



## **STS SIMON'S & JUDE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, WARIALDA**

### Policy for Parish Hall Booking & Usage

Updated: 4 Sept, 2023 (v 2)

#### **1. Introduction**

The Warialda Anglican Parish Hall has a history of holding many church and community events since it was built in 1902.

After being newly renovated in October 2022, facilities now include:

- a new industrial kitchen & servery,
- accessible meeting rooms & toilets (including baby change facilities).
- 70m<sup>2</sup> general purpose hall, and
- a spacious 40m<sup>2</sup> deck.

There are 10 trestle tables, 60 chairs, crockery and cutlery available for use at the Parish Hall. Hall capacity is approximately 50 persons for sit-down meal, and 60 persons when seated in rows.

These facilities are available for use by the Parish and surrounding community, and this document outlines the process for hire, and usage policy.

#### **2. Hiring Procedure**

1. Hirer submits a request form (form 1 below) in writing to the Parish Council via email ([vicar@warialdaanglican.org.au](mailto:vicar@warialdaanglican.org.au)) or to PO Box 98, Warialda NSW 2402.
2. The Parish Wardens will check that the requested date does not clash with any other scheduled events.
3. If Parish wardens agree to the request, the memorandum form will be signed, and any other appropriate forms or information will be sought from the hirer.
4. The Hirer will pay all dues before the date of rental (see section 4 for cost of hire).
5. After Rental, the hirer will ensure that the facilities are left clean & tidy as per the agreement, and will return the key(s) to the Parish.

### 3. Requirements for hire

The Warialda Anglican Parish Hall is owned by the Corporate Trustees of the Diocese of Armidale. As such, the Corporate Trustees have provided certain requirements for all groups or individuals using this property.

All hirers of these facilities must:

- Agree to and sign the Hire of Facility Request & Memorandum (Form 1),
- Hold valid insurance cover for the hired period with a minimum of \$5 million of public liability cover, submitting a certificate of currency to the Parish (see section 5), and
- Comply with the Diocesan Property Use Policy (Appendix 1)

### 4. Cost & specific usage requirements

- Cost for hire is set at \$20 per hour, leading to a maximum of \$100 per day, payable to the Parish by cash, cheque or Bank transfer.
- Events on Warialda Parish facilities must be non-smoking.  
Alcohol may be permitted after consultation with the Parish Council.
- Hall is to be left in a clean and tidy manner.  
If cleaning is required after use, it will be charged to the hirer at the rate of \$40 per hour.
- Any incidents, accidents or damage must be reported to the Parish, as soon as possible.

### 5. Insurance

- The Diocese requires a minimum of \$5 million of public liability insurance for ALL users of Parish facilities. (I.e. the rule across the Diocese is: 'no insurance = no hire').
- For Commercial entities, sporting, dance clubs or other associations: existing public liability insurance cover may be used. In this case, a certificate of currency must be provided.
- For personal hirers (such as a party, or private gathering), public liability insurance is still required. If you do not already have appropriate insurance, a one-off insurance policy can be sought, at the hirer's own expense through [www.anglicanhalls.com.au](http://www.anglicanhalls.com.au).  
At time of writing, the cost of this type of insurance is \$60 per event.
- Public Liability insurance from the Diocese is only applicable for approved parish ministries. (I.e. groups and events that are organised by the Parish of Warialda, and come under Parish Council governance). Parishioners may seek this type of cover by making a request to the Parish Council.

### 6. More Information

For any questions about this policy, please contact one of the following Parish Representatives:

Vicar - Rev. Steve Cimarosti ([vicar@warialdaanglican.org.au](mailto:vicar@warialdaanglican.org.au), or 02 6729 1501)

Warden - Mr. Rod Smith ([rodjanelle@gmail.com](mailto:rodjanelle@gmail.com), or 0437 446 309)

Warden - Mr. Garth Skinner (02 6729 1632)

