

THE HEART OF THE CITY **ST JAMES** CHURCH



As Sydney's oldest church, St James' is a place of soul-stirring worship, challenging preaching and fine music. We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of age, race, sexual orientation or religion.

St James' Anglican Church
173 King Street
Sydney
Parish office: Level 1, 169-171 Phillip Street
Sydney NSW 2000

www.sjks.org.au

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2015

**PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING
13 MARCH 2016**

CONTENTS

Page Numbers:

STRATEGIC REPORTS:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|---------|
| 1. | Rector's Report | 3 - 8 |
| 2. | Wardens' Report | 9 - 10 |
| 3. | Treasurer's Report | 11 - 12 |

OPERATIONAL REPORTS:

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 4. | Education:
Kids@Church
Archives
St James' Institute | 13 - 16 |
| 5. | Mission and Outreach:
Meditation Groups
Mothers Union
Sister Freda
Who is my Neighbour? | 17 - 24 |
| 6. | Music:
Head of Music | 25 - 26 |
| 7. | Pastoral Care:
Networkers
St James' Eats
Men's Group
Hospital Visiting
Guild of St. Raphael | 27 - 28 |
| 8. | Worship:
Bellringers | 29 - 31 |

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- | | | |
|-----|---|---------|
| 9. | History and Archives
Archives Report | 32 - 34 |
| 10. | Annual Statistics | 39 |

Note: The Financial Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2015 are in a separate booklet.

ST JAMES' CHURCH, KING STREET, SYDNEY

RECTOR'S REPORT TO THE 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Reflection

As Christians, we acknowledge that our deepest needs are filled by the presence of God. We affirm this at baptism, when we recognise the presence of God's Spirit within and among us, just as we also do in the celebration of the Eucharist and participation in Communion. The Greek word for this is the same as the English one - 'enthusiasm'.

Freshness, excitement and a desire to change the world can provide us with great energy so that we can go out with confidence to engage those around us. This was the nature of the early church and should be central to our ministry today. To be sure, it is vital for the Church to continue interacting with the world around it, remembering that while the gospel message of Christ remains the same, the language, concepts and medium for communicating the gospel will change.

'The medium is the message' wrote Canadian Marshall McLuhan in his criticism of popular culture and its media driven obsession with material things and technology. McLuhan was worried about the blindness we experience in Western society arising from how we are shaped by the things that we possess and use in our daily lives. He was especially concerned that these things lead us to disengage with real and honest relationships.

It is a reminder that the way we live our lives, the things that consume our time and energy, and the way express ourselves can become extensions of who we are. Indeed, the medium can take over our lives such that external things (such as image and spin) become our sole reality. In this way we lose depth and substance replacing it with a façade of 'public image'.

For example, watching television can be a healthy form of communication by which we become aware of the wider world; yet it also has the potential to dominate us to the extent that we only experience communication with the world through television, and so cease to communicate with those around us. Real communication then ceases to exist. I suppose that the internet and social media are even more powerful agents in this regard.

As church we can run into similar problems. We can so focus on the activities and ideas of 'being church' that we fail to be a dynamic and Godly community. The image that many people have of church is one of institution, hierarchy and dogma - the tat, trappings and tradition side of things. Some think that this is 'the gospel message', however God doesn't call us to be an institution. But rather to be a community of faith engaged in developing relationships between each other and God.

Don't get me wrong, we do need structure, tradition and belief. These things both facilitate our mission and maintain our collected memory; but these things gain vitality when they are harnessed in our lives by the Holy Spirit. Enthusiasm, or being filled with the presence of God, is what brings the spiritual spark into our lives and brings the focus we need; as in the advice to Timothy:

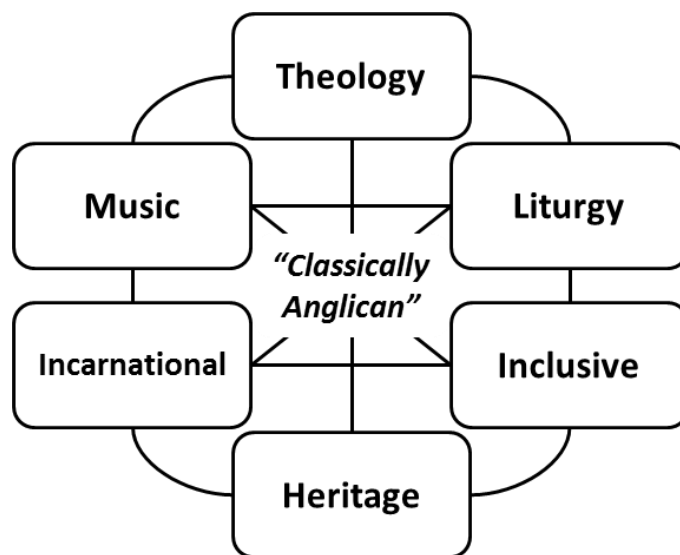
'For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power, and of love, and of self-discipline'. (2 Timothy 1:6-7)

We need to think about the message that is lived out in our church. People hear the message of Christ more through our actions and attitudes than through our words and ideas – how we live and treat others is vital to the work of the gospel. Words and ideas are important, but mainly to give shape to our thinking. So the word and idea for us today is 'incarnation'. That is being the presence of Christ in the world – for that is what we are called to do.

If we are called to be Christ to the people of the City of Sydney, we need to consider prayerfully how we may best do this. The 'medium is the message'; what we focus on, where we spend our time, energy and money is an indication of where our heart really lies; and our hearts, and the hearts of our families, friends, neighbours and work colleagues, may only find their true value and peace when they abide in the heart of God.

Strategic Plan

At last year's Annual Meeting we adopted a new strategic plan that was shaped around the main operational areas of the Parish. It was outlined in the following diagram.

