



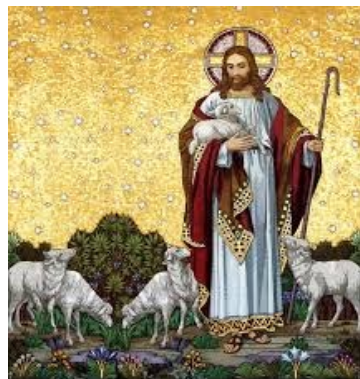
OUR MISSION:
*Living and telling the good news of Jesus Christ,
reaching out to all in love and service.*

OUR VISION:
To be an outward looking Church

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

11th May 2025

God, you call us to rise up, to live, to seek the welfare of others, and to offer words and deeds that are life-giving. Fill us with the presence of your spirit, God, and guide us as we grow as disciples. Amen



Sentence & Prayer of the Day

Sentence: The Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Revelation 7.17

Prayer of the Day:

Gracious God, you sent Jesus, the good shepherd, to gather us together: may we not wander from his flock, but follow wherever he leads us, listening for his voice and staying near him, until we are safely in your fold, to live with you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings: This Sunday

Next Sunday

Acts 9.36-43

Ps 23

Acts 11.1-18

Ps 148

Revelation 7.9-17

John 10.22-30

Revelation 21.1-6

John 13.31-35

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:

Pray for the Church:

Worldwide: The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

National: The Diocese of Gippsland

Our Diocese: ● The Parish of Mitchell ● Indigenous Leaders and Communities in the Diocese
● St Hilda's School, Southport.

Local:

Ministry: Parish Choir and Musicians

MU Ministry: Gracious Lord, we pray for members in the Diocese of Gippsland and for President Lindy Driver. Uphold them as they seek to share Christ's teaching on marriage and family through caring for refugees, providing a holiday for two families and distributing activity bags for the children's ward. We also bring before you the Diocese of Cashel and Ossory in All Ireland as they share your love with the homeless and provide holidays for those in need. 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; Val McClurg & Family; Shirley Summerville; Graham and Beris Trainer; Robyn Vagg; Melodie Zylstra.

Thanksgiving for the life of: Trevor Crase

ABM Reflection

The religious authorities confront Jesus at the Temple, demanding that he tell them unequivocally whether or not he is the Messiah. Jesus doesn't play whatever game it is they want him to play and declares that he has clearly told them but they have not believed. The works that he has done have been in the Father's name but, despite that, they have not believed. They, he unequivocally tells them, are not of his flock.

- Lord, may I always remain one of your flock by following you wherever you lead me.
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Melanesia.

Text: Robert McLean © Anglican Board of Mission, 2025

Fortnight Ahead

11/5 2 nd Sunday	12/5 2 nd Monday	13/5 2 nd Tuesday	14/5 2 nd Wednesday	15/5 3 rd Thursday	16/5 3 rd Friday	17/5 3 rd Sat
4 th Sunday of Easter 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 Pls enquire	10.00 Homeless Connect 3.00 pm Bible Study @ St.P 5.30 pm Pitch-In	GYMPIE SHOW DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	9.00 am Parish Council @ St P
18/5 3 rd Sunday	19/5 3 rd Monday	20/5 3 rd Tuesday	21/5 3 rd Wednesday	22/5 4 th Thursday	23/5 4 th Friday	24/5 4 th Sat
5 th Sunday of Easter 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 Service @ St P 9.30 am Cooinda Aged Care-SJ Evening Bible Study Pls enquire	Noon Regional Deanery 3.00 pm Bible Study @ St.P 5.30 pm Pitch-In		



This Week's Readings

First reading from Acts 9.36-43

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

(Pause for reflection)

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd:
therefore can I lack nothing.

² **He will make me lie down in green pastures:
and lead me beside still waters.**

³ He will refresh my soul:
and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:**

for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me.

⁵ You spread a table before me in the face of those who trouble me:
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

⁶ **Surely your goodness and loving-kindness
will follow me all the days of my life:
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

A reading from Revelation 7.9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.

¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' ¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, ¹² singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever

! Amen.’ ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?’ ¹⁴ I said to him, ‘Sir, you are the one that knows.’ Then he said to me, ‘These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.’ ¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’

(Pause for reflection)

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

The Holy Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according John 10.22-30

GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, ‘How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.’ ²⁵ Jesus answered, ‘I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.’

