



Townsville Ministry Unit



May 2026 Parish News

Dean

**The Very Rev'd
and Venerable
Dr Kenneth Lay
0422 148 952**

Assisting Clergy

**Rev Vic Hall
Rev Christine Readman
Fr Mitchell Porter
Fr Kevin Bourke
Rev Shirley Thomson**

Wardens:

**Owen Stanley
0419656816**

**Leigh Kennedy
0473974282**

Our Ministry Unit

Phone 0432 833 451

Post PO Box 108, Townsville, 4810

Email: stjamescathedral@hotmail.com

Website: stjamescathedral.com.au

Facebook: [/townsvillecathedral/](https://www.facebook.com/townsvillecathedral/)

Instagram [@cathedral.tsv](https://www.instagram.com/cathedral.tsv)

DIRECT DEBIT

Church Wardens of
St James Cathedral General Account
BSB 034 222
Acc 250713

ANONYMOUS DONATION (ANFIN)

A brochure & information can be found at
**ANFIN – Anglican Church Southern
Queensland (anglicanchurchsq.org.au)**



Thanksgiving

If you use either method, you may pick up a laminated card from the table on entry to deposit in the offering plate

Services

Sundays:

7.15 am St Marks Belgian Gardens

9 am St James

Mon, Tues, Wed & Friday St James:

8.30 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday St James:

