



St Mary by the Sea

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Annual General Meeting

**Sunday 24th November 2024
11:30am**

Introduction

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is an opportunity for us to review the year.

The key tasks are:

1. Elect a vestry (board of governors) to guide the Parish for the next 12 months.
2. Adopt a budget for the vestry to work within.
3. Is an opportunity for notified general business.

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Vestry roles and voting

WARDEN

A Parish has two Wardens. These two people along with the Vicar work in partnership to guide the Parish. One Warden is appointed by the Vicar, one is elected by the Parish. The term of our Wardens is one year. They remain as Wardens until another Warden is appointed. They are equal and there is no difference between them other than how they came to their position. They sit on vestry by right of their office.

Mark van Der Ham and Connie Strong are our current Wardens.

Connie and Mark are both prepared to stand again.

SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES (TWO)

Represent the Parish to the wider Diocese. They are elected at an AGM for three years.

Auriel Andrews and Connie Strong are our current Synod Representatives. Their term expired after this years Synod. Their term is set by Synod. We need to elect two new synod representatives.

Connie is prepared to stand again. Mark van der Ham is putting his name forward for the first time.

VESTRY MEMBERS

The term is one year. They are elected at each AGM.

Chris Waddingham, Emmanuel Mosaine, Jenny Cheer, Kerry Jonas, Steve Dale and Susan Haslam are our current vestry members.

Chris, Jenny, Kerry and Susan are prepared to stand again.

CLERGY

The Vicar sits on Vestry by right of the Office of Vicar. A previous AGM moved a motion allowing any clergy licensed to the Parish to automatically be on Vestry – this means that Revd. Jay Smith is automatically on Vestry, it will also mean that Revd Kate Shrigley will be on vestry in 2025.

2024 AGM AGENDA

- 1] Parish roll
Move: that the Parish Roll be received
- 2] Attendance
Move: that the tabled attendance register be accepted
Move: that the tabled apologies be accepted
- 3] CLOSE People's Warden nominations
Move: that nominations for People's Warden be closed.

Nominations: Mark van der Ham

CLOSE Vestry nominations

Move: that nominations for vestry be closed.

Nominations: Chris Waddingham, Jenny Cheer, Kerry Jonas, Susan Haslam

CLOSE Synod Representatives nominations

Move: that nominations for synod representatives be closed.

Nominations: Mark van der Ham, Connie Strong

- 4] Vestry number
Move: that the number of vestry members be set at 4.

Note: The size of vestry is the above number (4) + (People's Warden, Vicars Warden (both also synod reps), Revds Dion, Jay and Kate = 5) TOTAL SIZE = 4+5=9

- 5] Casual Vacancies
Move: that vestry have the power to fill casual vacancies in vestry should they arise prior to the 2025 AGM.
- 6] Vicar's Warden
Vicar notifies the people that he has chosen Connie Strong as a warden.
- 7] Elections
Appoint election scrutineers. Distribute voting papers/ tokens
Move: that voting be by dropping tokens (wrapped lollies) into voting jars, and that Connie Strong and Auriel Andrews be appointed to count the votes. (or other scrutineers as appointed)

8a] Minutes of November 2023 AGM

Move: that the minutes of the AGM on Saturday 18th November 2023, 5:30pm be approved with the following alterations:

8b] Minutes of March 2024 SGM

Move: that the minutes of the SGM on Sunday 24th March 2023, 11:15am be approved with the following alterations:

9] Matters arising from any of the Minutes

10] Parish Reports Booklet

Move: that the circulated AGM Annual reports for December 2024 be received as read.

Any discussion, or anyone wishing to talk to the reports?

Put: the motion above. (this draws the discussion to a close).

11] Budget

Move: that the circulated Budget as developed by the Finance and Administration Team, and approved by vestry be received.

Budget is presented.

Move: that the Budget be adopted.

12] Notified General Business

None

We then move back to items [2a] and [2b] (Attendance & Apologies) if not yet moved.

13] Election Results

Welcome new vestry

14] Adjourn

Move: That the AGM is closed.

Closure

Grace

Vicars Report

The AGM is an important opportunity to review our year and set in place a budget and leadership team for 2025.

Leadership

All the baptised contribute to to the ministry of the church, but a Warden's role is a significant and special role. A special thanks goes to our two wardens, Connie Strong and Mark van der Ham. We are incredibly blessed to have them as our Wardens. Mark and Connie have both agreed to stay on as Wardens. Please thank them for their work, as it is not an easy role.

We have had a great vestry of Auriel Andrews, Bruce Rogers, Chris Waddingham, Connie Strong, Emmanuel Mosiane, Jenny Cheer, Kerry Jonas, Steve Dale and Susan Haslam. This year we farewell Auriel Andrews, Bruce Rogers, Emmanuel Mosiane and Steve Dale from their roles on vestry and we give thanks for their leadership.

God truly blesses us with those who are sent into ministry with us here, through their commitment to various roles.

Revd Jay Smith is a fantastic colleague and I am thankful for the support and help he offers.

Space

At the beginning of the year Angela Blundell and Keryn Grogan started a parenting programme called *Space for you and your baby*. This is a three term programme helping predominately first time parents make the parenting decisions that they need to make in a per-supported educational setting. Robin Jonas and Carol Henry provided hospitality and support to the group.

Pastoral

Revd Jay Smith oversees our pastoral care group. Much pastoral care is extended to many people in the Parish.

Worship

Our Lent journey was called *Wandering Heart* and we followed the stories of Peter through to the Easter season. Following Lent, we followed the lectionary readings to Matariki and then followed the Stories of David

through to Season of Creation. We followed that with looking into the Anglican Marks of Mission and then reminded ourselves about our call to be an Intergenerational Church.

