



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

Dear all,
Loving Greetings!

One of the most well-known stories in the Bible is the parable of the Good Samaritan. The Samaritan is often celebrated, which is why the story is so widely recognized. Consequently, we tend to read, introspect, and reflect on this story primarily from the Samaritan's perspective. However, what if we shifted our focus and re-examined the story through the eyes of the wounded man? This alternative viewpoint could offer a powerful lens for understanding the Good Samaritan parable (Luke 10:25–37), especially in light of the increasing violence and war-related deaths in the world today. By imagining ourselves as the wounded victim in this parable, particularly against the backdrop of war and human suffering, we are likely to gain valuable insights and lessons.

As we read the story, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked..." we observe that the victim was simply traveling. In modern wars, civilians, children, and the vulnerable are often the ones who suffer the most. This story reminds us that being caught in violence is often not a choice, and it helps us cultivate compassion for war victims, refugees, and those who lack protection. The narrative continues with, "A priest... and a Levite... passed by on the other side." Imagine the wounded man, possibly conscious, witnessing people who should help walking away. This teaches us how deeply painful neglect and abandonment can be—sometimes even worse than the original wound. However, there is a twist in the story when the Samaritan enters the scene: "But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was..." From the victim's perspective, help came from the least expected source—someone from a hated or distrusted group. Today, peace and healing often come from unlikely peacemakers—activists, NGOs, or even ordinary people from "enemy" sides.

In a world where war dehumanizes individuals, this story reaffirms a fundamental truth:

every human life deserves dignity and care. The victim would have felt acknowledged, valued, and restored—something every war-torn soul yearns for. From the victim’s perspective, the Samaritan didn’t merely help—he took responsibility for the victim's recovery, even involving others (the innkeeper). War victims require more than temporary relief; they need sustained support, justice, and advocates speaking on their behalf. If you’ve been wounded, this story reminds you: you matter. And if you’re observing from a distance, it calls you to move toward the pain, not shy away from it. In today’s world, the “road to Jericho” traverses Gaza, Ukraine, Iran, India, Israel, Sudan, Myanmar, and even unsafe urban streets. The question is no longer just, “Who is my neighbour?” but perhaps: “Who will stop and see me, broken by the roadside?” And ultimately: “Will I be that neighbour for someone else’s pain?”

Unfortunately, the church's silence or inaction in the face of violence against innocent people—whether in war, conflict zones, or systemic injustice—presents significant theological, moral, and missional challenges. Victims of violence may cease to look to the church for hope or assistance. When the church remains silent during times of trauma, it appears distant, detached, or irrelevant. Jesus reached out to the marginalized, the wounded, and the oppressed—not to the halls of power to remain silent.

Yet another pressing question that emerges from this story is, “Will the church personify the roles of the priest and the Levite—or will it be the Good Samaritan?” For, silence in the face of violence against innocent people—whether in Palestine, Ukraine, Congo, Indigenous communities, or elsewhere—is not merely a moral failure, but a profound spiritual crisis. Jesus did not bypass suffering—He approached it, touched it, and redeemed it. His church must do the same.

With love and prayers,
Stephan

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2.1 Worship Service Details 6th July

Church	Service Start Time	Celebrant	Readings
Holy Rood	Sunday 8:00am	Stephan	2 Kings 5. 1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6. 7-18; Luke 10. 1-12; 17-24
St James	Sunday 8:30am	Ron	
	Wednesday (9 th July) 9:30am	Gary	
St Matthew's	Sunday 10:00am		

2.2 Worship Service Details 13th July

Church	Service Start Time	Celebrant	Readings
Holy Rood	Sunday 8:00am	Rosie	Amos 7. 7-17; Psalm 82; Colossians 1. 1-14; Luke 10. 25-37
St James	Sunday 8:30am	Stephan	
	Wednesday (23 rd July) 9:30am		
St Matthew's	Sunday 10:00am	Rosie	

3. News from Parish Office

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

3. News from Parish Office (continued)

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.

Shoe Box Ministry Donations

Dear Parishioners,

As we continue our mission of spreading Christ's love through our shoe box ministry, we express our sincere gratitude for all your generous contributions. We encourage you to kindly support by direct deposit to our church bank account with the description, for "shoe box ministry". Since all donations are to be accounted, we encourage you to avoid cash donations to individuals. You can also support by offering gifts based on the lists provided in our E-News.

The Parish Administration

4. Notices

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.



St James Day

Sunday, the 27th of July is our St James Day special service with Archbishop Jeremy Greaves as the celebrant. The service starts at 8:30am.

