



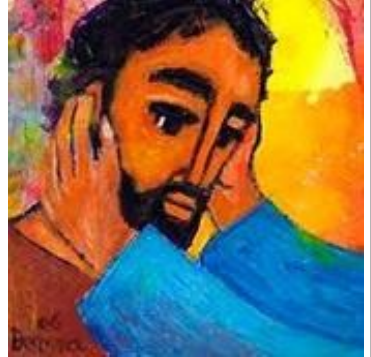
OUR MISSION:
*Living and telling the good news of Jesus Christ,
reaching out to all in love and service.*

OUR VISION:
To be an outward looking Church

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8th September 2024

*Holy One, may the light of your
love shine in me that I might be a
lamp of compassion, illuminating
the way of justice and peace.
Amen*



Sentence & Prayer of the Day

Sentence: So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty.
James 2.13

Prayer of the Day: Almighty and everlasting God, increase our faith, hope, and love, and, that we may receive all you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Readings: This Sunday

Proverbs 22.1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Ps 125
James 2.1-10, 14-17 Mark 7.24-37

Next Sunday

Proverbs 1.20-33 Ps 19
James 2.18-26 Mark 8.27-38

Sunday Services in our Region

- **Gympie** - St Peter's ► 8.30 am ► 5.30 pm
- **Rainbow Beach** - Good Shepherd Church ► 9.30 am
- **Tin Can Bay** - St John Vianney's Catholic Church ► 7.30 am
(1st & 2nd Sunday's)

Prayers

Pray for the Church:

Worldwide: *The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)*

Nationally: *The Diocese of Bunbury*

Our Diocese: ● *The Parish of Robina* ● *Parish Secretaries & Volunteer staff in the Diocese* ● *Matthew Flinders Anglican College, Buderim.*

Local:

MU Prayer Point: *Almighty God, we pray for the dioceses of Mable, Namirembe, Sebel and Soroti in Uganda. We thank you for their commitment to you and pray that your Spirit will continue to uphold them and guide them in all they do to your honour and glory. Amen*

Ministry: *Fr Shaji, Frida and family.*

In Need: *Jim Alford; David and Paul Arthur; Azzrah; Kym; Nicholas Barrett; Bruce Barton; Val Deans; Pam Dorman; Joyce Gall; Allan Gall; Peter Gall; Baby Louis; Jenny; Graham McClurg; Smith Family: Robbie, Lisa and children; Shirley Summerville; Graham and Beris Trainer*

ABM Reflection

'Mercy triumphs over judgement' – we need to write this out and put on our bedhead so that we begin the day and end the day with this God-message in our hearts. How quick we are to move into comparison of people to the ideal we would like to be ourselves! Have mercy, and watch the world change.

- *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, your beloved.*
- *Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Kenya.*

Text: Pamela Davey and the Rev'd Sr Jan Crombie SSA (ABM Board) © Anglican Board of Mission, 2024

Parish Calendar

8/9 2 nd Sunday	9/9 2 nd Monday	10/9 2 nd Tuesday	11/9 2 nd Wednesday	12/9 2 nd Thursday	13/9 2 nd Fri	14/9 2 nd Sat
16th AFTER PENTECOST 7.30 am Tin Can Bay 8.30 am St Peter's 9.30 am Rainbow Bch 5.30 pm St Peter's & Zoom	9.30–12 Mainly Music	5.00 pm Meditation @ St. P	Noon Gympie Minister's Network meeting Noon Service @ St P Evening Bible Study <i>Pls enquire</i>	2.30 pm Bible Study @ St.P		
15/9 3 rd Sunday	16/9 3 rd Monday	17/9 3 rd Tuesday	18/9 3 rd Wednesday	19/9 3 rd Thursday	20/9 3 rd Fri	21/9 3 rd Sat
17th AFTER PENTECOST 8.30 am St Peter's 9.30 am Rainbow Bch 5.30 pm St Peter's & Zoom	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	5.00 pm Meditation @ St. P	9.30 am Cooinda Aged Care Noon Service @ St P Evening Bible Study <i>Pls enquire</i>	10.00 Homeless Connect 2.30 pm Bible Study @ St.P		9.00 am Parish Council @ St P