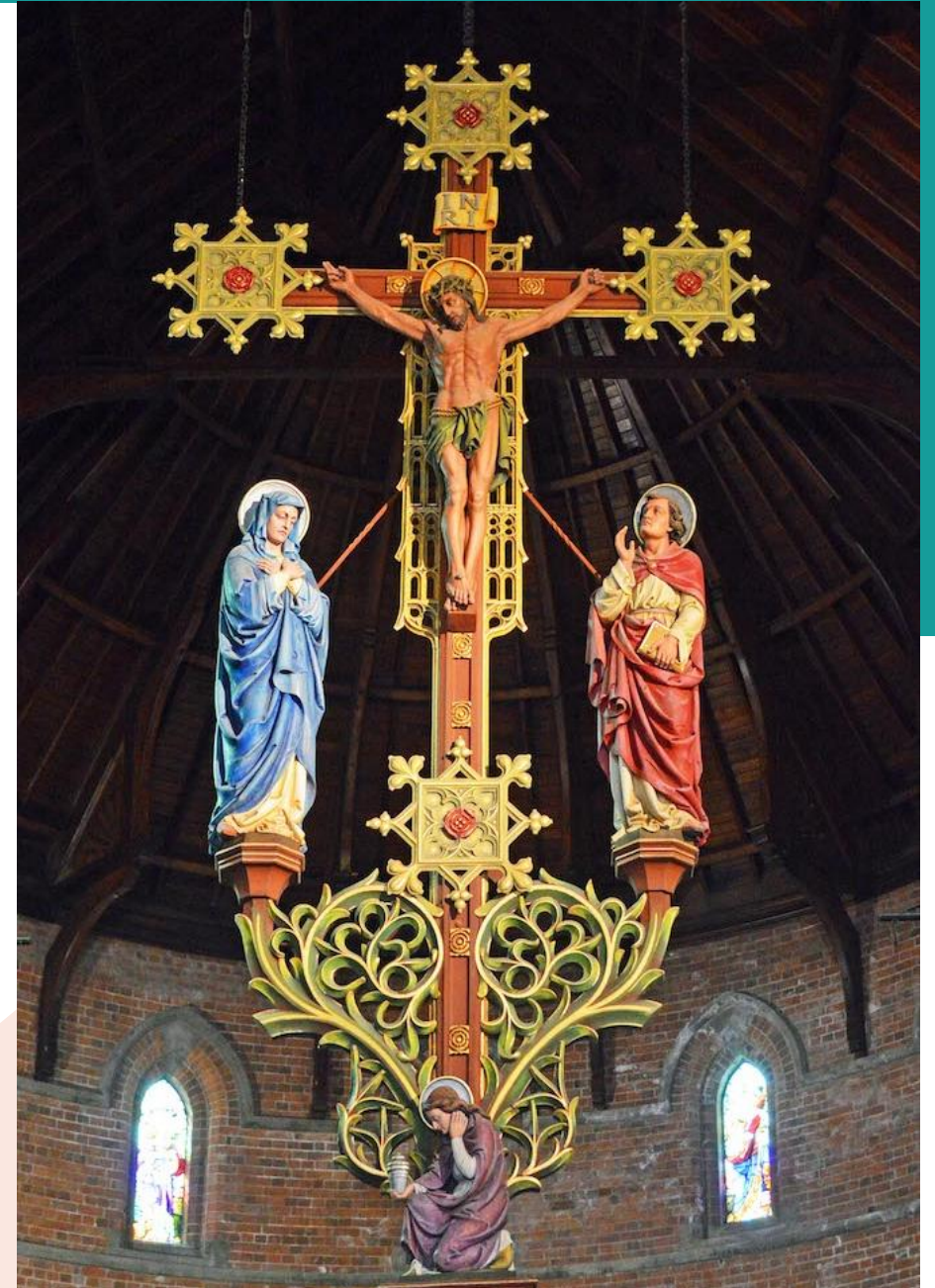
Eucharists 12 noon & 5.30pm

Saturday:

5 pm St Margarets Magnetic Island

St James is open most weekdays

8am-noon (except in Jan)





What's Happening

in May



May 1st

St Philip

His symbols are a cross and
two loaves of bread, because
of Philip's remark when
Jesus fed the multitude.
John 6:7



May 1st

St James the Lesser

James is represented by a saw,
since it is said his body was
sawn in pieces after a terrible
martyrdom





