



ANGLICAN  
COMMUNITY  
*OF SAINT MARK*



## Our Vision

A strong, growing, united, healthy, flourishing, Biblically-orthodox community of Ministry Units and individuals.

## Our Purpose

To promote the saving grace of Jesus Christ through effective disciple-making and Kingdom-enlarging communities;

**AND**

To protect the theological convictions of its affiliates.



**“The time has come”, he said, “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!”** – Mark 1:15

**Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation.**  
– Mark 16:15

## **What is a Christian Community?**

In 2018, General Synod/Te Hīnota Whānui (GSTHW) agreed and passed Title B Canon XXXVIII. This made positive provision and encouraged the creation of Christian Communities. The purpose of such Christian Communities is to be a place to celebrate and protect the theological integrity of any particular stream of Anglicanism, both as parishes and individuals.

## **The Anglican Community of St Mark**

In 2019 The Anglican Community of St Mark (ACM) was birthed as a ‘Christian Community’. It was originally curated by AFFIRM (Anglicans For Faith Renewal and Mission) to help unite under one banner the historically orthodox stream of ACANZP and to create a structure through which a united voice may be heard. ACM now stands in its own right as a recognised body of Anglicans who wish to celebrate the historic Anglican view of the gospel. Its constitution was approved by the Standing Committee of GSTHW and therefore has recognised standing within the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia (ACANZP).

We have called ourselves the Anglican Community of St. Mark for the following reasons:

1. As noted in the text above Jesus came proclaiming the gospel of the Kingdom.
2. Mark’s gospel has been widely accepted as the earliest of the Canonical Gospels emphasising our desire to get back to our historical gospel foundations.
3. The first mark of mission in the Constitution of ACANZP is the proclamation of the gospel. This is our major focus while not neglecting the other three.



## Our objectives:

- To promote the saving grace of Jesus Christ through effective disciple making and Kingdom-enlarging communities; and
- To provide its affiliates and members with:
  - Protection of their Anglican theological convictions
  - Episcopal support and advocacy where necessary
  - Clerical and lay leadership
  - A pathway to Holy Orders for individual members.

## Four things that shape our life and ministry:

1. ACM was established to support, encourage, and communicate biblically founded Christian doctrine in keeping with the Anglican Tradition. ACM, therefore, holds traditional views on matters of ethics and morality within society and the church. In all things, we seek to be gracious in the outworking of these views and doctrines. All member parishes and individuals hold and espouse these views.
2. ACM embraces the four-fold mission statement contained within the Constitution of the ACANZ. Namely:
  - a) Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
  - b) teach, baptising and nurturing believers within eucharistic communities of faith,
  - c) responding to human need by loving service
  - d) seeking to transform unjust structures of society, caring for God's creation, and establishing the values of the Kingdom.

We are committed to finding ways of proclamation that are respectful (1 Peter 3: 15) while proclaiming the unique hope that is found in Jesus Christ, Lord of all.

3. The ACM Constitution pledges our commitment to the three Tikanga nature of our Church and accepts the responsibilities and privileges of working in partnership with the whole Church.



4. ACM exists to support and encourage all members of the Community and to have a positive influence in the ACANZP. Our Community offers prayer, support, encouragement, and resources to each of its members and looks for the clergy and leaders to enhance that fellowship by assisting in the building of a sense of belonging to ACM and encouraging their members to do the same.

## Affiliation and membership

Canon 38 allows an affiliated Ministry Unit to keep its assets within its Diocese under its Diocesan Bishop while at the same time relating to a supportive network of like-minded people including the support and advocacy of a like-minded Bishop.

A Ministry Unit may affiliate with the Community by the resolution of a duly constituted congregational meeting provided that the decision is passed by two-thirds majority. Individuals may also join by application to the Standing Committee of the ACM.

No clergy shall be licensed to lead an affiliated Ministry Unit unless he or she is a member, or otherwise subscribes to the beliefs and discipline of the Community.

**See our website ([www.acm.net.nz](http://www.acm.net.nz)) for application forms for Ministry Units and individuals and for the text of Title B Canon XXXVIII “Of the recognition of Christian Communities” and the Community of St Mark Covenant and Constitution.**

## Spiritual leadership

The role of the Protector Bishop is to support and advocate for the affiliates and members of the Community.

The spiritual leader of the ACM is a Protector Bishop. In matters of discipline involving the Diocesan Bishop the Protector shall act as advocate and supporter.

## The Anglican Community of St. Mark support

The ACM will provide a network for support for personal ministry, prayer, scholarship and ongoing training and encouragement.



## **Convocation and representation**

An annual Convocation of ACM consists of equal clerical and lay representation from each affiliate and provides for the representation of individual members. The Convocation elects the Standing Committee, establishes an annual budget and sets an annual contribution for each affiliated Member Unit and individual member.

## **The relationship between the ACM and the Diocese**

Any Ministry Unit or individual who is part of ACM is part of their normal Diocese. We still pay our quota, attend Synod and relate as normal to the rest of the Diocese. The only difference regarding the Diocese is that we have made a clear statement on what the theological position of the parish is, and we have been promised that, this position is protected and represented by those who carry responsibility and power in the Church. The Diocesan Bishop still holds the Parish as part of his or her Diocese and visits the Parish as normal.

## **The benefits provided to Ministry Units belonging to the ACM**

1. The theological position of the parish is protected. No one can be appointed as the new vicar who does not hold this position.
2. It provides a pathway to Holy Orders for individual members.
3. It provides the Ministry Unit with an advocate if any dispute were to arise between the Diocese and the Ministry Unit.
4. It provides an opportunity for like-minded Ministry Units/individuals across the country to come together to pray, offer support and training, and to develop new mission initiatives and resources to improve our call and mandate for discipleship and mission.

# Application Form for Ministry Unit Affiliation and Individual Membership

Parish or Ministry Unit

Diocese or Hui Amorangi

Resolution of the Congregational Meeting

Date of Resolution

Your name

Email

## Signatures

Vicar/Priest in Charge	Date
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Church Wardens	Date
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Church Wardens	Date
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## Individual Membership

Your name

Email

Address

**I assent to the Christian Community Covenant**  
*(please tick)*

Phone

Signature

Forward application to [admin@acm.net.nz](mailto:admin@acm.net.nz)



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