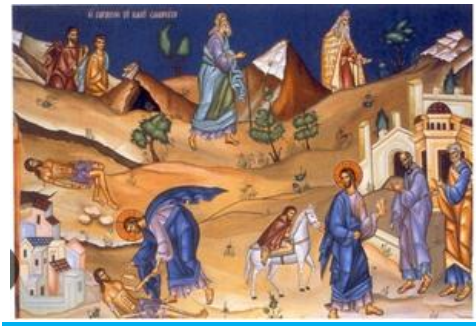
Anglican Church Gympie & Region

**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***



**8th November 2026**

*Loving God, keep our hearts burning with faith, compassion and hope amid the uncertainties of life. Help us to love generously, comfort those who grieve and serve our neighbours faithfully as we await Christ's coming. Amen.*

## Weekly Pastoral Reflection

Life is full of waiting: waiting for healing, answers to prayer, peace in our world, or change in difficult circumstances. In the parable of the ten bridesmaids, Jesus reminds us that what matters is not knowing when he will come, but being ready.
Faith grows through daily prayer, love, forgiveness and service. Even when we feel tired or discouraged, we can keep our lamps burning by welcoming someone who feels excluded, listening to someone who is lonely, or offering hope to someone who is struggling.
This week, let us live ready for Christ, not in fear, but in faith, love and hope. May our lives shine with his light wherever we go.

## Sentence & Prayer of the Day

**Sentence:** Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Matthew 24.42, 44

**Prayer of the Day:** Eternal God, you have taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand: keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom, so that when Christ, the bridegroom, comes we may go out joyfully to meet him, and with him enter into the marriage feast that you have prepared for all who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

## Readings

### First Reading from Joshua 24.1-3a; 24.14-25

[1]Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. [2]And Joshua said to all the people, 'Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. [3]Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac; [14]'Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. [15]Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose

land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.' [16]Then the people answered, 'Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; [17]for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; [18]and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.' [19]But Joshua said to the people, 'You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. [20]If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.' [21]And the people said to Joshua, 'No, we will serve the Lord!' [22]Then Joshua said to the people, 'You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.' And they said, 'We are witnesses.' [23]He said, 'Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.' [24]The people said to Joshua, 'The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.' [25]So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.
Hear the Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

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**Biblical Background**: Joshua calls the Israelites to remember God's faithfulness and renew their commitment to serve the Lord.
**Meaning and Relevance Today**: Faith requires us to choose God daily through our actions, values and relationships.
**Reflection Question:** *What choices in my life show that I am committed to serving God?*

### Psalm 78.1-7

1 Give heed to my teaching, O my people:
incline your ears to the words of my mouth;
**2 For I will open my mouth in a parable:**
**and expound the mysteries of former times.**
3 What we have heard and known:
what our forebears have told us,
**4 We will not hide from their children, but declare to a generation yet to come:**
**the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works.**
5 He established a law in Jacob and made a decree in Israel:
which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children,
**6 That future generations might know, and those yet unborn:**
**that they in turn might teach it to their children;**
7 So that they might put their confidence in God:
and not forget his works, but keep his commandments,

### Second Reading from 1 Thessalonians 4.9-18

[9]Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another; [10]and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more, [11]to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, [12]so that you may behave properly towards outsiders and

be dependent on no one. [13]But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14]For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15]For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16]For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17]Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. [18]Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Hear the Word of the Lord **THANKS BE TO GOD**

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**Biblical Background**: Paul encourages believers to grow in love and reassures them of the resurrection hope for those who die in Christ.

**Meaning and Relevance Today**: We are called to love one another and find comfort in God's promise of eternal life.

**Reflection Question**: *How can I bring love and hope to someone who is grieving or struggling?*

## The Holy Gospel

### The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 25.1-13

**GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST**

[1]'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2]Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3]When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; [4]but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." [7]Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. [8]The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." [9]But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." [10]And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. [11]Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." [12]But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." [13]Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

For the Gospel of the Lord **PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST**

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**Biblical Background**: Jesus tells the parable of the ten bridesmaids, teaching his disciples to remain prepared for his coming.

**Meaning and Relevance Today**: *We keep our faith alive through prayer, love and service, even when life brings uncertainty and delay.*

**Reflection Question**: *What can I do this week to keep the lamp of my faith burning?*

# News & Notices

**BAPTISMS**

**Holt Family:** We warmly welcome parents Jesse and Anita, along with Priya and baby Holly, to St Peter's. Holly will be baptised in the company of St Peter's congregation on **Sun, 15th Nov**. Priya is the granddaughter of Neil and Dana Wildey.

**Dale Family**: We are pleased to welcome the Dale family, Christopher, Jessica, Mollie with baby Millie back to St Peter's for Millie's baptism on **Sunday, 29th Nov.**

**GUEST PREACHER / COMBINED SERVICE / COOKED BREAKFAST**: On Sun, 29th Nov., at 8.30 am we will welcome to St Peter's, the Rev'd Kaye Pitman OAM to officiate and preach. Rev'd Kaye was one of six women ordained priest in 1992, the first time it was possible in Brisbane. She was a teacher, student, MOW member and the director of the deacon and priestly formation programs in Brisbane. We are delighted she will join us for the combined service, baptism and cooked breakfast following the Service. We welcome our all our congregations to join us for this last combined service for 2026.

**ANGLICAN & CATHOLIC EVENING PRAYER:** We've been invited to join St Pat's for evening prayer **Mon 30th Nov. at 5:30 pm in St Patrick's Church**. Wine and cheese will follow. Please add your name to the attendance list at the back of St Peter's or call Marissa at our office to RSVP.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT & SOCIAL EVENING**: Featuring Pitch-In Choir on Thursday, 10th Dec 6.30 pm to 7.30pm in St Peter's.