Wider Church

BMA: As part of our commitment to the wider church, I am a Bishops' Ministry Advisor in the discernment process. This involves interviewing people for the ordination process, before they enter it, during the process, and throughout their training. I continue to be an active part of this and would normally regularly meet with candidates, though 2024 has been a particularly quiet year with not many candidates presenting themselves.

POT: I am part of the three person team facilitating Post Ordination Training at Vaughn Park.

Seasons: I am part of the management committee for the East Coast Bays, Seasons for Growth programme.

Whangarei Commission Chair: I was the chair for a commission convened to find a scheme of reconstruction for Christ Church Whangarei. We had an amazing team pulled together by Bishop Ross, of Sir Chris Farrelly, a former City Missioner, Reverend Diane Miller-Keeley, a very experienced retired priest, Mr Angus Ogilvie, an experienced accountant and Chair of the General Trust Board, and Mrs Madeline Gunn, an education consultant and former Principal of Epsom Girls. It was good to be part of a process that was able to help find a way forward for Christ Church Whangarei so that a healthy form of Anglican Mission could be re-planted.

Online Worship

Online worship continues to play a significant role at St Mary by the Sea. The amount to people that engage with online worship each week is similar in size to those that engage with the 8am service.

Thank you for the privilege of ministering amongst you. We look forward to the coming years with anticipation.

Church Life Survey

Last year I wrote on the *2023 Church Life Survey* along with the *2023 Faith and Belief Study*, I had hoped that in 2024 we would be able to focus on these – and while vestry spent time working though these in the first part of

the year, it became apparent to the Finance and Admin Team that our current direction was not sustainable.

Future Church Direction

In May 2024, vestry changed tack in discussions, and started to look in detail into the issues we faced, and how we would communicate these to the parish and what we might do. Vestry have had bi-weekly meetings to progress discussion and consensus building. The process has required much time and care. At our SGM on the 10th November the majority of parishioners agreed to start another community shop to give us financial stability in the short term, and long term, to explore our options of replanting Anglican Mission in partnership with our neighbouring parishes. This is a positive step forward for us, in acknowledging our financial realities and the changing nature of Anglican Mission on the North Shore.

I wish to *re-share* some thoughts on a leading Christian thinker called, Brian Sanders.¹ He suggests that it is not enough to understand the season you are in, you also need to understand the era. He would suggest that the *Greatest Generation* [1901-27] and the *Silent Generation* [1928-45] were the **era of builders**, building the church, they gave us all our amazing buildings. Then the *Baby Boomer Generation* [1946-64] are the generation that changed the church to the **consumer generation**, where we asked people what they wanted and provided for people's perceived needs. He would suggest, that we are now moving into another era, the **era of co-creation**, where people want to co-create things alongside each other. His example he uses of this, is the boomer generation wanted the best dinning set, where everything matches nicely. Yet the current generations want to go to the local pottery place and make their own creation, where things don't have to match, and that the creation of something is more important that a uniform ascetic.

Regardless of what shape this new era might take, Sanders suggests that the era of the consumer is over. He analyses that the consumer model is not working, and has not worked for a long time, and that is in part, why we see tremendous decline amongst consumer driven mainline denominations. He asserts that the way to grow is to embrace the new era of co-creation, sharing resources, and leadership authority.

1 SANDERS, Brian. *Microchurches: A Smaller Way*. (2019, Independently published)

We will bear this in mind as we explore re-planting Anglican Mission and what shape this might take.

Revd Mike Crudge, the Baptist Churches Communication Director, helps us to understand the 2023 Church Survey results. He suggests that rather than being comfortable and working on a strong church community, spiritual growth and worship that nurtures, we instead need to work on:

- Ministry to children and youth
- Support social justice issues and care for the needy

His key point is that the church is aging, and that shortly it will die out, due to the fact it is aging. He laid on top of the statistics of Church Life age demographics, the age demographics of Aotearoa NZ, and you clearly see how we do not mirror societies age, and how we are aging, and heading towards collapse numerically, with not enough people of leadership age. He asserts we need to *youth-ify* the church, and make it younger. And of course, as we look around the church, we realise that that is not from getting rid of older people, but instead focusing on the younger people we do not have; and the reality is that all of our churches are operating at a capacity far lower than they could.

His second key point is that the Auckland Anniversary Day floods were the wake-up call that Aotearoa NZ has a serious climate crises; and that in parallel to that, the Church Life Survey shows that we have a similar cataclysmic event in front of us.

Now all of this could spiral us into depression. However, Covid19 and the lockdowns showed us clearly that during the lockdowns the Earth started to heal. We can repair creation if we choose. Likewise we can repair the faith community and have a healthy church if we choose through redistributing our assets from buildings to church life; he suggests that we need to look at a radically different model. It is something of this that we will explore as we look at *re-planting* Anglican Mission.

Te Pae Tawhiti Youth report was commissioned by Te Kotahitanga (the committee who make the funding recommendations to the St John's College Trust Board). St John's College trains some Anglican Clergy (though more and more aren't trained by them). The study is on what we need to do as a church, and feed back from those in their first third of life named these as priorities if they are to stay engaged (so we don't loose them):

- Church needs to teach

- Church needs to TRANSFORM itself to become safe and inclusive
- Social justice focused.

Their research makes incredibly depressing reading. Clergy are aging, and not being replaced. Within 10 years, one Diocese is predicted to no longer exist, and the future for the others is no different to an eventual demise.

Summary of Church Life Survey: the church borders on complete collapse due to our aging nature. This is not only true of Anglican's, but all mainline denominations.