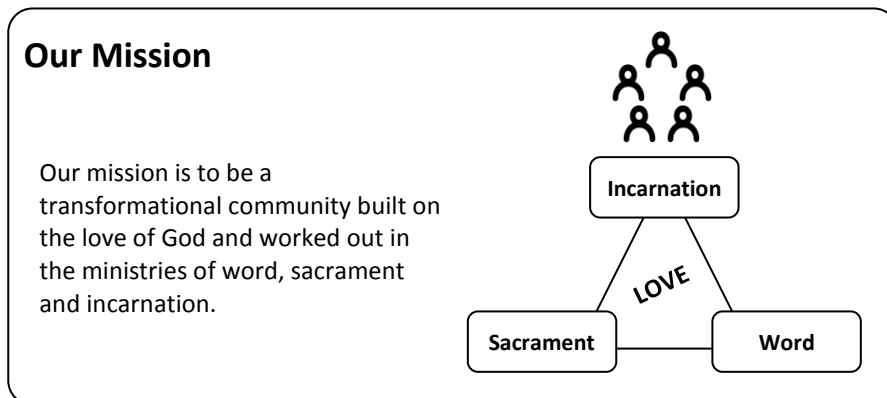


It recognises that St James' is a 'Classically Anglican' church; one that would be familiar as Anglican to people across Sydney, Australia and the wider world. Our theology, liturgy, pastoral life and positive approach the society in which we are located identifies us as 'mainline Anglican'.

It is also reflected in how we give expression to the **Five Marks of Mission** adopted by the Anglican Consultative Council in 1984; namely,

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom,
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers,
- To respond to human need by loving service,
- To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation, and
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Through these activities we seek to be a blessing and encouragement to the people of Sydney, so that all might feel welcome into God's family and that we may be a transforming presence in people's lives. The Strategic Plan goes on to describe our vision and mission within the context of the City.



A full copy of the plan is available from the Parish Office.

Over the past year the Parish Council has been addressing the following strategic matters:

- Implementation of the new Strategic Plan,
- The raising of a new ordinance for the St James Hall,
- Addressing the matter of stewardship in the Parish,
- Investigating the development of a School of Music based at St James,

- Progressing the selection of and fundraising for a new pipe organ, and
- Commencing preparations for the Church's bicentenary.

Governance

Parish Council. I thank the Churchwardens and members of Parish Council for their hard work and dedication to the welfare of the Parish. In 2015, the Parish Council was made up as follows:

Rector's Warden:	John Dakin
People's Wardens:	Kumar Rasiah and Sid Blairs
Treasurer:	David Cheetham
Education Coordinator:	Peter McInerney
Mission & Outreach Coordinator:	The Rector
Pastoral Care Coordinator:	Christine Cheetham
Worship Coordinator:	Kate Ross & Daniel Mawardy
Communications Committee Chair:	Christopher Shain
Outreach Committee:	Holly Raiche
Strategic Planning Committee Chair:	John Dakin
Other members of Parish Council:	David Burchell & Liz Barton

The structure of Parish Council and its operation is at Annex A.

Mission and Outreach

Outreach Committee. At St James' we have adopted the principle of giving the equivalent of 10% of our cash offerings away to the wider mission of the church. The 2015 allocation of \$34,645 was made to the following groups:

- | | |
|---|-------|
| • Hope Street | 5,000 |
| • SACS – Gawura Campus | 5,000 |
| • Act for Peace | 5,000 |
| • Aboriginal Leadership (Alice Springs) | 5,000 |
| • Asylum Seeker Centre | 5,000 |
| • St Laurence House | 5,000 |
| • Retained for emergency allocation in 2016 | 4,645 |

Sister Freda. The Sister Freda Mission continues its ministry to the homeless and needy in the city. I express my appreciation to the Coordinators David and Robyn Carver and all the team members for their good work.

Chaplaincy to the City – Counselling Services. The counselling service continues to develop under the direction of Loretta King.

Parish Connections. Parish Connections provides an important way of engaging with the wider community of the City of Sydney as well as the parish. Well over 1,000 copies of the magazine

are taken over the time it is available, as well as its ongoing access online. I thank Bella Woods and Ben Mawston for their fine work in this area.

St Laurence House. After the funding scare of a couple of years ago the situation for St Laurence House has now stabilised, at least for a while.

Worship

A large number of people are involved in the conduct of worship at St James'. In addition to the clergy and staff, this includes musicians, bell-ringers, sacristans, servers, lay assistants, readers, intercessors, sidespersons, flower arrangers, brass and silver cleaners, hospitality groups and many others. Most Sundays around 100 people are involve in the preparation and conduct of our services, which is astonishing; and I thank everyone for their commitment to making it all work!

Worship attendance summary for 2015:

Number of Sunday services conducted:	167
• Total Sunday attendance:	14,503
Number of week-day services conducted:	113
• Total Week-day attendance:	2,968
Number of week-day seasonal services conducted:	19
• Total seasonal service attendance:	3,360
Number of special/civic services conducted:	12
• Total special/civic service attendance:	1,404
Total number of non-pastoral services conducted:	317
Total attendance at non-pastoral services for the year:	22,235
(Average / week = 427)	

Special Services. During 2015, the following special services were held: three Orchestral Masses in January, Commencement of Law Term, the Australian Society of Archivists, RSCM Choral Evensong, the Sovereign Order of St John, Centenary of Anzac Commemoration, the Scouts Association St George Day Commemoration, 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta, Commemoration of Governor Lachlan Macquarie, Commemoration of the Queen's Reign, St Crispin's Day Commemoration, Remembrance Day with the Australia-Britain Society, Australian Heads of Independent Schools Service, and the Order of St Lazarus Patronal Service. And numerous other groups attended our Sunday services.

Visiting Preachers. The following visiting preachers came to St James in 2015: The Right Reverend Dr Peter Carnley AC (former Archbishop of Perth) for Holy Week and Easter, Chaplain Catie Inches-Ogden (Command Chaplain Forces Command), The Right Reverend Rob Gillion (Bishop of Riverina), The Right Reverend Richard Randerson (former Dean of Auckland), The Right Reverend John Stead (Bishop of Willochra), The Reverend Andrew Bowyer (former Assistant Priest), The Right Reverend Greg Thompson (Bishop of Newcastle), The Reverend Professor Dorothy Lee (Trinity College, Melbourne), The Reverend Matthew Smedley (Rector of Bangalow),

The Reverend Patrick Irwin (Chaplain to the Royal British Legion), and The Reverend Dr Fergus King (Rector of Kotara South).

Honorary Assistant Clergy. We have a dedicated team of Honorary Assistant Clergy who regularly assist and preach at both our Sunday and mid-week services. I especially thank Fathers John Deane, Eric Hampson, Ron Henderson OGS, and John Spooner (Chaplain to the Healing Ministry) for their support.

Head Server. Kate Ross resigned as Head Server during the year to take up studies for a Master of Divinity at the Yale Divinity School. She was replaced by Christine Cheetham.

