



OUR MISSION:

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

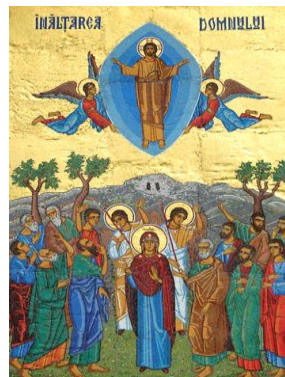
OUR VISION:

To be an outward looking Church

ASCENSION SUNDAY

1st June 2025

Liberating God, may we not hold silence but speak out. May we find in our throats the words of compassion and peace for those whose voices have been taken away. May we be a community that lives the story of those the world has silenced, for this is your story of justice and resurrection. Amen



Sentence & Prayer of the Day

Sentence: God has raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named. Ephesians 1.20–21

Prayer of the Day: God of majesty, you led the Messiah through suffering into risen life, and took him up into the glory of heaven: clothe us with the power promised from on high, and send us forth to the ends of the earth as heralds of repentance and witnesses of Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Readings: This Sunday

Acts 1.1-11

Ps 110

Ephesians 1.15-23

Luke 24.44-53

Next Sunday

Romans 8

Acts 2.1-21

Ps 104.26-36

John 14.8-17

Sunday Services in our Region

- **Gympie:** St Peter's Church ► 8.30 am & 5.30 pm (In person & via Zoom) (See pg 8)
- **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 Korea*

The ongoing work of peace-making in Sudan & South Sudan

National: *The Anglican Church of Australia*

Our Diocese: • *The Parish of Redcliffe* • *Princess Alexandra Hospital and Mater Hospital chaplaincy* • *Anglican Schools Office, Church House:*

Local:

Ministry: *Mainly Music – St John's Place*

MU Ministry: *Heavenly Father, we bring before you the Diocese of Madhya Kerala in India which works under the Women's Fellowship of Mother India. Guide them as they help women both spiritually and in secular fields especially as they support the elderly, provide respite care for the physically and mentally challenged girls and care for those working in the Tabitha Tailoring Centre. Amen*

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

ABM Reflection

In today's Gospel reading we find Jesus praying for the unity of the disciples, the Church. He prays that they may see him in glory. He prays that the love with which the Father loved him may be in them and that he himself may also be in them. May every denomination yearn for unity – not uniformity – so that God's will be done.

- *Lord, inspire me to find out about denominations other than my own, and learn about the National Council of Churches in Australia, and the state ecumenical bodies.*
- *Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia*

Text: Robert McLean © Anglican Board of Mission, 2025

Fortnight Ahead

1/6 1 st Sunday	2/6 1 st Monday	3/6 1 st Tuesday	4/6 1 st Wednesday	5/6 1 st Thursday	6/6 1 st Friday	7/6 1 st Sat
ASCENSION SUNDAY 7.30 am Tin Can Bay 8.30 am St Peter's-Kidz Church 9.30 am Rainbow Bch 5.30 pm St Peter's & Zoom	9.30-12 Mainly Music CANCELLED	5.00 pm Meditation @ St. P	Noon Service @ St P Evening Bible Study <i>Pls enquire</i>	3.00 pm Bible Study @ St.P 5.30 pm Pitch-In Choir		
8/6 2 nd Sunday	9/6 2 nd Monday	10/6 2 nd Tuesday	11/6 2 nd Wednesday	12/6 2 nd Thursday	13/6 2 nd Friday	14/6 2 nd Sat
PENTECOST SUNDAY 7.30 am Tin Can Bay -SJ 8.30 am St Peter's -KL 9.30 am Rainbow Bch -SJ 5.30 pm St Peter's & Zoom-SJ	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>	3.00 pm Bible Study @ St.P 5.30 pm Pitch-In Choir		

Readings

First reading from Acts 1.1-11

¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

(Pause for reflection)

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 110

¹ The Lord said to my lord:

'Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.'

² **The Lord commits to you the sceptre of your power:
reign from Zion in the midst of your enemies.**

³ Noble are you, from the day of your birth upon the holy hill:
radiant are you, even from the womb,
in the morning dew of your youth.

⁴ **The Lord has sworn and will not turn back:**

'You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.'

⁵ The king shall stand at your right hand, O Lord:
and shatter kings in the day of his wrath.

⁶ **Glorious in majesty, he shall judge among the nations:
and shatter heads over a wide land.**

⁷ He shall slake his thirst from the brook beside the way:
therefore shall he lift up his head.

A reading from Ephesians 1.15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

(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 24.44-53

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

⁴⁴Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’ ⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

(Pause for reflection)

For the Gospel of the Lord

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Reflection

Scripture Overview & Biblical Explanation

1. Acts 1:2–11 – The Ascension of Jesus

Luke recounts how, after His resurrection, Jesus spent forty days teaching His disciples about the kingdom of God. He promises them the Holy Spirit and instructs them to wait in Jerusalem. Then, in their presence, He ascends into heaven. Two angels appear and promise that Jesus will return in the same way He left.

Key Themes:

- Jesus' bodily ascension into heaven.
- The promise of the Holy Spirit.
- The beginning of the disciples' mission.
- Assurance of Christ's return.

Life Connection:

We often want to "stand staring into the sky," waiting for signs or divine interventions. But the angels' question—"Why do you stand here looking into the sky?"—is a gentle push to action. Faith isn't passive waiting; it's active witness in the world.