(Pause for reflection)

For the Gospel of the Lord

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

REFLECTION

Life-giving Acts

Life-giving acts expressed in compassionate words and deeds take shape in ministry with those in our communities and outside our circles. Life-giving acts wipe away tears, restore life, and testify to God’s love. As we open our lives to the Spirit and follow God’s leading, we can offer such witness.

Acts 9:36–43 Peter is called to Joppa, some ten miles away, because Tabitha (Dorcas in Greek) has died. Giving both forms of the name is a reminder that this is a mixed Jewish- Gentile community and a pointer to the direction in which the church’s mission is moving. The story follows right after the healing of Aeneas in Lydda. Peter calls both by name and instructs them to rise or get up.

Aeneas rises from his bed and Tabitha from death. Both occasions reveal Peter’s actions in continuity with the actions of Jesus, and reveal Peter to be an agent of resurrection.

We learn little about Aeneas but glean more detail about the life of Tabitha. She is a highly respected disciple, one who puts her faith into action by caring for the weak and the widowed in her town. The women show Peter the clothes Tabitha made for those who relied upon her generosity. From the brief description of her home and the lack of mention of others in the household, she appears to be a single woman of means. The upper room of her home, where she is laid out to rest, may well have been a place of prayer and fellowship where Tabitha played the role of host. That she was significant not only to the widows but to the whole congregation is seen in two of the men being dispatched to find Peter, and in the house filled with the company of the saints, men and women together.

This is the personal story of a much-loved and much-needed woman experiencing first-hand the resurrection power of Jesus. The story is also a reminder that the focus of community life, worship, prayer, the working of miracles, and new life experience was celebrated in upper rooms like that of Tabitha. The upper rooms were becoming places to wash feet, eat together, pray together, and do good for those in need. The locus of the spirit was on the move into people's lives and homes, and in the call to get up and live, as heard in such personal stories.

Psalm 23 reminds us that, wherever we are, there is a power that is restorative and life-giving.

Revelation 7:9–17 offers a vision of a life beyond all our troubles, a life beyond death itself. All colours are contained in white, and all peoples of Earth are here robed together in white before the throne of God, where no further harm will touch them. So, in **John 10:22–30**, Jesus promises that his sheep will be with him and can never be snatched away. No matter what occurs, we can look to Christ and identify him then and now in acts of loving-kindness, in actions that show the presence and the power of God with us.



The Easter season is a call to get up and live in the power of the risen Christ, which can empower us to overcome those things that have harmed and hindered us, and to take the lead in loving service in the communities in which we live. What might we, individually and as the church, learn from Tabitha and Peter about life-giving service?

Connecting scripture and life

- **What kind of leadership does church and community require?**
- **What might we, individually and as a church, learn from Tabitha and Peter about serving that is life-giving?**

Some traditions observe this day as Good Shepherd Sunday.

- **How does your church serve as a shepherd?**

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Happy Mother's Day

A Prayer for Mothers

**All-loving God,
we give you thanks and praise for mothers young and old.**

We pray for young mothers,
who give life and count toes and tend to our every need;
May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families
and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us;
May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of
war, poverty, or conflict;

May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with
motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers who are no
longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourished us with
their love. Amen.

MAINLY MUSIC IN RAINBOW BEACH



Last Thursday we had our annual
Mainly Music “road trip” to Rainbow
Beach to celebrate Mother’s Day with
the Rainbow Beach Primary School
students, parents and teachers. Lot’s
of fun was had by all.

Thank you to all who attended and
helped out.

GYMPIE SHOW DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

The Church Office will be closed next Friday for the Gympie Show Day public holiday.

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.

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 Shaji or contact the Church office.



FANCY THAT OP SHOP ANNIVERSARY

It's hard to believe that it was three years ago Gympie experienced a significant flood event which inundated our Op Shop, closing it for several weeks. After hard work by trades and volunteers the shop reopened on 9th May, which was coincidentally the anniversary of the official opening of the shop in 1994.

We wish to thank our wonderful volunteers, past and present for their dedication and support throughout the years.



NEW PARISH CENTRE - Current Situation:

A contract is likely to be signed in the next month after Diocesan approval.



'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!



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 Ex: "Giving", "... Appeal".

- 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