

## Liturgy of the Word—The Epiphany of the Lord Readings

### 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.**

### 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

# 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](mailto:gympie@bne.catholic.net.au)

## The Epiphany of the Lord

## Year A

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.

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.

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

## 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](mailto: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](http://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>

Email: [sp4570@svdpqld.org.au](mailto:sp4570@svdpqld.org.au)

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*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 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 Guar  
**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** Email: [AOB@stopline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stopline.com.au)

Online: [bncatholic.stoplinereport.com](http://bncatholic.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 11/01/2026

**Saturday**

Sacred Heart Church – Kandanga 5:00pm

**Sunday**

St Therese Church – Gungalda 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.



### 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**.

### 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 Symbolises 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.

### Country Church Locations

**St Therese Church – Gungalda**, 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
26th January	Australia Day Parish Office Closed
27th January 28th January	Public Schools Return 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](mailto: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](http://www.vocationbrisbane.com)

