



DIOCESE OF CANBERRA
& GOULBURN



ANGLICANPARISH
COBARGO, BERMAGUI & QUAAMA

Church Profile





ONE PARISH, THREE LOCATIONS

The Parish of Cobargo, Bermagui & Quaama is located on the beautiful Far South Coast of NSW, in the Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn. It currently encompasses two centres: Christ Church Cobargo & All Saints Bermagui. St Saviour's at Quaama was lost in the 2019-20 bushfires, and it was decided not to rebuild.

We remember with affection, St Saviour's our church at Quaama lost in the terrible bush fires of 2019/2020.

Even though it was decided not to rebuild, we still meet once a month, on the 4th Sunday of the month in the School of Arts Hall in Quaama.

OUR MISSION

To know Christ and to make Christ known.

OUR VISION

To grow a caring, united Church that uses its resources to lead others to Christ.

OUR VALUES

We demonstrate our values by being a parish that is: prayerful; loving; demonstrating Christlike behaviour; outward looking; honest; and using our gifts from God.

We acknowledge that we meet for worship on the traditional lands of the Yuin nation.



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OUR SERVICES

COBARGO

10:30am (1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th Sundays)

BERMAGUI

8:30am (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays)

QUAAMA

10:30am (4th Sundays)

We are ordinary people in congregations, who gather to worship our Almighty God, to hear His word, pray and praise Him, using the lectionary with a basis in Anglican traditions. We welcome variety in service types.

On the fourth Sunday of each month, a service is held at the Quaama Hall. When there are five Sundays in a month, a combined service is held at 10.00am, alternating between centres and followed by a social 'Lunch with Friends' where parishioners are asked to invite a friend.



LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

LAY MINISTRY

There are no licensed lay ministers. However, we have 4 active lay readers who assist with services and will present a homily when there is no available minister. In both centres there are also other lay people to assist with intercessions and reading the lessons.

PARISH COUNCIL

Meets monthly, usually alternating between Cobargo and Bermagui.



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OK SHED

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS OP SHOP

The best little op shop on the coast

This valuable part of the parish takes place in the church grounds at Bermagui. It is an essential component in the outreach of the parish as well as being vital to its financial health.

It operates 2-3 days a week under the co-ordination of a paid manager and is staffed by enthusiastic volunteers. It is hugely popular with locals and the many visitors to town. In addition to the income the OK Shed brings in, it provides a real opportunity for outreach as it attracts strong community engagement. It funds a variety of community services: it houses a small pantry with emergency rations for members of the wider community who are stressed in the current economic times and offers vouchers for purchasing groceries or for meals from a local business.

When open, outreach and pastoral care are extended with cups of tea available for some of our "shut ins" just needing a chat; regular events are held to celebrate this special community and help bridge the secular/ religious divide.



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PARISH FINANCES

Our current financial position will allow us to offer a Minister a five day a week stipend working six hours per day. Previously we have employed a three-day per week Minister plus a one-day per week Parish Administrator & a two-day Op Shop (OK Shed) coordinator (covered by the same person).

We have the drive & dream to **'make Christ known'** to the wider community and to bring more people into our churches. To do this we want to increase the working days of a new minister to (almost) full-time. We would expect most of the Parish administration to be taken on by the new minister within the five days which will allow the Op Shop Manager to run the Op shop three days a week and help assist with some of the administration when needed.

To fund this increase in stipend we have recently increased our Op Shop days from two days per week to three. The Parish has financial security in a savings account which can be drawn upon when necessary. The Parish also has several trust funds with the Diocesan Property Trust, one of which we will draw upon only if needed.

Our working bank accounts are sound, helped by the OK Shed income which continues to grow each year. As joint Treasurers for this Parish we are confident our finances will support a stipend for five days. Attached are last year's approved financial records.

Meg Dodson & Caroline Tolley

JOINT TREASURERS

PARISH STRENGTHS

Our Parish is comprised of a wide variety of backgrounds and interests. We are a community deeply rooted in faith and a desire to spread the gospel. Although few in numbers, our congregations are welcoming to newcomers.

Everyone who comes to church, does so with commitment. People provide their skills willingly and freely for the good of the parish, e.g. treasurers, flower arranging, maintenance, lay reading. Our facilities are well maintained. Cobargo has a separate meeting room with substantial kitchens.

A four bedroomed Rectory is adjacent to All Saints Church. Like the Church itself, the Rectory lies in the heart of Bermagui, close to shops, beaches and junior and senior sporting clubs. This is a beautiful place to live with very good facilities: medical centre, ambulance and, of course for recreation, the beach, golf course, fishing... A car or car allowance is provided.

There is a primary school in Bermagui which can be accessed by catching the bus. For High School children there is the option of going to Narooma or Bega High Schools or also in Bega is the Sapphire Coast Anglican College (SCAC) which is a Christian college under the umbrella of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn. SCAC caters from pre-kindergarten to year 12. School buses go to each of these schools from Bermagui.



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OUR CURRENT NEEDS

We look to the first and second commandments of Jesus for our direction, to:

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength all your mind”; and “Love your neighbour as yourself”

Luke 10:27

The greatest need is for a kind and loving minister, who will lead the congregation into outreach in the wider community & fulfil our Mission Statement, **“to make Christ known”**.

One who first will nurture the love of God into the wider community. To do this, the minister should be a faithful Bible teacher, equipped with sound theology and a strong personal prayer life to help us to grow spiritually. Historically, there has been an ageing population in Bermagui, attracting retirees and holiday makers, but in recent years, more young families are coming into the area although this is not yet evident in church attendance. Hence there is a real desire and need to provide outreach and, in particular, programmes for young people as well as older and for those in real social need, to encourage the knowledge of God and growth on church attendance in all centres.

Cobargo has a slightly different demographic: it is thirteen kilometres inland and historically has been a centre for farming. A current need is for a musician or musicians to lead music in the Parish, as we have had no organist for some time and music is such an important part of worship. We are looking to the future with hope and wanting to bring that hope to our communities

DESIRED QUALITIES OF A MINISTER

We need a minister with strong commitment to their faith and a passion for sharing it with others. They should be faithful Bible teachers, equipped with sound theology to effectively communicate those teachings to the congregation.

It is essential that the minister has a strong desire to grow the church community to propel the church forward into the future. In addition, we need a minister who will serve as an encourager, a trainer of lay people for ministry within the church and the needs of the wider community. Our minister should also possess a loving pastoral care approach, especially in home visits to those unable to attend regular church services. Ideally, we would like the successful minister to commit to parish for a minimum of 4 years which will allow for deep relationships to be built and served in the community.

The job also includes an administrative component. With support from the parish and the facility for training, the successful candidate should have strong organisational skills and good general office and clerical skills to enable Diocesan and Parish records to be kept in good order. A working knowledge of technology is necessary with experience with the Microsoft Office Suite most particularly Word.



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Thank you



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PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

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