The Way forward: If we wish to be a people that have a *public faith*, one that is not hidden and only visible within our lounge, then the scale of change required is radical. We must focus on youth (and from a St Mary by the Sea perspective, this means working with youth in an intergenerational way). We must focus on social justice and climate issues. We must be inclusive. We must *invest* our individual money (we must give) and we must *re-distribute* our institutional wealth.

It can be done. The question is whether we have the nerve to do it? And I think that our SGM shows that we are willing to approach the question of *re-planting* Anglican Mission.

Youth Worker: we had hoped to employ a Youth Worker/Pastor this year, but at the moment, there are no Youth Workers in the Auckland area, whether you are employing someone for 10 hours, 20 hours, or 40 hours.

Food bank: Our food bank continues to go well, and we collect goods from local schools, pack up parcels and then re-deliver them back to the schools (as well as to the wider community.) The Pātaka Kai (sharing shed) continues to thrive. The community shop continues it's amazing work.

2025 will require focus from our leadership guide us through exploring what it looks like to *re-plant* Anglican Mission.

Angela

And a final thank you to Angela. Angela volunteers many hours, coordinating worship, creating resources, equipping and enabling others. I am truly grateful for her help.

I look forward to 2025 with you, Revd Dion Blundell

Wardens' Report

We all say that each year passes by in a flash, but this year particularly has whizzed by. In fact, I may just decide to leave the Christmas tree up for December 2025 as it seems like just yesterday that we were all celebrating Christmas and welcoming 2024!

This year has been a big year with some very challenging decisions for us all to make. Change, particularly when it affects our place of worship – our safe haven, place of comfort, security and fellowship – is not always easy to accept or adapt to. It is, however, our responsibility to ensure that our faith is allowed to breathe and survive and not be stifled under our own personal wishes and sense of security. We cannot be selfish and think only of what we want from our church during our lifetime and not think beyond that – I'm saying this in all honesty, as I too, have had these thoughts. Most of you won't know my history with St Mary's, but my mum, my brothers and I, started coming to St Mary by the Sea in 1964 when we first came to New Zealand from Tonga. I left in 1976 and lived overseas for 25 years but on my return to NZ in 2001, I returned to St Mary by the Sea – needless to say at the insistence of my mum!

In summary, we need to change to survive, so we very much hope that you will look with an open mind and heart at the exciting possibilities that have been presented to you and give your support in pushing us into a future where worship becomes a normal and natural part of everyone's lives – young and old alike, but with the emphasis on making it comfortable and accessible to future generations.

Below are some words from the song "The Blessing"

*May His favour be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children, and their children*

Our responsibility is to develop a church which will be a legacy for our children, their children and their children.

And finally, thank you to everyone who tirelessly give of their time with all the numerous jobs which have been required over the year and particularly to all the volunteers who contribute to running the St Mary's Community Shop. This is a tremendous project which not only provides much needed revenue for St Mary's but is an extremely valuable outreach program.

We also want to acknowledge with deep gratitude the time and effort Dion, Angela and Jay always put into our Sunday worship.

God Bless.

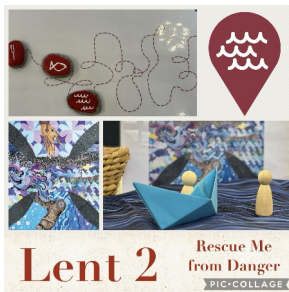
Connie Strong – Vicar's Warden

Mark van der Ham – People's Warden

10am Intergenerational Worship

Our hopes for intergenerational worship is that it allows people to connect with God in different ways, connect with one another and develop their faith in a safe and loving community.

Our Advent theme for 2023, a Weary World Rejoices, drew on a line from the hymn O Holy Night. It drew us into the complex challenge of living in a challenging world and finding Joy. We provided some Advent devotional books and activities, a quiet space for reflection for the week before Christmas, plus our annual Christingle service and Carols by Candlelight Christmas Eve service and 9am service on Christmas Day.



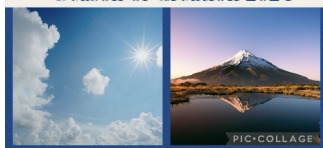
After the summer break we launched straight into our Lent theme A Wandering Heart, following the story of Peter through scripture, a unique way of going deeper into some of the familiar stories with a different perspective and finding someone who is very human, very like us and still loved and used by God.

Easter season allows us to go deeper into Jesus and takes us through to Pentecost, Trinity, and eventually Matariki where we included elements of the Maori New Year in our worship. We also

celebrated the confirmation on Catherine Smith alongside her farewell as she went overseas to play football in the USA. Catherine has been part of the congregation since she was very small and is also a valued member of our 10am congregation and our worship team. We miss her.



Season of Creation 2024



PIC-COLLAGES

We always incorporate Season of Creation as part of our worship, this year focusing on Planet Earth, Humanity, Sky and Mountains. We followed that with a focus on the Anglican Marks for Mission and finally, reflected on being an intergenerational community. Our worship continues to try and imbibe elements of reflection, discussion, participation and creativity. We invite different voices to lead us in worship, share their thoughts, do readings and serving at communion.

I am grateful for the trust and engagement of our 10am community, the support of Dion and our church leaders. Huge thanks Carol, Annalia, Livi, & Tobin who lead worship and others who sporadically share their gifts with us. I would like to do a shoutout to the 10am music team, everyone in it studies or works full time and their commitment to our worship is deeply appreciated.

Angela Blundell



Matariki

PIC-COLLAGES

Space for you and your children



At the beginning of this year St Mary by the Sea was able to start a Space group. Space is a parenting group for mainly first time parents that provides resources and support for parents with little babies. We were able to secure

funding via the Anglican Diocese to allow us to employ 2 facilitators, Keryn Grogan, who had worked with the Parenting place delivering the programme and myself, who had previously run Space groups in our Papakura parish. We were helped out by Carol Henry and Robyn — who provided hospitality, support and encouragement to the Mums and babies.

