

**NOMINEES FOR
ST MICHAEL'S COUNCIL ELECTION
2022 NOMINATION STATEMENTS**



JOHN COPPOCK

Nominated by: Ian Cox
Seconded by: Jan Cox

CHURCH COUNCIL GOVERNANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

I am a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, a Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, and a Fellow of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia. All these organisations continually demand all the governance responsibilities required of a Church Council.

SPECIFIC SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES OF CHURCH COUNCILLOR

I was previously Chairman of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd, Chairman of the Australian Pharmaceutical Publishing Company. I am currently President of the Pharmacist's Support Service, a not-for-profit organisation. I am also a Director of the Monash University Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science Foundation.

My skills and attributes of Church Councillors are constantly to the fore with my involvement of the above organisations.

VOLUNTEER ROLES AT ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH

I have been a Councillor of St Michael's since 2008 and on the Executive 2010 until 2014. I am currently a Chairman of the Bequest Committee, on the Door Roster and part of the Communion Preparation team.

GENERAL STATEMENT

My reason for standing for Council of St Michael's again is to assist St Michael's through their transition period.



JESS HAND

Nominated by: Laura Beckett

Seconded by: Debbie Storz

CHURCH COUNCIL GOVERNANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

I have experience and skills in the following church councillor governance responsibilities:

- Development and oversight of strategic directions and key policies
- Ethical and legal integrity and responsible decision-making
- Duty or care for people and compliance
- Engagement, reporting, evaluation and communications
- Ensuring that people are held accountable for fulfilling their responsibilities.

SPECIFIC SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES OF CHURCH COUNCILLOR

In my day job as a policy adviser, it requires me to maintain a high-level view of issues, think critically and strategically, strong written and verbal communication skills, analytical skills, prepare and facilitate meetings, and understand financial reports.

A large component of my work is around stakeholder management so being able to work cooperatively and communicate well is important.

I am a caring and compassionate person who gives time to speak to members of the congregation after each service. In my spare time, I also volunteer at a soup kitchen to feed vulnerable people in the City of Melbourne.

CHURCH VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

I am currently serving on the following committees and projects at St Michael's:

- Strategic Goals Committee
- Environmental Action Committee
- Open and Affirming Project.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Since May 2021, I have called St Michael's my spiritual home. I have deepened my commitment to St Michael's by becoming a member earlier this year.

Although I am a new member, I have been quick to contribute my strategic thinking and governance skills to several committees at St Michael's such as: Strategic Goals Committee, Environmental Action Committee and the Open and Affirming Project.

During the week, I work as a policy adviser specialising in waste and recycling for a unit in the state government's environment department. I have a background in communications and experience in stakeholder engagement, facilitation, policy and program development, project management and implementation, monitoring and reporting. These are skills and expertise I can offer St Michael's Church Council.

I am proud to recommend St Michael's Church services, music and community to my friends and colleagues.



ANN KINNEAR

Nominated by: Lyndell O'Brien
Seconded by: Lorraine Woolley

CHURCH COUNCIL GOVERNANCE RESPONSIBILITIES:

I have been a member of St Michael's Council since 2021. I have been the deputy Chair of the Programs Committee and a member of the Strategic Planning Group.

I am a retired lawyer. During my working life, I have:

- run my own legal practice,
- worked in several organisations that required me to report to boards and exercise governance responsibilities,
- been a member of a board.

My various roles have given me:

- experience in development and oversight of strategic directions and key policies,
- involvement in the financial management of the organisations,
- involvement in the implementation and carrying out of risk management at a financial, policy and systems level,
- experience in ensuring compliance with ethical and legal requirements.

SPECIFIC SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES OF CHURCH COUNCILLOR

During my working life I have worked in a range of roles.

These roles have included:

- dealing with high level issues for a wide range of organisations and people,
- my last role managing a not-for-profit association helped my managerial skills, experience in strategic and analytical thinking, understanding financial reports and written and verbal communication skills,
- working in teams and working cooperatively with others and understanding the skills of others and the community.

VOLUNTEER ROLES AT ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH:

I volunteer at my local Community House half a day a week, helping people to fill in forms such as Citizen applications.

I volunteer at the local community garden through working bees and watering rosters.

GENERAL STATEMENT

I have enjoyed my year as a Councillor and am looking forward to helping with the implementation of the Strategic Directions for the Church in the coming year which will help continue St Michael's role as an inclusive, progressive place of worship open to all.



VAL GILL

Nominated by: Lorraine Woolley

Seconded by: Ann Kinnear

CHURCH COUNCIL GOVERNANCE RESPONSIBILITIES:

I believe that my former professional life of 34+ years has given me experience in all aspects of governance responsibilities.

As Principal of a large multi campus school and as CEO of a Teacher Training Institute, I experienced all aspects of the governance responsibilities as outlined in the position description. During this time, I also established an educational program for students with special needs in an International School in Nilai, Malaysia, in which I experienced a challenging and complex range of responsibilities.

