



HOLY SPIRIT
ALGESTER

Holy Spirit News

WELCOME | August 16, 2026

FEATURED NEWS



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

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

Romans 2:17–3:8 gives us an uncomfortable challenge: it is possible to know about God, speak about God and even be deeply involved in religion, without allowing God to change our hearts. Paul challenges those who proudly relied on the law and their religious identity. Their faith had become a matter of "Look at me" look at what I know, what I believe and what I have done. Yet their lives were not reflecting the God they claimed to represent. Their outward religion had become a veil for the idols of the heart, and even religion itself had become an idol.

The same warning is for us. We can hear a sermon and immediately think about someone else who needs to hear it. We can love biblical truth without allowing it to convict us. We can be good at looking Christian without becoming more like Christ. Paul reminds us that what matters is not simply what is written on the outside, but what God is doing within us: a heart transformed by the Spirit. So ask yourself this week: Am I living as an advertisement for God, or as a "Keep Clear" sign? Is my faith producing greater humility, love, forgiveness and generosity? Our hope is not found in how well we perform, but in Jesus. He was cut off for us, bearing the consequences of our sin, so that we might be made right with God. The gospel turns our eyes away from "Look at me" and teaches us to say, "Look at Christ."

In Christ,
Rev'd Chris

Empowering and Transforming lives to be Disciples of Jesus

GENERAL NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

21 August - Mainly Music 10am

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.

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



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

RSVP HERE:



Ausponsored by Social Responsibilities Committee - Anglican Church Southern Queensland



WEEK 4

Written on our Hearts

SUNDAY MORNING *SERMON NOTES:*

FAMILY TIME **TALK**

What does it mean to “look like Jesus” rather than simply “look like a Christian”? How can people see Jesus in the way we treat others?

PLAN

This week, choose one practical way your family can show Jesus’ love to someone else. You might write an encouraging note, help someone who is struggling, invite someone for a meal, or do something kind without expecting anything in return. At the end of the week, talk about what happened.

PRAY

Ask God to write his love on your hearts. Pray that the Holy Spirit will help your family become more like Jesus through your words, actions, forgiveness and love. Thank God that our hope is not in how good we are, but in what Jesus has done for us.

READINGS

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

A READING FROM ISAIAH, CHAPTER 56, VERSE 1 and VERSES 6-8:

Thus says the Lord :

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join 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, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant— these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS:

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

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS, CHAPTER 2, VERSE 17 TO CHAPTER 3, VERSE 8:

But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast of your relation to God and know his will and determine what is best because you are instructed in the law, and if you are sure that you are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth, you, then, that teach others, will you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? You that forbid adultery, do you commit adultery? You that abhor idols, do you rob temples? You that boast in the law, do you dishonour God by breaking the law? For, as it is written, 'The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.'

Circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law; but if you break the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. So, if those who are uncircumcised keep the requirements of the law, will not their uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? Then those who are physically uncircumcised but keep the law will condemn you that have the written code and circumcision but break the law. For a person is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is true circumcision something external and physical. Rather, a person is a Jew who is one in-

wardly, and real circumcision is a matter of the heart—it is spiritual and not literal. Such a person receives praise not from others but from God.

Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? Much, in every way. For in the first place the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God. What if some were unfaithful? Will their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? By no means! Although everyone is a liar, let God be proved true, as it is written,

‘So that you may be justified in your words,
and prevail in your judging.’

But if our injustice serves to confirm the justice of God, what should we say? That God is unjust to inflict wrath on us? (I speak in a human way.) By no means! For then how could God judge the world? But if through my falsehood God’s truthfulness abounds to his glory, why am I still being condemned as a sinner? And why not say (as some people slander us by saying that we say), ‘Let us do evil so that good may come’? Their condemnation is deserved!