3 MAY 2026

Domestic Violence Sunday



END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

FAMILIES
CULTURE &
COMMISSION



ten
commitments



Even song

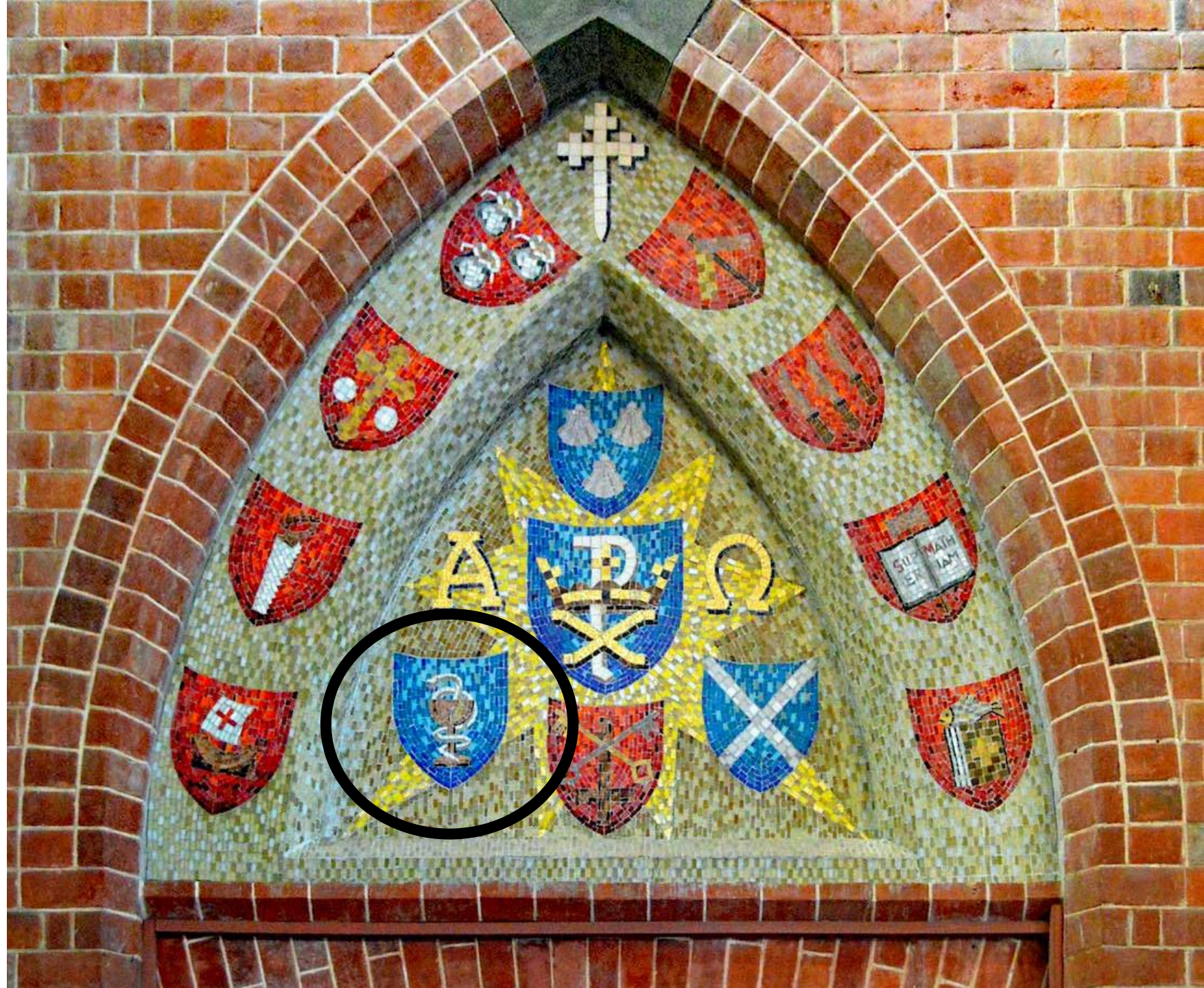
6pm May 3rd

May 6th

St John

His symbol is a chalice with a poisonous snake

Early writers state that John once drank from a poisoned chalice and was unharmed.



Townsville Cemeteries

Belgian Gardens



MOTHER'S DAY MEMORIAL

Remembering those we've lost.

Belgian Gardens Cemetery

Saturday 9 May | 8.30 – 10am

Join us at Belgian Gardens Cemetery for a special ceremony to remember those close to us that we have lost.

Open to all who seek to connect with others to remember their loved ones ahead of Mother's Day.

- ♥ Words of reflection with Amanda Medill
- ♥ Gentle music by Alex Salvador
- ♥ Invitation to share your own poetry
- ♥ Mindfulness craft activities
- ♥ Light morning tea and coffee* kindly provided by the Rotary Saints
- ♥ Free native plant to take home*

*Limited availability

*Free
community
event*



[What's On Townsville](#)

A Mother's Day Prayer

Lord we pray for all

MOTHERS

Beautiful and wonderful
they fill the earth
Gracious in Your call they
carry life
In a bond of love they bring
forth a child.

Happy Mother's Day



We ask You to bless all

MOTHERS today

May they feel the joys of motherhood
everyday
In all their struggles giving us a livelihood
May Your **LOVE** and **COMPASSION**
be with them for good.

May every **MOTHER** feel today
The pride and beauty of a family they bear
Through all pain and sorrow Lord
deliver them
In Your **STRENGTH** and **GRACE**
may they always stay.
AMEN!

Read full Prayer at christianstt.com



May 10th
Mothers' Day

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Every dollar raised helps support those impacted by cancer.

When: May 10th

Where: St James

Time: After the 9am service

Details: An even BIGGER Morning Tea



MISSION OF THE MONTH

May
2026

Therefore GO and make disciples of ALL nations

Donations can be made
through the envelopes or
direct debit, marked with
the name of Mission
BSB 034 222
Account Number
250713 250713

How your cup helps.



Can help pay for the collection and ongoing storage of a tumour sample used in studies to improve the way we prevent and detect cancers.



Provides up to one week of scholarship funding for a PhD research student. Can pay for a lab assistant for a day to support a researcher with vital laboratory testing.



Helps provide training to leaders of cancer support groups where people can meet and share their experiences in an emotionally supportive environment.



Makes it possible for our 13 11 20 health professionals to help 15 people affected by cancer who need information or emotional and practical support.



Helps provide the community with information about breast, bowel and cervical cancer screening, helping to save more lives.

Turn over to read about the people you're supporting.
biggestmorningtea.com.au
#biggestmorningtea



Turn over to read about the people you're supporting.
biggestmorningtea.com.au
#biggestmorningtea



How your cup helps.

"Cancer Council were so kind when I spoke with them and asked if we needed any help. We received support in securing accommodation and transport, helping me get from our regional home to the city to access treatment. To us this was a big deal, and we want to repay this back and raise money as a thank you"

—Norma was diagnosed with thyroid cancer in 2006, for which she was able to be treated for in her regional area. However, in 2018 her cancer had returned and metastasised to her liver and lungs, and treatment wasn't available locally. Fortunately, Cancer Council was able to help Norma when she needed it most.