This Week's Readings

First reading Proverbs 22.1-2, 22.8-9, 22.22-23

¹A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favour is better than silver or gold. ²The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all. ⁸Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. ⁹Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. ²²Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; ²³for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

(Pause for reflection)

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 125

¹ Those who put their trust in the Lord
shall be as Mount Zion:

which cannot be shaken, but endures for ever.

² **As the mountains stand about Jerusalem, so stands the Lord about his people:
from this time forward for evermore.**

³ For the sceptre of wickedness shall have no sway
over the land apportioned to the righteous:
lest the righteous set their hands to do evil.

⁴ **Do good, O Lord, to those who are good:
to those that are upright in heart.**

⁵ As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
let the Lord lead them away with the evildoers:
and in Israel let there be peace.

A reading from James 2.1-10, 2.14-17

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill’, and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

(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 7.24-37

GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

²⁴From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, ‘Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.’ ²⁸But she answered him, ‘Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.’ ²⁹Then he said to her, ‘For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.’ ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. ³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, ‘Ephphatha’, that is, ‘Be opened.’ ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, ‘He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.’

(Pause for reflection)

For the Gospel of the Lord

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

REFLECTION

James’ comments about faith and works, part of his wide ranging application of ‘the law of liberty’ (1.25, 2.12), have become famous because of their apparent contradiction of Paul’s insistence on justification by faith alone. Perhaps that’s why his strong emphasis on the ‘no favourite’s in church’ rule (2.1-7) has so often been ignored; if Luther said James was an epistle of straw, who are we to take him seriously? Thus the entire Wisdom tradition in both Testaments (consider James’s closeness to Proverbs, in both style and content) is often set aside.

Here, though, it is Luther, not James, who is made of straw.

When James says 'faith' he means a verbal formula, intellectual consent to Jewish monotheism (2.15, 19); for Paul 'faith' is the response of 'faithfulness' which God sought from Israel, found in Jesus, and evokes through the gospel. When James speaks of 'works' he means neither the attempt to earn one's own salvation by moral effort, nor the attempt to confine God's grace to those who can perform 'works of Torah', i.e. Jews. Rather he means the outward effects that faith must have if it is to be genuine - what Paul himself calls 'faith working through love' (Galatians 5.6). James and Paul, in different ways, are opposing Jewish attempts to seek scrutiny in ethnic identity without the need for the life-changing grace unveiled in Jesus.

What's more, James' main concern is salvation (2.14), that is, *final* justification, which Paul also aligns with good works (Romans 2.6-11, also interestingly in a context where 'no partiality' is a major theme). When Paul speaks of 'justification by faith' in Romans and Galatians, he is speaking of the *present* justification which anticipates that final verdict. Paul and James are singing different parts within the wider harmony of the gospel.

That harmony includes Mark 7 as well. Jesus has placed a time-bomb beside those Jewish institutions that stressed ethnic separateness; he is now confronted with the need to explode it, sooner than expected. 'You can't give the children's bread to the dogs'; a harsh saying, hardly one the early Christians would have invented, but turning quickly into warm acceptance of Gentile faith. Though Jesus (like many Jews of the day) clearly envisaged a future time when Gentiles would come to share the blessings of the kingdom (think of the centurion's servant, and Jesus' comments on that incident in Matthew 8.10-12), he seems to be surprised that it is all happening this quickly. No more privilege for the 'children'; all can be healed, all must hear, and soon.

The kingdom is rushing forwards, and it is imperative that he teach the disciples its meaning as soon as possible. Mark, here as elsewhere, uses the story of the deaf-mute as part of his build-up to the time when the disciples, in the next chapter, will hear plainly, and be able to speak the truth about Jesus.

