



## ANGLICAN PARISH OF GAYNDAH WITH MT. PERRY

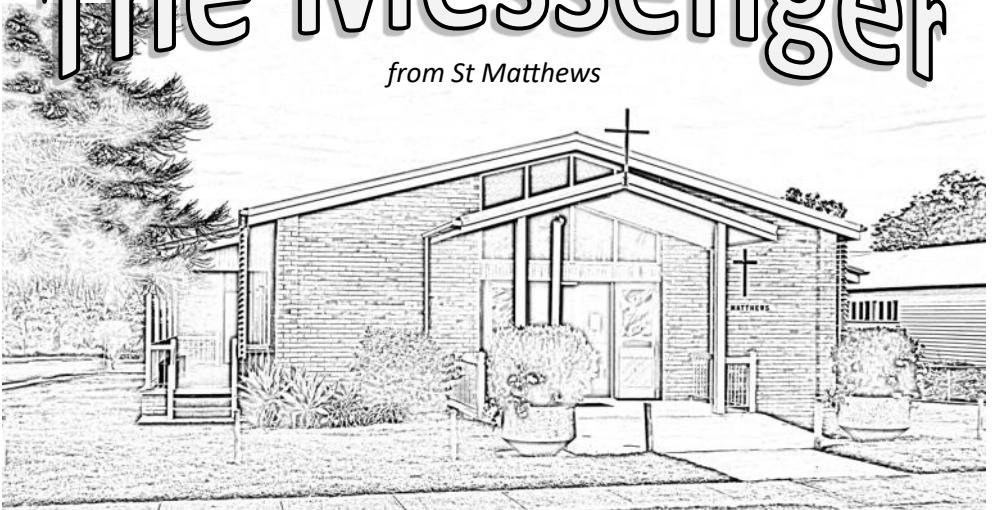
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# The Messenger

*from St Matthews*



**FEBRUARY 2017 (48TH EDITION) FREE**

### **A BLESSING FOR 2017**

God bless thy year:  
Thy coming in, thy going out,  
Thy rest, thy travelling about.  
The rough, the smooth,  
The bright, the drear.  
God bless thy year!

## TIME OF TRANSITION

Last Sunday, Canon Janne announced her retirement from full time ministry after Easter, with her last service at St Matthew's on Sunday 23 April. Canon Janne and Chris have been in Gayndah just over 5 years, and will retire to their home at Calliope.

The Archbishop has asked that a discussion take place within the congregation regarding the future of the parish, particularly in regard to the twin problems of finance and the scarcity of clergy. Information and discussion will be part of the coming parish Annual General Meeting (Sunday 19 February).

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The parish Annual General Meeting will be held this year on Sunday 19 February, 9:30am-11am in the parish hall, following 8am worship. The meeting will include a time for questions, comments and discussions about possibilities for the future of the parish. The meeting will also elect Churchwardens, Synod representatives, Parish Nominators and Parish Councilors for the year ahead. Please pray that people who are led by the Spirit of God will offer themselves for these ministries.

## JET'S LAW & DRIVING

- from the Department of Transport and Main Roads, Queensland Government

*“Driving a motor vehicle is an essential part of most people’s lives. However, the privilege of driving also comes with certain responsibilities. Driving a motor vehicle is a complex task that requires good perception, good judgement, adequate responsiveness and reasonable physical capability. For your safety and the safety of others, you must drive only when you are medically fit to do so. A range of medical conditions (mental and physical) may adversely affect your ability to drive safely, and could result in a crash causing death or injury.*



*The story of Jet Rowland (pictured) demonstrates why managing your medical condition is essential. In 2004, a (Brisbane) driver with epilepsy had a seizure and crashed into the car in which Jet was travelling. Jet, 22 months old, was killed by the impact of the crash. Jet’s 7 year old brother Bailey now uses a wheelchair and his mother Anita was also severely injured. Medical condition reporting legislation introduced after the tragic death of Jet Rowland has been named Jet’s Law in his recognition.”*

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Parish Churchwarden and Lay Minister Sue Jameson preached at St Matthew's on Sunday 1 January this year, reflecting on the name of Jesus and the fact that we, God's people, are called by his name - Christians. This is part of Sue's sermon, as she reflected on 2 Chronicles 7: 14:



*"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."*

This verse of scripture gives us a powerful new year's resolution in 4 parts:

1. *If we humble ourselves* - humble is to be modest, courteously respectful, acknowledging that we need a Saviour
2. *If we humble ourselves and pray* - praying is having a conversation with God, worshipping, giving thanks, asking forgiveness, asking for blessings for ourselves and others, and listening
3. *If we humble ourselves and pray and seek God's face* - seeking God's face is to have a desire or longing in our hearts to discover God's love and character in an ever deepening way.
4. *If we humble ourselves and pray and seek God's face and turn from our wicked ways* - true repentance is more than talk, it is changed behavior.