The group ran for three terms and provided a place of warmth, support and connection. It was lovely to see the babies grow, interacting with their parents and then each other. The group formed strong and trusted relationships and shared honestly about the joys and challenges of parenting. As the babies grew we did more interactive play topics and it was delightful to see the different personalities shine through as they played.

Throughout the year we've had numerous further enquiries about the group however the babies were too young and we were not starting another one. There is definitely a need in the community for a caring place to get support with being a parent. To this end we have applied for further funding for 2025 and hope to be able to run more groups. It was wonderful working with Keryn, we were able to connect and lead well together and Carol and Robyn provided a wonderful welcome and care of the Mums and babies.

Angela Blundell

Association of Anglican Women

AAW was formed in 1969 for all Anglican Women to become members - married divorced or single women.

Our Aims are:

1. To unite in prayer and participate in the mission of the Church.
2. To promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life.

Our focus:

To grow and move forward as an organization.

St Mary's AAW Group has 10 members who meet on the first Monday of the month in the Church at 1.30 pm. Tea and Coffee served.

We open in Prayer.

Margaret Rocard leads the Group. (Recently Auckland AAW Leader of 12 Groups).

If you want to join, please contact her on 021 681 010, or 473 9816.

Our current project is Patchwork squares in a Biblical theme for Advent. Helpers would be welcome, especially if you can do Patchwork.

There are 12 Groups across Auckland. We meet occasionally for a combined meeting with other Auckland Groups.

Recently we held a Quiet Day at Selwyn Village in their Music Room. This was studying Bible verses under the guidance of Rev. Anne Aspen, from St Stephen's, Hibiscus Coast.

We knit for children at ATWC, the Anglican Trust for Women & Children. Also, Prem babies.

We have interesting speakers at some of our meetings.

Refer to our NZ Facebook page [nzaaw.org.nz](https://www.facebook.com/nzaaw.org.nz)

There are many groups throughout New Zealand. Margaret Rocard recently attended a Triennial Conference in April 2004, staying at Woodford House, a Girl's Boarding School in the Village of Havelock North.

Margaret Rocard

AAW Leader at St Mary by the Sea, Torbay.

8am Worship

8am Worship

During this past year our attendance numbers have been around 15.

We thank our two Service Leaders Susan Haslam and Robin Clerke for their dedication and the time that they spend in preparation for our services and working together to ensure all services are covered.

Our thanks go to Steve Dale who is our sole organist. His love of music is evident in his style of playing as he leads us in worship through song each week. We also enjoy the asparagus rolls he provides each Sunday.

We also thank Fay Weatherly and her IT skills and the time she spends coordinating the service and presenting it on screen.

Thank you also to Mary Clerke for attending to the numbers present, the prayer list and offerings.

We have celebrated some significant birthdays this year. Thank you to Dianne Denman and Judy Leitch for providing the cakes and presenting them so tastefully.

Bruce Rogers and Jenny Cheer

Enviro Group

We continue to show an awareness of the importance of caring for our environment and creation in many ways. As part of the Eco Church community, we are following the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle initiative as we work towards a goal of zero waste. Kitchen and garden waste is composted and other rubbish is sorted into Council bins for recycling or landfill.

Most of the communication from the office is emailed where possible resulting in minimal use of paper and printing.

At the community level, the Sharing Shed continues to meet a need and is well supported towards this end. It is stocked by groups that collect surplus supermarket produce as well as local businesses, gardeners and others who have surplus food to spare.

We receive regular correspondence from the Regional Eco Church/A Rocha coordinator with news of various working bees, sustainability information and other activities Auckland wide. If you are interested in looking into some of their activities and/or suggestions and ideas, please see us for contact details.

It is thanks to Bruce Rogers that the grounds at St Mary by the Sea are kept neat and tidy. Thank you Bruce!

Bruce Rogers and Jenny Cheer

St Mary's Community Shop

Our Community Shop continues to thrive and bring in satisfying income. It is staffed by 28 volunteers, 14 are members of the congregation at St Mary by the Sea and 14 are members of the public. Most of our volunteers are retired folk but we also include 2 high school students, one university student and 2 'job seekers'.

We have continued with the 3 volunteers per shift and we rarely have time to rest as there is so much to do. Our volunteers are enthusiastic, reliable

and hard working. As well as pricing the merchandise and putting it into the shop, there are always cardboard boxes to cut up, cleaning and ironing to do.

This year we have been sending spare baby and children's clothing to Taumarunui after hearing that young parents there are facing dire situations. We received a lovely letter from the local Plunket nurse, describing how she distributes these items, [Plunket in other small towns, the hospital, St Johns, the fire brigade] and thanking us for them.

We celebrated our 5th birthday in June with a lovely lunch for volunteers and their partners at Susan and Eric's home in Coatesville. We have an End of Year Celebration Lunch along the same lines planned for on November 25th at the church where once again we will welcome all volunteers and partners.

Our income for the year minus expenses [until the end of October] is \$62 577.

Jenny Cheer, Auriel Andrews, Fay Weatherly, Jane Rogers and Susan Haslam



Figure 1: Robin - casting joy and doing the business

Plant Stall

Monthly plant stalls have continued in 2024 outside the Community Shop in Browns Bay. We are one of only two remaining retail outlets in Browns Bay where plants can be bought apart from the markets on Sunday.

Donations of plants, pots, some produce and flowers have come in from other church members and the wider community which have all contributed to successful sales of between \$150-\$200 most months.