Parish Reader. John Carroll (formerly a Deacon in the Roman Catholic Church) was licensed by the Archbishop in July as a Parish Reader. John will continue his ministry as Sidespersons Coordinator as well as act as liturgical deacon and preacher from time to time.

Music. I note the dedication of the Music Department in providing for the music needs of the Parish, acknowledging the work of Head of Music Warren Trevelyan-Jones, Church Organist Alistair Nelson, Organ Scholar Marko Sever, and the members of the Choir of St James' and the St James' Singers.

Many people contribute both financially and practically to the music programme including the Friends of Music at St James and the St James Music Foundation, and the Balfour's who held the Orchestral Mass Fundraising event at their home in October.

Education

St James Institute. The vision of the St James Institute is to help people be 'more informed, more articulate, and more confident about their faith'. This is met through a series of seminars, bible studies, discussion groups and a retreat. I express my appreciation of the ministry of Father Martin Davies as Director of the St James Institute and the support given by the Institute Board and the Advisory Committee.

Kids @ Church. Likewise, our children's programme is a vital part of nurturing young people in the Christian faith through worship, teaching and fellowship. I thank John Wiltshire for his dedication to his role as Children's Ministry Coordinator and those that assist him.

Papers and Presentations. I delivered a number of papers and made presentations to a variety of organisations during the year including:

- Conduct Lenten and Advent studies for the Institute,
- Lecture on Anglican worship at Booth College,
- Address to MOW Annual Meeting on 'Fathers, Heretics and the Failure of Mission',
- Presentation to NSWCCJ on 'Religion and Humour', and
- Conduct a study series for the Institute on 'Self, Community and Society'.

Pastoral Care

The pastoral care programme is overseen by Father John Stewart with the assistance of Christine Cheetham and the other clergy. I thank them for their care and support of the parish in this way.

Funerals. The funerals and Memorial Services of a number of active parishioners were held over the past year including Betty Edwards, Greg Wotherspoon, Verdun Robson, Joe Pilone, Roger Gregory, Susan Ingram and James Shuttleworth. We give thanks for their lives and offer them to God.

Administration

Staff. The following staff changes occurred in 2015:

- Ian Milne ceased to be Business Manager, but has been retained as Financial Management Consultant,
- Tony Papadopoulos was recruited to a new position as Facilities Manager,
- The vergers positions were restructured with Graeme Reid being appointed as Liturgical Verger and Juris Balodis and Richard Gillard appointed as Assistant Vergers. We also farewelled Juris recently as he prepares to return to Latvia.

I once again express my thanks to our administrative staff Ian Milne, Tony Papadopoulos, Dianne Ward, Michelle Chan, and Bella Woods; the vergers Graeme Reid, Juris Balodis and Richard Gillard; the archivists Gordon Cooper and Colin Middleton; and Sue Mackenzie as Publications Editor. The Parish Directory is at Annex B.

Personal. I advise that I continue as President of Anglicans Together, Deputy Chairman of the St Paul's College Council at the University of Sydney, and Honorary Chaplain to the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association.

International Deans' and Rectors' Conference, Cape Town – 2015. Last year's meeting of the International Rectors' and Deans' Conference was held in Cape Town, South Africa. The main focus of the presentations and discussion was an exploration into the origins, effects and dismantling of the apartheid policies of former South African governments. The Conference was hosted by the Dean of Cape Town, The Very Reverend Michael Weeder and his wife Bonita, and included clergy from New York, London, Hong Kong, Auckland and Sydney.

Jardin St James. The new 'coffee cart' known as Jardin St James commenced business in September 2015. It is an expanded business including a café operating in the Quiet Garden and crypt. It has proven to be very popular and lunch-time bookings are advisable!

Work on the crypt toilets and the Hospitality Room has been scheduled, and the possibility of further expansion of the operation is also being explored with the City Council. Some of these things will require the submission of a Development Application.

New Pipe Organ. The process of selection of a new pipe organ is progressing, with expressions of interest having been received from a number of makers. A builder should be chosen later in the year and a contract signed with them. The fundraising appeal will then be launched in early 2017. The new organ will become a major bicentennial project for the church. A report on the organ can be found at Annex C.

St James' Foundation. The St James' Foundation Board and the Parish Executive have resolved a number of matters that have created disagreement in in the past year. Resolution has now been brought about and there is a desire to create a more positive way forward. I thank the Foundation for its support of the Parish and look forward to achieving good things on into the future.

Choir Tour 2016. The Choir will conduct its first ever tour to Europe this year, which will be a great achievement for all concerned. It has been particularly pleasing to see the financial support for the Tour go so well. The Parish is very appreciative of the generosity of the donors, as well as the Music Department and the Music Foundation.

Sydney Diocese

St James' Hall Ordinance. The Parish Executive spent a considerable amount of time during the year dealing with the development of a new Ordinance for St James' Hall. The process took around ten months, with three submissions of documentation and large associated legal expenses. The result was a status quo position of a split of 80/20% of distributions between the Parish and the Synod.

This is a very wasteful process and far too adversarial in its conduct. It is difficult to justify the waste of time and money on it, but the Standing Committee seems to demonstrate little will to change it.

Bishop of South Sydney. St James' Parish farewelled Bishop Rob and Mrs Margie Forsyth in September last year. We have been greatly appreciative of their ministry to the Parish and wish them well in what looks like a busy retirement.

The Parish also applauded the announcement of Dr Michael Stead as the new Bishop of South Sydney and recently presented him with a crosier and liturgically welcomed him and his wife Felicity to the Parish.

Synod 2015. The Sydney Diocesan Synod was held in October. Parish representatives were David Cheetham, Holly Raiche and the Rector. The principal matters dealt with by the Synod were:

- Support for the SRE programme in state schools,
- Affirmation of 'traditional' marriage,
- Adoption of a new Authorised Lay Ministry Ordinance, and
- Adoption of a new Policy on Dealing with Allegations of Unacceptable Behaviour.

A new Large Receipts Policy was not adopted, but the Standing Committee is looking at other ways of dealing with its needs in this regard.