Confirmation Service

We will be holding another Confirmation Service with Coomera Anglican College (CAC) on the 3rd of August, commencing at 10:00am. The service will be held at the Ivan Gibbs Centre at CAC, and the celebrant is Bishop John Roundhill.



3. News from Parish Office (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



Food Vouchers & Baby Product Donations

At the Church Office, we are seeking donations of food vouchers, baby products, and supermarket gift cards / vouchers, with the aim of donating these to those in need. Simply drop off any donations to our Parish Office (142 Billingham Crescent, Upper Coomera), or reach out to your Church Warden. Please note that we don't accept gift cards that can be used to purchase alcohol or cigarettes.



Volunteers Needed for Primary School Chaplaincy Breakfast Club

We're looking for a few helping hands to assist with the Upper Coomera State School Chaplaincy Breakfast Club on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:00 to 8:30 AM.

This is a wonderful opportunity to support young children by helping serve breakfast and ensure they have a welcoming and nourishing start to their day.

If you're available and would like to get involved, just once a week or even once in a while, we'd love to hear from you!

Please note that a Blue Card is required.

Please reach out to Trudi at trudi.charlesworth@suchaplaincy.org.au if you can help.

4. Notices (continued)

Coomera Craft Circle

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: 24th June & 8th July

Ring Jean for further information on 0409 322 011.



Knit a Square for Charity

"May the work of your hands bring joy to your soul." (Anon)

Our group of knitters, crocheters, embroiderers and convivial friends meet every second Tuesday for a time of shared companionship, food and handicraft 9.00am - 12.00md. We also have some wonderful people who are unable to attend our gatherings but knit at home, sending in squares, strips of squares and completed rugs of their own creation.

With winter approaching, we try to send as many rugs for distribution to people in need as we can make, as well as beanies and scarves, primarily supporting St John's Crisis Centre in Southport.

So, we are putting out a call for help. And everyone is welcome.

If you would like to help in this ministry, all you need is a set of 4mm needles or crochet hook and some 8-ply yarn which we can supply. Cast on 42 - 46 stitches (depending on how tight your stitches are) and work as many rows in plain, stocking stitch or other to create a square in your chosen colour, then continue with a new colour or end off.

As a guide, squares should be approximately 20 x 20 cms.

We have a group member who will join squares or strips and edge the rug so made. If you would like further information, please text Jean on 0409 322 011.



4. Notices (continued)

We are More

Poem by David Glazier

We are more when we are together.
We are more when we are one.
When our voices pray together,
in joyful cadences of song.

We are more than we can be
than when we stand on our own.
Together, we lift one another.
We know we're not alone.

The things we have in common
override the things we don't.
Our differences enrich us
while ostracism won't.

The faith we share is golden.
It's a measure of true wealth.
When love amplifies a room,
love magnifies itself.

We are joined through our compassion
in a family we choose.
We try to understand,
to walk in another's shoes.

We have promised to follow Jesus.
In his steps, we try to walk.
We try to see through his eyes.
We live by the words he taught.

We are part of a community.
We laugh and make it fun.
We share each other's burdens.
We value everyone.

We empower one another
to be open, to be true.
When we make mistakes,
God's love will bring us through.
We know we are not perfect
as we kneel beneath the cross.
It's there we find our purpose.
It's there we count the cost.

We know Jesus is our King
and the cross is his throne.
We find our God through Jesus.
The Holy Spirit is our home.

We are more when we are together,
when our hearts are joined in prayer.
We become one with God
when we act with love and care.

We stand here today together.
We are united in our cause.
All it takes is two or three
to walk through our church's doors.

God is here amongst us.
Jesus stands in our pews.
Here the Spirit dances,
We celebrate good news.

There's no need to feel alone.
It's what the church is for.
Our fellowship restores us.
Together we are more.

Family Sunday Service

3rd Sunday of the Month - St James

41 Brighton Street, Biggera Waters

4th Sunday of the Month - St Matthew's

142 Billinghamurst Crescent, Upper Coomera

Contact Us;

reception@goldcoastnorth.org.au
5580 5814

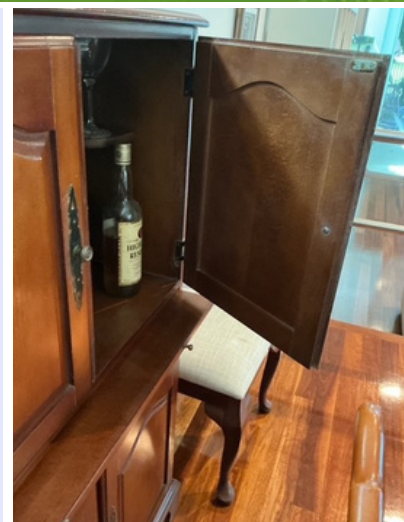
HIGHLIGHTS

- Interactive Scripture Reading
- Intergenerational Worship Songs
- Sharing Testimonies
- Skits / Short Enactments by Families or Combined
- Kids Videos
- And More!