# FORM 1 - HIRE OF FACILITY REQUEST & MEMORANDUM

<b>Owner</b>	The Corporate Trustees of the Diocese of Armidale			
<b>Hirer Name</b>				
<b>Hirer Address</b>				
<b>Parish Facility</b>	Warialda Anglican Church - Parish Hall			
<b>Parish Representatives</b>	Vicar - Rev. Steve Cimarosti ( <a href="mailto:vicar@warialdaanglican.org.au">vicar@warialdaanglican.org.au</a> )	Warden: Mr. Rod Smith ( <a href="mailto:rodjanelle@gmail.com">rodjanelle@gmail.com</a> )		
<b>Required facilities and/or equipment</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hall Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Meeting Room
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kitchen & hospitality items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chairs and/or Tables
<b>No. Expected Guests</b>				
<b>Date(s) of hire</b>	From:		To:	
<b>Hiring Fee:</b>	(Current rate: \$20 per hour, capped at \$100 per day)			
<b>Insurance Arrangements:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I already have my own Public Liability Insurance. Certificate attached.		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	I intend to purchase Public Liability insurance from my own choice of insurer or from <a href="http://www.anglicanhalls.com.au">www.anglicanhalls.com.au</a> , for this specific event.*		
<b>Other info/requests:</b>				

\*please do not purchase insurance until parish council have approved the usage request.

## Obligations of the Hirer:

1. To pay the hire charges in the manner and time agreed.
2. To leave the facility in a satisfactory and clean condition.
3. To remove all rubbish.
4. Not to remove anything owned by the Parish from the facility.
5. To lift (not drag) anything moved within the facility and to return to its original position.
6. Not to use any exhibits or decorations in the facility without the prior agreement of the Parish Representative.
7. Not to cause damage to the facility, its furniture and furnishings, accessories or environs and to report to the Parish any loss of damage to property and to pay for its repair or replacement.
8. Not to permit smoking within the facility.
9. To switch off all lights, fans, heaters/air conditioners and other electrical equipment before vacating the facility.
10. To secure windows and doors on vacating the facility.
11. To return any keys to the Parish in the manner agreed.
12. To effect and keep in force public liability insurance cover with an Insurer acceptable to the Owner at the Hirer's expense for an amount not less than \$5,000,000 which shall include the following:
  - i. liability for loss of or damage to property of the Owner; and

ii. indemnity for claims made against the Owner arising out of the negligence of the Hirer, and to produce to the Parish Representative evidence thereof in the form of a current Public Liability Certificate of Currency.

13. The function should conclude by \_\_\_\_\_ (time) and the premises vacated by\_\_\_\_\_.

14. To create no nuisance, during the period of hire, either by way of noise or otherwise so as to inconvenience adjoining owners or occupiers.

15. Not to carry out in or about the facility any illegal activity.

16. The use of the church property must be in keeping with the Anglican Diocese of Armidale Property Use Policy, and in particular, it must not contravene the doctrines, tenets and beliefs of the Anglican Diocese of Armidale. (See Appendix 1 for full details of this Policy.

17. Any incidents, accidents or damage must be reported to the Parish Representative using the Incident Report Form available from the diocese (See form 2)

### Acknowledgement by Hirer

The Hirer acknowledges that the facility is in such a condition at the date of commencement of the hiring as to render it completely suitable for the purpose for which the Hirer intends to use it.

### Indemnity

The Hirer is required to show evidence of their own Public Liability Insurance cover and hereby indemnifies the Owner, Diocese, Wardens and Parish Councillors of the Parish from and against all actions, suits, claims and demands of whatsoever nature arising out of or in any way concerning the hiring of the facility.

<b>Signed on behalf of the Owner:</b>		Date:	
<b>Full Name:</b>			
<b>Signed on behalf of the Hirer:</b>		Date:	
<b>Full Name:</b>			

### Payment

Can be made via cash or cheque to one of the Wardens, or sent to PO Box 98, Warialda NSW 2402

Online Bank Transfer can be made to the following account:

<b>BSB:</b>	932 - 000		
<b>Account Name:</b>	Warialda Anglican General Fund		
<b>Account Number:</b>	745281	(RAB Customers, please add S3 to end of account number)	
<b>Description:</b>	Label transaction clearly with 'Hall Hire' and name.		

### Insurance

Please attach Insurer Certificate of Currency to this form, as agreed to in clause 12.

