

Liturgy of the Word—Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading:
Isaiah 11:1-10
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,
a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,
a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and power,
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)
He does not judge by appearances,
he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity,
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless;
his sentences bring death to the wicked.

Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,
faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb,
the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them.
The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together.
The lion eats straw like the ox.
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations
and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:
Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
R. Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails:
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **R.**

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,

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all nations bless his name. **R.**

Second Reading:
Romans 15:4-9
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:
Luke 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel:
Matthew 3:1-12
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



14 Church Street, Gympie

Ph: 07 5490 6880

Email: gympie@bne.catholic.net.au

2nd Sunday of Advent	Year A	7 December 2025
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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

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Inaugurating a New Humanity

John proclaimed that the reign of God was ‘at hand’ as he immersed and plunged followers into the waters of the Jordan River. (His nickname was John the Immerser, or ‘baptiser’ in the Greek.) He used flowing water to symbolise the washing away of the past for those who repented so that they could be totally focused on the ‘at hand’ person who would inaugurate God’s kingdom.

In this passage, John does not identify the ‘Someone’! But he realised that this ‘Someone’ would have divine power to affect the future by immersing, baptising, his followers with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

At this stage of Advent, we should be like John’s disciples, filled with a sense of anticipation, looking forward to the *coming towards us* (‘Advent’ in Latin) of the One who can flood our minds and bodies with the Holy Spirit and can immerse our hearts in Divine Fire.

We could pause for a moment to thank God that, even though we are unworthy to carry His sandals, there is One who is coming towards us wanting to transform us with Divine Power.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Wednesday 24th December 2025 Vigil

Thursday 25th December 2025

4:00pm St Peter the Fisherman – Rainbow Beach
6:30pm St Patrick’s – Gympie
Youth Play from 6:00pm

7:00am Sacred Heart Church – Kandanga
9:00am St Patrick’s – Gympie
Carols will be played 30 minutes prior to Mass.

No Mass 26th December 2025

Contact Information

Parish Priest: Fr Rafal Rucinski 0410 887 476	Parish Associate: Mr Tom Bushell
Parish Secretary: Mrs Brianna Bridges	
Youth Group Co-Ordinator: Mrs Elizabeth Taylor	
Safeguarding Officer: Mr Ian Laherty lsr.gympie@bne.catholic.net.au 0460 573 349	
Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30am to 1:00pm	
Parish Website: stpatsgympie.net.au	Facebook: St Patrick’s Catholic Parish Gympie

Finance Council: Ken Garner

Community Council: Maureen Rush

St Patrick’s School Details:

St Patrick’s College Mr Mark Newton 5482 0600
Website: <https://www.spcgympie.qld.edu.au>

St Patrick’s Primary Mrs Petrea Hass 5489 3200
Website: <https://www.stpatrickspsgympie.qld.edu.au>

St Vincent de Paul Family Assistance:

Phone: 5481 1525

Email: sp4570@svdpqld.org.au

We acknowledge the Gubbi Gubbi People, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship.

St Patrick's Mass Times this Week	
Monday:	7:30am
Tuesday:	9:00am
Thursday:	7:00am
Friday:	5:30pm
Sunday:	9:00am(Live-streamed) 5:30pm
Reconciliation: Friday 4:45pm or on request	

Liturgy Roster for 3rd Sunday of Advent
14 December 2025
9:00am Morning Mass

Welcomer: **Volunteer**
Reader 1: M Rush
Reader 2: Shania Shine
POF: Sister Di
Altar Servers: Amelia & Seb
Communion Ministers:
Bread: E Saunders, D Dillon, I Laherty
Wine: M Calvert, D Liedel, A Towner, L Newey
Power Point: C Binu
Piety Store: A Williams
Morning Tea: All Stars

5:30pm Evening Mass

Welcomer: E Shields
Reader 1: T Hallam
Reader 2: M Newton
POF: C Johnston
Communion Ministers: N Gruar, E Shields, B Doak
Power Point: A Hallam

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to Mass beginning.

The Deceased

Let us remember in our prayers those loved ones who have died recently, David Connors and Atonio Osing and those whose anniversaries fall around this time. May the faithful departed rejoice to see the face of their Saviour. Please write names in Remembrance book at the front door.