I have made some good connections with lots of loyal customers and gardeners through the plant stall. Learning about plants and the use of them takes place both ways.

Monthly notifications have been posted on Neighbourly and the local Facebook page: Torbay, Waiake, Long Bay NZ.

Many thanks to all those church members and the other gardeners, some from the Community Garden, for their generous support.

Nanette Randall

Community Garden

The Community Garden continues to flourish this year. The installation of 11 kitset macrocarpa raised garden beds late last year has been very successful and good crops have resulted.

We have 20 gardeners, some owning 2 beds, 28 garden beds in all including 2 for church flowers.

We have recently received another \$2,600 funding from the Tindall Foundation with which we hope to order another 8 kitsets and 4m³ garden mix and fittings to fill them. Therefore, we are very excited and grateful to be able to complete the building up of all f the remaining garden beds. We still hope to put together a substantial application for funding to Foundation North for an extra water tank, pergola, paths, barbecue etc and these plans are still being finalised. One of the gardeners is financing a small greenhouse and this will be installed at our next working bee in November. Our compost bins have been upgraded and are working well.

An Open Day is planned for early February 2025, to which the congregation and wider community will be invited.

A monthly write up about gardening or our activities has been given and published to the Torbay Magazine.

Nanette Randall

Prayer Network

Give thanks - it is hard to believe it is six years since we began our Prayer Network.

Each Monday, the week's Prayer-List is sent by email or text to the fifteen members of our St Mary-by-the-Sea Prayer Network; additional requests for prayer are sent as needs arise. We have very strict rules of privacy.

It is heart-warming to be part of a group whose members have so many personal needs, yet readily pray for, and give thanks with, others. The power of collective prayer is evident, for which we do indeed give thanks.

Please contact me if you would like to join this wonderful ministry.

Blessings.

Tony Nettleton

Maintenance Report

Thank you to all for their help with the maintenance of our buildings and grounds this year.

It has been a busy year. The vicarage renovation in the kitchen is complete but this was a significantly bigger job than foreseen mostly due to complications found when removing the old kitchen. The kitchen was approximately 40 years old and possibly the original to the house and not compliant to modern standards.

Maintenance issues remain with the vicarage, mainly due to the age of the building. For example, there is a lot of black piping use throughout the building for plumbing which has passed its life expectancy and deteriorated from age making it very brittle and prone to leaks. This piping is also in the church and hall and will continue to cause problems throughout until it is replaced. This can either be done at the time of a leak or pre-emptively replaced to prevent property damage.

Below is a list of the more significant works carried out this year to date in addition to the vicarage works listed above.

- Hall drainage fixed - after a near by tree broke into and blocked sewage pipe, due to the aging drainage dropping and pulling apart.
- Repair to persistent leak in church altar space roof. External roof and jib repaired and painted.
- Electrical appliances in church checked and certified.

Below is a list of some of the more pressing works that we are aware of for our church properties that will need attention soon.

- Vicarage fence: - This is falling and will need replaced.

- Vicarage: - Ceiling replacement in lounge dining and stair area due to persistent mould damage from old roof leaks. This is a health homes requirement.
- Shower repair in vicarage: - This has past its expected life and breaks
- Water pipes in Vicarage, hall and Church:- Old style piping prone to leaks will need replacing as leaks occur or as pre-emptive works.
- Persistent leak in lower bedroom window.in vicarage. On going issue.
- Hall:- roof rust repairs and painting
- Timber deck and Stairs: - maintenance as health and Safety issues arise and to preserve the life of the deck
- Church:- Ongoing drainage maintenance due to age of system and proximity of large trees
- Path Maintenance as tree roots lifting pathways. Health and safety concern
- Church roof:- we have 2 persistent leaks, 1 of which hopefully been repaired. Ongoing rust spot treatment.

Long tern the church carpet is nearing the end of its serviceable life and plans for its replacement in the next few years need to be discussed.

If there are any questions relating to the above please call 021 2389606

Thanks Chris Waddingham.

Finance Committee Report

Introduction

2024 has been the year where we have had to face some hard truths about our finances.

Throughout the year the finance committee has continued to meet at least monthly, (either by zoom or in person), ahead of the vestry meeting. These meeting oversee the monthly accounts from Trust Management. These meeting discuss and plan ongoing financial strategies and financial matters to put to vestry. The role of this group remains the same: - to allow for full and detailed discussion of finance matters and present these observations

to vestry. This enables Vestry to be presented with concise formulated options to discuss and vote on thus preventing financial matters from swamping a vestry meeting. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributes to the Finance Committee for all their hard work and time over the course of this year

We hold our AGM at this time of year so that we can start the New Year with an elected vestry, agreed budget and a plan for the New Year. This does however mean that we do not have our end of year accounts available. These will be discussed at a SGM when we received them from Trust Management some time near the end of March.

The Consolidated Accounts procedure is that (the Treasurer is no longer responsible for arranging the auditing of the Church accounts), our accounts go forward and become part of the accounts for the Dioceses as a whole be audited. The audited Diocesan Accounts will be available towards the middle of the year and will be made available at that time. We will still need to receive and approve our own accounts locally and this will be done at an SGM. It is at this time that I will be able to present information on how our accounts fared this year, however included in this report are figures on our income and expenditure for 2024 up to the 30th September, (referred to throughout as Year to Date YTD)

At this AGM we are presenting the budget for 2025 as prepared by the finance committee and approved by Vestry. The budget figures for 2025 are based on the budget for 2024, how we are tracking in relation to the 2024 budget based on figures to the end of September with inflationary allowance at 3% as agreed by finance committee with additional adjustments made where we know that we will have additional expense.

