



St Patrick's Parish

Gympie and Surrounds

14 Church Street, GYMPIE

Ph: 07 5490 6880

Email: gympie@bne.catholic.net.au

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

2 August 2026

REFLECTION Liturgia

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In today's gospel episode, Matthew 14:13-21, having heard of the death of John the Baptist, Jesus withdraws to a lonely place by himself – but the Jerusalem Bible used in our current Lectionary renders that final element as “where they could be by themselves”, indicating his disciples. The crowds anticipate his movement and reach the place ahead of him, but Jesus is moved to compassion on seeing them. Earlier, in 9:36, he had similarly been moved to compassion, the crowd seeming to him to be “harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd”, prompting him to commission the twelve and send them out as labourers in the harvest; teaching of the twelve in training for the mission is attached, and it is followed by the first mention of John the Baptist being in prison (11:2). This time, following the news of John's death and being moved to compassion again by sight of the crowd, Jesus heals their sick. As evening falls the disciples appear, suggesting he dismiss the crowds to find their own food; there then unfolds the first of Matthew's two accounts of feeding multitudes, usually referred to as the multiplication of loaves and fishes. Jesus being moved to compassion also precedes the second account of a feeding (15:32-39). These narrative links enable the formation of a single, integrated account: Jesus is moved to compassion, then heals, teaches and feeds. Ancient authors and preachers from at least the time of Origen noticed this. Origen interprets the feeding accounts as primarily being about Jesus teaching, opening the Scriptures (the Law) in a new and satisfying way; to be taught by Jesus is to be fed on the Word of God (a point John's gospel makes emphatically).

Ancient homilists dealing with these accounts also stressed the hands, observing that Jesus breaks the loaves but gives them to the disciples to give to the crowds, for how could one alone distribute to so many? Those preachers deduced that the bread multiplied in the disciples' hands (including the hands of Judas Iscariot!). In Origen's interpretation, the disciples were being trained and commissioned by Jesus to teach others. This influenced a particular theology of ministry: the teaching or feeding movement begins with Jesus, unfolds in the hands of the apostles, and continues through the ordained ministry both in teaching or preaching and in presiding at the Eucharist.

Christ' mission is entrusted to the whole Church, composed of all its members. Since the Eucharist is the summit and source, not the be-all and end-all, of Christian life, it is the high point of our lives as the sacramental celebration of Christ's self-offering and our self-giving in return, and also the nourishment that provides us the strength to go forth and do the same in our daily lives. The feeding accounts depict the Church, receiving from Christ and with him being moved by compassion to teach the shepherd-less, to heal the broken, and to feed the hungry.

St Patrick's Mass Times this week

Monday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 9:00am
Thursday: 7:00am
Friday: 5:30pm Reconciliation from 4:45pm
Saturday: 9:00am
Sunday: 9:00am (Livestreamed)
5:30pm

Country Church Mass Times 9/08/2026

Saturday

Sacred Heart – Kandanga – 5:00pm

Sunday

St Therese – 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

Parish Contact Information

Parish Priest

Fr Rafal Rucinski

0410 887 476

rucinski@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary

Mrs Brianna Bridges

Parish Associate

Mr Tom Bushell

Safeguarding Officer

Mr Ian Laherty

Lsr.gympie@bne.catholic.net.au

0460 573 349

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00am to 1:30pm

Parish Phone Number

07 5490 6880

Parish Website

Stpatrympie.net.au

Facebook

St Patrick's Catholic Parish
Gympie

Finance Council

Ken Garner

Community Council

Maureen Rush

St Vincent de Paul

Family Assistance

Ph: 5481 1525

Email:

sp4570@svdpqld.org.au

St Patrick's College

Principal: Mr Tony Hytch

Phone: 5482 0600

Website:

www.spcgympie.qld.edu.au

St Patrick's Primary

Principal: Mrs Petrea Hass

Phone: 5489 3200

Website:

www.stpatrickspsgympie.qld.edu.au



St Patrick's Parish
Gympie and Surrounds

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING GYMPIE PARISH

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



Cash: If you prefer to use cash please place on the collections plate.

Direct Debit: 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

Envelopes: If you wish to use envelopes, please contact the parish office.

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

Hearing Loop in St Pats

For anyone using hearing aids please turn your hearing loop to T. The hearing loop is situated in the middle of the church.

Safeguarding

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding>
Information can be provided at STOpline anonymously.

Ph: 1300 304 550

email: A0B@stopline.com.au

Online: bncatholic.stoplinereport.com

A Vocation View

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -
(National Vocation Awareness Week)**

When we give the Lord what we have, no matter how meagre, He will multiply it beyond belief. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, how might you offer the bread and fish of your life for Jesus to transform and multiply?



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 phone numbers and addresses.



Facebook

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

What's Happening

Date	Event
8 th August	9:00am Mass - St Mary Mackillop
8 th August	Fr Adrian 53 rd Ordination Anniversary - Cake, Tea & Coffee after morning Mass
13 th August	No Mass
15 th August	9:00am Mass - Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary
19 th August	Mass 5:30pm Reconciliation 4:45pm
21 st August	No Mass
27 th August	Confirmation Celebration
31 st August	Fr Rafal back



August Mass Changes

Please note the following changes to the Mass schedule during August:

- **Saturday 8 August - 9:00am Mass**
- **Saturday 15 August - 9:00am Mass**
- **Thursday 13 August - No Mass**
- **Wednesday 19 August - Mass at 5:30 pm with Reconciliation from 4:45 pm**
- **Friday 21 August - No Mass**

In God's Care

Let us remember in our prayers those who have died recently, Dawn Langton, William Cousins and those whose anniversaries fall around this time, Margot Goldberg, Mell Codde and Daniel Laherty. May the faithful departed rejoice to see the face of their Saviour.