Support

Almost 150,000 Australians are diagnosed with cancer each year, meaning there are many families who need practical information and support. Our cancer nurses and trained volunteers on 13 11 20 help them understand treatment options, prepare for medical appointments or organise legal and financial advice. All these services are made possible by you and others like you.



Norma with her husband George and son Jonathan

"I hosted a Biggest Morning Tea in honour of my Nan, who had breast cancer. I was very grateful she survived, so I hope that the money I raise for Cancer Council can be used to help save other grandparents from cancer, so they can spend more time with their grandchildren."

—Kya, 9, hosted her first Biggest Morning Tea last year in honour of her Nan. She held her morning tea with her mum at their all-ages choir rehearsal, baking treats for everyone and putting a donation box out next to a photo of her Nan – encouraging many other choir members to also share their cancer stories.

Prevention

A third of all cancers can be prevented through modifiable risk factors. You are helping Australians reduce their cancer risk by funding our world-leading prevention campaigns. These include encouraging participation in cancer screening programs and providing education on healthy lifestyle choices.



Kya and her brother Noah

"In 2004, my partner and I were both diagnosed with cancer, me with breast cancer, he with bowel cancer. After chemotherapy, surgery, radiotherapy, I have survived, but sadly, he passed away."

Things have improved so much now, I wake up every day and think I am so grateful. Cancer research in Australia, no one comes near us. I have six grandchildren and I hope they never tell me they have cancer, I want the work to continue on"

—Susan has now been cancer free for 20 years, and will proudly host her 15th Biggest Morning Tea this year in memory of her loving partner, Michael. Susan has also left a gift in her will to help create a cancer free future for generations to come.

Research

Our supporters, like you, have helped us become the largest non-government funder of cancer research in the country, investing \$288 million in Australian cancer research over the past five years alone. Investment in research has helped increase survival rates from 49% in the 1980s to 71% today. Because of research more people are surviving cancer and brilliant Australian researchers are on their way to unlocking more of cancer's secrets.



Susan and Michael

biggestmorningtea.com.au





Australian College of Nursing

International Nurses Day

12 MAY 2026

May 14th



Ascension Day

May 14th
Matthias

His symbols are the
Bible with Axe

Chosen to take the place
of Judas, he is symbolized by
an open Bible and double
bladed battle-axe. He is said to
have been beheaded after his
missionary work



WEEK *of*
PRAYER
for CHRISTIAN UNITY
May 18th – 23rd **2026**



**4pm Saturday
May 16th**

Lettuce Dance Band

We welcome back the Lettuce Dance Band, presenting Eastern European folk music, including Gypsy and Klezmer styles. Guaranteed to get your foot tapping



#NVW2026

Lending a Hand in the Parish

Thank You...

May 24th Pentecost

Banners made by
Graham Miller



Wear Something Red



Thursday Evening May 21st

**The Very Reverend and Venerable
Dr Kenneth Lay's
last Service as the 12th
Dean of St James Cathedral**

Bring and Share Supper



Week of Prayer for Reconciliation

- [National Reconciliation Week - Reconciliation Australia](https://reconciliation.org.au/national-reconciliation-week-2026)



coles

KitchenAid



DO NOT waste your points

Althea would be happy with donations of any of this cookware

Earn credits until Tue
12 May 2026.
Redeem credits until
Tue 19 May 2026.
While stocks last.

**WHAT
HAPPENED**

**in
April**



Holy Baptism

No One????

We welcome into God's Family



Welcome to the 14th Dean of St James Cathedral Rev'd Canon Jeffery Akoai,

Please pray for Jeffery, his wife
Julieth and their two sons, Jeff and
Jedd as they prepare for this role.

MEN'S BREAKFAST



...reinforcements arrived



...then the work began



St Marks Day Celebration



Palm Crosses

The palm is folded into a cross to represent the journey from Jesus's entry into Jerusalem to his sacrifice.

