



1. A Message from the Priest's Heart: Walking Together in Faith

Dear all,
Loving Greetings!

Trust all is well with you. I would like to offer a brief reflection along with a few important updates that speak to the life and mission of our parish community.

1. A Reflection on Luke 18:1–30

This portion of the Gospel of Luke invites us to consider two intertwined truths — persistence in prayer and wholehearted surrender to God. In the parable of the persistent widow, Jesus reminds us that prayer is not a momentary appeal but a faithful conversation with a loving God who never turns away. The widow's unrelenting spirit echoes what Jesus desires in us, a heart that trusts even when answers seem delayed.

Later in the same passage, we meet the rich ruler who walks away sad because he cannot let go of his wealth. His story challenges us to ask — what holds us back from fully following Christ? Persistence in prayer and detachment from worldly security go hand in hand. Together, they call us to trust that God's justice, timing, and mercy are always greater than our fears or possessions. As we prepare for Advent, let us renew our hearts in prayerful faith, trusting that the Lord indeed hears and answers those who persevere.

2. A Note on Scam Emails

It has come to our attention that some parishioners have received scam emails falsely using my name or claiming to come from the parish office. These messages may ask for gift cards, financial help, or confidential information. Please know that I would never send personal requests of that kind via email. If you ever receive a message that seems suspicious, kindly double-check the sender's address or contact the parish office directly for confirmation. It grieves me that such scams target generous hearts, but I'm deeply grateful for your vigilance and understanding as we work to keep our communications safe and trustworthy.

3. Advent Booklets

As Advent approaches, we once again offer our Advent Reflection Booklets — a simple yet powerful companion for daily prayer and preparation. Each booklet costs \$5, and the proceeds go toward supporting our parish's spiritual resources. I warmly encourage every household to obtain a copy. Whether read in solitude or shared as a family, these reflections will guide us to make Advent not just a countdown to Christmas, but a genuine journey of hope, repentance, and joy.

4. Two Upcoming Parish Events

Our parish calendar overflows with opportunities to celebrate faith and fellowship!

a. Theoikos Ecumenical Carol Service — 9th November, 3:00pm at St Matthew's

You're warmly invited to join us for a joyful afternoon of worship and song as we gather with fellow Christians from across different denominations. Let's come together in unity, lift our voices in celebration, and share the good news of Christ through carols and community.

b. "Curry & Company — A Fair Dinkum Fundraiser" 27th November, 6pm at St Matthew's

Get ready for an evening that combines community spirit with vibrant flavour! Our Curry & Company event promises delicious Indian cuisine, lively Bollywood music, and plenty of laughter and connection. It's more than just a fundraiser — it's a celebration of culture, friendship, and generosity. Please plan, pray for its success, and participate wholeheartedly. Every plate enjoyed and every smile shared will help strengthen the mission we serve together.

Dear friends, let persistence in prayer shape our hearts, generosity mark our lives, and fellowship lift our spirits. I appreciate all the ways you bring Christ's love to life in our parish.

With love and prayers,
Stephan

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2.1 Worship Service Details 19th October

Church	Service Start Time	Celebrant	Readings
Holy Rood	Sunday 8:00am	Stephan	Jeremiah 31. 27-34; Psalm 119. 97-104; 2 Timothy 3. 10-4 5 Luke 18. 1-14
St James	Sunday 8:30am	Medha	
	Wednesday (22 nd Oct) 9:30am	Morning Prayer LA	
St Matthew's	Sunday 10:00am	Stephan	

2.2 Worship Service Details 26th October

Church	Service Start Time	Celebrant	Readings
Holy Rood	Sunday 8:00am Holy Cross Day	Len	Joel 2. 23-32; Psalm 65; 2 Timothy 4. 6-8. 16-18; Luke 18. 15-30
St James	Sunday 8:30am	Stephan	
	Wednesday (29 th Oct) 9:30am		
St Matthew's	Sunday 10:00am Patronal Festival	Medha	

SCAM EMAILS

In the last week, a scam email account has been pretending to be Stephan, sending emails to parishioners asking for money. This request is **not genuine**. This is **not** Stephan.

The **ONLY** email address Stephan may contact you via is pic@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Stephan does **NOT** use gmail.

