



One church. Anglican Parish of Mt. Dandenong

Two sites. St. Matthew's Olinda · & St. Michael's Kalorama

All welcome. In Christ: Growing, Sharing, Caring

Welcome to Light in the Hills



Our Parish has been a faithful and active part of the Kalorama, Mt Dandenong and Olinda communities for over 100 years.

We are a family of committed and faithful Christians of all ages, working together through action and prayer. We bear witness to the light and love of Jesus by learning and growing in Christ's love, caring for each other, our family, friends and neighbours in the wider community, and sharing all that God has blessed us with.

Our churches offer a variety of different worship styles including family friendly worship with Sunday school, more traditional Anglican services of worship as well as monthly healing services, mid-week services and home groups.

Our Vision

The Anglican Parish of Mt Dandenong is a God-centered, vibrant and active Church growing within the Hills community. People of all ages are encouraged to worship, pray, seek out God, and engage in lasting, meaningful relationships. As God's people we use our resources, gifts and talents to engage with the wider community and bring people into Christ's family.

Matthew 6:33 "But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well"

Our Mission

To bring people to Christ, Growing, Caring and Sharing in the Hills community and beyond.

Matthew 28:19, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations".

What We Believe

We are a Christian community in the Anglican tradition. We believe that the Bible provides all things necessary for salvation and that through the Holy Spirit, our Father God has called us to share the Light and Love of Jesus with everyone.

Galatians 3:28, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

We believe that as God's children, we are called to grow together in knowledge, love and worship of Christ Jesus. We believe that we are called to reach out to others so that they may also grow and be transformed by his love. We believe that Jesus' love should not only be evident in our own lives, but in the way we care for and share with those in the wider community around us.

John 13:34-35 "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."



Our Values

The Anglican Parish of Mt Dandenong brings “Light to the Hills” and has its values firmly planted in the teachings of Jesus Christ. More specifically we are;

- *A church that is Bible and prayer centered, where people are encouraged to learn and pray together, at church, within the community and in their homes.*
- *A church that cares for all the people of the Hills community and warmly welcomes new people and visitors to any of our regular or seasonal activities.*
- *A church that is active in the Hills community providing God centered major seasonal events around Christmas, Easter and Pentecost that are open to all. We are active in the wider community reaching out through our fairs, work with children, youth, the elderly, and various other community groups.*
- *A strong, people-orientated, church that values relationships at all levels, between the people of the church, the Vicar, Parish Council and the various congregations. One Church, two sites, where all are welcome. Providing opportunity for people to use their gifts for God.*

Matthew 5:16, “Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven”



Strategy Plan

To fulfil the Vision and Mission of the Anglican Parish of Mt Dandenong we will work together to seek and discern God's will as we;

1. Reach out to the young people of the Hills community

We recognise that the future of the Church rests with the next generations. We understand the importance of providing a welcoming and safe environment where young people can meet, have fun, enjoy each other's company, and also learn about Christ. Within the Hills community there are currently limited options for young people to engage in such an environment.

GOAL

With God's help, and through prayer, we will develop a sustainable Community programme that fills the current void of Christian centric activities for young people to engage in. This programme will have a defined location, within our own facilities, known to the community and supported by the parish. It will welcome young people from all backgrounds, and provide an environment of fun, fellowship and teaching, bringing into the faith the Christians of tomorrow.

OUTCOME

A vibrant and active community based youth group(s) meeting within our parish facilities, welcoming new people and visitors, and is seen as a positive force within the Hills community. The beginnings of the group will be in place by December 2016, with a full launch commencing 2017.

STRATEGY

We will employ a youth worker to help us to reach out to young people and encourage them to become disciples of Christ. This will be done by engaging with key stakeholders within the parish as well as the wider community, and ultimately launching a new Christ-based youth group in the parish.



2. Develop our facilities to ensure best possible fit for purpose and compliance with current regulations.

We recognise our position in the community, and that our buildings should reflect the commitment that we have to our faith and the community in general. Our buildings, while easily recognised, need to be upgraded to engage more effectively with the wider community.

GOAL

With God's help and through prayer, we will provide buildings that ensure best fit for purpose. Improving the standard of our facilities will support our core values of Growing, Caring and Sharing. We will make the Parish of Mt. Dandenong more visible in our community by hosting fairs and seasonal events, providing Youth Groups, activities for the elderly, and continuing to be Light in the Hills.

OUTCOME

Useful and functional facilities that we are proud of and connected to. Places we are excited to bring new people. The facilities are available and suitable for Parish activities as well as the wider Hills community for use or hire, and fully support the mission of the Mt Dandenong Parish.

STRATEGY

We will sympathetically renovate, modernise and, where necessary, extend our church facilities in both Kalorama and Olinda, ensuring they remain in keeping with the character of the existing buildings.



3. Grow our Parish

Jesus said "Go into the world and preach the good news to all" *Mark 16:15*. "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" *Matthew 18:20*.

Our mission is to Grow, Care and Share. As Jesus has commanded us, we must therefore spread the good news to all. We are a Parish that is outward looking into the community, where we are already well placed within many local organisations and businesses to be able to spread the news of Jesus.

GOAL

With God's help and through prayer, we will grow, not only our membership, but also in our faith. Year on year, in a measurable way, we aim to have higher attendance at our regular services, as well as in our small groups. We will have an active calendar of events where people can pray, discern God's will, share the goods news with others, and share their story.

OUTCOME

A visible church that is not only present in the community, but easy to find and well regarded. Full and joyful church services, where many of the parish members are actively involved and are not only encouraged, but are excited to use their gifts and resources for God's work. Continued growth of our existing children's ministries, both within and outside of the church buildings. An active and measurably growing youth group with strong links into the local community. Numerous regular small groups, where people challenge each other, are encouraged to share their faith, and learn from the Bible. A calendar filled with events (seasonal, fund raising, community, courses) for at least a rolling 12 month period. Events that are filled with volunteers eager to spread the Word and to use their gifts for the glory of God.

STRATEGY

Following Jesus' command to go and make disciples of all people, and in line with our mission, we will empower our people to share the love of Jesus. We will be "Light in the Hills", attracting people of all ages and backgrounds. We will support our existing and new members to grow their faith. We will celebrate and be thankful for all that God does in our church and community.



4. Our Plans for the Future

As prayerful people of great faith we will continue to discern God's will and perform God's work in the Mt. Dandenong Parish. We will continue to work hard, be the best steward of our resources, and live for God. We will reach our community with the light of God's love, and celebrate all that God is doing.

His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Matthew 25:21



Services

Our congregation meets weekly and our services differ for the requirements and ages of our congregation. But they are all beautiful and you will find relevance to everyday life through our Vicar's sermon, the Book of Common Prayer, A prayer book for Australia, our music and times of prayer and reflection.

You are warmly invited to join our church for worship and community life.

If you choose to join us in one of our services, you will be welcomed and if you choose to participate or just sit and listen, the choice is yours. We would however encourage you to join us afterwards for a cup of tea or coffee and some fellowship in the hall.



St Michael and All Angels

Sunday Services 8am and 11am
Healing service
5pm, first Sunday of each month
1331 Mt. Dandenong Tourist Road
Kalorama Victoria 3788



St Matthew's

Sunday Service 9.30am
Sunday School 9.30am
Wednesday 10am
17 Monash Avenue
Olinda Victoria 3766



Contact us:

Vicar : Reverend Andrew Smith
PO Box 148 Kalorama, 3766
Parish Phone 9728 6353
www.lightinthehills.org.au