

**14<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

Loving God, open our eyes to your compassion in the world around us. Speak to us today, call us, and send us to be your hands and heart in action. Amen.



## Weekly Pastoral Reflection

Jesus looks upon the crowds and sees people who are weary, anxious, and searching for direction. The same is true today. Many carry burdens of loneliness, grief, uncertainty, and fear. Rather than turning away, Jesus responds with compassion. He then calls ordinary people to become part of God's answer. We may feel inadequate, but Christ still sends us to share kindness, hope, prayer, and encouragement. The harvest remains plentiful. This week, perhaps God's invitation is simple: notice someone who is struggling, listen carefully, offer support, and allow Christ's compassion to flow through you into their life.

## Sentence & Prayer of the Day

**Sentence:** We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand. Romans 5.1–2

**Prayer of the Day:** All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life, and defeat into victory: increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over evil, in the strength of the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Readings

### First Reading from Genesis 18.1-15

<sup>1</sup> The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup> He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' <sup>6</sup> And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' <sup>7</sup> Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup> Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they

ate.<sup>9</sup> They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.'<sup>10</sup> Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him.<sup>11</sup> Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.<sup>12</sup> So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?'<sup>13</sup> The Lord said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?"'<sup>14</sup> Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.'<sup>15</sup> But Sarah denied, saying, 'I did not laugh'; for she was afraid. He said, 'Oh yes, you did laugh.'

**Hear the Word of the Lord.**

**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

**Biblical Background** Abraham receives three mysterious visitors near the oaks of Mamre. In offering generous hospitality, he unknowingly welcomes God's presence. Sarah overhears the promise that she will bear a son despite her old age and responds with laughter.

**Meaning and Relevance Today** God often comes to us in unexpected ways and places. This story reminds us that nothing is impossible for God and that divine promises can emerge when hope seems exhausted.

**Reflection Question** Where might God be inviting me to trust beyond what seems possible?

### **Psalm 116.1-2; 116.11-18**

<sup>1</sup> I love the Lord, because he heard my voice:  
the voice of my supplication;

<sup>2</sup> **Because he inclined his ear to me:  
in the day that I called to him.**

<sup>11</sup> How shall I repay the Lord:  
for all his benefits to me?

<sup>12</sup> **I will take up the cup of salvation:  
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> I will pay my vows to the Lord:  
in the presence of all his people.

<sup>14</sup> **Grievous in the sight of the Lord:  
is the death of his faithful ones.**

<sup>15</sup> O Lord, I am your servant, your servant and the child of your handmaid:  
you have unloosed my bonds.

<sup>16</sup> **I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving:  
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

<sup>17</sup> I will pay my vows to the Lord:  
in the presence of all his people,

<sup>18</sup> **In the courts of the house of the Lord:  
even in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.**

### **Second Reading from Romans 5.1-11**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our

sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. <sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

## Hear the Word of the Lord

## THANKS BE TO GOD

**Biblical Background** Paul explains the blessings that flow from being justified by faith: peace with God, hope, perseverance, and reconciliation through Christ.

**Meaning and Relevance Today** Faith does not remove suffering, but God can transform suffering into endurance, character, and hope. We are deeply loved and reconciled to God through Jesus.

**Reflection Question** How has God brought hope and growth through a difficult season of my life?

### The Holy Gospel

#### The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 9.35-10.8

#### GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

9 <sup>35</sup> Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; <sup>38</sup> therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.' 10 <sup>1</sup> Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup> Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. <sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup> but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup> As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>8</sup> Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

**Biblical Background** Jesus sees the crowds as "harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." He commissions the twelve disciples and sends them to proclaim God's kingdom and bring healing.

**Meaning and Relevance Today** Jesus' compassion leads to action. The Church continues Christ's mission of healing, caring, and proclaiming hope in a hurting world.

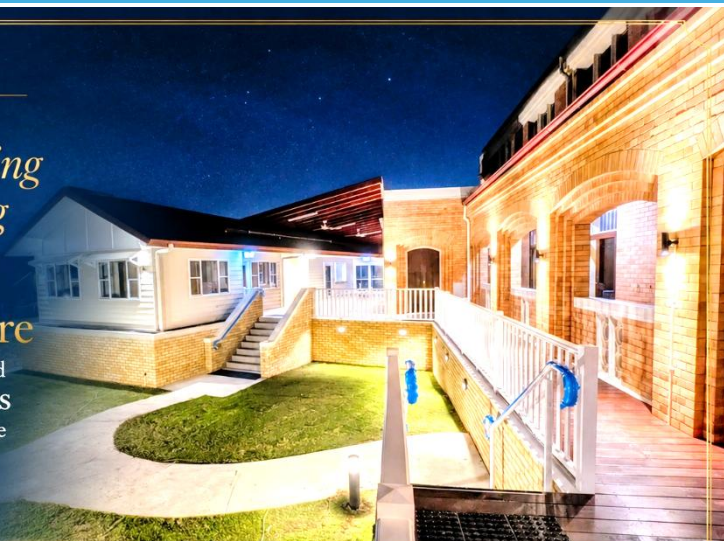
**Reflection Question** Who in my community needs compassion, encouragement, or practical help this week?

# News & Notices

*You Are Invited*

Join us for the  
*Official Opening  
and Blessing*  
of the  
**St Peter's  
Parish Centre**

by The Right Reverend  
**Jeremy Greaves**  
Archbishop of Brisbane



Saturday, 25 July



3:00 pm



St Peter's Anglican Church,  
Gympie

*Please join us as we celebrate and dedicate this new space  
for the life and ministry of our parish and community.*

*Refreshments to follow.*

**THIS WEEK: Sun:** 7.30 am Tin Can Bay; 8.30 am & 5.30 pm Gympie; 9.30 am  
Rainbow Beach | **Mon** 9.30 am Mainly Music | **Tue:** 5.00 pm Meditation |  
**Wed:** 12.00 noon Service

**Sunday's 5.30 pm ZOOM Link:** Zoom information is the same each week

**Web address:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7246788483> Meeting ID: 724 678 8483

## Prayers for those in need

*Jim Alford; David Arthur; Azzrah; Nicholas Barrett; Doug Collins & Family;  
Pam Dorman; Jill, Holly & Alby; Joyce Gall; Allan Gall; Peter Gall; Glennys; Jenny;  
Lillian Lochel; Marquita; Marnie Richards; Shirley Summerville; Graham and Beris  
Trainer; Robyn Vagg; Melodie Zylstra.*

## How to contribute to our Church financially

**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..**

## CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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