

FEATURED NEWS



MISSION PARTNER



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

As we come to the end of our series, Genesis: A Fallen Family and the Faithfulness of God, we are reminded that God is always at work, even through broken families, painful circumstances, and human failure. Joseph's remarkable words to his brothers capture the heart of the story: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good." God does not call evil good, but in his faithfulness he is able to redeem what is broken and bring life where there was once despair. That same hope is on display as we celebrate the confirmation of eleven members of our church family today. Each has their own story, with joys and struggles, questions and discoveries. Yet they stand before us as witnesses to God's faithful work in their lives, affirming the promises made at their baptism and publicly declaring their trust in Jesus Christ.

Confirmation is not the end of the journey but another step in following Christ. Just as God continued his faithful purposes through Joseph and his family, he continues his work in each of us, shaping us into the likeness of his Son. Today we give thanks that God is still making all things new, still bringing good from brokenness, and still calling ordinary people to trust him. May we encourage those being confirmed and renew our own commitment to walk faithfully with Christ..

In Christ,
Rev'd Chris

GENERAL NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

21 July - PC Meeting 7pm

23 July - Zephyr Education Guest Speaker to visit 7.15pm

24 July - Mainly Music 10am

31 July - 'Strive to be Kind Day'

1 August - Café & Car Wash 8.30am-midday

ZEPHYR EDUCATION:

During July the AMUA is collecting for Zephyr Education. Please make a donation to the baskets in the church foyer. We are looking for lunch boxes, drink bottles and children's pyjamas, socks and underwear.

GUEST SPEAKER:

On Thursday 23rd July at 7.15 pm in the church, Kelsey Powell from Zephyr Education will visit us to explain the work done by this organisation. All parishioners are welcome to attend, both women and men. So come along with your questions and after the talk enjoy a light supper with fellowship and further discussion.

Jenny Bullock

SERMONS ONLINE:

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

STRIVE TO BE KIND DAY:

On Friday 31st of July for Strive to be Kind Day, we are showing neighbourly love and kindness to the parents of the children at Goodstart Daycare at drop off time in the morning with a cuppa on us. Come along and connect with members of our wider parish community and support this initiative.

CAFÉ & CARWASH:

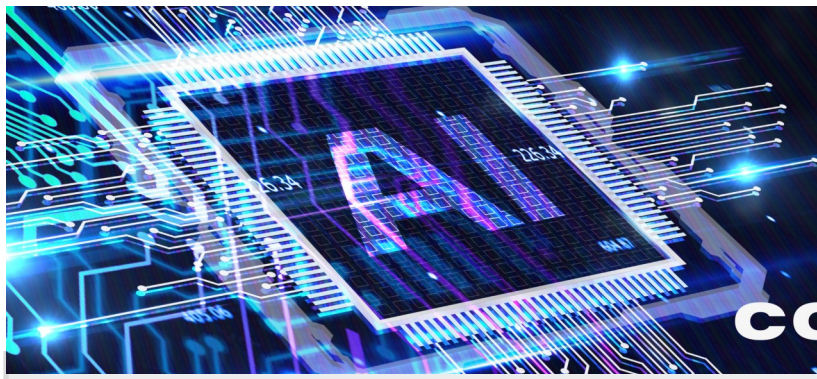
We are next open for business on Saturday 1st August, 8.30am-12!

If you're out and about, why not drop in for a special coffee and selection of delicious sweet treats and enjoy our hospitality!

We will also be holding our Car Wash on this morning so make a note and save your dirty car till then!

GREETING CARDS:

The AMUA greeting cards have been restocked and now include a lovely selection of birthday cards for women and children. Unfortunately there has had to be a price increase, so that each card now costs \$2.



FROM THE BISHOP AI & CONFIRMATION

SUNDAY MORNING *SERMON NOTES:*

FAMILY TIME **TALK**

Have you ever had someone do something that really hurt you, but later you became friends again? Was it easy to forgive?

PLAN

Take a jigsaw puzzle (20–50 pieces). Mix all the pieces up and work together as a family to put it back together. Talk about how Joseph's family was broken by jealousy and hurt, but God helped bring the pieces back together. This week we also celebrate eleven people being confirmed. God is still putting lives together, helping people grow in faith and become part of his family.

PRAY

Place the completed puzzle in the middle of the table. Take turns gently placing a hand on one piece of the puzzle and pray:

"Lord Jesus, thank you that you can bring good out of hard times. Thank you for making us part of your family. Bless those who have been confirmed this week and help all of us to keep trusting and following you. Amen."

READINGS

SENTENCE:

You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Psalms 86.15

A READING FROM GENESIS, CHAPTER 45, VERSES 1-11 and CHAPTER 50, VERSES 15-21:

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, 'Send everyone away from me.' So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty."

