

[**Liturgy of the Word—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**](#)

First Reading:
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus
Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy; with children of his own,

he shall be heard on the day when he prays.

Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life.

Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:
Ps 127:1-5

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat.

You will be happy and prosper. R.

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. R.

Indeed thus shall be blessed

the man who fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life! R.

Second Reading:
Colossians 3:12-21

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
Concerning the Christian life in the world.

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is

for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:
Colossians 3:15, 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: I called my son out of Egypt.

After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead'. So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled: He will be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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14 Church Street, Gympie

The Holy Family Jesus, Mary & Joseph

St Patrick's Parish

Gympie and Surrounds

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

Ph: 07 5490 6880

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Year A

28 December 2025

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REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant

All of the major themes found in today's readings highlight the relational character of family life. In Sirach some of the dynamics of family living and responsibility as exercised in the ancient world unfold before our eyes. The rewards of faithfully observing these family codes are showcased in the responsorial Psalm. Paul directs our attention to the manner of relational living to which we are summoned as members of the family of God, a manner of living that flows from the bond of perfection that unites us. The gospel narrative paints a picture of a family that follows the directives of God.



So much has been said recently about family values. But what exactly are they? The specifics of family customs and roles played within the family may be culture-bound, but it seems that the values out of which they emerge and that inform them are not. They include mutuality, respect and service between wives and husbands, between parents and children, and between the young and the old.

Mutuality, respect and service become characteristics of the Church or the ecclesial family as well. What binds the family of God together are virtues that are as relational as are the ties that bind the members of the natural family together. It may be more challenging to live out these values within the church, for those who are called to put on Christ, bearing with one another in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience must relate in this way with people who may be strangers.

Contact Information

Parish Priest: Fr Rafal Rucinski 0410 887 476

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

Finance Council: Ken Garner

St Patrick's School Details:

St Patrick's College Mr Mark Newton 5482 0600

Website: <https://www.spcgympie.qld.edu.au>

St Vincent de Paul Family Assistance:

Phone: 5481 1525

Parish Associate: Mr Tom Bushell

Facebook: St Patrick's Catholic Parish Gympie

Community Council: Maureen Rush

St Patrick's Primary Mrs Petrea Hass 5489 3200

Website: <https://www.stpatrickspsgympie.qld.edu.au>

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 every Friday from 4:45pm
or by appointment

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to Mass beginning.

Liturgy Roster for The Epiphany of the Lord **04 January 2026** **9:00am Morning Mass**

Welcomer: E Saunders
Reader 1: Shania Shine
Reader 2: F Skinner
POF: P Callaghan
Altar Servers: Alvina, Sherlyn, Christy
Communion Ministers:
Host: A Towner, L Newey, E Saunders
Chalice: M Green, J Babu, D Dillon, I Laherty
Power Point: A Jomy
Piety Store: M Rush
Morning Tea: Hollow Log

5:30pm Evening Mass

Welcomer: A Osborn
Reader 1: N Gruar
Reader 2: A Goldie
POF: **Volunteer**
Communion Ministers: E Shields, B Doak, C Johnston
Power Point: T Hallam

The Epiphany of the Lord Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Safeguarding

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

Information can be provided to STOPline anonymously.

Phone: [1300 304 550](tel:1300304550) Email: AOB@stopline.com.au
Online: bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

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.

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 Mass Times 04/01/2026

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

Support of the Gympie Parish

Thank you for your continued financial support of the Gympie Parish it is greatly appreciated and much needed. If you would like to support the Parish financially please see the ways below.

Direct Debit:

Account Name: St Patrick's Parish

BSB: 064 786

Account Number: 1000 17636

Reference: Name/collections

EFTPOS: We have an EFTPOS machine at the back of the church just tap and go.



Parish Giving App: Please click on the QR code and follow the instructions to make a payment

Envelopes: If you wish to use envelopes please contact the parish office to arrange a box then place on the collection plate on either collections.

