



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

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

9th March 2025

Travelling God, as we leave what is familiar and find ourselves moving through a wilderness land, may we gather as a community of trust. May we set out holding to your call, to your longing and your love, which will bring us through. Amen.



Sentence & Prayer of the Day

Sentence: Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him. Luke 4.8

Prayer of the Day: O saving God, who led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land: so guide us that, following our Saviour, we may walk through the wilderness of this world and be brought to the glory of the world which is to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings: This Sunday

Deuteronomy 26.1-11 Ps 91.1-2, 9-16
Romans 10.4-13 Luke 4.1-15

Next Sunday

Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18 Ps 27
Philippians 3.17-4.1 Luke 13.31-35

Sunday Services in our Region

- **Gympie:** Anglicare Conference Room ► 8.30 am & 5.30 pm (see Notices)
- **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 Anglican Church of Canada*

National: *The Diocese of Canberra-Goulbourn*

Our Diocese: ● *The Parish of Boonah - Harrisville* ● *Ministry with Medical Fraternity*
● *St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School, Corinda*

Local:

Ministry: *Mainly Music Ministry*

MU Ministry: *Dear God, we thank you for the MU members in Worcester, England and for their work with many projects across the diocese. We pray that they will have opportunities to share the hope of knowing you at these times. Amen.*

In Need: *Jim Alford; David Arthur; Azzrah; Nicholas Barrett; Bruce Barton; Deans family; Pam Dorman; Joyce Gall; Allan Gall; Peter Gall; Baby Louis; Jenny; Graham & Val McClurg; Shirley Summerville; Graham and Beris Trainer; Robyn Vagg; Melodie Zylstra.*

ABM Reflection

Today we see that at the outset of his ministry Jesus retreated to the desert to pray. But he was tempted by the devil, who offered things that appeared to be substantial but that were in fact hollow. Jesus did not let temptation derail him from taking the right path, and in that way he has become a model for us: though tempted and tested, we too can avoid temptation, even when it comes wrapped up in quotations from Scripture.

- Pray for all those who find themselves in positions where they are being spiritually abused, and for those who are perpetrators of spiritual abuse.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Korea

text: Robert McLean © Anglican Board of Mission, 2025

Parish Calendar

9/3 2 nd Sunday	10/3 2 nd Monday	11/3 2 nd Tuesday	12/3 2 nd Wednesday	13/3 2 nd Thursday	14/3 2 nd Friday	15/3 3 rd Saturday
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 7.30 am Tin Can Bay 8.30 am Gympie 9.30 am Rainbow Bch 5.30 pm Gympie & Zoom	9.30-12 Mainly Music	5.00 pm Meditation @Anglicare Bldg	Noon Gympie Minister's Network meeting Evening Bible Study <i>Pls enquire</i>	Bible Study <i>Pls contact Northa for venue</i>		9.00 am Parish Council @ St P
16/3 3 rd Sunday	17/3 3 rd Monday	18/3 3 rd Tuesday	19/3 3 rd Wednesday	20/3 3 rd Thursday	21/3 3 rd Friday	22/3 4 th Saturday
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT 8.30 am Gympie 9.30 am Rainbow Bch 5.30 pm Gympie & Zoom	9.30-12 Mainly Music	5.00 pm Meditation @Anglicare Bldg	9.30 am Cooinda Aged Care-SJ	10.00 Homeless Connect 3.00 pm Bible Study @Anglicare Bldg		



This Week's Readings

First reading from Deuteronomy 26.1-11

¹When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, ⁷we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house. *(Pause for reflection)*

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 91.1-2, 91.9-16

¹ Those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High:
who abide under the shadow of the Almighty,

² **They will say to the Lord 'You are my refuge and my stronghold:
my God in whom I trust.'**

⁹ The Lord himself is your refuge:
you have made the Most High your stronghold.

¹⁰ **Therefore no harm will befall you:
nor will any scourge come near your tent.**

¹¹ For he will command his angels:
to keep you in all your ways.

¹² **They will bear you up in their hands:
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder:
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

¹⁴ **'You have set your love upon me,' says the Lord, 'and therefore I will deliver you:
I will lift you out of danger, because you have known my name.**

¹⁵ 'When you call upon me I will answer you:

I will be with you in trouble, I will rescue you and bring you to honour.

¹⁶ **'With long life I will satisfy you:
and fill you with my salvation.'**

A reading from Romans 10.4-13

⁴For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. ⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" ' (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷'or "Who will descend into the abyss?" ' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? 'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart'(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

(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 Luke 4.1-15

GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' ⁴Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone."' ⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' ⁸Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' ⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", ¹¹and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' ¹²Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

(Pause for reflection)

For the Gospel of the Lord

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

REFLECTION

Practice Gratitude

Moving into the Season of Lent offers a different landscape after the growing confidence of Epiphany. The colours and mood change with the destination becoming more focused in our minds. The dust of the earth seems a little foreign, indeed even alien, for this is land through which we do not always choose to travel. May the dust remind us of our role in the decay of the world and serve as a sign of hope in the God who sees potential even in ashes and dust.

Deuteronomy 26:1–11 There are two ways to read this passage. One is to use it for power and possession, claiming a faith story that stamps our ownership on the land we want because “God has given it to us.” The alternative is to let the text remind us that all land we travel across is God’s.