**MUSIC FOR ADVENT/CHRISTMAS**: Performed by CCO Strings, Sunday 15th December pm

**PARISH PANTRY:** Donations of non-perishable food supplies, such as: tinned soups, veggies, fish etc; Snack food; porridge; long life milk; packets of cereal; pasta; packet meals etc. Thank you for your continued donations of non-perishable food supplies for our community assistance pantry.

**THIS WEEK: Sun:** 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. | **Thurs**: 1 pm Bible Study.

**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

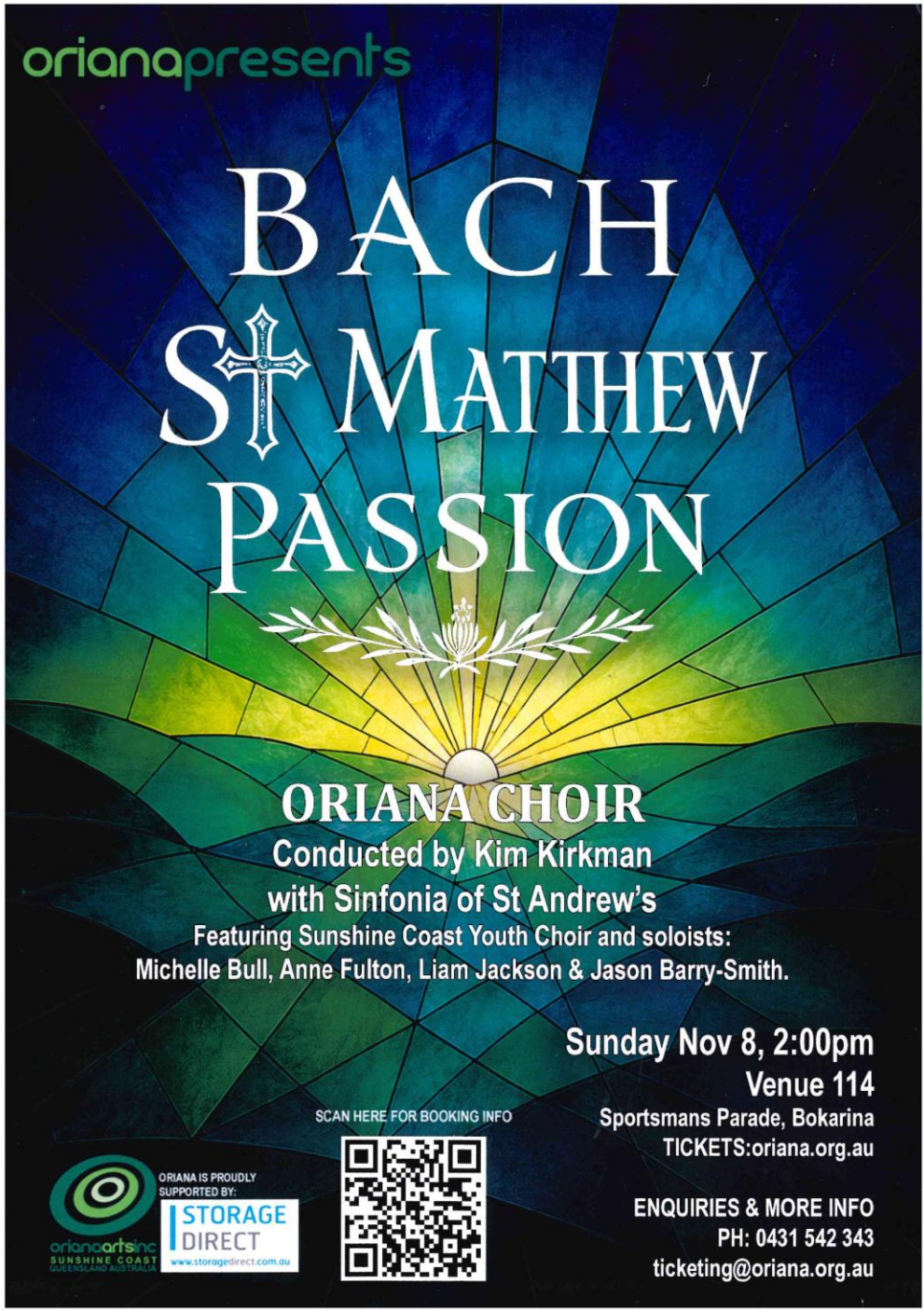
*Jim Alford; David Arthur; Azzrah; Nicholas Barrett; Pam Dorman; Jill, Holly & Alby; Christian Ford; Joyce Gall; Allan Gall; Peter Gall; Glennys; Daphne Horne's family; Jenny; Lillian Lochel; Val McClurg; Daniel Saunders; Shirley Summerville; Graham and Beris Trainer; Robyn Vagg; Melodie Zylstra.*

## 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* ***Accnt Number****: 0000 5910*
***Please use all the four zeros when entering the Accnt No****.*

*FLYERS FOLLOW*


orianapresents
BACH
ST MATTHEW
PASSION
ORIANA CHOIR
Conducted by Kim Kirkman
with Sinfonia of St Andrew's
Featuring Sunshine Coast Youth Choir and soloists:
Michelle Bull, Anne Fulton, Liam Jackson & Jason Barry-Smith.
Sunday Nov 8, 2:00pm
Venue 114
Sportsmans Parade, Bokarina
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ENQUIRIES & MORE INFO
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