And this is an awesome New Year's resolution because it comes with a promise from God! .... *Then God will hear from heaven and will forgive our sins and will heal our land.* Following these steps will lead to forgiveness and God will answer our earnest prayers. He will heal and bless our nation, our churches, our towns, our properties, our families and ourselves.

## THAT'S A GOOD SERMON!

Every Sunday, all over the world, in churches of all denominations, preachers preach sermons. But what makes a good sermon? Is a good sermon one that doesn't go on too long? Or one with a good story? While some sermons can be difficult to understand or hard to hear, the most important factor for a good sermon is a good listener.

A good sermon prompts us into action, and that depends on whether we are prepared to hear the prompting. A good sermon encourages us in our Christian life, and that depends on whether we are listening for the encouragement. A good sermon also gives us something to remember, and that depends on the effort we put in to remember just one snippet of the sermon.

Listeners who put as much effort into listening to sermons as preachers do in preparing them, are far more likely to recognize a sermon as good.

***Look at what's been  
seen on some church  
notice boards....***

**FREE TRIP TO  
HEAVEN -  
DETAILS  
INSIDE**

**FIGHT  
DEC  
FOLLOW**

**SHOULD ATHEISTS  
CLAIM INSURANCE  
FOR "ACTS OF GOD"?**

**ATTITUDES ARE  
CONTAGEOUS -  
ARE YOURS WORTH  
CATCHING?**

**DON'  
WON  
KILL  
LET THE  
HE**

**ADAM AND EVE -  
THE FIRST NOT TO  
READ APPLE TERMS  
AND CONDITIONS**

**STOP, DROP  
AND ROLL  
WON'T WORK  
IN HELL**

**WELC  
OUR CH  
PRA  
CONDIT**

**TROUBLE SLEEPING?  
WE HAVE SERMONS  
TO HELP**

**WE ARE STILL  
OPEN  
BETWEEN  
CHRISTMAS  
AND EASTER**

**THE BEST  
FOR A CH  
E**

TRUTH  
CAY  
W JESUS

**GET YOUR  
FAITH LIFT  
HERE**

SIN BAD  
JESUS GOOD  
DETAILS INSIDE

T LET  
RRY  
YOU  
CHURCH  
LPL

CHURCH IS NOT A  
MUSEUM FOR SAINTS  
IT'S A HOSPITAL FOR  
SINNERS

THERE ARE SOME  
QUESTIONS THAT  
CAN'T BE  
ANSWERED BY  
GOOGLE

COME!  
URCH IS  
YER  
TIONED

I'M ALSO MAKING  
A LIST AND  
CHECKING IT  
TWICE  
  
- GOD

**SOLAR  
POWERED  
BY THE SON**

VITAMIN  
RISTIAN IS  
BI

LIFE IS SHORT -  
ETERNITY ISN'T

**TOO HOT TO  
CHANGE SIGN -  
MESSAGE  
INSIDE**

## CHRISTMAS TESTIMONIES BY WORLD LEADERS

### FROM HER MAJESTY, QUEEN ELIZABETH II:

*“When people face a challenge they sometimes talk about taking a deep breath to find courage or strength. In fact, the word ‘inspire’ literally means ‘to breathe in’. But even with the inspiration of others, it’s understandable that we sometimes think the world’s problems are so big that we can do little to help. On our own, we cannot end wars or wipe out injustice, but the cumulative impact of thousands of small acts of goodness can be bigger than we imagine.*

*At Christmas, our attention is drawn to the birth of a baby some two thousand years ago. It was the humblest of beginnings, and his parents, Joseph and Mary, did not think they were important.*

