



Proposal to reclassify the provisional parish of Narellan as a parish

(A report of the Wollongong Regional Council.)

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Initiation of proposal

1. A proposal was made to the Archbishop by the Minister and Churchwardens of the Provisional Parish of Narellan under clause 4 (1)(b) of the Parishes Ordinance 1979.

Details of Meeting

2. A meeting of the Wollongong Regional Council was held on 9 September 2003 to consider among other things the proposal under clause 5 of the Ordinance.

3. The WRC has certified that all procedural requirements under clauses 4 and 6 of the Ordinance have been complied with.

Proposal

4. The proposal is to change the Provisional Parish to a Parish.

Parish Information

5. Narellan is now the centre of one of the fastest growing urban areas in the South West of Sydney. Major residential developments continue to unfold and there is expected to be rapid population growth over the next fifteen years.

6. The Provisional Parish has a most interesting history. The Rev Thomas Hassall was the first Rector appointed in 1827. He subsequently built the Heber Chapel at Cobbitty in 1827 and St Paul's Church Cobbitty was erected in 1840. The "grand" Rectory was completed in 1870. Meetings of Christians began in Elderslie at the turn of the 19th Century.

7. In Narellan a combined school and Church was erected in 1839 and served the area until 1884. St Thomas' Church was built in that year designed by Edmund Blackett.

8. More recent residential developments began in the early 1980s. With the growth a new congregation first met in 1993 in the community cottage out at Mt Annan. The congregation then moved to St Thomas' Narellan in 1995 and an evening service was commenced at that time. Growth continued and the need for a new larger building in Narellan became apparent. The old St Thomas' site was sold in 1999 to fund the new centre in Richardson Road and services in the new building commenced in May 2001.

9. The congregation from St Mark's Elderslie transferred to the new building at the same time.

10. A new congregation was planted in Harrington Park Primary School in 2002 and continues to develop quite rapidly.

11. We are in the initial concept stage of planning a new church plant in Currans Hill or Mount Annan in 2005. This would be a joint plant with members from various congregations. Part of the vision is to be in a position to employ a Moore College graduate in 2006 as the minister for this congregation.

12. The population of the Provisional Parish stands at approximately 35,000. Many young families have moved into the area with the growth often under the banner of second home buyers coming from other parts of urban Sydney. Approximately 2,000 families still claim some affiliation with the Anglican Church.

13. Cobbitty is a more stable centre growth wise. The village is struggling to maintain its separate identity aided by Camden Council restrictions as to the nature and scope of development.

14. The Provisional Parish employs a Senior Minister, Assistant Minister, Children's & Youth Minister, a Student Minister, one MTS Trainee and a Part Time Secretary.

15. There are many Lay brethren who play active parts in ministry throughout the Parish.

16. There are six Public Primary Schools and three High Schools in the Provisional Parish. In addition Macarthur Anglican School has a primary school campus currently in Narellan while the senior campus is in Cobbitty. The primary school campus has been sold and will be re-located to the Cobbitty Campus in 2005. SRE is taught in all the public schools.

17. The Provisional Parish currently has 232 regular adult worshippers and 91 children with average attendances being -

| Church | Service time | No. of adults | No. of children |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| St Paul's Cobbitty | 8:00 am | 25 | 2 |
| St Thomas' Narellan | 8:00 am | 18 | 4 |
| | 9:45 am | 78 | 55 |
| | 7:00 pm | 65 | 5 |
| Harrington Park | 5:00 PM | 45 | 25 |

Particulars of church property

18. Details of property held by the Anglican Church Property Trust upon trust for the Provisional Parish are as follows -

| St Paul's Cobbitty | Value of Land & Improvements 31.12.02. | Condition of Building |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Church, Chapel & Cemetery | 112,000 | Fair |
| Hall | 100,000 | Fair |
| Rectory | 415,000 | Good |
| Vacant Land | | |
| 298 Cobbitty Road | 170,000 | N/A |
| 320 Cobbitty Road | 530,000 | N/A |
| 330 Cobbitty Road | 490,000 | N/A |
| 344 Cobbitty Road | 150,000 | N/A |
| 10 & 55 Chittick Lane | 1,000,000 | N/A |
| St Mark's Elderslie | | |
| Church, Hall | 185,000 | Fair |
| St Thomas' Narellan | | |
| Church, Creche, Demountables | 1,100,000 | New |

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|------|
| Cemetery | 141,000 | Fair |
| TOTAL | 4,393.000 | |

Summary of consolidated receipts and payments

19. A summary of the financial position over the last 3 years and the budget for 2004 is set out below -

| | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | Budget 2004 |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Receipts | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Offertories | 99,848 | 128,045 | 190,439 | 208,000 |
| Missions | 15,017 | 18,894 | 12,416 | 17,500 |
| Rent/Interest | 25,418 | 34,977 | 54,674 | 30,600 |
| Donations | 65 | | | |
| Redemption | 60,233 | | | |
| Investments | | 24,753 | 161,700 | 90,000 |
| Grants | 52,546 | 77,795 | 92,120 | 96,000 |
| GST Refunds | -121 | | | |
| Other | 25,034 | 6,120 | 19,709 | 750 |
| Totals | 278,040 | 290,584 | 531,058 | 442,850 |

| | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | Budget 2004 |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Expenditure | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Stipends, Salaries | 158,859 | 193,062 | 204,764 | 290,531 |
| Cost Recovery | 19,821 | 26,524 | 31,326 | 25,331 |
| Ministry Expenses | 8,286 | 7,155 | 16,672 | 9,011 |
| Printing/Stationery | 4,621 | 15,122 | 10,818 | 7,700 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | 5,991 | 7,187 | 27,894 | 47,390 |
| Insurance | 363 | | | |
| Electricity, Gas etc | 16,036 | 18,275 | 9,633 | 9,500 |
| Missions | 11,806 | 12,474 | 14,201 | 18,800 |
| Glebe Admin Board | 2,632 | | 3,638 | 1,450 |
| Professional Services | 1,790 | 2,874 | 8,199 | 7,800 |
| Other | 2,455 | 6,898 | 28,201 | 8,956 |
| New Church Centre | 36,084 | | | |
| Outreach | 6,118 | 1,021 | 3,351 | 4,850 |
| Totals | 274,862 | 290,592 | 358,697 | 431,319 |

20. A summary of the assets and liabilities of the provisional parish as at 31 December 2003 is -

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Assets | \$ |
| Cash | 40,066 |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Investments | 348,835 |
| Building Contents, Furniture & Equipment | 458,000 |
| Buildings | 7,023,648 |
| Land | 4,393,000 |
| Total | 12,263,549 |
| Liabilities | |
| Payables | 1,123 |
| New taxes Summary | 10,124 |
| Loans | 36,490 |
| Provision Funds | |
| Total | 47,737 |
| Net Assets | 12,215,812 |

21. The Bishop of Wollongong and his Assistant strongly support the application.

Recommendation

22. The Wollongong Regional Council recommends that the Provisional Parish of Narellan be reclassified as a Parish with effect from 1 January 2005.

For and on behalf of the Wollongong Regional Council.

GEOFF KYNGDON

Assistant to the Bishop of Wollongong

31 August 2004