Our budget is presented using the categories and format used by Trust Management, (the Diocesan accountants).

We have applied those same categories to the Community Shop but will present them separate from the general church finances. This has been done because the Finance Committee feel that there would be an interest from the congregation in seeing how the Community Shop as a commercial venture had fared and this would allow greater transparency.

2025 Budget

Figures presented are rounded where appropriate. Year to date refers to the 30th September 2024 which was the cut off date for reports used in preparation of this budget.

INCOME

INVESTMENT INCOME

Income from hires and rent is classed as Investments. Also covered in Investment Income is Interest Received from our cash investments

We have a small number of groups that regularly hire our spaces and provide us rental income; additionally, we regularly receive koha from RAFT for the use of the hall. For 2024 YTD we have received \$14,166 (excluding income into the ash plot maintenance special fund) in this category. The ash plot maintenance special fund is income received for the specific purpose of maintaining the ash plots and is not income available to us for other purposes so for our operating budget has been removed. The majority of our investment income comes from our agreement to share our worship space with the Evangelical Formosan Church and from Koha's received from RAFT.

For 2025 we set a predicted income of **\$17,854** for investment income, noting the drop in bank interest.

The **Community Shop** continues to trade well and makes a significant contribution to the financial wellbeing of the parish. The Community Shop has now been established for 5 years and is an established presence in Browns Bay. The shop now trades 6 days a week. The Community shop had taken \$96,965 in sales Jan – end September 2024 and is expected to be exceeding our budget prediction of \$115,000 for the year. We have a budgeting income for the shop of **\$130,000** for 2025

We give thanks for the support the congregation, volunteers and wider community continue to show this venture.

DONATIONS

This category includes all donation income to the church including Giving and Donations for services such as weddings, funerals, baptisms and occasional gifts. We have received \$61,649 in 2024 to the end of

September. For 2025 we have set a budget figure of **\$81,550** for all donations.

We are grateful to everyone for their continued financial support of our parish and to those who have been able to review their giving during the year. We would like to express a special thank you to those who decided to allocate their donation tax returns to St Mary by the Sea. Doing this enables the value of your donation to St Marys to be increased by 33%. If you would like information on a giving number and nominating to donate your tax return, please contact the church office. I would encourage everyone to review their donation amounts regularly.

OTHER INCOME

This includes income from grants, special donations, ash plot sales and other fund raising or income such as fees for Parenting Space. The Community Garden group use our bank accounts as a holding account for their funds and as such I have listed this separately as GR22 and not included in the year-to-date other income figure. Any income they might receive in 2025 is also not included in our budget plan and therefore set to \$0. That said, in October, so not included in the planning figures for this budget, we received 2 grants from the Tindall Foundation, 1 for the Community Garden for \$5,500 the other for Parenting Space for \$3,215. These funds will be reflected in our final accounts. We would like to express out sincere thanks to the Tindall foundation for their generous support and to Dion for all his hard work with the grant applications. This money has not been replicated into the 2025 budget but carried forwards as appropriate for Parenting Space. We would also like to express our sincere thanks for the generous blessings we received, not only of food but also in funds from Rangitoto College this year for the support of our food bank this year. Any residue will carry forward to 2025. Other income has been set at **\$15,434** for 2025.

This brings our total budgeted income for 2025 to \$244,838. Our income to end Sept 2024 is \$187,914 including GR22..

EXPENDITURE

STAFFING

Our budget for 2025 is **\$135,808**. This figure includes all salary and reimbursements for staff including the salary for Parenting Space staff which will be covered in part by grants mentioned above.

PROPERTY

The major component of Property is Repairs and Maintenance R&M. Property also includes all rent paid, utilities, insurance, cleaning and consumables. Over the last 12 months all these items have increased in cost. I would like to acknowledge the work done by our treasurer Christine in reviewing our utility providers and securing beneficial rates for us. Our church insurance is provided via the Diocese, and we are not able to change providers or negotiate on cover.

The property budget for 2025 for the church, hall and vicarage is **\$69,240**. The amount allocated to R&M is \$47,400, this figure includes not only structural repair and maintenance work but also those items classed as administrative R&M such the mandatory fire inspections and alarm testing and BWOFF. This figure does not include any buffer for unplanned or unexpected property maintenance issues.

The property budget for the Community shop is **\$46,800** and our year to date (end September) spend has been \$32,862. There is no significant R&M budget for the Community shop (\$250). If we are successful in developing an additional shop and funds are required for building set out, this would be covered under Development Ministry. See below.

For 2024 vestry set aside a budget of \$65,000 for the updating of the Vicarage with works to be agreed including but not limited to kitchen and carpets. It was noted in our last AGM report that these works would need to be covered out of reserves. Year to date, \$59,105 of work has been allocated to capital expenditure for the vicarage. Capital Expenditure is work done that increases the value of our asset and predominantly covers the kitchen carpet works approved and appears separately to general repairs and maintenance. An additional \$8,563 under general repairs and maintenance has been spent on the vicarage. In total (including the \$8,563 above) \$22,883 has been spent on Repairs and Maintenance, (excluding the Community shop) year to date.

GENERAL EXPENSES

For 2025 are budgeted at **\$16,305** plus a budget for the community shop of **\$2,200**.

Under Operational Expenses, **Beyond the Parish** covers all items that we are required to pay by the Auckland Dioceses as our contribution to the collective whole plus donations we make to the wider community. The

church budget for this includes levies and contributions to Anglican Board of Missions our food bank. The food bank has a budget of \$500 for 2025 as it carries over unspent funds from generous donations in 2024 as noted above. The Church budget for Beyond the Parish totals **\$11,145**.

