

Parish *Life*

AUGUST 2021

Greetings from the Rector

My warmest greetings to you during this Winter 2021 as we continue to have our lives affected daily by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the cold weather, the distressing world news we are bombarded with through television, radio and newspapers, our St Luke's family actually has much to be thankful for and rejoice in, as a community of faith.

For example, in the March edition of Parish Life, I foreshadowed our Holy Week and Easter services, at which our Guest Preacher would be the Rt Revd Richard Hurford, one time Bishop of Bathurst. Holy Week was an intimate journey to the cross with our Lord and Saviour, with faithful men and women sharing this experience together in a COVID safe manner.

On Easter Day, we were blessed to be able to celebrate our Risen Christ in person, in the church, partaking in communion in one kind. The response of all who attended was testament to the joy of the message of Easter and the fact that this year, unlike last, we could worship together and sing praises to our Lord.

At the end of May we celebrated the Day of Pentecost – again, together in the church - and the atmosphere was buoyant, in keeping with the mood on that day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the twelve apostles.



Bp Richard Hurford and the Rector

In June, we were excitedly preparing for our Mid-Winter Scottish Themed Lunch when, at the eleventh hour, we found ourselves in lockdown once again and the event had to be postponed. As we have learned once more in these last weeks and months, health, safety and the wellbeing of all people, is of paramount importance for our community. We look forward with eager expectation to being able to host the Scottish Themed Lunch, our major mission fundraiser for the year, a little later in the year. It will be another time for thanksgiving and rejoicing.

In the meantime, we have worshipped together online and in print. But perhaps one of the greatest lessons we can learn from the restrictions and lockdowns resulting from COVID-19 is that the ability to be able to gather together for worship is, indeed, a precious gift; one that we should never take for granted. I look forward to welcoming everyone into St Luke's in person once the latest lockdown has ended, to worship, to pray and to give thanks for the everlasting gifts of faith, hope and love that are ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Every blessing to you and to all those whom you love.

Fr Max

The Reverend Dr Max Wood, Rector

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Choir, Bp Richard and the Rector



Pentecost 2021

Fincham Pipe Organ restoration completed

We are very excited to have reached the conclusion of our Organ restoration project and have our beautiful Fincham Organ playing once again!

This has been quite a journey since it was severely water damaged in February 2020. I would like to thank Fr Max, the Wardens and Parish Council for their support and guidance throughout this project, with particular thanks to David Burke.

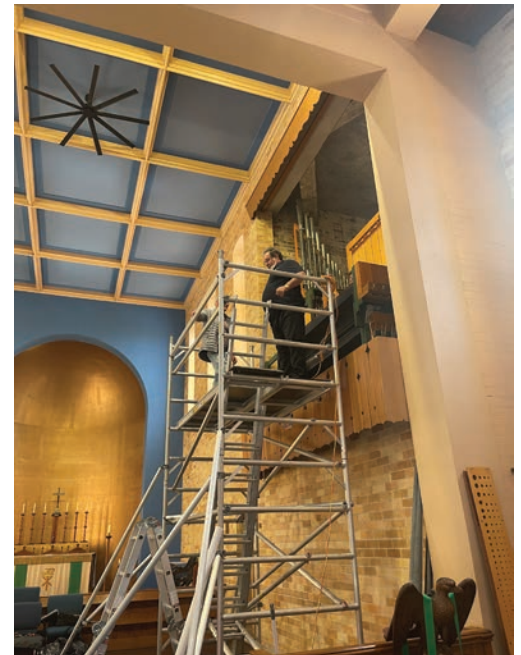
Under the careful guidance of Simon Pierce and the team from Pierce Pipe Organs, the instrument undertook a complete rework of the Great Soundboard, modified the Swell Box, adjusted the action of the Great manual, regulated the pipe work, and thoroughly tuned and cleaned the instrument. The reinstatement works took a little over two weeks and have been completed to an incredibly high standard.

As a result, the instrument sounds spectacular and is tonally warmer, speaks clearer and is brighter than it has been previously. The restoration works have created more opportunities

for variation and will enhance our liturgy enormously when we are able to gather once again. I look forward to demonstrating these for you and sharing music when we are able to worship in person again, very soon.