Cash: If you would like to use cash please place on the collection plate on either of the collections

Containers for Change: Simply return your containers to any of the containers for change refund points and quote our number **C11306796**. Donations will be used for the Youth Group Activities.



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 **12 February 2026**

Flocknote

Want to receive our newsletters online or stay up to date with information from the Parish? Sign up to our Flocknote. By signing up and filling in your details you are also updating the Parish Office with your current telephone numbers and addresses.



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**.

Chalking the door The Epiphany House Blessing

"Chalking the door" is a centuries old custom in which Christians gather on the feast of the Epiphany to ask God's blessing on their home. A traditional way of doing this is to take a piece of blessed chalk and inscribe above the entrance door to the home.

20 + C + M + B + 26

The "20" and "26" refer to the actual year. The "+" between the letters Symbolizes the cross of Christ. The "C M B" initials have two meanings:

1. The initials represent the three Magi: Casper, Melchior and Balthazar.
2. Also, the initials abbreviate the Latin "Christus mansionem benedict" (May Christ bless this house).

DINNER WITH FR RAFAL

If you would like to grab a bite to eat with Fr Rafal to get to know him please feel free to see him or give him a call on his mobile 0410 887 476.

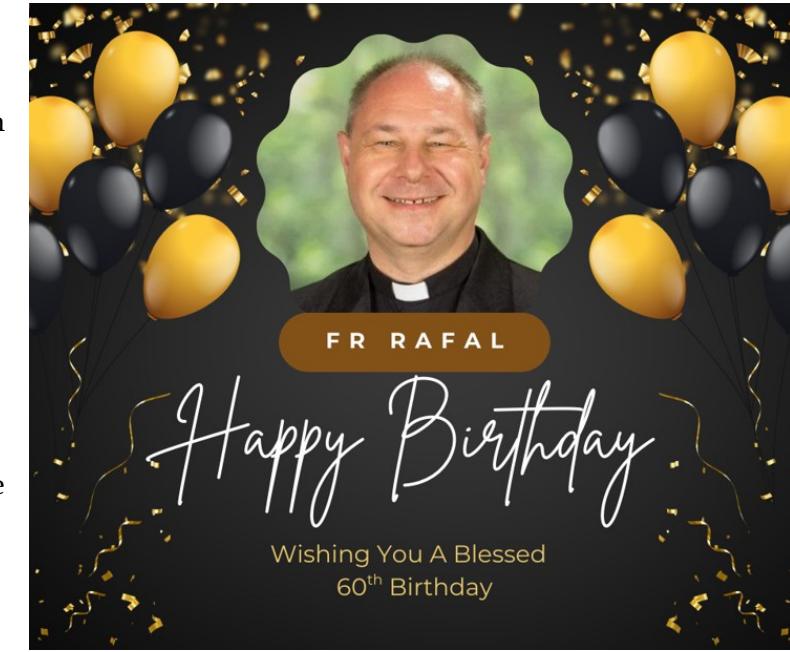


Men's Afternoon

The men's social gathering takes place on the 4th Thursday of every month from 12.30 pm - 2.30 pm in the Parish Centre. All welcome to come along for a chat, a beer, a coffee, a few jokes and a quiz. Next month's gathering will be on **Thursday, 22 January 2026**.

What's happening

Date	Event
15th December – 12th January	Brianna on Holidays
26th January	Australia Day Parish Office Closed
27th January	Public Schools Return
28th January	St Patrick's Schools return



A vocation view:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph – A/2

Families are where kindness, humility, patience, and thanksgiving are lived and celebrated. People cannot truly teach these qualities unless they have experienced them.

Scan the QR code
to find out more, or call 1300 133 544
www.vocationbrisbane.com



Sacristans Required

Fr Rafal is looking for Sacristans that can come and help open, close and setup the church on days that we have Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms etc. You may be required to assist during the week as well. If you can assist please see Fr Rafal or contact the Parish Office. Fr Rafal will train you in what you are required to know and Brianna can assist you with obtaining all the correct documents for safeguarding.

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