



GLADSTONE
ANGLICAN CHURCH

TODAY'S NEWS



THE BEACON

WELCOME

We live in a world full of contradictions - where people are expected to be flawless, but also vulnerable; competent, but not arrogant; self-sufficient, but not selfish. Chasing this view of humanity is both exhausting and impossible. We set ourselves (and others) up with unrelenting expectations, but then have little patience or compassion when we fail.

God's economy sees us in a totally different light. In the beginning, God created humanity in his sight, as '*imago dei*', or God's image bearers. We have value and dignity simply in our existence. Through humanity's sin, we have broken this relationship with God, and become broken people. We are fragile vessels, like jars of clay (2 Corinthians 4:7). If you're not familiar with a jar of clay, it's ancient equivalent of a paper cup filled with hot liquid! Thankfully, God does not look at these fragile vessels with disdain. He sees us as worthy of being restored and made whole again in his sight - through Christ. We have flaws, but we also have worth.

On Saturday 29 August, the Diocesan Women's Conference will explore the theme of 'Restored', as Jesus meets with the Samaritan woman in John 4. All women are welcome (RSVP online). Please pray that it would be a time of encouragement and restoration in God's image.

Every blessing,
Rev. Zoë Browne

OUR TEAM

Priests in Charge

David Browne (**days off Thurs+Sat**)

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Zoë Browne (**days off Fri+Sat**)

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Parish Office

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Wardens

Annslie Stovell

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Parish Council

E: parish_council@apog.org.au

meets 4th Tuesday every month

Jann Bishop, Peter Bush, Annick Coralie,
Rob Farnsworth, Bob Fortier, Jenny Hinde,
Rod Kamholtz, Kerry Rose, Michael
Whitehead

Safe Ministry

Brad Krebs

M: 0488 039 238

Pastoral Care

Liz Unwin

M: 0409 503 016

Rosters and Serving

St Saviour's

Julie Withoos

St Peter's

Rod Kamholtz

This N That Shop / Soup Kitchen

Rev. Zoë and Rev. David

PRAYERS

Anglican Communion

- Diocese of Newcastle - +Peter Stuart
- Popondota, PNG - Tufi archdeaconry

CQ Diocese

- St Luke's Emerald - Rev. David Piper & Joanne, locum Rev. Daniel Avenell

BCA

- Mary & Owen Lewis, Kangaroo Island
- Our partner churches looking for new ministers - Dalby, Noosa, Coffs Harbour, East Tassie

Our Community

- local, state and federal government councillors, MPs and staff
- Emergency services personnel

Our Parish

- Margaret B, Iris B, Ian C, Jeanie E, Tom F, Sr Lynette, Clare H, Sheileagh J, Elwyna K, Edna K, Kevin M, Naomi, Shane R, Merrill R, Noel S, Edna S, Ann S, Spencer T, Fiona V, Julia W.

SENTENCE

Thus says the Lord, 'Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.'

(Isaiah 56:1)

COLLECT

God of freedom, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

To know Christ and make Him known

SERMON

Written on our Hearts

Romans 2:17-3:8

READINGS

THIS WEEK: 16 August

OT: Isaiah 56:1; 6-8

Psalm: 67

NT: Romans 2:17-3:8

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

NEXT WEEK: 23 August

OT: Isaiah 51:1-6

Psalm: 138

NT: Romans 3:9-20

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

To know Christ and make Him known

EVERY WEEK

Services

St Saviour's Gladstone, 70 Auckland St

8:00am Sunday

9:00am Wednesday

St Peter's Clinton, 50 J Hickey Ave

9:30am Sunday

with Kids' Church

Union Church Calliope, 28 Stirrat St

4:00pm 1st Sunday *monthly*

Combined Service

last Sunday of every month

Bible Studies

Bible Study @ St Peter's

7:30-9:00pm Wednesday

Ladies' Bible Study @ St Peter's

9:30-11:00am Thursday

Men's Bible Study @ St Saviour's

9:00-10:30am Friday

Outreach Ministries

This N That Shop, 4/25 Tank St

9:00am-4:00pm Monday-Friday

Ray's Soup Kitchen @ St Saviour's

6:00-7:00pm Monday

Play Group @ St Peter's (term time)