Musician Wanted for Parish Choir

Our parish choir is seeking a talented pianist, guitarist or multi-instrumentalist to accompany Catholic hymns and sacred music during liturgical worships on Sunday Masses. If you play the piano, guitar or other suitable instruments and would like to share your musical gifts in the service of God and our parish community, please contact Frances Skinner on 0431 286 796.

Psalm 96:1 - "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth."

Liturgy Roster
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8 August 2026
9:00am Morning Mass

Welcomer: P Daunt

Reader 1: J Van Der Lugt

Reader 2: Seb Calvert

POF: A Gur

Altar Servers: J Newey, J Anoop, B Manning

Communion Ministers:

1. I Laherty, 2. A Cambridge, 3 C Cash, 4. D Liedel

6. L Newey, 7. I Rodrigues, 8. A Towner

PowerPoint: A Jomy

Piety Store: K Taylor

Morning Tea: Hilltop Ramblers

5:30pm Evening Mass

Welcomer: E Shields

Reader 1: P Hass

Reader 2: T Tierney

POF: N Gruar

Communion Minister: K Murray, B Doak, C Johnston

PowerPoint: A Hallam

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Readings

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Children's Choir - Expressions of Interest

We are excited to begin a **Children's Choir** at our parish! We warmly invite children who enjoy singing and would like to share their gifts in the celebration of Mass to become involved. The choir will provide a wonderful opportunity for children to grow in confidence, make new friends, and actively participate in the life of our parish through music. If your child is interested in joining, or if you would like to find out more, please contact the parish office. We look forward to welcoming our young singers and sharing this exciting new ministry with our parish community.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



As the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** falls on **Saturday 15th August** we will celebrate this Holy Day with **Mass at 9:00am**. All parishioners are warmly invited to join us as we honour Our Blessed Mother on this special feast day.

Confirmation Meeting Dates
Children aged **9 years and over (year 3)** are warmly invited to begin preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

2nd August 2026 – First Meeting
9th August 2026 – Second Meeting
16th August 2026 – Third Meeting
23rd August 2026 – Rehearsal
27th August 2026 – Celebration of Confirmation

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our Winter Appeal thus far. We have been overwhelmed by the donations of women's clothing & now have plenty to distribute. Our Centre at 2 John St. will happily accept donations. Please know that the money raised by the shops goes to the Conferences so that they may continue their good works. Still required by Family Assistance are the following items:

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING MEN'S CLOTHING
TOWELS & BATHMATS *Urgent
TINNED SOUP *Urgent

These items may be left in the baskets in the church. No Summer clothing please!! If you would prefer to make a money donation please use the following details or envelopes can be found on the table at the back of the church.

Account Name: SVDP St. Patrick's
BSB: 064 786 **Account Number:** 100027023

Solemnity of St Mary MacKillop & Fr Adrian's 53rd Anniversary

Please join us for Mass on **Saturday, 8th August at 9:00am** as we celebrate the **Solemnity of St Mary MacKillop**.

Following Mass, everyone is warmly invited to the Parish Centre for **cake, tea and coffee** as we also celebrate **Fr Adrian's 53rd anniversary of priestly ordination**. We look forward to celebrating these special occasions together as a parish community.



Country Churches

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

First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;

though you have no money, come!

Buy corn without money, and eat,

and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread,

your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me;

listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:8-9, 15-18

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us:

he answers all our needs.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. R.

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.

You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. R.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.

He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. R.

Second Reading

Romans 8:35, 37-39

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if
we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking
food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These
are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him
who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no
prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any
power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever
come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ
Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone,

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 14:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They all ate and were satisfied.

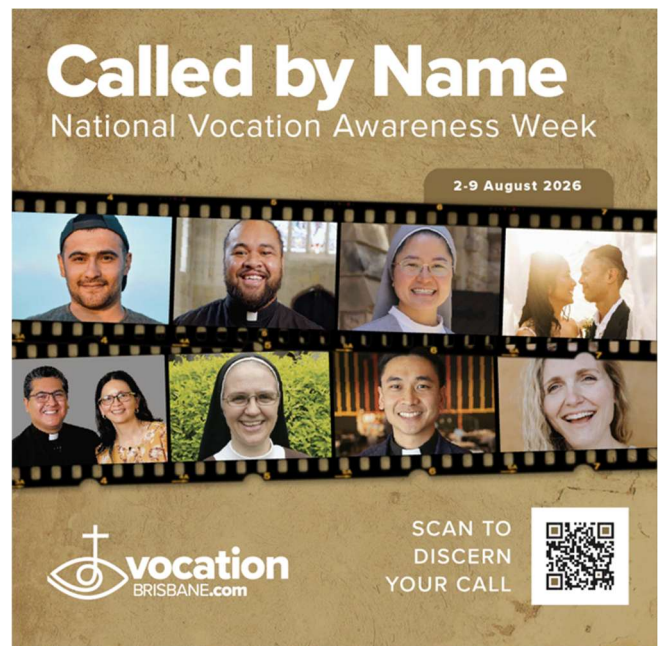
When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he
withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by
themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the
towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw
a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This
is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the
people away, and they can go to the villages to buy
themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for
them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they
answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.'
'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the
people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five
loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the
blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his
disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much
as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining,
twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five
thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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