Vestry approved donating 7.5% of the net income from the Community Shop for the 2025 budget meaning the Community shop has a beyond the Parish Budget of **\$6,300** for this year.

Conclusion

The 2025 budget reflects a deficit of **\$42,960**.

This is a tight budget with no additional allowance for emergency repairs or proactive maintenance or ministry development. It accurately reflects the shortfall in cash flow as has been discussed at previous Parish meetings. As of the 30th September reports from Trust Management show our Total Cash Asset were \$117,570. \$44,276 of this is ring fenced in trust for long term Ash Plot maintenance and therefore unavailable to us for other purposes leaving us available cash asset at that date of **\$73,294**.

I urge everyone to review their personal giving to church on a regular basis and consider if you would find it possible to allocate your giving tax return to St Marys.

Development Budgets

For the last couple of years, the Finance Committee has sort to set Development Budgets alongside our Operational Budget. The Development Budget is acknowledging that opportunities may arise during the year for which vestry may need funding. As per the Motion passed in our SGM on the 10th November this budget would allow for our vestry to finance the development of an additional Community Shop should a suitable proposition become available. Previously we have set Property and Ministry Development budgets but considering the current financial situation only a singular Development Budget of **\$20,000** is set for 2025. The Development Budget is separate from the Operating budget and therefore not included in the projected Deficit above. Expenditure from this budget will result in an increased deficit.

If anyone is wanting to examine the individual expense or income item a more granular breakdown is available on request.

If you have any questions relating to this budget or our church finance, please email them to the church office prior to the AGM so that information can be sourced. Whilst the Finance Committee are available to talk to this report at the AGM specific questions not presented in advance will need to be taken back by the Finance Committee and answers will be provided later but as promptly as possible.

St Mary by the Sea Budget

2025 Operational Budget

EXPENSES

Parish

Staffing	\$135,808	
Property	\$69,240	
General	\$16,305	
Beyond Parish	<u>\$11,145</u>	
		\$232,498

Community Shop

Property	\$46,800	
General	\$2,200	
Beyond Parish	<u>\$6,300</u>	
		\$55,300

TOTAL EXPENSES (\$287,798)

INCOME

Parish

Donations	\$81,550	
Other income	\$15,434	
Investment (rent/Int)	<u>\$17,854</u>	
		\$114,838

Community Shop

Other	<u>\$130,000</u>	
		\$130,000

TOTAL INCOME \$244,838

DEFICIT **(\$42,960)**

St Mary by the Sea Budget

2025 Investment Budget

EXPENSES

Development \$20,000

FUNDING

Reserves (project @ 31/12/24) \$75,661

REMAINDER

\$55,661

PROJECTED RESERVES
(after 2025 projected deficit)

\$12,701

St Mary by the Sea

Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2024

ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank Accounts \$73,711

Term Deposits \$42,581

Other \$1,219

Total Current Assets \$117,570

Non Current Assets \$2,735,067

Total Assets **\$2,852,637**

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities \$14,443

Equity \$2,838,194

Total Liabilities and Equity **\$2,852,637**

AGM Minutes 2023

Saturday 18th November 2023, 5:30pm

1] Parish roll

Move: that the Parish Roll be received
- Chair/Rev. Dion Blundell AGREED

Note: Dinner was served prior to AGM Meeting. (Rev. Dion Blundell Prays).

2a. Attendance

Audrey & Trevor Stafford
Debbie Rhodes
Steve Dale
Christine Gillmore
Judy Leitch
Margaret Rocard
Fay Weatherly
Jenny & Trevor Cheer
Susan Haslam
Margaret Skelton
Caitlin, Annalia Blundell
Angela Blundell
Connie Strong

Carol Henry
Adele Ripi
Mark van der Ham
Auriel Andrews
Nanette Randall
Tony Albrecht
Kerry and Robin Jonas
Avril Nettleton
Barbara Crawford
Emmanuel Mosiane
Malerato Mosiane
Robin and Maria Clerk

Apologies:

Bruce & Jane Rogers. Vanessa van der Ham

Move: that the tabled attendance register be accepted.

Move: Auriel Andrews/Seconded: Carol Henry Agreed.

2b. Apologies:

Move: that the tabled apologies be accepted.

Move: Mark van der Ham/Seconded: Adele Ripi. Agreed

2c. Minutes of November 2022 be received. **Move:** Trevor Stafford/Seconded Steve Dale.

Special General Meeting Finance, 2nd April 2023 be accepted.

Move: Trevor Stafford/Seconded: Connie Strong. Agreed.

2d. Parish Report Booklet as circulated, that the Reports be received.

Move: Susan Haslam/Seconded: Tony Nettleton. Agreed.

3] CLOSE Vicar's Warden and People's Warden nominations

Move: Vicar's Warden

Move: People's Warden Agreed

CLOSE Vestry nominations

Move: that nominations for vestry be closed.

Move: Tony Nettleton/Seconded: Avril Nettleton

4] Vestry number

Move: that the number of vestry members be set at 7.

Vestry members: Bruce Rogers, Chris Waddingham, Jenny Cheer, Susan Haslam are current and will stand again. Emmanuel Mossaine and Kerry Jonas have put their names forward for Vestry this year.

Rev. Jay Smith (automatically on vestry). Synod Reps. Auriel Andrews and Connie Strong.

Note: The size of vestry is the above number (6) + (1 Synod rep, people's Warden, Vicars Warden (also synod rep), Revd Jay Smith and Vicar = 5) TOTAL SIZE = 6+5=11

5] Casual Vacancies

Move: that Vestry have the power to fill casual vacancies in Vestry should they arise prior to the 2025 AGM.

6] Vicar's Warden

Vicar notifies the people that he has chosen Connie Strong as his Warden.