Thank you for your patience and support throughout the long process.

Callum Close, Director of Music



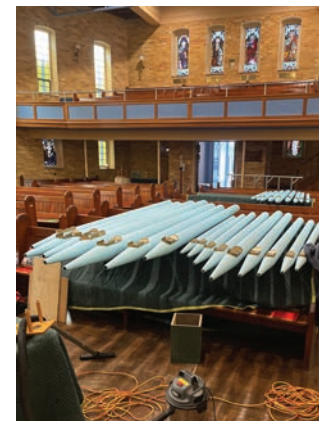
Simon Pierce Organ Builder atop scaffolding



Organ Pipes on pews viewed from the Gallery



Hard at work rebuilding the organ mechanism



Organ Pipes laid out on the pews

St Luke's financial snapshot at 30 June 2021

St Luke's incurred a small Net Deficit of \$7,712 for the 6 months to 30th June 2021. Total income of \$196,985 has been offset by expenses of \$204,697.

While operating income was just \$5,000 short of expectations this difference was offset by a shortfall in expenses of similar amount, and this has ensured that the overall result was in line with budgeted expectations at the financial year's mid-point.

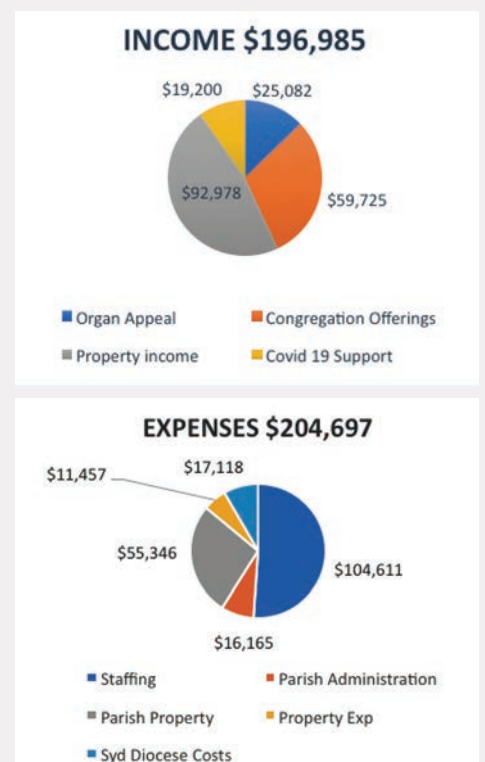
Significantly, during this period, Organ Protection Appeal 2021 proceeds ensured that we had sufficient funds to carry out vital works to protect the organ in the future; and St Luke's benefited from \$19,200 in COVID-19 financial support during the first quarter from the Federal Government.

We continue to operate our expense budget with a cost-conscious mindset, endeavouring to ensure that expenditure is sensibly controlled and within Budget.

While we are satisfied with the financial performance to date, we are aware that the current Covid-19 lockdown is likely to exert pressure on income outcomes in the coming months and therefore the ongoing support of the parish is needed.

The sources of income and details of how it was spent in the six months to June 2021 are charted at right.

Nick Moser, Parish Treasurer



Organ protection works and electrical repairs to the Church tower

Through the experienced builders, Paynter Dixon, the following scope of works was initially undertaken:

- Repair the spire electrical work – refixing of the conduit (*Insurance Work*)
- Upgrade the protection work within the tower including a new waterproof membrane, raising of the hob access to the manhole and a new copper rainwater head, copper downpipe and copper spreader from the roof outlet. This latter work in copper will prevent stormwater freefalling nominally 5m onto the roof below, which has caused water leaks in the past. (*St Luke's Work*)
- Paint the damaged ceiling in the church caused by the original water damage (*Insurance Work*)
- Erection of the full height free standing scaffolding (*Insurance Work*)

With the opportunity of having the scaffolding in place for safe access, the following repair items (*St Luke's Work*) were also addressed by Paynter Dixon:

- Repair to the top of concrete ring supporting the metal frame which in turn supports the cross
- Making good existing and placing additional fixings supporting the metal frame
- Preparing and painting of the concrete structure supporting the cross

All the above works were undertaken in June and the scaffolding was removed on 1 July.