From Twelve Months of Sundays by NT Wright

NEWS AND NOTICES

Season of Creation Sunday

We will be holding Season of Creation Sunday on 29th September at 8.30 am followed by a hot breakfast on Church grounds. Creation Sunday is celebrated by Christians throughout the world and is a time to renew our relationship with our creator and all creation. We are asked to celebrate it in October to portray a sense of awe at the wonder of creation.



Combined Service and Breakfast Invitation

We're inviting you to join us for our "5th Sunday Combined Service & Breakfast" to be held on **29th Sept at 8.30 am** at St Peter's. All welcome to join us on the day.



HOPE25

Easter to Pentecost in 2025

Imagine every Anglican Church, in every town and city, in every suburb and community, all working in the same season to proclaim hope in our uncertain world.

Remembering our Parish mission is '**Living and telling the good news of Jesus Christ, reaching out to all in love and service**'.

Together, let's embark on a journey of faith, reaching out to touch hearts, inspire minds, and illuminate lives with the boundless hope found in Jesus Christ.

Will you join us?

Fr Shaji will be talking about how we can participate in coming weeks.

Prayer for HOPE 25

God of Hope

You call on us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world;

By your Spirit awoken in us a true vision of your kingdom,

A greater certainty of our salvation, and a deeper dedication to your service;

That through our words and actions the same Spirit may bring many who are lost to be found, and for them to celebrate the hope that we can only have in Jesus

Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen

We're collecting now for the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal

The joy and wonder on a child's face when they open an Operation Christmas Child shoebox is a beautiful sight to behold.



Every Child who receives a shoebox is invited to take part in The Greatest Journey, a 12-lesson discipleship program where they learn more about the Gospel. The impact of this program is truly remarkable. Last year, an astounding 55% of the children who attended made decisions for Christ!

We're now collecting **STATIONERY**

suitable for children aged between 2 and 14 yrs of age.

Donations of: Pencils & sharpener / Pencil case / Erasers / Pens / Crayons / Markers / Notebooks / Calculator / Scissors / Small ruler / Glue stick / Small sticky tape etc.

Please Note: We are unable to accept liquid or lotions/cream type products.

Please leave at the back of the Church; alternatively you may like to make a monetary donation towards the appeal by direct bank transfer (see page 8 of this bulletin) and use the reference "Shoebox" or via donation box at the back of the church.

NOTE: SHOEBOXES AVAILABLE NOW If you'd like to pack your own.



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Join us in St Peter's each Tuesday at 5 pm for a quiet, reflective session of Christian Meditation. All welcome.

Wednesday's Midday Service Lunch-time friendly

Come join us for this peaceful, reflective 20 minute service held in St Peter's Lady Chapel at 12 pm sharp. All welcome
Light refreshment follows.

NEW PARISH CENTRE -

Current Situation: We received news this week that the water supply (hydrant) upgrade wasn't entirely completed in late August. Another hydrant is to be upgraded (making it three that required upgrade) in Lady Mary Tce and this is scheduled to take place next Wednesday, 11/9.



'TAP, SWIPE, INSERT' for Sunday Giving: EFTPOS is now available at the back of the church for contactless giving. The Offertory Plate will not be passed around during the Service. Instead, there is a plate at the back of the church where you can give your Sunday Offering. Your support is appreciated!



Let's **Celebrate!**

Celebrating a special day / anniversary? Please let us know - we'd love to celebrate with you.

Fancy That Op Shop

204 Mary St, Gympie Phn: 0493 378 944

An outreach of

Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm

Saturday 9 am to 12 noon

Closed Public Holidays



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**

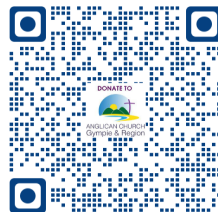
A) **If viewing on your computer or smart phone - click on the QR Code and it will take you to the B-Point website to make a donation by credit card** **OR**

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](#)

Mainly music Gympie Anglican

Fancy That Op Shop-Gympie