In case you receive any suspicious emails from any other members of staff, there is a list of all staff email addresses on the second last page of the E-News. These are the **ONLY** email addresses we will contact you via.

For Elvanto users: please note that in the interest of security, we are revoking access rights for the majority of users. You may still be able to login, but unable to access any of the features you may have previously used. Only users who's work absolutely requires access to Elvanto will have their accounts unchanged. If you believe we've wrongfully revoked your access rights to information you require, please contact admin@goldcoastnorth.org.au with an explanation as to *what* you need and **why**. Additionally, we've also added two factor authentication to Elvanto. When you next login, you will be guided through how to set that up.

3. News from Parish Office

Would You Like to Contribute to the E-News?

We invite you all to send us anything you would like to be featured here in the E-News, whether it's a small group promotion, photos you've taken from a recent service or event, a wonderful prayer you found online, or even something exciting and special happening in your own life.

Please email your contribution to
comms@goldcoastnorth.org.au.

Pastoral Care Service Availability

Anyone requiring a pastoral care visit for Prayers, Home Communion, Counselling, Rev. Stephan will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am-2pm.

Please contact him via
pic@goldcoastnorth.org.au or 0493 783 635

Request for Donations

Our parish is saving up to purchase a rectory. We kindly request donations to help us with the deposit. For those paying via bank transfer, please label the transaction as "Rectory Donation".

There are payment forms available at each Church and at our office. Bank details are below.

BSB: 704 901

Account Number: 00015482

4. Notices

Cottage Prayer Ministry

Cottage Prayer Ministry – Be Part of It!

Who can host?

Anyone in our parish—or even a friend of a parishioner.

How often?

Once a month.

If I host, is it every month?

No! Just once every 2–3 years, unless you'd like to do it more often.

When?

Usually the 2nd or 3rd Thursday, 5–6 pm. But you can reschedule if needed.

Do I need to provide food?

No—just open your home for worship and prayer.

Who leads?

Any priest from our parish, a liturgical assistant, wardens, parish members—or even you!

Who can come?

Family, friends, neighbours, parish members.

Do I have to invite everyone personally?

No—CPM details will be announced at church, by email, or in the e-news.

Shoebox Pack

It's time to PACK the Shoeboxes.

This year we are packing only, as all the boxes have been covered.

We are also packing at two locations this year.

St Matthews meeting room Thursday

November 13, all day, Friday November 14 morning only

St James Hall Friday November 21, from noon till five. Saturday November 22, all day and if needed Sunday 23 after church until finished.

Collections are going well and we have all the cards, clothes and seeds at the time of writing

Please come along and be part of the filling of the boxes.

All questions please contact Kim 0422 805 871



4. Notices (continued)



St James Craft Group

Every Friday morning about 9.15 the Ladies start arriving for their morning of craft, sharing their stories of the week and enjoying a delicious morning tea. Heads down every one has a project some for our twice a year stall, some Sea Farers missions and Christmas boxes. The money we get from our work goes towards the monthly missions and the finances of the Church a fun time and sometimes we go and have Fish and Chips together for lunch.



Holy Rood Craft and Conversation Group

Holy Rood Craft and Conversation Group meets on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays of each month from 9.30am until midday at the Holy Rood Family Centre. We warmly welcome, men, women and friends. Our ministry outreach to the local community is through craft lovingly created by members. Even if you feel you have little or no craft skills to offer, please do join us for companionship and conversation over a cuppa.

Contact: Lyn Dunn 0418 528 670 OR Sandy Eacott 0407 965 900

Coomera Craft Circle

Photo on the right: members admire rug from Elaine who now knits from home.

Join us at St Matthew's Church every second Tuesday 9:00am - 12md for conversation and companionship and non-stop morning tea as we knit and crochet for charities of our choosing with a primary focus on rugs for St John's Crisis Centre, Southport. Free wool supplies available.

Gatherings coming up: 16th & 30th Sept, and 14th October

Ring Jean for further information on 0409 322 011.



4. Notices (continued)

ALL WELCOME



To come to 8 sessions of inspiring video talks by
Lisa Harper on

“GUT-LEVEL COMPASSION”

found in the Gospel of Luke, a literary masterpiece
that embraces the outcasts and the overlooked.