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong

that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS:

Psalms 139.1-11, 23-24

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me:
you know when I sit or when I stand,
you comprehend my thoughts long before.
- 2 **You discern my path and the places where I rest:
you are acquainted with all my ways.**
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue:
but you, Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 **You have encompassed me behind and before:
and have laid your hand upon me.**
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me:
so high that I cannot endure it.
- 6 **Where shall I go from your spirit:
or where shall I flee from your presence?**
- 7 If I ascend into heaven you are there:
if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.
- 8 **If I spread out my wings towards the morning:
or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me:
and your right hand shall hold me.
- 10 If I say 'Surely the darkness will cover me:
and the night will enclose me',**
- 11 The darkness is no darkness with you,
but the night is as clear as the day:
the darkness and the light are both alike.
- 23 Search me out, O God, and know my heart:
put me to the proof and know my
thoughts.**
- 24 Look well lest there be any way of
wickedness in me:
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

**A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE
ROMANS, CHAPTER 8, VERSES 12-25:**

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

**THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW, CHAPTER 13,
VERSES 24-30 AND 36-43:**

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Faithful God, you have promised that there is no place on earth beyond your presence: hear our prayers for the world and its people.

We pray for all who live in places of war and oppression;
for prisoners of conscience and for refugees;
for the leaders of nations and all who make and administer laws.

Search out our hearts and lead us in your way, that we may work for an end to war and injustice.

Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, you have promised to make us your adopted sons and daughters: hear our prayers for your holy, catholic church.

We pray for all who will be baptised or confirmed today;

for all who suffer persecution for their faith and for those whose faith is weak;
for pastors and teachers and all who lead your people.

Search out our hearts and lead us in your way, that by our lives we may proclaim your good news to the world.

Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, you have promised to bless all the families of the earth: hear our prayers for our families, our friends and for all who live or work in this community.

We pray for all who are hungry or homeless, the marginalised and unwanted;

for those with too little work or too little reward for their labour;
for all who contribute to the well-being of this community.

Search out our hearts and lead us in your way, that we may live in love for you and for each other.

Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, we thank you for Zephyr Education and their work with children affected by domestic violence.

Bless their mission to provide school uniforms and

supplies, and to restore dignity and hope.

Be with every child they support—bring healing, courage, and peace. Strengthen those who serve through Zephyr, and guide us as partners in their work, that together we may reflect your love and justice.

Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, you have promised to be with us even in the darkest parts of life: hear our prayers for all who are in pain, sorrow or hardship.

We pray for those who do not know the joy of companionship and love;

for those whose minds are anxious and whose hearts are sad;
for the sick and the dying and for all who care for them.

Search out our hearts and lead us in your way, that we may respond with generosity to the needs of others.

Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, you have promised your people the hope of glory: hear our prayers for all who have died in this hope.

We give thanks for the lives of all good and holy people and remember from this parish those who have gone before us.

Search out our hearts and lead us in the way everlasting, that we, with all your saints, may enter the gate of heaven and dwell for ever in your presence.

Merciful God,
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 taken from 'Let Us Pray' by Janet Nelson

ROSTERS

Date	19-7-26		26-7-26	
	7.00am	9.00am	7.00am	9.00am
Worship Leader	Bp John Roundhill	Bp John Roundhill	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate
Preacher	Bp John Roundhill	Bp John Roundhill	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate
LA Leader	Robert Kake	Dianne Bocquee	Allan Berry	Lorraine Jones
Greeter		Rhonda Nelson	-	Kerry Tovey
Sidesperson	Robyn Brodie	Aryan & Arjun	Rosemary & Rose	Dianne Bocquee
Reader 1	Julie Elliker	Jayden Psalm: Nivya	Joan Harvey	Carol Booth
Reader 2	Rosemary Kake	Aryan	Kay O'Brien	Shiprah Allu
Offertory	Robyn Brodie	Aryan & Arjun	Rosemary & Rose	Dianne Bocquee
Chapel Prayers	-	Rhonda Nelson	-	Carol Booth
Morning Tea	Sharon/Hugh	Jenny/Ruth	Jeanette Clark	Malini/Cecelia
Music Leader	Ruth Barton	Ruth Barton	Michael Po Saw	Ruth Barton
AV Operator	Kay O'Brien	Rhonda/Ian	Adrian Scott	Chris/Joshua
Prayers of the people	<i>Prayers taken from Let Us Pray</i>		Shereen Alwin	
Counting	Ian Nelson		Ruth Barton	
Kids Church		Remain in church for Confirmation		Kerry/Jenny/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

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READINGS TODAY

Genesis 45.1-11; 50.15-21

Ps 139.1-11, 23-24

Romans 8.12-25

Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Genesis 29.15-28

Ps 105.1-11

Romans 1.1-17

Matthew 13.44-58

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—May **\$32,198.25**

Budgeted Jan—May **\$33,333.33**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

The Anglican Communion:

- The Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
- The Diocese of Perth
- The Parish of St John's Cathedral
- Little Angels ELC, Salisbury
- Toowoomba Anglican School, Toowoomba

Missions:

- We pray for our mission partner Zephyr 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, Bev, Maggie, Betty, Margaret, 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

O God,
you alone can order our unruly wills and affections:
teach us to love what you command,
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the changes and chances of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed where true
joys are to be found;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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