

First Reading:
Isaiah 7:10-14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:
'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Emmanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:
Ps 23:1-6

R. Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. *R.*

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. *R.*

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. *R.*

Second Reading:
Romans 1:1-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called
to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good
News that God promised long ago through his prophets
in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the
human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is
about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the
spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was
proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his
resurrection from the dead. Through him we received
grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience
of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You
are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus
Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome,
called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:
Matthew 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

Gospel:
Matthew 1:18-24

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother
Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to
live together she was found to be with child through the
Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour
and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce
her informally. He had made up his mind to do this
when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream,
and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take
Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what
is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son
and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who
is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took
place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the
prophet:
The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,
a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph
woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him
to do: he took his wife to his home.

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

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14 Church Street, Gympie

St Patrick's Parish

Gympie and Surrounds

Embracing the communities of Gunalda, Gympie, Kandanga,
Rainbow Beach, Tin Can Bay & Widgee

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4th Sunday of Advent

Year A

21 December 2025

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

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Just Man Dreaming

Joseph could not ignore Mary's pregnancy, but he had an exceptional large-heartedness, so that he preserved a future for Mary even though she had apparently wronged him.

If he had gone to sleep in a frame of mind to avenge his honour, he would not have been ready to have the deepest levels of his consciousness stirred in the way God wanted. In the deep sleep of a just and good man, Joseph was enlightened as to the divine dimension of Mary's pregnancy. The old cycle of human history, literally generation after generation, was being broken. Something utterly new had happened.

You and I are just as likely to receive an intuition as to God's plan for us in the depths of sleep: who we really are, who we are destined to be, where we fit in to God's plan for transforming the whole of creation. When we get these instructive moments in our sleep, what can we do when we wake up? We can do what Joseph did: get up and do what is needed to fulfil the message.

We could pause for a moment to thank Joseph for showing what dreams can be made of. Tonight might be the night!

Christmas Mass Schedule

Wednesday 24th December 2025 Vigil

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

Thursday 25th December 2025

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 Secretary: Mrs Brianna Bridges

Parish Associate: Mr Tom Bushell

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
Wednesday:	6:30pm youth play from 6:00pm
Thursday:	9:00am
Friday:	NO MASS
Sunday:	9:00am(Live-streamed) 5:30pm

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to Mass beginning.

Liturgy Roster for The Nativity of the Lord

24 December 2025—6:30pm

Welcomer: E Saunders

Reader 1: T Hallam

Reader 2: A Goldie

POF: M Newton

Altar Servers: Jakson, Chris, Christy, Chrisetta, Christes, Alvina, Amelia, Seb, Anna

Communion Ministers:

Host: A Towner, E Shields, B Doak, L Newey

Chalice: E Saunders, M Calvert, N Gambling, I Laherty

Power Point: A Jomy & N Gruar

25 December 2025—9:00am

Welcomer: E Saunders

Reader 1: C Cash

Reader 2: M Travers

POF: N Gambling

Altar Servers: Jakson, Alvina, Chris, Christy, Chrisetta, Christes

Communion Ministers:

Bread: A Towner, L Newey, D Liedel, C Johnston

Wine: E Saunders, M Green, Volunteer x 2

Power Point: A Jomy

The Nativity of the Lord Readings

24 December 2025—6:30pm

1st Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

2nd Reading: Titus 2:10-11

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14

25 December 2025—9:00am

1st Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

2nd Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6

Gospel: John 1:1-18

Fr Rafal and the Staff are wishing you a Christmas filled with the peace and love of Christ. May His grace be with you throughout the new year.

Country Church Mass Times 28/12/2025	
Saturday	St John Vianney—Tin Can Bay 5:00pm
Sunday	St Peter the Fisherman—Rainbow Beach 6:30pm
Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion	
Sunday	St Therese Church—Gunalda 7:00am

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to Mass beginning.

Liturgy Roster for The Holy Family

28 December 2025

9:00am Morning Mass

Welcomer: D Liedel

Reader 1: C Cash

Reader 2: N Gambling

POF: B Lipke

Altar Servers: Jakson, Anna, B Manning

Communion Ministers:

Bread: L Newey, E Saunders, M Calvert

Wine: M Green, J Babu, I Laherty, D Liedel

Power Point: A Jomy

Piety Store: N Carmichael

Morning Tea: Hilltop Ramblers

5:30pm Evening Mass

Welcomer: J O'Shea

Reader 1: M Norris

Reader 2: T Tierney

POF: M Newton

Communion Ministers: J O'Shea, E Shields, B Doak

Power Point: N Gruar

The Holy Family Readings

1st Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

2nd Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

BBQ Party

Please join us for a BBQ in the Parish Centre after the 9:00am Mass on the 28th December for Fr Rafal's Birthday.



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 22nd December 6:30am—7:30am
5:30pm—6:30pm

Tuesday 23rd December 8:00am—9:00am

Safeguarding

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding>

Information can be provided to STOPline anonymously. Phone: 1300 304 550 Email: AOB@stopline.com.au Online: bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com



The Deceased

Let us remember in our prayers those loved ones who have died recently 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 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
15th December – 12th January	Brianna on Holidays
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 7:00am 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
3rd January	Mass and Anointing 9:00am St Patrick's Church

Youth Group Play

Our Youth Play will be performed at the Christmas Eve Mass on the 24th December 6:00pm start. Please arrive 30 minutes prior for a quick run through the play starts at 6pm sharp.

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.

Hearing Loop in St Pat's

For anyone using hearing aids you will need to turn your hearing loop to T. The hearing loop is situated in the middle of the Church. If you are unable to hear can you please inform Fr Rafal or let the parish office know.