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW, CHAPTER 15, VERSES 21-28:

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, ‘Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.’ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, ‘Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.’ He answered, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.’ But she came and knelt before him, saying, ‘Lord, help me.’ He answered, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.’ She said, ‘Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that

fall from their masters’ table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.’ And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving God, as you once heard the pleas of a Canaanite woman for her daughter, hear our prayers for the well-being of your world and your church.

We praise you, O God, that you are the God of all nations: we bring to you our prayers for all the peoples of the world. We pray for all leaders of nations, for all with political and legal responsibilities. We pray especially for your people who are pushed to the edges of society by political oppression, economic injustice or by discrimination because of race, gender or creed. We pray for the indigenous people of this country, who have been made outsiders in their own land. Shake our prejudice and complacency, and teach us a faith that is fearless to confront injustice.

Loving God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you, O God, that your church is a house of prayer for every nation: we bring to you our prayers for all who confess your name. We pray for all leaders of churches, for the World Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches and all ecumenical bodies. We pray for the church in hostile and dangerous places, and for all who minister here in your name. We pray especially for those who are not welcomed to eat at your table, for those excluded from priestly ministry, for all who are condemned for unorthodox belief. Shake our certainties and securities, and teach us a faith that is open to receive new understanding.

Loving God, 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.**

We praise you, O God, that you turn away none who call on you for help: we bring to you prayers for all who are in need. We pray for the sick and the sorrowing and for those who care for them. We pray especially for all who are marginalised by disability or disease, for AIDS sufferers, for those with mental illnesses, for the elderly and those shut away in institutions. Shake our indifference and neglect, and teach us a faith that is compassionate to plead the cause of those in need.

Loving God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you, O God, that you welcome home your children of every creed and nation: we give you thanks for your faithful people of every generation. Teach us a faith that is intelligent, persistent and bold, that as you once commended the faith of a Canaanite woman and judged her worthy, we too may be found acceptable in your eyes and, with all your holy people, come to dwell for ever in your presence.

Loving God, 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.

Taken from 'Let Us Pray' by Janet Nelson

ROSTERS

Date	16-8-26		23-8-26	
	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	Allan Berry	Ian Nelson	Julie Elliker	Lorraine Jones
Greeter	-	Kerry Tovey	-	Rhonda Nelson
Sidesperson	Robyn Brodie	Malini Ramachandrom	Rosemary Kake	Dianne Bocquee
Reader 1	Rosemary Kake	Shereen Alwin	Michael Po Saw	Carol Booth
Reader 2	Julie Elliker	Rhonda Nelson	Robert Kake	Ian Nelson
Offertory	Robyn Brodie	Malini Ramachandrom	Rosemary Kake	Dianne Bocquee
Chapel Prayers	-	Rhonda Nelson	-	Carol Booth
Morning Tea	Sharon/Hugh	Jenny/Kerry	Jeanette Clark	Malini/Cecilia
Music Leader	Michael Po Saw	Videos	Michael Po Saw	Ruth Barton
AV Operator	Kay O'Brien	Ian/Rhonda	Adrian Scott	Malini/Chris/Joshua
Prayers of the people	<i>Prayers taken from 'Let Us Pray'</i>		Carol Booth	
Counting	Dianne Bocquee		Ian Nelson	
Kids Church		Kerry/Niya/Jenny		Jenny/Kerry/Niya
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

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Office

Parish Secretary: Kerry Tovey

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READINGS TODAY

Isaiah 56 1, 6-8

Ps 67

Romans 2.17—3.8

Matthew 15.21-28

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Exodus 1.8—2.10

Ps 124

Romans 3.9-20

Matthew 16.13-20

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 Church in Wales
- The Diocese of Newcastle
- The Parish of Allora-Clifton
- Churchwardens, Parish Councillors, Parish Nominators and Synod Representatives
- The Glennie School, Toowoomba

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

Almighty God,
you have given your only Son
to be for us both a sacrifice for sin
and also an example of godly life:
give us grace
that we may always thankfully receive the benefits
of his sacrifice,
and also daily endeavour to follow the blessed
steps of his most holy life;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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