Submit this form to Warialda Anglican Parish: [vicar@warialdaanglican.org.au](mailto:vicar@warialdaanglican.org.au) or

PO Box 98, Warialda NSW 2402

**Appendix 1:**  
**SCHEDULE F**  
**(Parish Administration and Governance ordinance 2015-2021)**

**ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF ARMIDALE PROPERTY USE POLICY**

**Introduction**

1. The Synod, through the Parish Governance and Administration Ordinance 2015, has given authority variously to incumbents, church wardens and regional archdeacons to have discretion over how parish property may be used.
2. The Synod, through the Corporate Trustees Ordinance 2009, has provided that the Synod or the Diocesan Council may, by resolution, disapprove of church trust property that is vested in the Corporate Trustees being used for certain purposes, and when Synod or Diocesan Council have acted in this way, church trust property is not to be let, licenced or used for such purposes.
3. The purpose of this document is to create a uniform diocesan policy with regard to the use of church property, and to clarify the theological rationale.
4. The doctrines, tenets and beliefs of the Diocese include, but are not limited to, the doctrines, tenets and beliefs set out in this policy. A Church body conforms to the doctrines, tenets and beliefs of the Diocese if it undertakes or authorises an act or practice which –
  - (a) is consistent with this policy, or
  - (b) involves not allowing church property to be used for an activity that is inconsistent with this policy.

From time to time there are certain actions and practices that a Church body will need to undertake in order to avoid injury to the religious susceptibilities of a significant proportion of Anglicans in the Diocese. The Synod, as the governing body representing Anglicans in the Diocese, considers that, as a minimum, these include any act or practice undertaken to conform to the doctrines, tenets and beliefs set out in this policy.

**Interpretation**

5. In this Policy –

“Anglican body” means a body which has charitable purposes that include purposes for or in relation to the Anglican Church of Australia, which is not a Diocesan body, but is situated in the Diocese and the governing body of the body has resolved to adopt this policy as amended from time to time as a policy of the body.

“Diocese” means the Anglican Church of Australia in the Diocese of Armidale.

“Diocesan body” means –

- (a) a parish,

(b) any body corporate, organisation, school or association that exercises ministry within or on behalf of the Anglican Church of Australia in the Diocese –

- i) which is constituted by ordinance or resolution of the Synod,
- ii) in respect of whose organisation or property the Synod may make ordinances, or
- iii) which is a trustee of Church trust property.

“Church body” means a body that is an Anglican body or a Diocesan body.

“Church property” means –

- (a) Church trust property, and
- (b) the property of an Anglican body.

“Church trust property” has the same meaning as in section 4 of *Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917*, being property that is held “for the use, benefit, or purposes” of the Anglican Church of Australia in a particular diocese.

“Synod” includes the Diocesan Council.

## Policy Principles

6. The priority use of church property is for Christian ministry conducted in accordance with the doctrines, tenets and beliefs of the Diocese.
7. Where church property is not suitable for ministry, is temporarily not required for current ministry purposes, or there are periods of time during the week in which a ministry property is not required for ministry purposes, it may be good stewardship of these resources to employ them for the general benefit of the community or for income-producing purposes, provided that all such income is used for the “use, benefit or purposes” of some part of the Diocese.
8. However, it is inappropriate for church property to be used to facilitate, or generate income from, activities which are inconsistent with the doctrines, tenets or beliefs of the Diocese. As a matter of policy, therefore, ***church property must not be used for purposes which contravene the doctrines, tenets and beliefs of the Diocese***. Without limiting the generality of this principle, the following sections provide a theologically grounded application of this policy to specific examples, in order to provide guidance for wardens, ministers, members of governing boards and others involved in decisions involving the use of church property.
9. The application of this policy is intended to be informed by other policies and guidelines endorsed by the Synod, including –
  - *Faithfulness in Service*
10. For the avoidance of doubt,
  - (a) This policy does not prevent discussion and debate about contentious issues on church property, including dissent from the doctrinal statements in this policy. As Articles 20 and 21 remind us, Christians have erred in the past “in things

pertaining to God”, and therefore as a church we must always be open to reform our doctrine, if that doctrine is contrary to God’s Word written.

- (b) This policy does not prevent an act or practice on Church property that is necessary for a body or person to comply with the law.