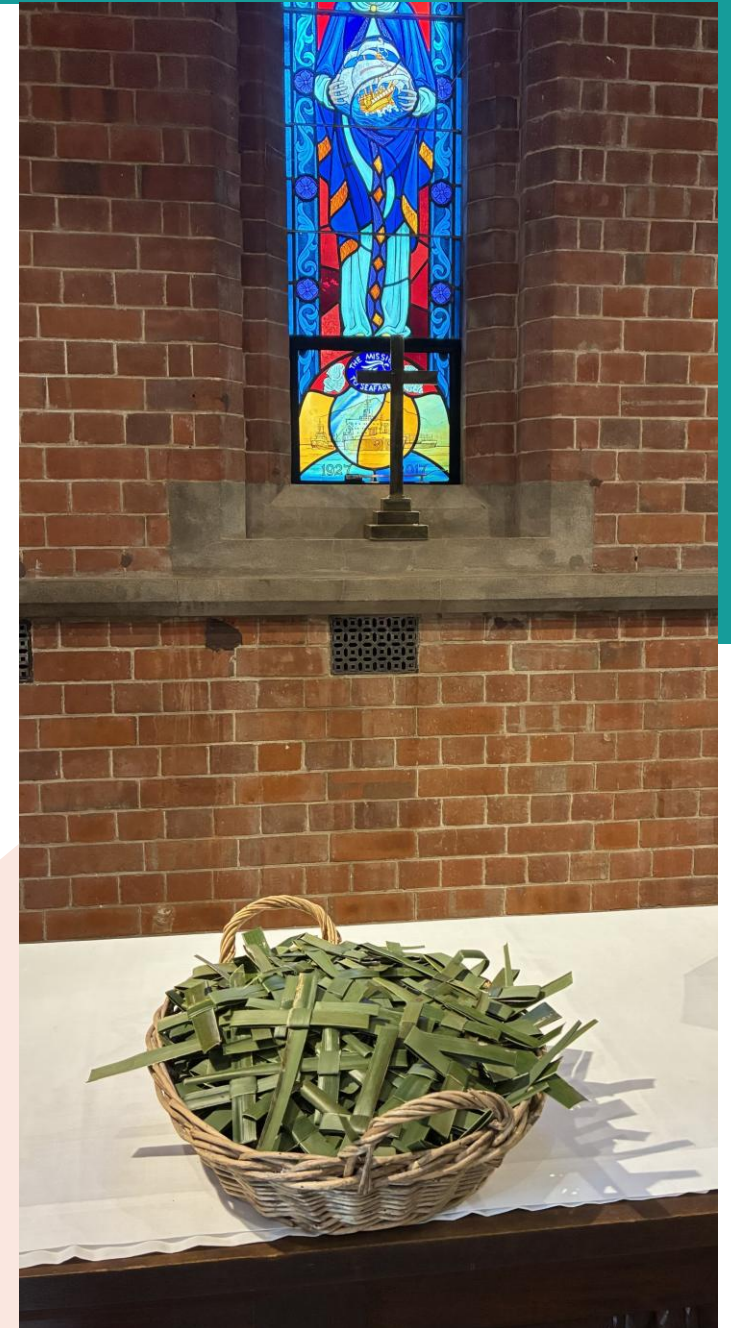
Display in Your Home: Place your palm crosses behind a picture, crucifix, or on a shelf as a devotional reminder of faith.

Give as a Gift: It is a traditional practice to give palm crosses to family members or friends as a sign of blessing.

Keep in Personal Spaces: You can place them in your car, your wallet, or on your nightstand to keep the message of Holy Week close to you throughout the year.

Dispose of Properly: When it is time to replace your palm, the proper, respectful way to dispose of it is to **burn it or bury it**, rather than throwing it in the garbage

If it has become broken or very old, next year we will collect them before Ash Wednesday to burn them, turning the old palms into the ashes.