Furniture for Sale

Dining furniture by Jackson
furniture, table to seat 8-
12. 8 chairs, 2 carvers.
Drinks cabinet. Buffet.
Please make offer via
contacting the parish
office: 5580 5814 or
reception@goldcoastnorth.
org.au



4. Notices (continued)

Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast is on Saturday, July 5th. If you are planning on attending, please RSVP with Adrian Dunster on 0400 189 320 by Wednesday, July 3rd.



Volunteer Request – Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser at Bunnings Pimpama

Dear GCNA Church family,

I'm writing on my behalf and on behalf of the Scripture Union Queensland chaplaincy team serving schools across the northern Gold Coast. On Saturday, 19 July 2025, three of us will be running a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Pimpama to raise essential funds to continue our work in local schools – including schools right near St Matthews' community. This fundraiser will directly support:

- Gretel Young, Chaplain at Coomera Springs State School
- Tessa Garland, Chaplain at Coomera State School
- Trudi Charlesworth, Chaplain at Upper Coomera State College

As you know, chaplains provide vital care and connection to students and families, supporting their social, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing. They are a consistent Christ like presence in our schools – and this BBQ is a key way to help sustain their ministry. This is a wonderful opportunity for local outreach, bless the wider community, and build relationships with those already doing God's work in schools. We would be incredibly grateful for your support in any of the following ways:

1. Donations of Goods

To reduce costs and maximize funds raised, we're seeking cash donations to purchase:

- 65 kg of sausages
- 40 loaves of bread
- 25 kg of pre-cut onions
- 500 cans of soft drink
- Napkins, garbage bags, gloves, condiment bottles
- Cleaning items (hand wash, paper towel, detergents)
- Heatproof gloves and a food-grade thermometer
- Cooking utensils (tongs, spatulas, knives)

2. Volunteers on the Day

We'd love to see members of GCNA serve alongside us by helping with:

- BBQ cooking and prep
- Customer service and sales
- Setup and pack-down
- General support or even offering prayer if appropriate

Even an hour or two of help would go a long way. It's also a fantastic way to meet local families and show Christ's love in action. If you're able to assist in any way—through donations or volunteering—please contact me. Donations can be dropped off at one of our schools, or we can arrange collection. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve the community together. We look forward to partnering with you as you shine the light of Christ in your ministry.

With gratitude and hope,
Trudi

Contact Trudi at trudi.charlesworth@suchaplaincy.org.au

4. Notices (continued)

WinterFest

On the 12th of July, Holy Rood will be hosting our annual WinterFest.

Come along for a hot meal and winter festivities.

Tickets are \$30. The event starts at 11:30am, and if you're interested in registering, please leave your name with your Church warden. Physical tickets will be available soon.

WinterFest

July 12th | 11:30AM

Holy Rood Family Centre
192 Tamborine-Oxenford Road,
Oxenford

Tickets are **\$30**

Bank details for direct transfer:

BSB 704 901

Account 00015081

Ref: Winterfest and Surname



5. Events (continued)



Scrunchies and Hearts

The Holy Rood Craft and Conversation Group has been busy with sewing of late. In response to an urgent request from The Mater Mothers' Hospital in Brisbane, 100 Cuddle Hearts were lovingly made (and sent with a prayer) to give its tiniest patients the best start in life. The Neonatal Critical Care Unit was looking to restock the cupboards with the fabric hearts, which are two heart-shaped pieces of material (soft cotton or flannelette) sewn together. One fabric heart is given to the mother and placed on her chest to pick up her scent, with the other heart placed close to the baby for the same reason. The hearts are then swapped so mother and baby are left with each other's scented heart. The little cuddle hearts help a mother's milk come in when she is apart from her baby, while the scent of the mother also has a calming effect on the baby. The cuddle hearts link mum and baby and fill a gap when the two can't be together.

Our other project was 100 scrunchies for the Christmas boxes. These were made in a variety of colourful fabrics and given with much love to those who have so little.