2016 Activities

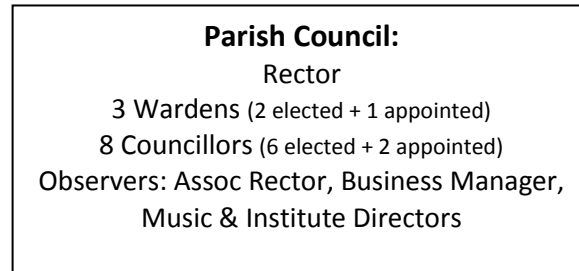
A number of activities are planned for 2016, including:

- Trial some new musical liturgies,
- Select a replacement pipe organ and establish of an appeal committee,
- Establish a broader support base for Parish educational programmes,
- Grow the music training programme,
- Establish a St James' Bicentenary Committee,
- Hold a planned giving programme in September,
- Explore the development of new ministries in the Parish (especially with those who work nearby and with young adults), and
- Develop a plan for the future development of St James Hall.

The Reverend Andrew Sempell
Rector of St James

4 March 2016

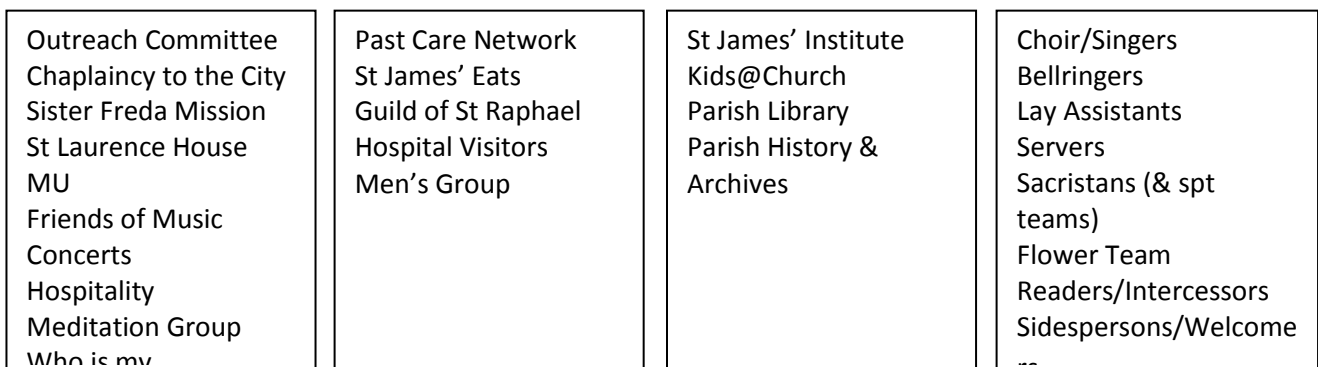
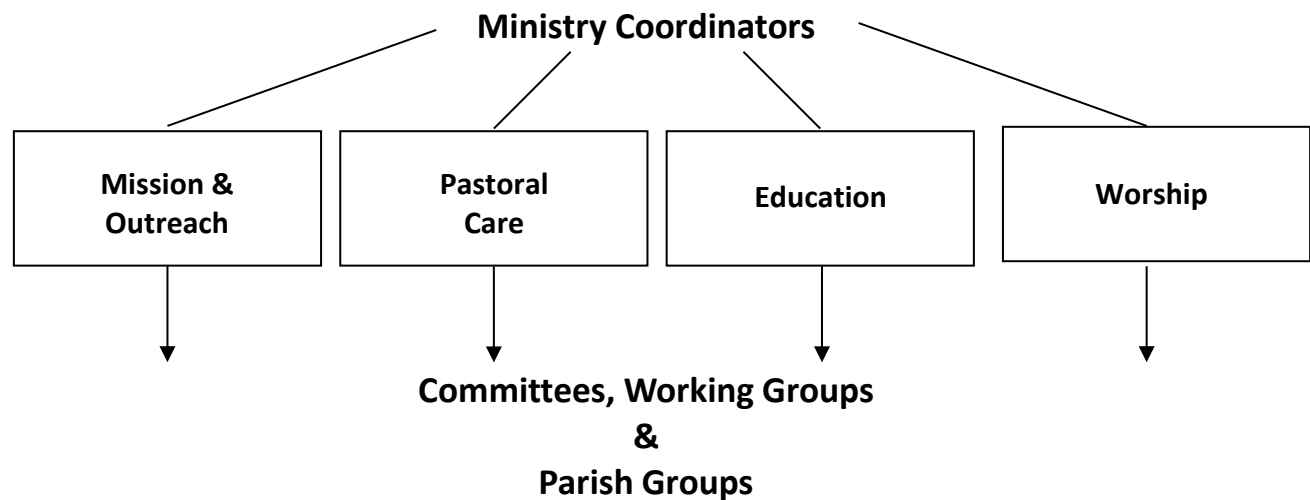
ST JAMES' CHURCH - PARISH COUNCIL STRUCTURE



Enabling Committees:



Operational Groupings:



PARISH DIRECTORY

Clergy -

Rector: The Reverend Andrew Sempell
Associate Rector: The Reverend John Stewart
Director, St James Institute: The Reverend Martin Davies
Honorary Associate Priests: The Reverends Dr John Beer, John Deane, Eric Hampson,
Ron Henderson, John Spooner, and Bishop Ken Mason

Worship Assistants/Coordinators -

Lay Readers: Associate Professor Michael Horsburgh AM
Christine Cheetham
John Carroll
Head Server: Kate Ross & Christine Cheetham
Sacristans: Jackie Dettmann, Peter Douglas, Ross Douglas,
Leigh Hess and Ian McDonald
Lay Assistants Coord: Vivien Whitfield
Readers/Intercessors Coord: Kate Ross & Martha McCrae
Head Sidesperson: John Carroll
Flower Coord: Pippa Naivasha
Bell Tower Captain: Marylon Coates

Music Staff -

Head of Music: Warren Trevelyan-Jones
Church Organist: Alistair Nelson
Robert Blunden Organ Scholar: Marko Sever

Vergers -

Graeme Reid, Juris Balodis and Richard Gillard

Other Ministries –

Kids @ Church Coord: John Wiltshire
Safe Ministry Rep: Christine Bishop
Meditation Coord: Richard Cogswell
Sister Freda Mission Coords: David and Robyn Carver
Parish Library Coord: Jean Lowe
Hospitality Coords: Beverley Simpson & Colleen Hodge

Office Staff -

Business Manager: Ian Milne (until September)
Facilities Manager: Tony Papadopoulos (from October)
Secretary/Office Administrator: Dianne Ward
Communications & Media Officer: Isabella Woods
Accountant: Michelle Chan
Hon Archivist: Gordon Cooper
Archives Assistant: Colin Middleton
Publications Editor: Sue Mackenzie

REPORT ON THE ST JAMES' CHURCH PIPE ORGAN PROJECT

History

The original St James' organ was one of the first in the colony. It was built by John Gray of London and was played for the first time on 7 October 1827. A contemporary newspaper recounts: 'The organ at St James' Church is said to be a most powerful instrument. The bass may be assimilated to the rolling of thunder.' It was originally installed in the west gallery, moved a number of times, and finally placed in what had been intended as the south porch in 1867.

