



OUR MISSION:

*Living and telling the good news of Jesus Christ,
reaching out to all in love and service.*

OUR VISION:

To be an outward looking Church

HOLY WEEK SERVICES



PALM SUNDAY - 24 March

- St Peter's - 8.30 am
- Good Shepherd - 9.30 am
- **Classical Music Concert**
in St Peter's - 4 pm

WEDNESDAY - 27 March

- St Peter's - 12 Noon

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 28 March

- St Peter's - 5.00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY - 29 March

- St Peter's - 9.00 am
Followed by Stations of the Cross
- Good Shepherd - 9.30 am

EASTER - SUNDAY - 31 March

- St Peter's - 8.30 am
- Good Shepherd - 9.30 am



Church Locations:

St Peter's - Gympie: Cnr Amy St & Lady Mary Tce

Good Shepherd - Rainbow Beach: 17 Carlo Rd.

Phn: 5482 2629 Email: anglican.gympie@bigpond.com

Sentence & Prayer of the Day

Sentence: At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2.10–11

The Prayer of the day: Everlasting God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son to take our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross: in your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Readings: This Sunday

Next Sunday

Isaiah 50.4-9a

Ps 31.9-18

Acts 10.34-43

Ps 118.1-2. 14-24

Philippians 2.5-11

Mark 11.1-11

1 Corinthians 15.1-11

Mark 16.1-8

Prayers

Pray for the Church:

Worldwide: *The Church of the Province of West Africa*

National: *The Diocese of the Tasmania*

Our Diocese: ● *The Parish of Jimboomba* ● *Anglicare SQ West Community Care, Thomson House Overnight Respite (Longreach)* ● *Anglican Schools Australia Management Committee and Member Schools.*

Local:

MU Prayer Point: *Almighty God, Father of all mercies we thank you for the relative stability in Zambia and pray for members in Central Zambia at this Easter time that they will know the hope of the resurrection. May they share your Word with members across the Diocese as they help prepare couples for marriage and campaign against gender-based violence. Amen.*

Ministry: *Ministry in Aged Care Homes*

In Need: *Azzrah; Nicholas Barrett; Bruce Barton; Gary Bowes; Northa Burnett; Val Deans; Joyce Gall; Allan Gall; Baby Louis; Jenny; Graham McClurg; Yvonne Nipperess; Shirley Summerville.*

Prayer for Holy Week:

Merciful God, as we enter Holy week, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, and to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Stir up within us the gift of faith that we may not only praise him with our lips, but may follow him in the way of the cross.

—written by John Paarlberg

When we celebrate, and when we protest, we are thankful that you are present with us, O God. Help us discern when to challenge authority, and when to use power for good. May we continue to follow in the way of Jesus. Amen.

Seasons of the Spirit



This Week's Readings

A reading from Isaiah 50.4-9a

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens— awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

(Pause for reflection)

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 31.9-18

⁹ Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble:
my eye wastes away for grief, my throat also and my inward parts.
¹⁰ **For my life wears out in sorrow, and my years with sighing:
my strength fails me in my affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹ I am become the scorn of all my enemies:
and my neighbours wag their heads in derision.

¹² **I am a thing of horror to my friends:
and those that see me in the street shrink from me.**

¹³ I am forgotten like one dead and out of mind:
I have become like a broken vessel.

¹⁴ **For I hear the whispering of many:
and fear is on every side;**

¹⁵ While they plot together against me:
and scheme to take away my life.

¹⁶ **But in you, Lord, have I put my trust:
I have said 'You are my God.'**

¹⁷ All my days are in your hand:
O deliver me from the power of my enemies and from my persecutors.

¹⁸ **Make your face to shine upon your servant:
and save me for your mercy's sake.**

A reading from Philippians 2.5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Pause for reflection)

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

The Holy Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 11.1-11

GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

11 ¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.”’ ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna! ¹⁰Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ ¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

(Pause for reflection)

For the Gospel of the Lord

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Reflection

Palm/Passion

This week’s readings are ones of celebration and protest. In Mark 11:1–11, people who process with Jesus into Jerusalem do so as also a form of a counter-protest. In John 12:12–16, the actions of those who come to meet Jesus as he enters the city challenge political power. Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29 is one way to remember the people’s protest against slavery in Egypt, and to celebrate God’s saving actions.