2. Ephesians 1:15–23 – Christ's Exaltation and Our Hope

Paul offers a prayer for the believers, asking that they receive wisdom and revelation to know God better. He speaks of Christ's power, raised from the dead and seated at God's right hand, far above all rule and authority.

Key Themes:

- The hope of God's calling.
- The immeasurable greatness of God's power.
- Christ as head over everything for the church.
- The church as His body.

Life Connection:

The power that raised Christ is *at work in us*. That means hope is never empty. Even when the world feels chaotic, Christ reigns, and we participate in that reign. We are not powerless—we are the body of Christ, called to live with boldness, hope, and love.

3. Luke 24:44–53 – Jesus Opens Their Minds and Blesses Them

Jesus appears to His disciples, opens the Scriptures to them, and commissions them as witnesses. He leads them out to Bethany, blesses them, and ascends into heaven. They return to Jerusalem with great joy.

Key Themes:

- Jesus' teaching fulfilled the Law, Prophets, and Psalms.
- The disciples receive understanding.
- Worship and joy follow the Ascension.
- The blessing of Jesus continues even after His physical departure.

Life Connection:

The disciples move from confusion and fear to understanding and joy. The Ascension doesn't leave them bereft—it sends them into the world with clarity and purpose. Our calling is the same: to live as people of joy, grounded in God's promises.



Practical Reflections and Questions

1. What does it mean to live as a witness to Jesus today?

In what ways can you share the good news—not only in words, but in how you live, love, and serve?

2. Do you live with resurrection power and hope?

Ephesians reminds us that the same power that raised Christ is at work in us. How can that truth shape your daily life, decisions, and prayers?

3. How can your church community be the body of Christ in the world?

The church is not just an audience but a body—active, living, serving. What might this look like in your context?

Ascension Sunday – Awaiting Pentecost

This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension, remembering the moment the risen Jesus was taken into heaven to reign in glory at the right hand of the Father. Although the Ascension is traditionally observed on the Thursday 40 days after Easter, we mark it together in our Sunday worship.

The Ascension is not the end of the story—it is the moment Christ entrusts his mission to us, his Church. He promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, who will equip us for the work of witness, service, and transformation.

We now enter the sacred waiting time between Ascension and Pentecost, just as the first disciples gathered in prayer, preparing for the Spirit to come.

Next Sunday is Pentecost—a day of joy and power, when we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

Everyone is encouraged to wear something red next Sunday, symbolising the fire of the Spirit and the passionate life of faith God calls us to live. Let us come ready to rejoice, to pray, and to be renewed.

News & Notices

Next Sunday don't forget to wear red to celebrate Pentecost.



Episcopal Visit & Confirmations

We are pleased to announce that the Bishop for the Northern Region, the Right Reverend Sarah Plowman, will be visiting St Peter's on Sunday, 31st August 2025. If you would like to be Confirmed or Baptised and Confirmed please speak with Fr Shaii or contact the Church office.



**Welcome to all who have
joined us for Kidz Church today.**



Mainly Music is taking a short break....

Due to construction of a new kitchen at St John's Place we'll not be holding Mainly Music on **Monday, 2nd June**. We'll be back on the 'carpet' on Monday, 9th June at 9.30 am.



HAPPY 95th BIRTHDAY JUNE!

June Vuletic is celebrating her 95th Birthday this weekend. Fr Shaji visited June this last week to wish her well for her big day.

Congratulations June. May your day be filled with love, laughter, and good times.



**A Day Conference
for Christian Women**
Anglican Church | 17 William St Tewanin

Saturday August 2
9:00am - 3:15pm

HOPE

WHAT is it?
WHY do we need it?
HOW do we share it?

Jo Kadlecsek-Gilbert
Speaker and Writer

Julle-anne Laird
Evangelist and Trainer

BOOKING INFORMATION TO COME

Anglican
Women of Noosa

Year of
HOPE

Bookings \$35
Morning tea and Lunch
provided

SHOEBOXES WANTED: Do you have any clean shoeboxes or gift boxes of similar size you no longer need? MU is collecting them for an organisation project they're doing. Please leave at the church or church office.



NEW PARISH CENTRE – Current Situation

We are awaiting news regarding the signing of the contract between the Diocese and builder.



Let's **Celebrate!**

Celebrating a special day / anniversary?
Please let us know - we'd love to celebrate with you. Contact Fr Shaji or the Office.

'TAP, SWIPE, INSERT' for Sunday Giving: EFTPOS is now available at the back of the church for contactless giving. See page 8 for other ways of giving.



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9-3 Weekdays; 9-12 Sat

An outreach of



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TOOLS, SHOES, CLOTHING
ACCESSORIES, PLANTS AND MUCH
MORE



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 **Acct Number:** 0000 5910

Please use all the four zeros when entering the Acct No.

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

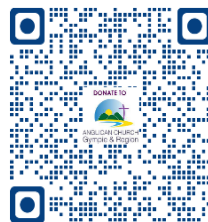
A) If viewing on your computer or smart phone - click on the QR Code and it will take you to the B-Point website to make a donation by credit card **OR**

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: E.g. "Giving General" "... Appeal" "Giving Tree". etc

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](https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanChurchGympie)

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