From 1872 the organ was in the care of William Davidson, an Englishman who had begun his career in Melbourne ten years previously. He added to and rebuilt the old organ over the next 30 years. The impressive tall organ case, of English design, was reused by William Davidson when he modernised and enlarged the organ. The side towers of the original casework were surmounted by mitres and the central tower by a crown. A stylised replica case above and behind it accommodated Davidson's enlargements.

Further extensive alterations and additions were made under organist Arthur Mason (who was also City Organist) and the instrument was placed in its current position on either side of the Choir in 1901. Additional stops were added by George Fincham & Son of Melbourne in 1905 and C.W. Leggo (formerly an employee of Fincham) in 1912.

In 1967 the Parish Council decided to place a contract with Hill, Norman & Beard (Aust.) Pty Ltd for the reconstruction of the organ. The work was completed in 1971. The console is in memory of the Reverend J.H. Chaseling and the Trompette Militaire stop in memory of George Faunce Allman, organist at St James from 1907 to 1961.

Consultation

Replacement of the current St James' Church pipe organ has been in discussion for around twenty-five years. During this time a number of consultations have taken place and reports written. The main consultations have been as follows:

- Mark Venning, Chairman of Harrison & Harrison Ltd, Durham, UK (1989).
 - He wrote a report recommending major work on the organ
- Jonathan Ambrosino, Organ Consultant, Cambridge, USA (2008).
 - Looked at the organ and expressed concerns about its future.
- Manuel Rosales, President of Rosales Pipe Organ Services, Los Angeles, USA. (2010).
 - Noted that the organ was deteriorating rapidly.
- Peter Jewkes, Principal, P D G Jewkes Pty Ltd, Sydney. (2011)
 - Reported on the current state of the organ
- Andrew Moyes, Managing Director of Nicholson & Co Ltd, Malvern, UK (2014).
 - Reviewed the condition of the organ and provided a report

In 2013 the Parish conducted its own review of its music programme and resourcing. This review looked at the current state of administration, musicians, activities and plant required to sustain and grow the music ministry. It was concluded that:

- a. Music provides one of the major platforms for the mission and outreach of St James' Church into the City of Sydney. Attendance at musical events (excluding church services) numbers around 10,000 people. These are self-funded activities and are therefore not subsidised by the parish, and
- b. The pipe organ is an integral part of the music programme and needs to be maintained in accordance with the role of the church in the City of Sydney and the church music programme. In recognising this, it was recommended that planning for a new replacement pipe organ proceed.

In recent times, deterioration of the current pipe organ has become more apparent with it having broken-down four times in the past five years. In addition, annual maintenance costs have increased by around 65%.

The Parish has contracted the services of Mr Peter Jewkes as its consultant for this project. Peter is an organ builder, tuner and organist, who currently maintains and tunes the St James organ. He knows intimately its capabilities and its failings. He is also not going to be involved with the construction in any other capacity than as our consultant.

Indicative Costs

Providing an indicative cost to a project is always difficult, especially as a decision to proceed now will not come to fruition for about five years. According to the Moyes Report an indicative cost would be 47 stops (equivalent to the current organ) at around 20 - 21K pounds each, which equals around 1M pounds (or \$2.2M AUD on current rates).

The following indicative costs are provided as a comparison with other current organ projects:

- Auckland Cathedral (Nicholson & Co) \$4.3 M AUD
- Washington National Cathedral - 2 new organs @ \$4 M US each
- St Thomas's Fifth Avenue, New York - New chancel organ & completion of classical organ \$8.5 M US

Conclusion

The pipe organ is one of the principal resources used in the ministry of St James and, like St Andrew's Cathedral, it is integral to the building and its position and role in the community. As was the case with the conservation work for the restoration of the building, we can only make a reasonable estimate of the ultimate cost. The nature of this project is that it will probably take up to five years to complete.

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

Education Coordinator's Report for the Annual General Meeting, 13 March 2016 Peter McInerney, Education Coordinator

St James' presents numerous opportunities for learning through our worship and various other activities. I draw your attention to these activities below.

Kids@church

Each Sunday our children join with their parents and friends to participate in the commencement of the 9am Eucharist and then move to the crypt for their lessons. The weekly programme derives its focus from the Gospel of the day. The kids@church room is dressed thematically for each liturgical season and is a focal point of the crypt.

On the first Sunday of each month a Children's Eucharist is held in the Children's Chapel. This is an opportunity for the children to take part in leading the service with their readings and prayers, and to spend some time with our clergy.

The annual Nativity Play was performed at the 9am Eucharist on 20 December 2015, and the ministry had significant involvement in the Christingle service on Christmas Eve. The children also participated in our liturgies in roles such as acolytes, boat bearers and as bearers of Advent candles.

Our thanks go to John and Cathie Wiltshire for their ongoing commitment in running kids@church.

St James' Institute

Report presented by Father Martin

The Crypt Library

The library opens each Sunday during the morning services and continues to have a small but dedicated number of borrowers. Parishioners and visitors to the church sometimes look in and purchase the CDs, cards and other items which are on sale.

Our thanks go to Jean Lowe and her volunteers for running the library.

