



HOLY SPIRIT
ALGESTER

Holy Spirit News

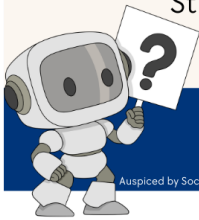
WELCOME | August 9, 2026

FEATURED NEWS

EXPLORING AI TOGETHER

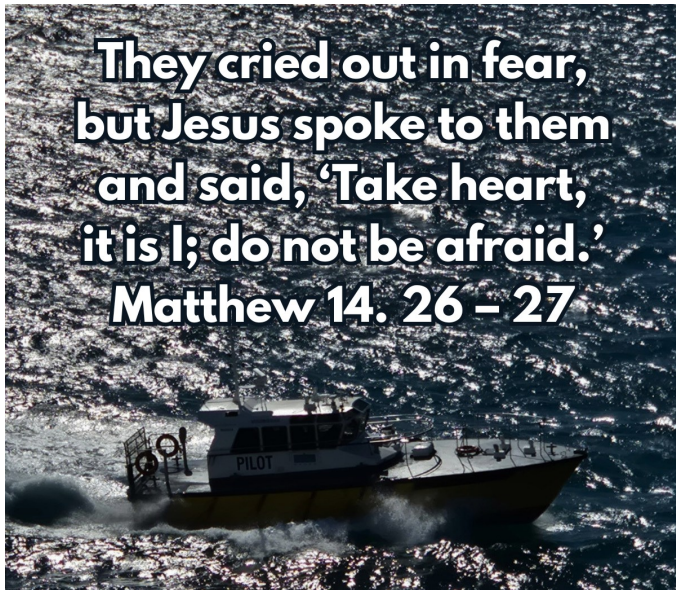
A shared learning day exploring how artificial intelligence is shaping our world and the life of the Church

Saturday 29 August 2026
St Francis College, Milton
9:30am - 3:30pm



Auspiced by Social Responsibilities Committee - Anglican Church Southern Queensland

**They cried out in fear,
but Jesus spoke to them
and said, 'Take heart,
it is I; do not be afraid.'
Matthew 14. 26 – 27**



MISSION PARTNER

4Voices

**Providing judgment-free
support for women facing
domestic violence,
homelessness, digital and social
isolation.**

WELCOME

Welcome! We're delighted that you have been able to join us for worship and we pray that you might find a place to belong. We'd love for you to complete one of our Welcome Cards. If you are a baptised member of any denomination, you are welcome to join us for communion. Please join us after the service for refreshments!

FROM THE VICAR

Most of us have a strong sense of justice. We long for a world where wrongs are made right, where evil is confronted, and where goodness is rewarded. In Romans 2:1–16, Paul reminds us that God is indeed a perfectly just Judge. But before we point the finger at others, Paul turns the spotlight onto our own hearts.

The surprise of this passage is that it is directed not at the openly immoral but at the religious person. It is a sobering reminder that attending church, knowing the Bible, or living a respectable life does not make us righteous before God. We all fall short. We all need the gospel.

Yet this passage is not intended to leave us in despair. God's kindness is meant to lead us to repentance, not fear. In Christ we discover the wonderful truth that the Judge has also become our Saviour. His grace changes not only our standing before God but also the way we live. As disciples of Jesus, our faith should be seen in lives marked by humility, repentance, and obedience. Rather than judging others, may we daily allow the Holy Spirit to shape our hearts so that our actions increasingly reflect the grace we have received in Christ.

In Christ,
Rev'd Chris

Empowering and Transforming lives to be Disciples of Jesus

GENERAL NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

14 August - Mainly Music 10am

17-20 August – Rev'd Chris away at Clergy Conference

MARY SUMNER DAY AND THE RETIRING COLLECTION:

Today, 9 August, is Mary Sumner Day. As usual Mothers' Union are facilitating a retiring collection at the end of the Sunday Services. Funds raised are collected for Anglicare SQ to use in their First Steps Programme - to supply Starter Packs for the families entering the Youth Homelessness Accommodation Project in Beenleigh.

If you have forgotten to bring cash today, Dianne Bocquee (MU Treasurer) will accept donations until next Sunday, 16 August.

SERMONS ONLINE:

Sermon videos are now online on our YouTube channel @holyspiritualgester or on our website under the Grow tab.

COMMUNICATION:

If you have a concern or something's going on in your life, you can always speak to or email Rev'd Chris and don't assume that someone will share your situation. Chris's door is always open for a coffee/beer/wine catch-up.

SMALL GROUPS:

Small Groups are an amazing opportunity to explore the bible, pray for and support one another, deepen friendships, and help each other grow as disciples of Jesus. We have a variety of Small Groups who meet on a regular basis. If you would like to join one please talk to Rev'd Chris.

