hall (SRE & Ministry Co-ordinator) and Monish Gunalan (Music Ministry). The team is committed to sharing the message of hope found in the Bible to members of the church and to those in the community.

### Activities

9. Sunday Services: two services are held each Sunday, at 9.30am and 5.30pm. The morning service is largely attended by adults and families from multi-cultural backgrounds and the evening service is mainly attended by young adults and youths.
10. Home Groups: a network of groups meet weekly to study the Bible and its relevance in a small group context. It additionally aims to promote prayer and closer fellowship that would not be possible through attendance at the 9.30am and 5.30pm Sunday services alone.
11. Children's and Youth Ministry: the parish is serious about reaching children and youth in the area with the good news of Jesus Christ and teaching them to follow him. Sunday school is held at 9.30am. A team of dedicated parish members are presently involved in teaching Special Religious Education classes in three local primary schools, covering ten different classes. There is also an active youth program where young people between the ages of 11- 18 years meet on Friday evenings.
12. School of Music: as part of community outreach, free keyboard, guitar, drums and vocal lessons are provided each week. This initiative is to draw musically talented community members from the area into church and learn a musical instrument from well-trained and qualified parish musicians. These classes will give opportunities for gospel conversations to be initiated with students and also their parents and 25 young people attend the Wednesday classes.

13. Ministry to Asylum Seekers: This ministry that began in 2010 helping several Pakistani refugees, now reaches out to people from Sri Lanka and lately Cameroon in central Africa. A fellowship meeting is held fortnightly where, through the support of Anglican Aid & Anglicare and other Christians, we are able to meet the practical needs of these vulnerable people in the community. These lunchtime meetings on Sundays are well attended.

14. When the Sri Lankan asylum seekers were initially released into the community, the church provided internet and Skype facilities to enable them to communicate with their families. It also provided the opportunity for the church to be familiar with their family background and situations and extend appropriate help.

15. Partnership based ministry: The parish supports Church Missionary Society through its prayers and financial support. The Sampson's at Nairobi, Kenya are the Link Missionaries. The parish members also support Wycliffe Translators, the pioneering work of Bible translation by Phil & Lil in West Asia.

16. In recent years the parish has made two mission trips to visit, share and learn from the church planting organization, India Gospel League. This has widened the eyes of the members to see and learn from what God is doing in His world.

17. Malaysia Discipleship Centre, a church based ministry from Malaysia have been partnering with us by giving us a wider mission perspective. Locally, we are involved in supporting the local outreach to people of Jewish background, through the ministry of Jews for Jesus.

18. Facilities on Site: The main hall for weekly gatherings is spacious seating 200 members and equipped with modern sound system, musical instruments and multi-media equipment.

19. The large hall adjacent is suitable for fellowship meetings, functions and dinners. It is used several times during the week as an outreach venue to connect with the local community.

20. Several large meeting rooms are also located on site.

21. The Rectory is situated adjacent to the large church car park. This rectory meets the diocesan standards of four bedrooms, a minister's study, two bathrooms, and a large kitchen and dining area.

22. For ministry purposes, a single bedroom granny flat is also located on site. This has been used for staff housing or for temporary accommodation by asylum seekers.

23. Regular attendance during the last 12 months are as follows –

<b>Service</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Morning Service (9.30am)	80 (ages 18 & above), 15 (under 18)
Evening Service (5.30pm)	8 (above 18), 15 (under 18)

*Future Growth Plans*

24. As a parish we are committed to proclaiming Christ as Saviour and Lord and living out the Kingdom of God in the local community. We will be involved in the Diocesan Mission initiative of seeing Christ in the community through Mission 2020. A couple of new housing and land developments are taking place in the parish, in Casula and Prestons. Plans are underway to look at ways to connect with the new residents moving into these areas.

*Particulars of church property*

<b>Asset</b>	<b>Value of Land and Improvements</b>
Church	\$1,507,000
Residence	\$76,650
Hall	\$690,000

**Summary of consolidated receipts and payments**

25. A summary of the financial position over the past two years is set out below –

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Offeratories	\$125,066	\$133,164
Interest/Investments	\$7,457	\$6,276

	2013	2014
Others	\$44,602**	\$10,235*
Total Revenue	\$177,125	\$149,675
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Ministry Staffing	\$125,364	\$101,524
Parish Cost Recovery Charge	\$20,711	\$24,316
Resources for Ministry	\$6,803	\$4,178
Parish Donations	\$5,843	
Parish Administration	\$5,852	\$5,533
Expenses re Parish Property	\$12,552	\$14,124
Total Expenses	\$177,125	\$149,675

\* Contributions made by members for mission and sub-continental ministry

\*\* Includes monies from savings

26. The parish has no outstanding debts.

### **Recommendation**

27. The Georges River Region Regional Council recommends that the provisional parish of Liverpool South be reclassified as a parish with effect from 1 January 2016.

For and on behalf of the Georges River Region.

PETER LIN

*Bishop of the Georges River Region*

20 July 2015