People's Warden

Mark van der Ham has been chosen by the people.

Move: That Vestry numbers be set at 7. **Move:** Carol Henry/Seconded: Barbara Crawford.

7] Elections

Appoint election scrutineers. Distribute voting papers/ tokens
Move: that voting be by dropping tokens (wrapped lollies) into voting jars, and that Connie Strong and Auriel Andrews be appointed to count the votes. (or other scrutineers as appointed)

Candidates were introduced.

Voting was conducted

8a] Minutes of November 2022 AGM

Move: that the minutes of the AGM on Sunday 3rd December 2022 @ 11:30am be approved.

8b] Minutes of March 2023 SGM

Move: that the minutes of the SGM on Sunday 2nd April 2023 be approved with the following alterations: None.

9] Matters arising from any of the Minutes. Nil

10] Parish Reports Booklet

Move: that the circulated AGM Annual reports for December 2023 be received as read.

Any discussion, or anyone wishing to talk to the reports?

Put: the motion above. (this draws the discussion to a close).

11] Budget

Move: that the circulated Budget as developed by the Finance and Administration Team, and approved by vestry be received. Budget is presented.

Move: that the Budget be adopted. **Move.** Barbara Crawford/Seconded Trevor Stafford.

12] Notified General Business

None

13] Election Results

Welcome new vestry

14] Adjourn

Move: That the AGM is closed.

December 2023, as prepared by Trust Management and based on information supplied by this Ministry Unit; and notes these financial accounts will be audited as part of the Diocesan consolidated accounts audit, and notes that the parish will be notified of in the newsletter when the audited accounts will be available for viewing in the parish office.

Moved: Andi Smith / Seconded: Carol Henry - AGREED

5] Attendance:

MOVE that the attendance register be accepted and the apologies received.

Moved: Connie Strong / Seconded: Tony Nettleton - AGREED

6] Closure:

MOVE that the SGM be closed.

Moved: Adele Ripi / Seconded: Jay Smith - AGREED

We closed with the Grace.

SGM Direction

Sunday 10th November 2024, 11:30am

1] Attendance

MOVE that the tabled attendance and apologies registers be received:

Moved: Debbie / Seconded: Carol

AGREED

2. Parish Roll

MOVE that the Parish Roll be received

Moved: Adele / Seconded: Mark

3] Introduction

This was previously circulated on email with a paper copy on the door to the church.

At our last parish meeting we discussed a number of different ideas for the short and long term direction for St Mary by the Sea. From that discussion participants identified the different ideas that they broadly supported. From this information, Vestry made two key decisions:

Short term: we explore our options in respect to starting an additional community shop to enable us to continue in mission and ministry,

Long Term: we explore the replanting of Anglican Mission in partnership with other parishes in the North Shore area

In October, Dion met with Bishop Ross, who acknowledges the work we have done to explore our long term options. He wishes to support us in exploring what replanting Anglican Mission in partnership with other parishes on the North Shore might look like. He is also exploring creative ways of funding us as we explore these options (these conversations aren't at the stage where there is anything that can be shared.)

The first step Bishop Ross has taken to enable this to happen is to appoint Kate Shrigley as Curate. Kate will be another person in

ministry, to free up some of Dion's time to work through strategic direction with other parishes. The next step is for the Bishop to call together some clergy on the North Shore, to explore the idea of replanting Anglican Mission in partnership. These conversations will take time.

In order to move this forward vestry need the parish's support. The two motions are:

MOVE that we explore our options in respect to starting an additional community shop to enable us to continue in mission and ministry,

MOVE that the long term direction for St Mary by the Sea, is exploring the replanting of Anglican Mission in partnership with other parishes in the North Shore area

4] Short term Finances

MOVE that we explore our options in respect to starting an additional community shop to enable us to continue in mission and ministry,

Moved: Trevor / Seconded: Jay

Discussion

Voting: 34 agreed 8 against - Majority in favour/carried

5] Long Term Direction

MOVE that the long term direction for St Mary by the Sea, is exploring the replanting of Anglican Mission in partnership with other parishes in the North Shore area

Moved: Debbie / Seconded: Trevor

Discussion

Voting: 35 agreed 4 against - Majority in favour/carried

6] Closure

Stood to say the grace together.

Year to date and Budgets

OPERATING BUDGET

EXPENSES	Year to Date 30/11/2024	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
<u>Parish</u>			
Staffing	91,527	148,533	135,808
Property	98,615	113,820	69,240
General Expenses	11,791	16,850	16,305
Beyond the Parish	<u>10,273</u>	<u>13,913</u>	<u>11,145</u>
	212,206	293,116	232,498
<u>Community Shop</u>			
Property	32,863	45,910	46,800
General	1,525	3,000	2,200
Beyond the Parish	<u>6,660</u>	<u>4,100</u>	<u>6,300</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	253,254	346,126	287,798

INCOME

<u>Parish</u>			
Donation	61,649	88,200	81,550
Other Income	12,412	3,050	15,434
Investment Income	<u>14,166</u>	<u>20,865</u>	17,854
	88,227	112,115	114,838
<u>Community Shop</u>			
Income	<u>96,965</u>	<u>96,965</u>	<u>115,000</u>
TOTAL INCOME	185,192	227,115	244,838

DEFICIT

(68,062) (119,011) (42,960)

DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

EXPENSES

<u>Development</u>	0	35,000	20,000
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FUNDING

<u>Reserves</u> (projected 31/12/2024)	75,661	<u>124,693</u>	<u>75,661</u>
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REMAINDER	75,661	89,693	55,661
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PROJECTED RESERVES
AFTER 2025 DEFICIT

12,701