Where? St Matthew's Anglican Church
142 Billingham Crescent, Upper Coomera.

When? Consecutive Wednesday evenings at
6.30pm beginning 3rd September 2025

*Lisa Harper is described as both a hilarious
storyteller and theological scholar. Videos
run for half an hour then discussion.*



For more information **and to register**, contact Lurline Campbell.

Phone: 0412 277 737 Email: dlcampbe@onthenet.com.au

Monday Morning Bible Study

Monday, at 9:15am in the Meeting Room at St
Matthew's, undertaking studies on a particular book
of the bible prepared by EV Church. People from all
centres attend to learn what God is saying through
his word and to learn more about following Jesus.
There is prayer and mutual encouragement.



Memorial Service

You are warmly invited to attend a short
Memorial service to remember and honour
the lives of family and friends who have
departed this earthly life.



*"But those who wait for the Lord shall
renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like
eagles, they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint". Isaiah
40:31*

The service will be held at St James
Anglican Church, 41 Brighton Street,
Biggera Waters.

2 p.m. on Saturday 1st November 2025

Please join us after the service for light
refreshments.

RSVP:

Church Office: 5580 5814.

Mrs Marilyn Pappas: 0424 997 476.

Rev'd Lyn Dunn: 0413 528 670.



Children's Choir

We are looking for young talents for a
children's choir at St Matthew's. Young
musicians and singers should contact
reception@goldcoastnorth.org.au if
interested.

4. Notices (continued)

Curry & Company: A Fair Dinkum Fundraiser

Thursday, 27th November 2025, @ 6.30pm

📍 *St Matthew's Church*

🌟 **An Evening of Flavour, Fun & Festivity!** 🌟

🍽️ **Enjoy a Delicious Feast of Homemade Delights:**

- Veg & Non-Veg Curries
- Chicken Fried Rice
- Rice Pancakes
- Pulses & More!

🎵 Groove to Bollywood Beats

🎫 **Tickets:**

-\$30 per person

🎉 **Special: 2 for \$50!**

Includes entry to our exciting raffle draw!

⚠️ **Limited Seats Available – Book Early!**

☎️ For tickets & info, contact: 07 55805814
(Mon, Tue, Thu 09am to 01pm)

✉️ reception@goldcoastnorth.org.au

🌐 www.goldcoastnorth.org.au

📍 Gold Coast North Anglican Church

📱 @goldcoastnorth

Holy Rood Craft Group Stall

After the 8:00am Sunday Service on November 2nd, Holy Rood Craft Group will have a craft stall in the Holy Rood Family Centre.



NORTHERN REGION LAY RETREAT

Friday, November 28th 6pm until
after lunch on Sunday, November 30th

OR option to attend Saturday 29th November from 9am - 5pm

SANTA TERESA SPIRITUALITY CENTRE
267 WELLINGTON STREET, ORMISTON QLD 4160

This is a silent retreat with Christian meditation daily, morning and evening prayer on Saturday, and opportunity for individual spiritual direction if desired. All meals provided. Cost outlined below.

Full Weekend	Single Room	\$500 per person
	Couples Sharing a Room	\$430 per person
Saturday Only (9am - 5pm)	No Room	\$120 per person

[LINK TO REGISTRATION & PAYMENT](#)



4. Notices (continued)

New Quarterly Feature: Recommended Reads for Spiritual Growth

Dear Church Family,
We're excited to introduce a new feature in our e-newsletter: Quarterly Book Recommendations! Every three months, we'll highlight a powerful Christian book that inspires, equips, and deepens our walk with God. Whether you're looking to grow in faith, explore new perspectives, or simply enjoy a good read, these selections are chosen to bless and challenge you.

For our first recommendation, we invite you to explore:

He Came to Set the Captives Free by Rebecca Brown

This gripping book shares the true story of Elaine, a former high-ranking Satanist, and her journey to freedom through Jesus Christ.

Written by Dr. Rebecca Brown, a medical doctor and Christian minister, it offers profound insight into spiritual warfare and the power of prayer. It's a bold and eye-opening read for anyone seeking to understand the reality of the spiritual battle and the victory we have in Christ.