*Jesus Christ lived obscurely for most of his life, and never travelled far. He was maligned and rejected by many, though he had done no wrong. And yet, billions of people now follow his teaching and find in him the guiding light for their lives. I am one of them because Christ’s example helps me see the value of doing small things with great love, whoever does them and whatever they themselves believe.*

*The message of Christmas reminds us that inspiration is a gift to be given as well as received, and that love begins small but always grows.”*

### FROM (THEN) PRESIDENT OBAMA:

*“Today, like millions of Americans and Christians around the world, our family celebrates the birth of Jesus and the values He lived in his own life. Treating one another with love and compassion. Caring for those on society’s margins: the sick and the hungry, the poor and the persecuted, the stranger in need of shelter – or simply an act of kindness. That’s the spirit that binds us together.*

*..... May God bless you all with peace and joy in the year ahead.”*

## PICNIC SPOT

Thanks to extensive work done since the 2013 floods, the road from Gayndah to Mingo crossing through Gooroolba is now all bitumen, with many new stretches, and Mingo Crossing itself is now a very attractive picnic area. There are picnic tables and shade paces, as well as a lovely sloping grassy bank where people are welcome to walk, drive or day camp right on the edge of the Burnett.

Only 12km of dirt remains on the northern stretch of the road from the crossing to Mount Perry (from Mingo Station towards Sunday Creek). The trip makes a lovely drive - so much improved from 5 years ago when it included 30km of rough dirt!

## QUESTION TIME: WHO ARE THE JEWS?

There are three aspects of being a Jew, for Jews are a race of people, a culture and a faith. Some people are Jews by race only, with ancestry and parentage set clearly within the Jewish race, but living the life of an adopted culture. Some people are Jews by culture, keeping the major festivals and sending their children to Jewish schools. Some people are Jews of faith, worshipping regularly, studying the (Old Testament) scriptures, keeping the commandments and speaking and reading Hebrew. Some Jews are all three. Other people who are not Jews by race or heritage may have become Jews of faith.

Even though a small race, Jews have had a significant part in world history for over 4,000 years. Jesus was a Jew. In the Old Testament, the Jewish people were often called Hebrews, the name of their language, or Israelites, the name given by God to Jacob. The Old Testament also names the Jews as God's chosen people, and defines the land of Israel as the home given to them by God. Today, Jews live in many countries around the world and speak many languages. While most Jews of faith are still waiting for the promised Messiah, some acknowledge and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah, and are called Messianic Jews.

## WORDS OF WISDOM

*- Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never up to them anyway.

### ZERO TOLERANCE

The Anglican church does not tolerate abuse of any kind.

The Archbishop of Australia urges all victims of institutional abuse to contact the Police and the Director of Professional Standards phone 07 3835 2266.

## FEBRUARY 2017 AT ST MATTHEWS

DAY	TIME	EVENT
Wednesday 1 February	9:30am	Bible Studies resume (Gospel of John)
Friday 3 February	9:30am	Deanery meeting Mundubbera
	11am	Nursing Home ministry
Saturday 4 February	8am	Street Stall near pop up shop
Sunday 5 February	8am	Eucharist St Matthew's (Epiphany 5)
Tuesday 7 February	5pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday 8 February	9:30am	Bible Study (John cont.)
Friday 10 February	9:30am	RE Gayndah Primary
	11am	Nursing Home ministry
Sunday 12 February	8am	Eucharist St Matthew's (Epiphany 6)
Tuesday 14 February	5pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday 15 February	9:30am	Bible Study (John cont.)
Thursday 16 February	9:30am	MU worship & meeting
Friday 17 February	9:30am	RE Gayndah Primary
	11am	Nursing Home ministry
Sunday 19 February	8am	Eucharist St Matthew's (Epiphany 7)
	9:30am	Parish Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 21 February	5pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday 22 February	9:30am	Bible Study (John cont.)
Thursday 23 February	11am	Holy Communion at GRV
Friday 24 February	9:30am	RE Gayndah Primary
	7pm	Consecration Bishop Jeremy Greaves
Sunday 26 February	8am	Morning Prayer St Matthews
	11am	Morning Prayer St Annes
Tuesday 28 February	5pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday 1 March	9:30am	Ash Wednesday Eucharist
	5pm	Ash Wednesday Eucharist