God dwells in the land and the people of Israel who enter it are reminded of this; the land is God’s and God dwells here. Yet this story has become part of a religious meta-narrative (a narrative about a narrative) to prove particular land has been given to particular people. This claim is part of what underlies the Palestine/Israel conflict and conflicts in many other places where invading cultures have tried to claim that their God has given them the land, which the original inhabitants believed belongs to all. The text, however, does not necessarily allow that claim.

The description of an offering from the land may have been a one-off event, or an annual ritual. “First fruits” giving reflects an ancient understanding that the land and its produce belong to God. Those who live in the land have a responsibility to share that gift with others, and to preserve it for future generations. God’s gifts are universal. If this was an annual offering, then the lesson is for each generation to remind itself of the gifts God has given, not for possession but as a place to live, a place that offers life, a place that shapes the reign of God as a just sharing of the gifts of God. The wilderness journey of Lent calls us to the one place where all belong, the Commonwealth of God.

Psalms 91:1–2, 9–16 asserts that we find our true dwelling place in God who is our refuge and strength. But before we assert that this is just another piece of selfish theology, we can read this psalm against other passages that invite us to break out of a “just for us” or “chosen few” theology and bring it into a more universal context.

This is the very point **Romans 10:8b–13** makes when it claims there is no distinction between Jew and Greek (10:12). Yet even here are some who write theology but put exclusive clauses into Christian doctrine.

When we meet Jesus in the wilderness in **Luke 4:1–13** we find ourselves once more in no one’s land, and learn from Jesus’ experience whom to trust. In such wilderness places we can choose whom to serve. It is our choice this Lenten time. Choose wisely.

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Lent is about a choice, either to put down roots, or to journey. This is not just a practical question but a theological one – to push our doctrinal roots into a land and claim who is in and who is out; or to let ourselves wander through the land knowing the only one who ultimately owns anything is God, who created all and who calls us to journey and travel as foreigners in a new land, trusting the one who guides us and calls us through. What practices or rituals of gratitude can you embrace in response to all God gives and provides?

Connecting scripture and life

Lent brings us into an alien land.

- What might you do or use to guide yourself through Lent?
- What landmarks might you use on this journey? What signs and symbols give you hope?
- What might you celebrate and what offerings might you give in this season of travelling?

NEWS AND NOTICES

2025 OFFICE BEARERS AS NOMINATED

Welcome to our Office Bearers for 2025

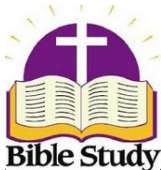


Wardens & Nominators: Dr John Wright, Sue Topalov, Rene Dekker
Councilors: Gay Lohse, May Nash, Bronwyn Saunders, Beris Trainer, Graham Ward, Maxine Wegner, Peter Clifford, Chris Clifford

Synod Representatives: Dr John Wright and Jennie Hawkes-Wright
WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

Parish Council will meet on Saturday, 15th March at 9 am
in the Anglicare Conference Rm.



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Bible Study Attendees - Please note: Bible study for Wednesday evening 12/3 will resume as normal. Thursday 13/3, 2.30 pm Study venue to be advised. Please contact Northa .



SAVE THE DATE:

Sunday, 13th April @ 4 pm

Gympie Strings Concert playing classical and light entertainment music.

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.

LENTEN STUDY

The study will be HOPE 25 suitable for self study or groups.

Ash Wednesday (5th March) is fast approaching meaning Lenten Studies starts soon after. We ask you to think about whether you'd like to study alone or in a group - perhaps hosting a Lenten study group of your own - either in your home or another suitable venue.

LENTEN BOOKS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Copy(ies) may be obtained at the Sunday Service in Gympie (Anglicare Bldg) and Church Office.

Copies are free to all, though if you'd like to make a donation you are most welcome.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

13th April

Palm Sunday

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

16th April

Wednesday Service

12 noon
St Peter's

A short service followed by light refreshment.

17th April

Maunday Thursday

5 pm
St Peter's

Agape Meal

18th April

Good Friday

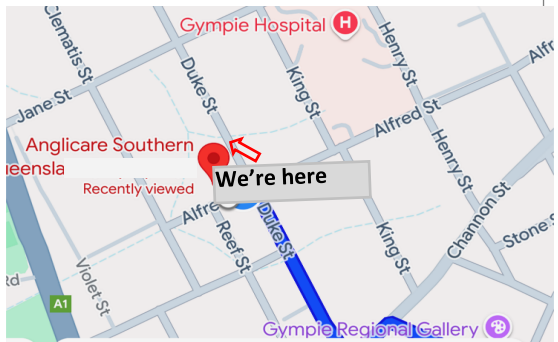
- 9.00 am St Peter's-Gympie
- 9.30 am Good Shepherd-Rainbow Beach

20th April

Easter Day

- 8.30 am St Peter's-Gympie
- 9.30 am Good Shepherd-Rainbow Beach

We're now gathering at the ANGLICARE IN THEIR DOWNSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM until further notice.



There's plenty of parking in Alfred St & near the conference room entry door.

'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!



Fancy That Op Shop

204 Mary St, Gympie Phn: 0493 378 944

Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm

Saturday 9 am to 12 noon

Closed Public Holidays

An outreach of



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

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.

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.



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: gympie@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Website: www.anglicangympie.org.au

Facebook: [Anglican Church Gympie](#)

Mainly music Gympie Anglican

Fancy That Op Shop-Gympie