I believe the experience and skills gained across those years can transfer effectively in assisting with the governance responsibilities as a member of St Michael's Council.

SPECIFIC SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES OF CHURCH COUNCILLOR

My years of participation and experience as a member of St Michael's congregation and as a Church Council member have demonstrated my commitment and reliability in any tasks that I have undertaken.

I am accustomed to big picture critical thinking and working within organisations where success depends on your ability to work cooperatively with all parties involved.

I have managed large financial budgets and know that success in any venture comes when you employ the skills of people in their specific areas of expertise and work together as a team.

Understanding, care and compassion must be the focal point of anything undertaken within Council or with the congregation.

I have had written work published in the past and have long experience with public speaking and verbal communication.

I have competent skills with electronic communication.

VOLUNTEER ROLES AT ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH:

I have been a member of St Michael's Church since 2002. During this time I have held various positions as a member of the congregation and as a Church Councillor.

I currently hold the position of the Culture of Safety Contact Person, including responsibility for ensuring all volunteers and employees hold a current Working With Children Check (WWCC). In this role I work with the SAFE CHURCH unit (or the CULTURE OF SAFETY unit) within the Vic/Tas Synod of the Uniting Church in Australia.

I am also a member of the Contact and Care committee and the Church Services committee.

As a member of the Finance committee my particular responsibility has been focussed on Risk Management.

I am responsible for the development and implementation of a Food Safety policy, which was particularly important during the pandemic in ensuring safety for all.

I am a member also of the Open and Affirming working group.

GENERAL STATEMENT

I am passionate in the belief that St Michael's can achieve the goals as outlined in the *St Michael's Mission and Vision Strategic Directions and Mission Goals* document.

St Michael's is my Spiritual home as it is for many.

I would greatly appreciate further opportunity to work as a Council member of St Michael's caring, respectful and inclusive team.

I believe that as we all work together, St Michael's will grow further as a safe, open and affirming Church, reaching out with love, justice and compassion to all.



CHRISTINE (CHRIS) PHILLIPS

Nominated by: Laura Beckett

Seconded by: Jess Hand

CHURCH COUNCIL GOVERNANCE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Involvement with policy formulation at my current workplace which is a busy general practice.
- Strong background with integrity, responsible decision making, duty of care and risk management through my training as a doctor where I make any high-stakes decisions in the care of others, manage risk and act within ethical and legal frameworks.
- Experience in decision making and ensuring accountability through my previous work managing polling centres and staff for the Australian and Victorian Electoral Commissions.
- Recent experience in engagement, reporting and evaluating through involvement in the Open and Affirming Project here at St Michael's.

SPECIFIC SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES OF CHURCH COUNCILLOR

- As part of my occupation working in general practice as a doctor, I pride myself on critical and analytical reasoning and judgement. I work and have worked for some time as a member of a healthcare team and I believe I exhibit strong communication skills and utilise the strengths of members of my team appropriately.
- I have experience working on committees in many varied settings both as a chair and member – organising conferences, managing an amateur theatre production, managing a student union department, managing a choir, ensuring patient safety.

VOLUNTEER ROLES AT ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH:

- First aid for church services
- Presenter of program "Pride and our Faith"
- Co-ordinator of group formed to progress Open and Affirming Project.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate for Church Council. Although I am relatively new to St Michael's, my time here has deeply impacted my faith and I am glad to call St Michael's my home. I come from a background where it has often felt like at church I could not simply be myself, and at St Michael's I felt like I could be myself from the first day I attended a service. As a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, I have been working with others in the St Michael's congregation to progress the recognition of St Michael's as an Open and Affirming church for LGBTQIA+ people. I have been incredibly heartened to see an issue so dear to me be taken up by the congregation and the church council so thoroughly.

I am hoping to join Church council so I can honour the gift St Michael's has been in my life by giving back, I hope that I can contribute to St Michael's continuing to be a gift in other people's life.



LORRAINE WOOLLEY

Nominated by: Simon McCall

Seconded by: Ann Kinnear

CHURCH COUNCIL GOVERNANCE RESPONSIBILITIES:

As a member of council particularly in recent years, I have been involved in the development of strategic directions and implementation.

As chair of various committees I have ensured duty of care and compliance. My role required reporting to Council each month.

SPECIFIC SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES OF CHURCH COUNCILLOR

I have experienced various leadership roles in the past years as a member of Council which involved critical thinking, diligence in preparing for meetings and in attendance. I am a team player and have the ability to communicate electronically.

In my role as Chair of Church services Committee I am involved in the care, welcoming and safety of the congregation.

VOLUNTEER ROLES AT ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH:

As above.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Earlier this year I was appointed to Chair of the newly formed Church Services Committee and so this role is still developing.