Mark 11:1–11 At the start of Passover, Jesus rides into the city of Jerusalem on a borrowed donkey. Large crowds gather around and follow him. People spread cloaks on the road; others spread leafy branches cut from the fields. While this was a seemingly simple procession, it was likely a more complex challenge to political power.

The book *The Last Week*, written by New Testament scholars Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan, offers an account of what the gospels say about Jesus’ last days in Jerusalem.

The authors note that at the same time Jesus was entering the city of Jerusalem by one gate, Pilate was entering from another gate in another part of the city. Pilate's procession was a striking display of state and military power. He entered with warhorses and Roman soldiers. It is Passover, a festival when the people remember their time of enslavement in Egypt and celebrate their freedom from tyranny. Part of their history of remembrance includes their ancestors challenging and fleeing from Egypt's Pharaoh. For Pilate, his stately display in Passover may have also served to remind people of the day to maintain order, and that they should not resist their current ruling authority. Even as they remember protesting in the past, they should not do that in the present. In some ways, Pilate's processional was a manifestation of empire.

Jesus' processional, by contrast, was a simple one where he rode a donkey. "According to the prophet Zechariah, the king entering Jerusalem on a donkey was to banish weapons of war from the land and speak peace to the nations" (Marcus J Borg, "Holy Week: Two Different Meanings"). The people shouted "Hosanna," which means "save us." The crowds with Jesus were not people who traditionally held power in society. They were part of a peripheral religious group that was led by an unusual leader. One way of describing this processional is as a counter-protest that resisted the status quo.

In **John 12:12-16**, the alternative gospel reading for this week, there is also a challenge to the status quo, and a hope for change. People who follow are part of an outlier religious group. When Jesus came into Jerusalem, he was not only entering a centre of power but also a place of potential danger. Some note that his deliberate entry may have been a defiant act against Roman rule. In this story of the entry into Jerusalem, the people come with palm branches. Palm branches were a national symbol at the time and used in "official" processions of powerful and influential people. Some suggest that people on the margins using palm branches may have been a way of challenging such authority.

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 is a processional psalm sung by pilgrims coming to worship on high holy days. It is a thanksgiving for God's liberating and saving work, God's steadfast and enduring love. This psalm was one of the Egyptian Hallel – an Egyptian hymn of praise. Egyptian Hallel are still used during Passover today. ● ● ● ● ●

Palm Sunday is a day to both celebrate with Jesus and to remember the counter-protests and challenges to authority. What does it mean to celebrate Jesus? How do we tell the stories of the protests in Jesus' day and the present day?

Connecting scripture and life

The crowds that create a parade of honour for Jesus as he enters Jerusalem call out for salvation. In their understanding of how the world worked, this had to come from a king. But Jesus is not royal in this sense. His salvation comes without glitz and glamour, without decrees and the need for subservience. Although they are looking to the right person, the crowd is looking for the wrong thing.

- **What impact does this lack of insight have in the days that follow?**
- **When are we like the crowd, looking for salvation in places that are not going to bring about any kind of deliverance?**

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NEWS AND NOTICES

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ALL WELCOME

CLASSICAL MUSIC AFTERNOON

with Gympie Strings
Featuring Soprano Claire Adamik
and Franki Andersen on keyboard

Sunday, 24th MARCH 2024

IN ST PETER'S CHURCH
Cnr Amy St & Lady Mary Terrace, Gympie

START AT 4.00 pm

Music from Composers:
BACH
GRIEG
OFFENBACH
and more

Gold coin donation appreciated in support of Gympie Strings
Light refreshments to follow

EASTER FLOWERS

Donations towards **Memorial Flowers for Easter** may be made in memory of a loved ones passed. Place your donation in an envelope, marking it clearly with the name of the person(s) you wish remembered (Please also write your name as the donor and your telephone number in case we need to contact you). Place the envelope in the collection plate or deliver to the Church Office.



MU GATHERING: Mother's Union will gather at St Peter's Church on Tuesday, 26th March at 9.30 am for meeting and morning tea. **ALL WELCOME.**



Maundy Thursday Agape Meal: *Thursday, 28th March at 5 pm in St Peter's.* We are holding it earlier so we can be home before dark. Join us for a meal of soup and bread and wine to commemorate the humility and selfless love of Jesus by washing of feet as he did with the Twelve Apostles. Meal and wine will be provided. Washing of the feet is optional and for those who wish to take part.