## **The Application of this Policy**

### **Doctrine of Salvation**

11. We believe in one God, who is Father, Son and Spirit. Our triune God alone is to be worshipped, in the way he requires. There is only one way of salvation, which comes through faith in the atoning work of Jesus Christ. The gospel calls us to turn from sin and abandon our idolatrous or syncretistic worship, and to worship the true God, through Jesus Christ, by the Holy Spirit.
12. Church property must therefore not be used for the worship of other gods, or to profess and promote a different doctrine of salvation.
13. The use of a church building by another Christian congregation for the purposes of worship is only allowed if the profession of faith of the non-Anglican congregation is Bible-based. This “Bible-based” profession of faith must (at least) conform to the following 4 core principles:
  - (a) The Christian faith as set forth in the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds;
  - (b) That God's word written, the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct;
  - (c) That there is only one way to be reconciled to God which is through his Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and was raised for our justification; and
  - (d) That we are justified before God by faith only.
14. Some examples of property use which would be inconsistent with the doctrines, tenets and beliefs of the Diocese are:
  - (a) Use of church property for the promotion of non-Christian religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam, or for events the purpose of which is to attack, denigrate or undermine Christian beliefs;
  - (b) Use of church property by other (Christian) groups, whose basis of faith differs from the four principles articulated above;
  - (c) Use of church property for activities which promote a spirituality that is in conflict with true Christian Spirituality. For example, those yoga classes which go beyond mere “positional yoga” and involve spiritual practices such as meditative practices and chants derived from Hinduism.

### **Doctrine of the Human Person**

15. We believe that all human beings are uniquely created in the image of God, loved by God and precious to him. We believe that God created humanity with two complementary sexes – male and female – and that both male and female are equally

made in God's image. We believe that God made people of all races and abilities as equal in his sight, and offers salvation through faith in the atoning work of Jesus Christ to all people without distinction. We believe that God alone determines the beginning and end of life.

16. Church property must therefore not be used for purposes which destroy human life or devalue the inherent worth of human beings in the image of God.
17. Some examples of property use which would be inconsistent with the doctrines, tenets and beliefs of the Diocese are:
  - (a) Abortion advocacy;
  - (b) Undertaking or making referrals for medical and/or surgical elective abortions;
  - (c) Production of abortifacient or abortifacient-like contraceptives;
  - (d) Undertaking any activity that involves or leads to the destruction of human embryos;
  - (e) Advocacy for, or assistance with, euthanasia;
  - (f) Manufacture of armaments or other weapons of war;
  - (g) Activities that incite racial hatred;
  - (h) Advocacy of or activities that incite discrimination against people with disabilities.

### **Doctrine of Marriage and Human Sexuality**

18. We believe that there are only two expressions of faithful sexuality: marriage between a man and a woman or abstinence in singleness.
19. Church property must therefore not be used for activities which promote sexual intimacy outside of marriage, or which promote a version of marriage that is inconsistent with God's plan for marriage.

The use of an Anglican Church building for a wedding by those from another denomination is only appropriate where the marriage rites to be used are consistent with authorised Anglican marriage services.
20. Some examples of property use which would be inconsistent with the doctrines, tenets and beliefs of the Diocese are:
  - (a) Production or distribution of pornography;
  - (b) Commercialisation of sexual services (e.g., a brothel);
  - (c) Solemnisation or blessing of a same-sex wedding;
  - (d) A reception venue for a same-sex wedding;
  - (e) Events for the purpose of advocacy for expressions of human sexuality contrary to our doctrine of marriage.

### **Doctrine of Christian Freedom**

21. We believe that the gospel of salvation brings freedom from our captivity to sin. Christian freedom is not a freedom to indulge the sinful nature. Rather, Christians



should seek to throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles and should seek not to cause others to sin by leading them into temptation.

22. Church property must therefore not be used for activities which profit from addictive desires, or which will cause others to become entrapped by addictive desires.
23. Some examples of property use which would be inconsistent with the doctrines, tenets and beliefs of the Diocese are:
  - (a) The production, promotion or sale by wholesale of tobacco;
  - (b) The commercial manufacture, distribution or sale of liquor (other than the sale and consumption of liquor on premises where the liquor is intended to be consumed with food sold on those premises for consumption on those premises);
  - (c) Any use in connection with narcotic drugs (including any prohibited drug, prohibited plant or drug of addiction) except as part of the normal trading practices of a registered medical practitioner, accredited residential aged care facility, pharmacist, chemist, dental or veterinary surgeon;
  - (d) For the purposes of gambling or betting.