

First Reading:

Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth
and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises
and above you his glory appears.
The nations come to your light
and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:
all are assembling and coming towards you,
your sons from far away
and daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,
your heart throbbing and full;
since the riches of the sea will flow to you;
the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you,
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
everyone in Sheba will come,
bringing gold and incense
and singing the praise of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:
Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.
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.**

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. **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.**

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Second Reading:
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
*The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance,
that they are parts of the same body.*

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God
with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation
that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery
that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy
apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past
generations; it means that pagans now share the same
inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and the same
promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the
gospel.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:
Matthew 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel:
Matthew 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the
reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from
the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We
saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When
King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole
of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the
scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ
was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this
is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He
asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and
sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the
child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so
that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what
the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them
was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted
over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled
them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child
with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him
homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts
of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in
a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own
country by a different way.

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



14 Church Street, Gympie

The Epiphany of the Lord

St Patrick's Parish

Gympie and Surrounds

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

Ph: 07 5490 6880

Email: gympie@bne.catholic.net.au

4 January 2026

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

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Stars and Seekers after Truth

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our
newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers,
probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars
controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were
open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the
amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem.

They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they
realised that the stars did not control *this* infant, but that
there was something of this baby which caused the
night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the
deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to
their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a
different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men
from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at
work in every human being, prompting each and every
one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead
a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the
Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God.
Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard
the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not
savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege
of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is

possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to
the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in
the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love
which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us
adore him.

The Epiphany House Blessing Prayer

Let us pray. God of mercy, fill our home with the
light and love of Christ that it may be a place of
hospitality and welcome. May Christ be our shel-
ter when we are at home, our companion when we
are away, and our welcome guest when we return.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.



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 Baptism of the Lord

11 January 2026

9:00am Morning Mass

Welcomer: P Tobin

Reader 1: M Ryan

Reader 2: S Vale

POF: I Laherty

Altar Servers: Amelia & Seb

Communion Ministers:

Bread: D Liedel, M Calvert, D Dillon

Wine: I Laherty, J Babu, A Towner, L Newey

Power Point: J Newey

Piety Store: Y McCarthy

Morning Tea: All Stars

5:30pm Evening Mass

Welcomer: T McFarlane

Reader 1: T Hallam

Reader 2: C Johnston

POF: T Tierney

Communion Ministers: E Shields, B Doak, N Gruar

Power Point: A Hallam

The Baptism of the Lord Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7

2nd Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

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: brisbanecatholic.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.



Facebook

You can also stay up to date with any notices from the Parish by visiting our and Liking our Facebook Page **St Patrick's Catholic Parish Gympie**.

Country Church Mass Times 11/01/2026

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 6:30pm

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.

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.

If an emergency during this time please call Fr Rafal on his mobile 0410 887 476.

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).

Please take a piece of blessed chalk.

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.

DINNER WITH FR RAFAL

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

What's happening

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
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

Piety Store

Our piety store is open on Sunday Mornings before and after Mass and occasionally on some Sunday Evenings at Mass. Come and have a look there are lots of little trinkets, rosary beads and pray cards. Chasing something in particular. Just ask we would be more than happy to look and see if we can source the product you are looking for.



A Message from the Regional Tribunal

Are you divorced and would like to be married in the Church? The Regional Tribunal assists people in this situation, and in many cases people can be declared free to marry in the Church. For more information please call the Tribunal on 3324 3033 or email tribbris@bne.catholic.net.au

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 **12th February 2026**



A vocation view:

Epiphany of the Lord - A

More valuable than material gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh is the invaluable gift of our lives. There is no greater gift than to lay down one's life for one's friends.

Scan the QR code

to find out more, or call 1300 133 544
www.vocationbrisbane.com



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