Where to find it:

- Amazon
- Internet Archive
- Free Borrowing

We encourage you to read along and share your reflections with others in the congregation. Let's grow together - one book at a time.

Blessings,
Medha

Pastoral Care and Counsellor, GCNA



Advent Booklet

We will have an Advent prayer booklet available this Advent season, titled ***In Expectation: Daily Meditations for Advent***

This book has been contributed to by various authors from throughout our parish, and will feature a meditative reflection for each day of the Advent season.

More information to come soon.

5. Events

St Matthew's Patronal Festival & Family Sunday Celebration 28th September 2025

We joyfully celebrated St Mathew's Patronal Festival in conjunction with Family Sunday on 28th September 2025. It was a day filled with faith, fellowship, and vibrant expressions of community spirit. It was a day filled with faith, fellowship, and vibrant expressions of community spirit.

Highlights of the day included:

- A solemn procession marking the beginning of the celebration.
- A dramatic presentation of the Bible reading, bringing Scripture to life.
- The inauguration of the Children's Choir, adding youthful voices to our worship.
- A heartfelt moment of intercession, where we prayed for one another while holding hands in unity.



Mission 360 Workshop

St Mathew's hosted a Mission 360 workshop on the 4th of October.



6. Mission of the Month: Anglican Board of Mission

175 YEARS
ANNIVERSARY
1850 - 2025



Working for Love, Hope & Justice

Anglican Board of Mission is the national mission agency for the Anglican Church. It is the channel through which Australian Anglicans participate in mission, both here and overseas.

Anglicans in Development is wholly-owned by ABM, and operates ABM's Sustainable Communities program, working with church partners to deliver grassroots, community-driven development, and disaster preparedness and response. We want to see people everywhere experience the wholeness of life God offers in Jesus Christ, and to this end we support our partners as they participate in God's mission.

BUT, why have ABM in October when traditionally the Archbishop has the ABM November Appeal?

Well, it is a Local issue! We also support the St John's Crisis Care work in Surfers Paradise and their Christmas hampers that they give out in December. While they distribute the hampers in December they need to gather goods and money support in November and so we have ABM in October!!!

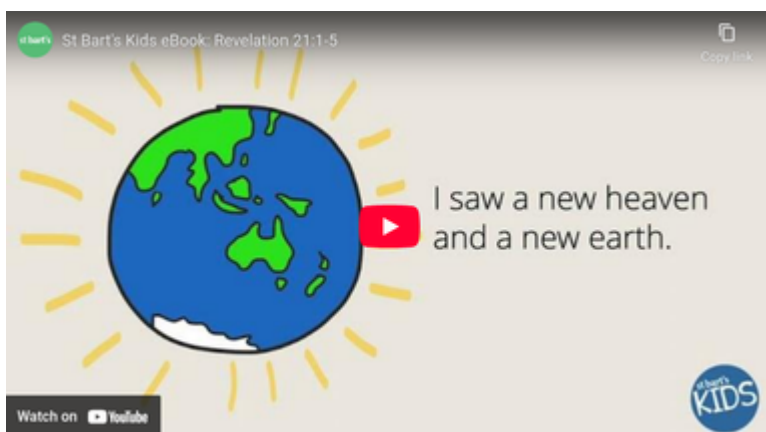
The 5 Marks of Mission

1. Witness to Christ's saving, forgiving and reconciling love for all people.
2. Build welcoming, transforming communities of faith.
3. Stand in solidarity with the poor and needy.
4. Challenge violence, injustice and oppression, and work for peace and reconciliation.
5. Protect, care for, and renew life on our planet.

The Vision of ABM

ABM wants to see people everywhere experience the wholeness of life God offers in Jesus Christ, and supports our partners as they participate in God's mission.

Pray for the work of ABM and there are envelopes available at the rear of the church.



7. Kids Corner

St Bart's Kids eBook

This eBook video covers Revelation 21.1-5.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMsNAhLd1KE>

8. Diocesan News (continued)

Statements on the new Archbishop of Canterbury

From *Anglican Focus*

The Most Rev'd Jeremy Greaves — Archbishop of Brisbane

Such wonderful news that Bishop Sarah Mullally (currently Bishop of London) will be the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

Bishop Sarah visited the Anglican Church Southern Queensland last year to learn about the work of Anglicare Southern Queensland, and it was a delight to get to know her and her husband Eamonn during their visit.