With generous support from St Luke's parishioners through the Organ Protection Appeal 2021, the costs associated with the protection works for the organ have been covered – a great team effort!

David Burke, Warden



External scaffolding



View from the tower



New copper rainwater head and downpipe



New manhole cover and waterproofing



Archbishop Kanishka Raffel

On 28 May, the Rector and Rector's Warden represented the Parish at the Consecration and Installation of our new Archbishop of Sydney, the Most Reverend Kanishka Raffel. Archbishop Raffel was the former Dean of St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney and is now the 10th Archbishop of Sydney.

Archbishop Raffel was born in London to Sri Lankan parents. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) and Bachelor of Laws from Sydney University. He also undertook undergraduate and postgraduate theological training and formation at Moore College, Sydney. Archbishop Raffel was ordained Deacon in Sydney in 1996 and ordained Priest in Canberra and Goulburn in the same year. His Parish ministry has included being Deacon and then Assistant Priest of the Parish of Wanniasa (Canberra and Goulburn) between 1996-1999 before moving to Perth, Western Australia, where he was Rector of Shenton Park from 1999-2015. He was installed as Dean of Sydney in 2016.

Archbishop Raffel is 57 years old. He is married to Cailey and they have two daughters.

St Andrew, Apostle and Martyr

Due to the current COVID-19 lockdown in Greater Sydney, it was necessary for us to postpone our Scottish Themed Luncheon and in person celebration of the Festival of St Andrew, Apostle and Martyr. St Andrew's day is usually celebrated on or around 30 November and in Australia it is also a popular day for the ordination of clergy.

This year we had proposed to translate this celebration to 27 June to coincide with our Scottish Themed Luncheon. Hopefully we will be able to celebrate St Andrew properly later in the year. However, in the meantime, these are some things that (we think) we know about St Andrew.

St. Andrew was a Christian Apostle and the older brother to St. Peter. According to the New Testament, Andrew was born in the village of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee during the early first century. Much like his younger brother, Simon Peter, Andrew was also a fisherman. Andrew's very name means "strong".

In the Gospel of Matthew, it is said Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee and saw Andrew and Simon Peter fishing. It is then he asked the two to become disciples and "fishers of men."

In the Gospel of Luke, Andrew is not initially named. It describes Jesus using a boat, believed to be solely Simon's, to preach to the multitudes and catch a large amount of fish on a night the nets were otherwise empty.

Later, in Luke 5:7, it mentions Simon was not the only fisherman on the boat, but it is not until Luke 6:14 that there is talk of Andrew being Simon Peter's brother.

However, the Gospel of John tells a separate story, stating Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist. When Jesus walked by one day, John the Baptist stated, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" It is then that Andrew and another made the decision to follow Jesus.

Little else is said about Andrew in the Gospels, but it is believed Andrew was one of the closer disciples to Jesus. It was he who told Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fishes, according to John 6:8. When Philip wanted to speak to Jesus about Greeks seeking him, he spoke to Andrew first. Andrew was also present at the last supper.


According to Christian tradition, Andrew went on to preach the Good News around the shores of the Black Sea and throughout what is now Greece and Turkey. Andrew was martyred by crucifixion in Patras.



He was bound, rather than nailed, to an X-shaped cross. Today this is commonly referred to as "St. Andrew's Cross."

It is believed Andrew requested to be crucified this way, because he deemed himself "unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus." His cross is featured on the flag of Scotland and is represented in much of his iconography.

St. Andrew is the patron saint of fishermen and singers. He is also the patron saint to several countries and cities including: Scotland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine and Patras.

*Remember you
can follow
St Luke's on* 

St Luke's is a place of rich and diverse liturgy, where life and faith connect.

We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of gender, age, race, sexual orientation or religion.

We support the full and equal role of women in society and in the ministry of the church.

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To stay in touch at St Luke's, check the weekly pew bulletin regularly, read the quarterly *Parish Life*, visit our website www.stlukesmosman.org and follow us on