ST JAMES' INSTITUTE REPORT FOR 2015

Statistical Information for 2015
Seminars and other events

Thomas Merton Centenary	100
In Conversation: Elizabeth Farrelly & Michael Jensen	88
Lent Study Groups	30
In Conversation: Religious Freedom in Multicultural Society	84
Lunchtime Bible Studies	8
Easter Season Pilgrimage	10
Book Launch: Bishop Randerson	20
Magna Carta	59
Lectio Divina	5
Book Group	8
NAIDOC Week	13
St James' Talks	40
In Conversation: Bishop Stephen Cottrell	25
Understanding the Anglican Communion	27
Parish Retreat	17
The Sunday Gospel in 2016	21
Rector's Series	12
A Generous Anglicanism: A M Allchin	28
Advent Reflection Day	15
Advent Study Groups	24
Number of Season Ticket Holders	41

Thanks

Presenters

Rev'd Dr Michael Whelan SM, Sister Dr Colleen O'Sullivan RSJ, Dr Elizabeth Farrelly, Rev'd Dr Michael Jensen, Fr John Stewart, Fr Andrew Sempell, Human Rights Commissioner Tim Wilson, Assoc Prof Mehmet Ozalp, Rt Rev'd Prof Stephen Pickard, Rev Dr Margaret Mayman, Rev'd Dr Bruce Kaye, Sue Mackenzie, Judge Richard Cogswell, Fr John Spooner, Bishop Stephen Cottrell, Assoc Prof Michael Horsburgh AM, Fr John Sanderson, Rev'd Dr Fergus King, Rev'd Dr Alan Cadwallader, Rev'd Dr Sue Emeleus, Fr Martin Davies

Advisory Committee

Kumar Rasiah (Parish Council rep until March), Dr Barbara Booth, Caroline Bowyer, Moya Holle, Belinda Howell, Dr Philip Kariatlis, Dennis Sligar, Peter McInerney (Parish Council rep from April)

Among areas for development and involvement are local and national networks.

Management Board

Penelope Burton, Dr Keith Carpenter (Chair), David Cheetham, Kumar Rasiah.

Attention has focused on Terms of Reference, statistical and financial reporting, event pricing structure.

Support

Robert Anderson (event assistance), Isabella Woods (publicity production). I am grateful for the support and encouragement of Fr Andrew, and for the collegiality of the St James' staff.

SJI and the Parish, City and Beyond

Networks were formed and developed through international meeting of Anglican Network of Retreat, Study and Spirituality Centres (Gladstone's Library, Wales); London events and meetings: Ealing Abbey; St George-in-the-East, and Centre for Theology and Community; the Moot Community; St Matthew's Westminster.

Fr Martin Davies,
Director

MEDITATION GROUPS

WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUPS ANNUAL REPORT 2016

The Wednesday meditation group is approaching its 27th anniversary. My wife Anne and I now share the leadership of the group after Jean Lowe's retirement. It meets at 7.45 every Wednesday morning except for late December and January.

Numbers still vary: half a dozen is a good turnout but it can be 2 or 3. A couple of parishioners are regulars but we are attended by people who work in the city and have found out about the group through the Australian Christian Meditation Community (ACMC).

The Sunday group is in its 11th year. There is a roster of leaders but it's becoming very thin. Sometimes no one can take the group. I am asking the ACMC to publicise a request for leaders.

Richard Cogswell

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUPS ANNUAL REPORT 2016

These groups have continued in the past year with Mary Sattin, Joe Panetta and Janet Sorby rotating on the Tuesday group and Janet O'Sullivan taking the Friday group which Gina Roberts had taken for around 15 years until ill health prevented her from doing so.

At her death in 2015 she was remembered for the life she brought to the group and for the many groups which sprang from that group (around 15)

Average attendance is very variable with around 6-7 regulars.

We hope that the crypt cafe will bring more to the meditation groups if the information can be made known.

We thank the vergers for preparing the spaces each week.

Janet O'Sullivan

ST JAMES' MU BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2015

MU is an international Anglican organization with over 4 million members in 80 countries. Its purpose is to be concerned with all that encourages, strengthens, and preserves marriage and Christian family life.

St James' MU Branch had 17 members. We met monthly (February-November), commencing with a celebration of the Eucharist at 10.30AM in the Church. This was followed by a gathering in the Church Hall to hear a speaker or have a Bible Study. Average attendance was 5 members. Guest speakers included Alistair Nelson – Training and experiences of a young professional organist; Mary O'Brien – MU Literacy and health programmes in Ethiopia; and our Rector Father Andrew – Q & A about Christian response to the rise of Radical Islam, being a good citizen.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Baptism cards and literature (Prayers for Children card, and Gospel of Luke) were sent to 15 children Baptized during the year. Anniversary of Baptism (1st, 2nd.) cards were sent to 48 children and on the third anniversary of Baptism 24 children were sent a card, a leaflet about Kids @ Church, and a book with Bible stories.

Marriage greeting cards were sent to 10 couples married at St James.

Two members represented the Parish at the World Day of Prayer city service.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Small caps were knitted for premature babies.

In May members attended the Annual Area Day held at St Andrew's Lane Cove.

We correspond with a Link Branch in the UK – Selby Abbey, and welcomed visiting MU members from Victoria and England.

DIOCESAN ACTIVITIES

Members attended the following Mothers' Union functions:

MU Seminar Kid's stuff happens – seeking the best for our children;

Diocesan Festival Service and AGM at St Andrew's Cathedral, Diocesan Council meeting;

Sewing day for making gowns for Grieving packs that are distributed to Maternity wards;

MU Bible study 2016 launch, and Diocesan Advent Service at St Phillip's Church Hill.

Noelene was Area President, and MU delegate to National Council of Women NSW Inc.

Tricia and Noelene were volunteer workers in the MU Shop/Office.

We thank the Clergy and staff for their assistance and support during the year.

Noelene Rannard,

President

25 February 2016

THE SISTER FREDA MISSION REPORT 2015

The Mission continues to thrive much as it has always done since 1895 when it was begun by the Community of the Sisters of the Church, an English Religious Order that started the Collegiate School in Paddington in 1893. Sister Freda, who was a member of the Order, took over the organisation of the Mission in 1899. When she died in 1936 her name was given to the Mission & St James' took over the responsibility for its operation.

The need for a basic meal in safe surrounds is as important now as it was in 1895. The number of guests averages at around 50/60 for lunch which continues to be served in the crypt every Sunday. Our special effort at Christmas, when a traditional meal is served, was again very well received and approximately 180 guests enjoyed the day. Our thanks again to all the helpers and the A Capella Group for their great singing

And of course a big thank you to all our volunteers on all the teams and the loyal band of BBQ chefs who also volunteer their time to make a nice variation to the usual Sunday lunch. Oz Harvest & their donations of 'rescued food' continues to make a significant difference & we continue to have their great support.