CENSUS 2026:

RECORDING YOUR RELIGION

The Australian Census will be held on Tuesday 11 August 2026. Question 24 asks about each person's religion. This question is optional. When you complete your Census on 11 August, I encourage you to answer the religion question with confidence by identifying as **Anglican (Church of England)**.

EXPLORING AI TOGETHER

A shared learning day exploring how artificial intelligence is shaping our world and the life of the Church

Exploring AI Together is a practical and accessible education day designed specifically for the Anglican Church Southern Queensland. Through presentations, discussion and reflection, participants will explore what AI is, how it is already affecting our work, and how we might engage with it wisely, responsibly and faithfully.

The day will be particularly relevant for:

- Clergy and parish leaders
- Parish councillors and wardens
- Synod members
- Members of diocesan commissions and committees
- Anglican school council members
- Anyone interested in how emerging technologies are shaping ministry and society

No technical knowledge is required.

Website link for more details: anglicanai.org



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9:30am - 3:30pm



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WEEK 3

No Excuse

SUNDAY MORNING *SERMON NOTES:*

FAMILY TIME **TALK**

Have you ever blamed someone else for something you did wrong? How did it feel when you had to admit the truth? Paul reminds us that before we judge others, we should look honestly at our own hearts. Why do you think God wants us to be humble instead of thinking we are better than others?

PLAN

Give each family member a small mirror. Spend a minute looking at your own reflection instead of looking at everyone else. Talk about how it's easier to notice other people's mistakes than our own. Then write one way you would like Jesus to help you grow this week (for example: being kinder, more patient, or telling the truth). Place the notes beside a cross or Bible as a reminder that Jesus changes our hearts.

PRAY

Pray together: "Lord Jesus, thank you for loving us even though we all make mistakes. Help us to look at our own hearts before judging others. Thank you for your kindness that leads us to forgiveness and new life. Please shape us to become more like you each day. Amen."

READINGS

SENTENCE:

They cried out in fear, but Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Matthew 14.26–27

A READING FROM 1 KINGS, CHAPTER 19, VERSES 9-18:

At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'

He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'

He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' Then the Lord said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel;

and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.'

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS:

Psalms 85.8-13

- 8 I will hear what the Lord God will speak: for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.
- 9 **Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:
and his glory shall dwell in our land.**
- 10 Mercy and truth are met together: righteousness and peace have kissed each other;
- 11 **Truth shall flourish out of the earth:
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
- 12 The Lord will also give us all that is good: and our land shall yield its plenty.
- 13 **For righteousness shall go before him:
and tread the path before his feet.**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS, CHAPTER 2, VERSES 1-16:

Therefore you have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgement on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things. You say, 'We know that God's

judgement on those who do such things is in accordance with truth.' Do you imagine, whoever you are, that when you judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself, you will escape the judgement of God? Or do you despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience? Do you not realize that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But by your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath, when God's righteous judgement will be revealed. For he will repay according to each one's deeds: to those who by patiently doing good seek for glory and honour and immortality, he will give eternal life; while for those who are self-seeking and who obey not the truth but wickedness, there will be wrath and fury. There will be anguish and distress for everyone who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, but glory and honour and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality.

All who have sinned apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous in God's sight, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles, who do not possess the law, do instinctively what the law requires, these, though not having the law, are a law to themselves. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, to which their own conscience also bears witness; and their conflicting thoughts will accuse or perhaps excuse them on the day when, according to my gospel, God, through Jesus Christ, will judge the secret thoughts of all.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW, CHAPTER 14, VERSES 22-36:

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word throughout the region and brought all who were sick to him, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord of life, we thank you for this day.
Guide us as we seek to do your will in this world you created for us. Let there be respect for the earth, peace for its people, love in our lives, delight in the good and forgiveness for past wrongs.
Lord of all, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord of peace, give a sense of hope to your people who live in countries where there is conflict. May they strengthen each other through circumstances we cannot begin to imagine. Encourage those who work for peace and reconciliation, give them understanding, patience and a resolve to persist in their efforts.
Lord of all, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord of love and compassion, we give you thanks for the ministry of 4 Voices and for their commitment to walk alongside women and girls who feel unhappy, threatened or alone.