9:00-11:00am Monday

Craft Group @ St Peter's

9:00-11:00am Tuesday

Girls' Brigade @ St Saviour's (term time)

5:30-7:30pm Tuesday

Shed Sale @ St Peter's

last Saturday of month (Feb-Nov)

Next Shed Sale: 29 August

Men's Breakfast @ St Saviour's

7:00-9:00am 2nd Saturday even months

Next Breakfast: 10 October

ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Joy Skaines, Connie Fredericks

Weddings

Rohan & Pippa Slater

In Remembrance

Val St Pierre

NEWS & NOTICES

Congratulations to the Delpeche family on the safe arrival of baby Sophie!

Ladies' Dinner @ St Saviour's

Thursday 20 August from 6-8pm. Please RSVP by 17 August and bring food to share.

Rockhampton Women's Conference

Saturday 29 August @ St Paul's Cathedral. RSVP online. See Zoë for more info.

'Buy-A-Square' for Carpets @ St Peter's

New carpets to be installed September holidays. Donations to cover one-off cost appreciated. \$20 per square, or \$60 per square metre. Donate online or via envelope with reference 'Carpets'.

GIVING

Please prayerfully consider how to give to the life and work of our church.

To give via Internet banking:

BSB: 014-580

A/C: 386917064

A/C Name: Anglican Parish of Gladstone

Ref: 'Offering'

Offertories July 2026

Budget: \$8,760

Actual: \$10,993

This N That Shop July 2026

Budget: \$7,900

Actual: \$10,251

READINGS

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1; 6-8

¹ This is what the Lord says: 'Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed. ⁶ And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant – ⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.'⁸ The Sovereign Lord declares – he who gathers the exiles of Israel: 'I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered.'

PSALM

Psalms 67

¹ Let God be gracious to us and bless us: and make his face shine upon us, ² **That your ways may be known on earth: your liberating power among all nations.** ³ Let the peoples praise you, O God: let all the peoples praise you. ⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing: for you judge the peoples with integrity, and govern the nations upon earth.** ⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God: let all the peoples praise you. ⁶ **Then the earth will yield its fruitfulness: and God, our God, will bless us.** ⁷ God shall bless us: and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

SECOND READING

Romans 2:17-3:8

¹⁷ Now you, if you call yourself a Jew; if you rely on the law and boast in God; ¹⁸ if you know his will and approve of what is superior because you are instructed by the law; ¹⁹ if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, ²⁰ an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of little children, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth – ²¹ you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? ²² You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? ²³ You who boast in the law, do you dishonour God by breaking the law? ²⁴ As it is written: 'God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.'

READINGS

²⁵ Circumcision has value if you observe the law, but if you break the law, you have become as though you had not been circumcised. ²⁶ So then, if those who are not circumcised keep the law's requirements, will they not be regarded as though they were circumcised? ²⁷ The one who is not circumcised physically and yet obeys the law will condemn you who, even though you have the written code and circumcision, are a law-breaker. ²⁸ A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. ²⁹ No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person's praise is not from other people, but from God. ³ What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? ² Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God. ³ What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness? ⁴ Not at all! Let God be true, and every human being a liar. As it is written: 'So that you may be proved right when you speak and prevail when you judge.' ⁵ But if our unrighteousness brings out God's righteousness more clearly, what shall we say? That God is unjust in bringing his wrath on us? (I am using a human argument.) ⁶ Certainly not! If that were so, how could God judge the world? ⁷ Someone might argue, 'If my falsehood enhances God's truthfulness and so increases his glory, why am I still condemned as a sinner?' ⁸ Why not say – as some slanderously claim that we say – 'Let us do evil that good may result'? Their condemnation is just!

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

²¹ Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.' ²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, 'Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.' ²⁴ He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.' ²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. 'Lord, help me!' she said. ²⁶ He replied, 'It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs.' ²⁷ 'Yes it is, Lord,' she said. 'Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table.' ²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, 'Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.' And her daughter was healed at that moment.