

9th August 2026



Loving Lord Jesus, when life feels uncertain and the waves are high, help us to keep our eyes on you. Strengthen our faith, calm our fears, and guide us safely through every storm. Make us bearers of your hope and peace to others. Amen.

Weekly Pastoral Reflection

Storms come in many forms: illness, grief, financial pressure, family struggles, or uncertainty about the future. The disciples discovered that Jesus came to them in the darkest part of the night, walking over the very waves that frightened them. His first words were, "Take courage. It is I. Do not be afraid."

Like Peter, we may begin with courage but lose confidence when we focus on the wind instead of Christ. The good news is that even when our faith falters, Jesus never lets go. His hand is always stretched out to lift us up. This week, whatever challenges you face, remember that Christ is already present in the storm, calling you to trust him.

Sentence & Prayer of the Day

Sentence: And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to have mercy and walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Prayer of the Day: Loving God, on this Anglicare Sunday, we gather in gratitude for the work of Anglicare and its mission to serve the vulnerable and marginalized. We give thanks for the compassion and dedication of all involved in this ministry. Pour out your grace upon them, and grant them strength and wisdom as they bring healing, hope, and justice to those in need. Inspire us, as a community, to support and uplift Anglicare in their mission, that together we may be agents of transformation and compassion in our society. We pray in the name of the one who said 'Love your neighbour' Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen

Readings

First Reading from Genesis 37.1–4, 37.12–28

¹Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. ²This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. ¹²Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. ¹³And Israel said to Joseph, 'Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.' He answered, 'Here I am.' ¹⁴So he said to him, 'Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me.' So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, ¹⁵and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, 'What are you seeking?'

¹⁶‘I am seeking my brothers,’ he said; ‘tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock.’ ¹⁷The man said, ‘They have gone away, for I heard them say, “Let us go to Dothan.”’ So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. ¹⁸They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. ¹⁹They said to one another, ‘Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.’ ²¹But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, ‘Let us not take his life.’ ²²Reuben said to them, ‘Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him’—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. ²³So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; ²⁴and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. ²⁵Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶Then Judah said to his brothers, ‘What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.’ And his brothers agreed. ²⁸When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

Biblical background: Joseph, Jacob's beloved son, was deeply loved by his father, but hated by his brothers because of favouritism and Joseph's dreams. Their jealousy led them to sell him into slavery in Egypt. Although this seemed like tragedy, God later used it for the salvation of many people.

Meaning and relevance today: Jealousy, family conflict, and betrayal still wound relationships today. Yet God can bring hope and purpose even from painful experiences. God is able to turn what others intend for harm into opportunities for healing and blessing.

Reflection question: *How is God inviting me to trust him, even through disappointments or unfair treatment?*

Psalm 105.1–6, 16–22

¹ O give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name:
tell among the peoples what things he has done.

² **Sing to him, O sing praises:
and be telling of all his marvellous works.**

³ Exult in his holy name:
and let those that seek the Lord be joyful in heart.

⁴ **Seek the Lord and his strength:**

O seek his face continually.

⁵ Call to mind what wonders he has done:
his marvellous acts, and the judgements of his mouth,

⁶ **O seed of Abraham his servant:**

O children of Jacob his chosen one.

¹⁶ Then he called down a famine on the land:
and destroyed the bread that was their stay.

¹⁷ **But he had sent a man ahead of them:**

Joseph who was sold into slavery,

¹⁸ Whose feet they fastened with fetters:
and thrust his neck into a hoop of iron.

¹⁹ **Till the time that his words proved true:
he was tested by the Lord's command.**

²⁰ Then the king sent and loosed him:

the ruler of nations set him free;

²¹ **He made him master of his household:**

and ruler over all his possessions,

²² To rebuke his officers at will:

and to teach his counsellors wisdom.

Second Reading from Romans 10.4–15

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) ⁷or "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.' ¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

Hear the Word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD

Biblical background: St Paul explains that salvation comes through faith in Christ, not by trying to earn God's favour through the Law. Everyone who calls on the Lord will be saved, and believers are sent to proclaim this Good News.

Meaning and relevance today: The Gospel is for everyone without distinction. We are called not only to receive God's grace but also to share it through our words and actions.

Reflection question: *Who in my life needs to hear or experience the hope of Christ through me?*

The Holy Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 14.22-36

GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

²²Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' ²⁸Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' ²⁹He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.' ³⁴When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. ³⁵After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word throughout the region and brought all who were sick to him, ³⁶and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

For the Gospel of the Lord

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Biblical background: After feeding the five thousand, Jesus sends the disciples ahead by boat. During the storm, he walks on the water and invites Peter to come to him. Peter begins to sink when fear replaces faith, but Jesus reaches out and saves him.

Meaning and relevance today: Life brings storms, uncertainty, and fear. Jesus does not promise a storm-free life, but he promises his presence within the storm. Faith grows as we keep our eyes on Christ rather than on our fears.

Reflection question: *What storm am I facing today, and how can I place my trust more fully in Jesus?*

Prayers for those in need

Jim Alford; David Arthur; Azzrah; Nicholas Barrett; Anne Brown; Pam Dorman; Jill, Holly & Alby; Christian Ford; Joyce Gall; Allan Gall; Peter Gall; Glennys; Jenny; Lillian Lochel; Daniel Saunders; Shirley Summerville; Graham and Beris Trainer; Robyn Vagg; Melodie Zylstra.

News & Notices

MARY SUMMER DAY – RETIRING COLLECTION 9/8: Retiring Collection in support of Anglicare Youth Homeless Accommodation Service in Logan that is nearing completion. This \$14 million dollar development will provide 30 units for young people aged 16 – 25, who are experiencing homelessness. They comprise 24 studio apartments for individuals and six (6) one bedroom apartments for couples or young families.

ANGLICAN & CATHOLIC EVENING PRAYER AND GUEST SPEAKER

You are warmly invited to an Anglican & Catholic Evening Prayer at St Peter's Parish Centre on Monday, 24 August, commencing at 5.30 pm.

Following Evening Prayer, we are delighted to welcome Fr Adrian Farrelly as our guest speaker, who will offer a reflection on our shared Christian faith and journey.

The evening will conclude with wine and cheese, providing an opportunity for fellowship and conversation.

Donations of wine and cheese to assist with hospitality would be greatly appreciated.

PARISH PANTRY: Non-perishable food supplies needed for our community assistance pantry. Small packets of rice, noodles, soups; Tins of tuna, chicken, beef, soups, vegetables. Snack items: Muesli bars, chips, biscuits etc

BIBLE STUDY AT ST PETER'S: Starting Thursday, 3rd September 1-2 pm. All welcome

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

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 **Accnt Number:** 0000 5910

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

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Physical & Postal Address: 15 Amy St, Gympie 4570

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