

Priest-in-Charge
St James Church, South Lake
Anglican Parish of Lakelands

The St James Parish Council is an active leadership group who, together with the support of the general congregation, have committed to maintaining both the spiritual and practical spheres of the parish over many years of locum priests. People in this church genuinely care for each other and work together towards a common goal of maintaining an Anglican presence in the area. To this end, the parish is presently able to provide a Priest-in-Charge with three days of paid work in ministry.

St James Church is located in the suburb of South Lake, one of the many suburbs making up the Parish of Lakelands in the southern region of the Perth metropolitan area; from Bibra Lake to Hammond Park/Aubin Grove (north/south) and from Banjup/Treeby to Yangebup (east/west). These suburbs are within the local government boundaries of the City of Cockburn. It is a rapidly growing area with high rise apartments near the train station and new housing estates opening on a regular basis. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics website, the median family weekly income in the area (2021) was \$2344 (\$126 576 annually) and the median age 37 years. Murdoch University, Fiona Stanley Hospital and St John of God Hospital are close by as are many schools, retirement villages, shopping centres and a great variety of opportunities for outdoor activities. The area has many first home buyers and there is often change in the congregation with people moving in and out of the area.

The congregation is multi-generational and made up of a diverse group of people with a variety of ethnic backgrounds, educational levels, church backgrounds and Christian beliefs. A few Bible study groups meet regularly, and people are not afraid to discuss and ask questions about traditions, sermons, and belief systems. St James has a liberal theological leaning with two services to meet the needs of more traditional Anglicans and new Anglicans. Although the number of children is small, there is an ongoing, creative children's program. Children and older individuals all have a place in the St James congregation.

St James has a strong Op Shop outreach in the local area and connection with the South Lake Ottey Family and Neighbourhood Centre which provides counselling services, food support and community activities. However, a permanent priest-in-charge could help connect the church more widely with the community as the parish is in an expanding area and there is opportunity for growth.

A priest who is open minded and can support what is already in place, a leader who will walk beside and teach the congregation on their faith journeys, an individual committed to pastoral care and a visionary who can encourage the parish to be more outward looking is sought for this parish.

Expressions of interest are to be sent to:

Bishop Kate Wilmot

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