Country Church Mass Times 14/12/2025

Saturday
Sacred Heart Church – Kandanga 5:00pm

Sunday
St Therese Church – Gunalda 7:00am

Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

Saturday
St John Vianney – Tin Can Bay 5:00pm

Sunday
St Peter the Fisherman – Rainbow Beach 6:30am

3rd Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10
2nd Reading: James 5:7-10
Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Youth Group

If you are in year 6 to year 10 and are interested in joining in the free afternoon fun activities of our youth group on Friday afternoons please come along. Afternoon tea is provided.

12th December—No Youth Group
19th December 3:00pm till 5:00pm - Play Rehearsal

Christmas Party

Our Christmas party will be held on

Friday 19th December
after the 5:30pm Mass
Parish Centre.

Please join us to celebrate and bring a small dinner plate to share.

Lions International

Community Morning Tea. The second Thursday of the month from 10.00am to 11.30am at Senior Citizens Centre. \$5.00 includes morning tea and lucky door prize. Next months meeting will be held on **11 December 2025**.

Carparking

Please see a map of additional parking around the St Patrick's Church circled in **red**. We kindly ask that you leave the parking circled in the **blue** for those who require greater accessibility to the church. These parking areas are also available on our general Sunday masses as well.

Parish Office Closed

Brianna will also be taking holidays from the 15th December until the 12th January. Tom will be in the office on Tuesdays after 10:30am until 1:00pm and Thursdays from 8:30am until 1:00pm. If you require anything during this time.

The Parish Office will be closed for Christmas from the **24th December until the 5th January**. If an emergency during this time please call Fr Rafal on his mobile 0410 887 476.

Reconciliation Times

Monday 15th December 6:30am—7:30am
Tuesday 16th December 8:00am—9:00am
Thursday 18th December 7:30am—8:30am
5:30pm—6:30pm
Friday 15th December 4:30pm—5:30pm
Saturday 20th December 9:00am—10:00am
Monday 22nd December 6:30am—7:30am
5:30pm—6:30pm
Tuesday 23rd December 8:00am—9:00am

Christmas in Sacred Heart Church Kandanga

We would love for you to join us at the Sacred Heart Church in Kandanga on Christmas morning at 7:00am.

The Parishioners of Kandanga have put together a wonderful Christmas display in preparation for the Mass.

Please show your support around our country churches.



Country Church Locations

St Therese Church – Gunalda, Balkin Street, GUNALDA QLD 4570

Sacred Heart Church – Kandanga, 43-45 Stephen's Street, KANDANGA QLD 4570

St Peter the Fisherman Church – Rainbow Beach, Manooka Drive, RAINBOW BEACH QLD 4581

St John Vianney Church – Tin Can Bay, 22-24 Bream Street, TIN CAN BAY QLD 4580

St Vincent de Paul – Widgee, Cnr Gympie-Woolooga and Little Widgee Road, WIDGEE QLD 4570

What's happening	
Date	Event
11 December	Lions Morning Tea @ Senior Citizen Centre
15th December – 12th January	Brianna on Holidays
19th December	Christmas Party after the 5:30pm Mass in the Parish Centre. Bring a small dinner plate to share.
24th December – 5th January	Parish Office Closed
24th December	Mass – Rainbow Beach 4:00pm Mass – Gympie 6:30pm Youth Play – Gympie 6:00pm
25th December	Mass – Kandanga 7:00pm Mass – Gympie 9:00am
26th December	Fr Rafal Away – No MASS
28th December	BBQ after morning Mass in the Parish Centre – Fr Rafal's Birthday

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

This Christmas, St. Vincent de Paul will again be preparing both grocery & toy hampers for all those doing it tough. All donations to help with this much needed project will be very much appreciated. Donations of non perishable food, Christmas treats such as shortbread, nuts, candy canes, cans of soft drinks & toiletries such as soap & toothpaste would all be very handy. All donations can be placed in the baskets at the Church doors up to & including **Sunday 14th December**.

If you would prefer to give a monetary donation, envelopes are available from the table at the front door. Alternatively, you can make a direct deposit into our bank account:

Account - SVDP St. Patrick's
BSB - 064 786
Account No. - 100027023

Merry Christmas & May God Bless.
SVDP Gympie.

