

Proposal to Change the Provisional Parish of Merrylands with South Granville to a Parish

(A report from PARC.)

Initiation of the Proposal

1. A proposal was made to the Archbishop by the Minister and Churchwardens of the provisional parish on 4 June 1995, in accordance with clauses 4 and 6 of the Parishes Ordinance 1979.

Details of the Meeting

2. A meeting of the Parramatta Anglican Regional Council was held on 15 June 1995 to consider the proposal in accordance with clause 5 of the Ordinance. PARC certified that all procedural requirements had been complied with, and noted no objections had been received.

History of the Provisional Parish

3. The provisional parish was formed in 1993 from the Provisional Parishes of Merrylands and South Granville. Merrylands had been a parish but reverted to provisional status in 1986 due to declining numbers and finances. South Granville had been a provisional parish since separating from St Mark's Granville in the 1950s.

4. Since combining, the 2 churches have grown numerically and financially. At Merrylands attendances have doubled in the last 5 years. There are 2 full-time clergy as well as a Vision 2001-sponsored cross-cultural youth worker. There is a pioneer ministry into Granville TAFE, and many young people are joining the Church.

Particulars of Church Trust Property

5. The following details are supplied for real estate held upon trust or which will be held upon trust for the proposed parish -

Address	V.G. U.C.V. \$,000	Insured Value of Improvements \$,000	Debts at 31/12/94 \$,000	Condition of Building
<i>Churches</i>				
St Anne's (4 Denmark St)	85	440	45 ¹	Good
St Thomas' (Woodville Rd)	130	300	Nil	Good
<i>Church Halls</i>				
St Anne's	with Church	461	Nil	Good
St Thomas'	with Church	350	Nil	Good
<i>Minister's Residence</i>				
4 Denmark Street	with Church	142	Nil	Good
<i>Other Property</i>				
104 Farnell Street	97.6	142	Nil	Good
Blaxall Street	160		Nil	Good

¹ Loan from Sydney Church of England Finance and Loans Board to build a narthex. This is being paid back at the rate of \$1,112 per quarter.

6. The Minister's residence complies with current diocesan requirements.

Estimates of Population

7. There are about 2,400 families and 1,600 single persons residing within the proposed parish who claim adherence to the Anglican Church of Australia.

Attendances

8. The following is an estimate of the number of persons who are members of the congregation or congregations within the proposed parish who regularly meet for worship.

Name of Church	Number of Persons	Frequency of Meeting
<i>St Anne's</i>		
8 am Sunday	28 Adults	Weekly
10 am Sunday	75 Adults, 35 Children	Weekly
7 pm Sunday	65 Adults and Youth	Weekly
11 am Thursday	25 Adults	Monthly
<i>St Thomas'</i>		
9 am Sunday	24 Adults	Weekly

Ministry

9. A vigorous ministry to children, youth and adults occurs throughout the week, and outreach through Holiday Bible Clubs and events in the shopping mall and park are a feature of church life.

Growth Patterns

10. The following is a breakdown of attendances over the last few years, indicating growth patterns -

Name of Church	1985	1989	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995*
<i>St Anne's</i>							
8 am	18	26	26	29	29	27	28
10 am Adults	30	42	64	66	77	73	75
10 am Children	6	12	20	24	30	35	40
7 pm	11	17	18	22	37	52	65
11 am Ths (fortnightly)					22	26	25
<i>St Thomas'</i>							
9 am	24	24	26	28	30	28	24
Total	89	121	154	169	225	241	257
% Growth		35.96	27.27	9.74	33.14	7.11	6.64

* Forecast

Summary of Financial Standing

11. All Synod assessments and other diocesan charges have been paid up-to-date.

12. The Minister is receiving a stipend not less than the recommended minimum and an adequate travelling allowance, both of which are met from local revenues.

13. The proposed parish is in a sound financial condition and is able to service all its debts.

Summary of Receipts and Payments

14. A summary follows -

	1993	1994	1995	1996
	\$	\$	(Budget)	(Budget)
			\$	\$
<i>Receipts</i>				
Offertories	60,889	74,533	81,000	91,000
Missions	8,666	9,346	10,000	11,000
Grants - Diocesan	-	40,000	35,000	30,000
Grants - Other	4,500	1,500	-	-
Interest from				
Investments	607	473	300	100
Rent from Property	47,031	72,340	55,000	60,000
Other Income	50,000	-	25,276	28,000
Total	171,693	198,192	206,576	220,100
<i>Payments</i>				
Stipends etc	84,587	128,781	145,025	150,000
Total Mission Giving	9,683	9,024	10,500	11,500
Assessments	2,485	320	12,220	13,000
Maintenance Costs	4,850	5,693	10,000	5,000
Property				
Improvements	53,337	3,425	13,000	5,000
Repayment of Loans	2,224	4,448	4,448	4,448
Other Expenses	27,559	27,006	33,664	36,000
Total	184,725	178,697	228,857	224,948
Balance				
Receipts/Payments	(13,032)	19,495	(22,281)	(4,848)

Recommendation

15. That the Synod assent to the proposal for Merrylands with South Granville to become a parish from 1 January 1996.

For and on behalf of PARC

ALAN F. DONOHOO
Archdeacon of Parramatta

June 1995