A reminder that we meet on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays of the month at 9.30 a.m-12 p.m. in the Holy Rood Family Centre. Everyone is welcome to pop in and have a chat over a cuppa. Please reach out to those who are lonely. Contacts Lyn 0413 528 670. Sandy 0407 965 900.

Knitwear for Lambs

The Holy Rood Craft and Conversation Group also recently knitted jumpers for lambs to wear during the winter. Pictured below are members of the craft group presenting their lovely knitwear at a recent Holy Rood Church service.



5. Events (continued)

Family Sunday Service

Medha was the narrator in the dramatic Bible reading at St Matthew's Family Service on Sunday, 23rd July. The scene is John the Baptist's circumcision, Jo as Elizabeth is seated, Don is Zechariah, Florence and the children are the gathered people who are surprised that the baby was to be named John.

Also pictured are the Honey Cake surrounded by sick looking locusts to help celebrate John the Baptist.



6. Mission of the Month: PATSIMAC

Prayer for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and Concerns

This group began in 2008 and for 17 years has sought to not only pray for our Indigenous brothers and sisters, but also invite Indigenous speakers to share at services, Soup and Slice events, and so on so we can all learn of the challenges that First Australians face.

We are contemplating changes to PATSIMAC, but for this month, we encourage Parishioners to do three things.

1. Pray for the work and ministries at Gunya Meta in Logan City and Nungalinga College in Darwin.
2. Check out their websites <https://www.gunyameta.org> and <https://www.nungalinga.edu.au>
3. Support their work using the envelopes at the back of the church.



Gunya Meta Inc is a non-profit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation, run by a board of local Logan City community members, employing local Indigenous staff. Gunya Meta's aim is to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities to:

- **Engage with schools and education providers** to improve outcomes for Indigenous children;
- **Build strong leadership.**
- **Target education and health-based programs**
- **Support community-schools partnerships.**



Nungalinga College

Empowering Indigenous Christians

Nungalinga is the premier Combined Churches Training College for Indigenous Australians. The College is formally supported by the Anglican, Uniting, and Catholic churches of the Northern Territory, and is situated in Casuarina, a northern suburb of Darwin.

Each year, men and women from over 100 different communities across Australia come to study at Nungalinga College. Our students are from both remote and urban communities, and their different cultural and language backgrounds are respected and included in campus life. Many students hold important positions of authority in their own communities.

At Nungalinga College, Indigenous and non-Indigenous Christians will work together in partnership. We will grow the gifts and calling of Indigenous people. In God's time, the College will be fully staffed by competent Indigenous people. They will have the languages, cultural knowledge, qualifications, and experience needed to perform their roles.

7. Kids Corner



The Gospel Helps Us Love Others

Today's video is all about Galatians 6.1-10, and shows us what the Bible teaches us about loving others.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXnx1Iu4iQI>

8. Diocesan News (continued)

Anglicare Southern Queensland Officially Opens \$2.6 Million Specialist Dementia Care Program Unit in Southport

From *Anglican Focus*

Anglicare Southern Queensland has officially celebrated the opening and blessing of its new \$2.6 million Specialist Dementia Care Program (SDCP) unit at the Abri Residential Aged Care Home in Southport. The SDCP unit will be delivered through funding from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care. The occasion was marked by a morning tea celebration with residents and their families; Anglicare Southern Queensland Chief Executive Officer Sue Cooke; Chair of the Community Services Commission, Tracy Morgan; and, Archbishop Jeremy Greaves. Archbishop Jeremy Greaves officially opened and blessed the unit on Tuesday 27 May. During the blessing of the unit, Archbishop Greaves said that the unit is an important part of the Church's mission and its service to the community. "Inspired by the hospitality of Christ, this space will provide a place of care, connection, hospitality and rest," Archbishop Jeremy Greaves said. "We also acknowledge that we are stewards of the resources given to us and are grateful for the grant which has made it possible to build this unit. The care and support provided in this unit plays an integral part in the role of the Anglican Church in assisting people to live with dignity, empowering those we serve and strengthening community life."

Read more [HERE](#).

9. Prayer

Almighty God,
whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you in their death as in their life:
grant that your Church, inspired by their teaching and example, and made one by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation,
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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.

Stephan

Priest in Charge

pic@goldcoastnorth.org.au

Wardens

Holy Rood

hrwarden@goldcoastnorth.org.au

St James

sjwarden@goldcoastnorth.org.au

St Matthew's

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 Yugambeh 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.