We would also like to thank those who have so generously donated funds to help this important Ministry. These donations help us to provide not only the regular meals but also enable us to continue to provide the BBQs

The annual donation of socks, beanies & gloves, toothbrushes & toothpaste during winter time was again extremely well supported by many parishioners. A practical and well received idea which has now become a 'tradition' Thank you all.

'Meditation for the Homeless' continues. Feedback is positive & we continue to encourage our guests to attend if they wish

We always need more volunteers. If you would like to join or simply come along one Sunday to see what is involved please contact us. Donations (which are tax deductible) are of course always welcome. Cheques should be made out to the Sister Freda Mission and can be sent directly to the parish office or of course funds can be transferred electronically if preferred.

David & Robyn Carver
Co-Ordinators

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR? ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

The group, Who is my neighbour? was started in 2013 in response to several challenging sermons at St James' and the policy decisions being made by Australian Governments around the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers.

It was decided to start an email group of people at St James' who had concerns in this area. The group has met together between 9am and 11am services on a Sunday on four occasions in the last year and there have been emails sent about once a month to inform the group about activities and to update the group about current issues.

The group has several aims:

1. To inform people about issues through emails and information meetings, such as the showing of the film Mary meets Mohammad at St James' Hall at 2:00 pm on Sunday 19 April. Also on 25 June in the evening there was a meeting to raise much needed funds for Himaganga Village in Nepal, which was devastated by the earthquakes. These funds went to help rebuild the school.
2. To advocate for asylum seekers and refugees by writing to politicians both individually and as a group. We continue to be concerned about detention of people who have come to Australia by boat being held on Christmas Island, Nauru and Manus Island. We sent presents to the children in these centres before Christmas via the office of Senator Sarah Hanson-Young. St James' is a member of The Refugee Council of Australia which is an umbrella organisation for the many groups working in this area.
3. To encourage the parish to provide food and food vouchers (by depositing them in the offering plate at church) for the Asylum Seekers Centre at Newtown. This has been occurring regularly, which has been greatly appreciated by those at the centre following our delivery of food and vouchers to them. Two of our members do voluntary work at the centre. We have also been supporting two people we know who are seeking asylum in Australia. We are very pleased to report that one has been given refugee status and the other is now allowed to work. The group has decided it would like to support a family from Syria and we have been trying to negotiate with Anglicare to enable this to happen.

The group is open to members of St James' and their friends. There are currently 43 people on the email contact list. Libby Hindmarsh is the leader of the group and the main point of contact: hindmarsh@ozemail.com.au

ANNUAL REPORT TO MARCH 2016 – HEAD OF MUSIC

The last twelve months to March 2016 have been a very busy time in the music department. In addition to our regular services, we saw the completion of our 2015 Concert series, the 2016 Orchestral Masses and numerous outside performances including concerts in the Art Gallery of NSW, the Southern Highlands and Canberra. The second half of 2015 included a period of five months covering Alistair Nelsons' extended leave which enabled us to employ a succession of fine visiting organists: David Blunden, Sarah Kim and Anthony Hunt.

Our Robert Blunden Organ Scholar Marko Sever, after over three years with us, graduated at the end of last year and has won a Scholarship to study at the Royal Academy of Music in London commencing September 2016. Marko has been a great asset to us during his time here, developing into a very fine organist and all-round musician and he will be sorely missed when he leaves us in April. We wish him well!

A Spectrum of Song, the fifth in our annual series of subscription concerts, drew record numbers to our series of six concerts for 2015. Collaborations with Yvonne Kenny, the Australian Haydn Ensemble, The Idea of North and Australian Baroque Brass drew rave reviews from the media.

Masses by Mozart, Roxanna Panufnik and Haydn attracted large congregations to our 2016 Orchestral Mass season in January. The last Mass was performed in memory of Greg Wotherspoon who died in January 2015, and we are very grateful to his family for their support of the Masses this year. On 31 January, we launched our 2016 concert series: A Season of Song, six subscription concerts spanning the year which feature the choir in a wide variety of repertoire and performing with other artists such as Teddy Tahu Rhodes, the Australian Haydn Ensemble and many others.

The first few months of 2016 have been dominated by the planning and fundraising for our first European Choir Tour, commencing 28 March 2016. The choir will give over 30 public performances over a four week tour that will see concerts and services in Westminster Abbey, Winchester, Exeter, Paris, Vienna, Rome and back to London for official ANZAC day events as guests of the New Zealand High Commission. Our fundraising targets have been met well ahead of time, and I am most grateful to all who have supported this tour.

The St James' Singers continues to grow and flourish, benefitting from a series of guest directors in the second half of 2015, and offering some very fine performances at both 9am and 11am services and the occasional Evensong. The choir also performed an ANZAC service at St Stephen's Church, Willoughby. The Singers continues to attract able singers from outside the Parish.

I conclude by thanking all those who contribute to the rich and varied musical life of the parish: The Choir of St James' and The St James' Singers, office staff and clergy, visiting musicians through to all the volunteers and supporters who assist in the many activities we present. The St James' Music Foundation continues its wonderful work to support our extensive music programme, as do our Friends of Music at St James'. 2015 memberships reached new levels, and I am grateful to Peter McInerney and those on the committee for their hard work and support.

Warren Trevelyan-Jones
Head of Music

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 2016 - PASTORAL CARE REPORT

NETWORKERS

Under the direction of Fr. John, the Parish Networkers have continued to keep in touch with parishioners. If you would like to become a Networker, please contact Chris Cheetham on 0407 017 377 or email christine.cheetham@gmail.com

ST JAMES EATS

There were 4 St James Eats held in 2014 – Italian, Nepalese, Greek, Afghani and Vietnamese. The numbers have been around 25 each time. The dinners have been held in suburbs ranging from Hornsby, Glebe, Enmore, Five Dock and Marrickville. This year we have already been to a Thai Restaurant in Crows Nest and there are four more dates set for 2016 – Friday 6.30 pm for 7.00pm - 22nd April, 24th June, 26th August and 28th October. The restaurants have not been chosen at this stage. Full details of cost, venue and address will be in the pew sheet a month before each dinner.

ST JAMES MENS' GROUP

The Men's Group continued throughout 2015, meeting on five occasions. Speakers have included Dr Anthony Maher, Dr Brett McKern and Dr Ray Nobbs. There are usually 10-15 people at each meeting. Future dates for this year are Saturday 1200-3.00pm 2nd April, 18th June, 30th July, 17th September, and 22nd October. The speaker for the first meeting on 2nd April will be Assoc. Prof. Gerard Moore. If any men are interested in joining please contact David Cheetham on 0405 199 189 or email cheethamdw@yahoo.com.au There is a small charge to cover costs.