Please pray for Bishop Sarah as she prepares to take up her new role.

The Most Rev'd Geoffrey Smith — Archbishop of Adelaide & Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia

I welcome the news overnight of the appointment of the Right Reverend and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally, as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury.

Bishop Sarah has served as the Bishop of London since 2018. She was ordained to the priesthood in 2001 after a career as a nurse highlighted by her tenure as the Government's Chief Nursing Officer for England.

An installation service for the new Archbishop of Canterbury is scheduled for March 2026 at Canterbury Cathedral. Bishop Sarah has said: "I want, very simply, to encourage the Church to continue to grow in confidence in the Gospel, to speak of the love that we find in Jesus Christ and for it to shape our actions."

Please join me in praying for Bishop Sarah, the Church of England, and the wider Anglican Communion, as she prepares to take on this role.

Read more [HERE](#).

9. Prayer

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer/todays-prayer>



10. Parish Information

Offertory

DIRECT DEBIT GIVING at GCNA for ongoing weekly ministry.

Please use this account
BSB 704 901 A/C 00015081

Our sincere thanks to all those who support our parish in all possible ways. We are so grateful and thankful for your commitment and generosity.

Parish Office Address

Gold Coast North Anglican Church, 142 Billingham Crescent, Upper Coomera, Qld 4209, Australia.
Ph. 5580 5814

Postal Address

P.O. Box 810, Oxenford. Q. 4210

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 09.00am to 01.00 pm

Coomera Anglican College

At GCNA, we work with and support Coomera Anglican College. Learn more about CAC:
<https://www.cac.qld.edu.au/>

10. Parish Information (continued)

Change of Email Addresses

There have been some changes to the email addresses used by wardens and office staff. Below are the up to date email addresses. THESE ARE THE ONLY EMAILS STAFF WILL CONTACT YOU VIA.

Stephan

Priest in Charge

pic@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Wardens

Holy Rood - Tony

hrwarden@goldcoastnorth.org.au

St James - Laurelei

sjwarden@goldcoastnorth.org.au

St Matthew's - Richard

smwarden@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Meraki Community Garden

meraki@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Office Staff Team

Karen

Office Manager

office@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Claudia

Digital Media Officer

comms@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Siggi

Front Office

reception@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Medha

Pastoral Care Counsellor

pccslm@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Voluntary Service

Geoffrey

WHS Administrator, Small Groups, Safeguarding

safeguarding@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Pam

Payments

accounts@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Pat

Treasurer

treasurer@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Warren

Finance / Budget

warren@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Safe Churches

The Anglican Diocese of Brisbane takes allegations of abuse and harm seriously. The Professional Standards Canon and the Protocol for Responding to Sexual Abuse of a Child and Sexual Misconduct provide clear and transparent processes for the management of complaints of abuse. Persons who may have been harmed by a Church worker, or who know of someone else who has, are encouraged to come forward. All complaints will be treated sensitively and confidentially. The Director of Safe Ministry will respond to all complaints and will assist you to understand the processes involved. Please contact Office of Safe Ministry, St Martin's House, 373 Ann Street, Brisbane 4000 (GPO Box 421, Brisbane 4001): Phone 1800 242 544; Email safeministry@anglicanchurchsq.org.au To view hard copies of policies and procedures refer to the Blue Safeguarding folder in each Church or click [HERE](#)

Lest We Forget

"We, the people of Australia, respect and give thanks to all who have served in our defence force and their families.

"We acknowledge the unique nature of military service and the sacrifice demanded of all who commit to defend our nation.

"We undertake to preserve the memory and deeds of all who have served and promise to welcome, embrace and support all military veterans as respected and valued members of our community.

"For what they have done, this we will do."

The GCNA family, affirm this oath declared in *The Australian Veterans' Recognition (Putting Veterans and their Families First) Act of 2019* which received Royal Assent on 30 October 2019.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Yugambah Language people, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather today. We acknowledge their continued spiritual connection to country and surrounding land, sky and water. We pay our respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging and pray that we may continue to learn from and nurture one another in the spirit of Reconciliation.