We pray for every woman who seeks safety, hope and dignity. May they be met with kindness, wisdom and love.
Strengthen the hearts and hands of all who serve through 4 Voices; may their work be filled with your grace and guided by your Spirit.
Lord of all, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord, we give thanks for the life of Mary Sumner, for her obedience to your calling, for her vision for the Mothers' Union. We pray that through the grace of your Holy Spirit we may receive renewed confidence and share that vision. We give thanks and

praise for the many people around the world who reach out in the name of the Mothers' Union. Through our work may we touch the lives of those we meet, that they too may know your love.
Lord of all, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Loving and Compassionate God, we pray for Anglicare's First Steps Programme to supply Starter Packs for the families entering the Youth Homelessness Accommodation in Beenleigh. Lord God, Anglicare believes that every young person deserves to come home to a positive living environment where they know they are cared for and where they feel safe and supported. May you bless the Youth Homelessness Accommodation in Beenleigh and all the young people who will have a place to rest their heads in the future.

Loving God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord of health, we pray for all those who are sick, discouraged or lonely. May they feel your healing presence with them today filling them with wholeness, hope and strength.
Lord of all, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.
Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers compiled by Sandra Pearn

ROSTERS

Date	9-8-26		16-8-26	
	7.00am	9.00am	7.00am	9.00am
Worship Leader	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate
Preacher	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate
LA Leader	Rosemary Kake	Kathy Carter	Allan Berry	Ian Nelson
Greeter	Sama O'Brien	Lyn/Cheryl	-	Kerry Tovey
Sidesperson	Joan Harvey	Lorraine Jones	Robyn Brodie	Malini Ramachandrom
Reader 1	Kay O'Brien	Dianne Bocquee	Rosemary Kake	Shereen Alwin
Reader 2	Sama O'Brien	Malini Ramachandrom	Julie Elliker	Rhonda Nelson
Offertory	Joan Harvey	Lorraine Jones	Robyn Brodie	Malini Ramachandrom
Chapel Prayers	-	Dianne Bocquee	-	Rhonda Nelson
Morning Tea	Mothers' Union	Mothers' Union	Sharon/Hugh	Jenny/Kerry
Music Leader	Ruth Barton	Ruth Barton	Michael Po Saw	Videos
AV Operator	Adrian Scott	Chris/Joshua	Kay O'Brien	Ian/Rhonda
Prayers of the people	Sandra Pearn		<i>Prayers taken from 'Let Us Pray'</i>	
Counting	Rhonda Nelson		Dianne Bocquee	
Kids Church		Niya/Jenny		Kerry/Niya/Jenny
Baptism				

The heart of any thriving church community lies in the dedication of its volunteers who generously offer their time and skills. Currently, our church roster is in need of additional helping hands to support various essential tasks and ministries during our worship services. By joining the roster, we can continue to strengthen our church's mission and positively impact the lives of those we serve. We warmly welcome and encourage you to become an integral part of our

CONTACT INFO

Rector & Area Dean

The Rev'd Christopher Bate

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Honorary Assistant Clergy

The Rev'd Juliana Bate

Church Wardens

Kay O'Brien 0438 833 617

Ruth Barton 0402 039 995

Office

Parish Secretary: Kerry Tovey

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READINGS TODAY

1 Kings 19.9-18

Ps 85.8-13

Romans 2.1-16

Matthew 14.22-36

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Genesis 45.1-15

Ps 133

Romans 2.17—3.8

Matthew 15.21-28

SERVICES

SUNDAY

7AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

9AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

BANKING DETAILS

Tithes and Offerings:

BSB: 704 901 Acc: 0000 1070

Mission Partners:

BSB: 704 901 Acc: 0001 5767

Please consider your capacity and commitment to give to the work of this parish, by creating a recurring transfer.

ABN: 93 894 007 519

Offerings Jan—June **\$38,358.65**

Budgeted Jan—June \$40,000.00

PRAYER AND PRAISE

The Anglican Communion:

- The Episcopal Church
- The Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn
- The Parish of Woolloongabba
- FSG (Family Support Group)
- St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School, Corinda

Missions:

- We pray for our mission partner 4Voices and their ongoing work.

Our Community:

- Pray for the homeless, the lost, the lonely and those in need.

Our Parish:

- The Leadership team and each other as we follow God in our mission.

Those in need:

- Those known to us: Katherine, Noelene, Tammy, John, Karen, Kelly Carlaw, Daphne, Leonnie, Gwen, Joyce & Annette, Bev, Maggie, Betty, Margaret, Carol, Neale & Janet, Ian Smith, Glenn
- We pray for all who are grieving the loss of loved ones.
- We pray for all who are suffering from conflict and natural disasters.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Grant to us, Lord, we beseech you,
the spirit to think and do always such things as are
right,
that we, who cannot do anything that is good
without you,
may by you be enabled to live according to your
will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For more information: (07) 3132 7888 or visit www.holyspiritalgester.com