HOSPITAL VISITING TEAM

Under the guidance of Father John and Mary Sattin the Hospital Visitors team have visited many of the patients in Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital over the past year. The patients are admitted from many parts of the Sydney metropolitan area, NSW country area and from Interstate. As well as some patients from overseas who have the unfortunate experience of being hospitalised whilst visiting Sydney.

It is especially important to those people who are away from their homes and family support groups. The good will and interest in St James' Church, received from most patients is always a welcome aspect of their weekly visits. During conversation with a patient there is sometimes the opportunity to make them aware of all that St James offers in the way of services, music and seminars.

There is also the opportunity for patients to arrange a Pastoral visit from Fr John Stewart, for Anointing with Oil as well as Holy Communion. Full mandatory training will be provided to suitable volunteers. Sydney Hospital also holds regular fire drill practices throughout the year. There is a new Government regulation that all volunteers must complete a 100 point Identification Form. If you feel this could be your contribution as a layperson to a vital ministry and outreach of St James' please contact the co-ordinator Mary Sattin.

Chris Cheetham – Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator

ST JAMES' QUEENS SQUARE GUILD OF BELLRINGERS

Report to Parish Council AGM 2016

During 2015, the bells were rung every Sunday for morning services and a quarter peal was rung on the last Sunday of each month for Evensong. The ringers practice from 6-8 pm every Tuesday except the first of the month when the Healing service is held. On this Tuesday many St James ringers go to the practice at ChristChurch St Laurence. A number of ringers from other towers attend our practices. Some from Sydney come most weeks. Country NSW, interstate and international visitors come on an occasional basis. There were special tied bell practices for our newest recruits, all of whom have now rung in their first quarter peal. We also attempt a practice quarter peal on the second Saturday of each month.

Less regular ringing occurs for special occasions. In 2015 we rang for eight weddings and eight funeral or memorial services. St James hosted the Sydney Ringing School for weekends in January and October and a branch ringing practice and meeting in May. Quarter peals were rung for two special occasions: the 800th anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta and the 191st anniversary of the consecration of the Church. One peal and one quarter peal were rung by visiting bands.

There is a simulator attached to one of our bells and regular practices were held using this. We hosted two practices on the simulator for visitors.

Scheduled maintenance is carried out on a regular basis on the bells and frame. This is done by Steeple keeper, Alan Coates and assistant steeple keeper, Lindsay Small. One of the safety valves for the bells is a breakable stay. Lindsay made replacements for these when necessary.

We have found the International Teacher Training Scheme useful for teaching initial bell handling and in measurement of subsequent progress. Our three most recent learners have achieved level two in this scheme and two others have reached levels four and five. All learners now ring regularly for Sunday services.

Marylon Coates
Ringling Master

ARCHIVES REPORT 2016

Over the last two years Leonie Cable has updated our index record cards for baptisms 1925-2015. It was a time-consuming task and we are very grateful for the time and effort that Leonie has devoted to the task. We are also pleased to acknowledge Professor Michael Horsburgh's gift of copies of the sermons he has preached during his ministry, Jack Paine's donation of his copy of Rev John Beer's PhD thesis on the contribution of a former Rector, Rev. Philip Micklem, to Australian Anglicanism, and John's donation of the material he collected on Micklem when writing his thesis.

Thought is now being given to placing details of marriages from 1918 to the present on a data-base which, subject to privacy provisions, could, if the parish council resolved, be made available on-line. Data entry would be very time-consuming task and we would have to rely on volunteers to do the entry. Ideally, it would be desirable to place all our records of births, marriages and funerals on a data-base while at the same time retaining our card index. Establishing a data-base would be a daunting task and would take many years to complete, especially as we would be reliant on volunteers to do the data-entry.

Finally, I wish to thank my assistant Colin Middleton for his invaluable assistance. In particular he maintains the data-base of all the Church publications, including the weekly Pew Sheet and a Special Services.

Gordon Cooper.
Honorary Archivist

2015 ANNUAL ATTENDANCE STATISTICS

		2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
REGULAR SERVICES		Frequency	Average attendance per service			
7.45 am Sunday Said Eucharist	weekly	33	35	37	35	37
9.00 am Sunday Sung Eucharist *	weekly	106	110	112	114	104
11.00 am Sunday Choral Eucharist *	weekly	123	124	125	129	124
3.00 pm Sunday Evensong	monthly	85	108	50	86	67
9:00 am Sunday Children's Eucharist	monthly	17	17	18	19	21
6:15 pm Wednesday Choral Evensong	weekly	31	36	35	40	45
12.30 pm Weekday Eucharists	Mon - Fri	6	6	6	6	5-10
6.00 pm Healing Service Tuesday	monthly	6	7	10	10	11
10.30 am MU Wednesday	monthly	9	8	10	10	15
ACTIVITIES		Frequency	Average weekly attendance			
Meditation groups	4 per week	16	15	16	16	17
Outreach Program (Sister Freda Mission)	weekly	55	60	65	60	85
Sunday School	weekly	11	11	10	12	15
Midweek Concerts	1 per week	75	72	70	58	65
Coffee cart/crypt/courtyard	5 days	1600	1400	1600	1750	1750
Mothers' Union	monthly	9	8	10	15	16
PASTORAL SERVICES			Number performed			
Baptisms		15	24	26	24	26
Confirmations		Nil	10	4	4	8
Weddings		10	16	16	12	18
Marriage Blessings		2	0	2	1	3
Funerals		11	4	9	8	5
Memorial Services		2	1	4	6	6
SEASONAL SERVICES			Total Attendance			
Ash Wednesday		188	148	145	158	189
Holy Week		641	572	679	573	570
Easter Day		656	619	709	710	615
All Souls		107	81	98	109	84
Christmas (includes carol services)		2275	2301	2159	2007	1909
Orchestral Masses		1217	1346	1184	1187	1577
Other Seasonal services		149	167	172	100	
Special Services		1404	1029	808	625	
ST JAMES INSTITUTE PROGRAMS			Attendance			
Number of events		21	20	20	23	28
Average Attendance at each event		32	36	21	40	21

Notes:

* Where a 10 am Sunday services occur, the numbers attending are divided between 9 and 11 am in this report.