An *Attendance Sheet* is at the back of the church or contact the church office.
SOUP MAKERS welcome - please contact May if you can help. All welcome.

LENT AND GOOD FRIDAY 2024

Women and children in the Holy Land need life-changing health care. By supporting this appeal, your gift will provide care for malnourished children, children with hearing difficulties and enable mothers to gain new skills in this very challenging part of the world.

To make a donation, or read more about this appeal, please scan the QR code below.



DONATE ONLINE
www.abmission.org/Lent2024



ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

You may donate by following the link or by placing cash in the envelope provided and put in the offering bowl at the back of the church.



MU CARDS GREETING CARDS:

MU have a lovely selection of cards, for all occasions, on display at the back of St Peter's. Each Card is 50 cents. Thank you for your support.



Dear Friends,

As we approach the sacred journey of Holy Week, we extend a heartfelt invitation to you to join us at St. Peter's Gympie for our Easter services. We understand that life can sometimes pull us away from our spiritual community, but we believe that this season presents a beautiful opportunity for reconnection and renewal.

Throughout Holy Week, we will be observing the most significant events in the Christian calendar, beginning with Palm Sunday, commemorating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Then, on Maundy Thursday, we will gather to reflect on the Last Supper and the profound act of humility as Jesus washed the feet of his disciples.

On Good Friday, we will solemnly observe the crucifixion of Jesus, reflecting on the ultimate sacrifice made for us all. Finally, on Easter Sunday, we will rejoice in the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, celebrating the triumph of life over death.

We understand if it has been some time since you last joined us, but we want you to know that you are always welcome here at St. Peter's Gympie. Whether you are seeking solace, community, or simply a place to reconnect with your faith, our doors are open to you with open hearts and open arms.

Come as you are, and together, let us embrace the spirit of this sacred season, finding solace, hope, and community in the timeless message of love and redemption.

We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to worship alongside you once again and look forward to the blessings that this Easter celebration will bring.

With warmest regards,

Fr Shaji Joseph



PARISH PANTRY - DONATIONS



Non-perishable food items: canned foods, pasta & sauce, snack foods, long life milk, cereals, rice, tea, coffee, tuna snacks, muesli bars, 2-Minute noodles & toiletries etc. Please leave at St Peter's or church office (Tues-Fri).

Thank you for your support of this community outreach

How to contribute financially to our Church

For those who would like to contribute, please see the options below.

- 1) **Deposits may be made by internet transfer from your bank direct to our Church Bank Account using the following information:**

Account Name: Anglican Parish Gympie **BSB:** 704-901 **Account Number:** 0000 5910

Please use all the four zeros when entering the Account No. & Reference your donation

E.g. "Giving General" "..... Appeal" "Giving Tree", "Shoe Box" etc

- 2) **Using the QR Code to donate via Commonwealth Bank BPoint Credit Card website**

A) If viewing on your computer or smart phone - click on the QR Code and it will take you to the B-Point website to make a donation by credit card **OR**

B) If reading a printed copy of pew sheet - hover your smart phone over the QR Code to link you to the BPoint website →

Our bank details are already linked so you only need to add your details, credit card number & reference:



- 3) **Parish Direct via ANFIN** - An easy way of giving regularly:

Forms are available at the back of the Church or Church Office.

Sunday's ZOOM information

Topic: St Peter's Sunday Evening Service **Time:** Each Sunday @ 05:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting via computer or mobile device (Click or type link into your web browser) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7246788483> **Meeting ID:** 724 678 8483:

No password required

Please note ZOOM connection information does not change each week

Parish Contacts

RECTOR: The Rev'd Shaji Joseph

Wardens: Priest's:

Dr John ('Jack') Wright

People's: Rene Dekker

Sue Topalov

Treasurer: Bronwyn Saunders

CHURCH OFFICE: 15 Amy Street, Gympie

Office Hours: 9 am to 3 pm Tuesday to Friday

Church Office Phone: 5482 2629 / 0408 745 024

Church Email: anglican.gympie@bigpond.com

Website: www.anglicangympie.org.au

Facebook: [Anglican Church Gympie](#)

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