**Happy 96th
Birthday, Ray**





GET UP WITH

**Adam
& Donny**

WEEKDAYS FROM 6AM



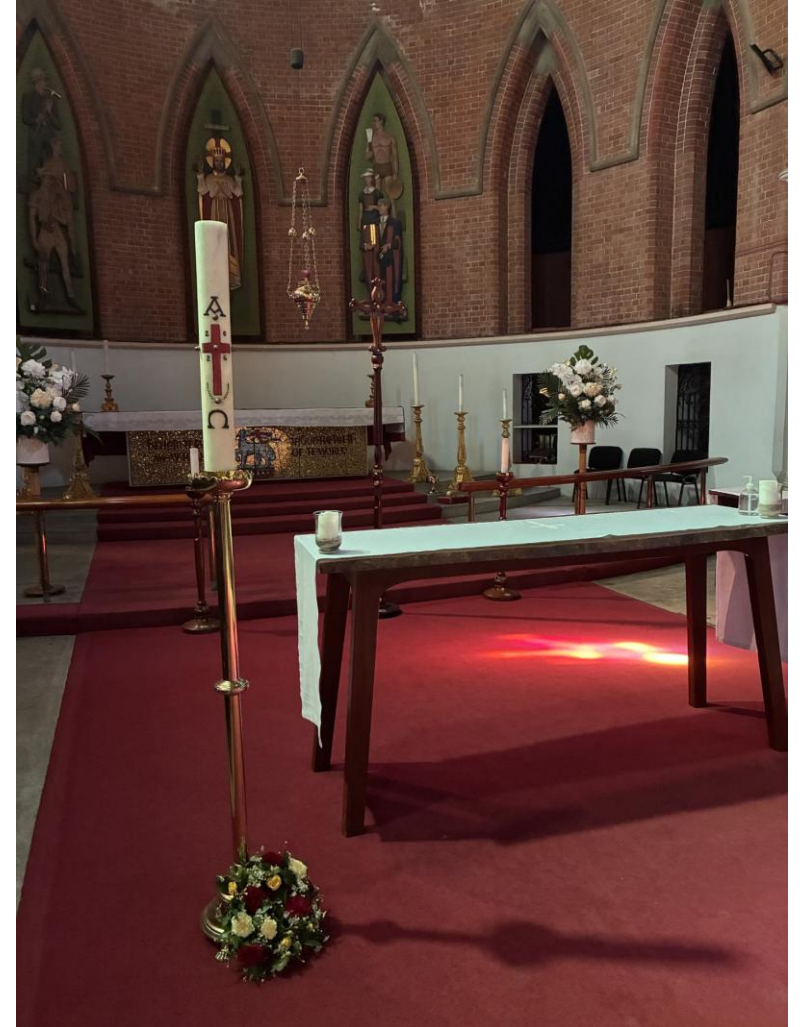
**...and they
gave St James
a good wrap
on their
morning show**



David Börm
Obit: 5 April. 2025



**The beautiful Pascal Candle
flowers were donated by
Christopher Cook in loving
memory of his friend, David**





The Paschal Candle

The Paschal candle, a key symbol of the Easter Vigil, represents the Risen Christ as the "Light of the World" dispelling darkness. It is inscribed with a cross, the Greek letters Alpha and Omega, the current year, and five grains of incense, representing Christ's eternal nature, victory over sin, and five wounds.

Key symbols of the Paschal candle include:

- **The Light/Fire:** Represents the Risen Christ, the "true light" that overcomes darkness.
- **The Cross:** Central symbol indicating Christ's sacrifice, passion, and path to the Father.
- **Alpha (A) and Omega (Ω):** The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, symbolizing that God is the beginning and the end of all existence.
- **The Current Year:** Symbolizes that God is present and reigns in the current time.
- **Five Grains of Incense:** Embedded in the candle, often red in color, representing the five wounds of Jesus – three nails (hands and feet), the spear in his side, and the thorns on his head.
- **Beeswax Material:** Often symbolizes the "spotless humanity" of Christ, historically tied to bees and their role in producing pure wax.
- The candle is lit during the Easter Vigil, used during the Easter season, during Baptisms (signifying passage into the faith), and at funerals to represent the light of the Resurrection.



Easter Strings Concert

St James Cathedral 2026

With Special Guests Pimlico Voices

Pimlico String Orchestra
 Pirates Code by Steven J. Campbell
 Aspen Glow by Susan Day
 Night Ride by Richard Meyer

Pelorus Chamber Strings
 Forever Joyful – Brian Balmages
 Canconeta – Joaquin Rodrigo
 Catharsis – Amy Cann

Pimlico Voices
 Focus on the Feeling (Astrid Jorgensen)
 Human Heart
 (Coldplay/Jacob Collier Collab arr. Jennifer Lucy Cook)

Orpheus Chamber Strings
 Allegro di molto, Divertimento in B-Flat Major, K. 137
 by W. A. Mozart
 A-Roving, Suite for Strings, by John Rutter

As communities gather this weekend,
[@AstroVicGlover](#) reflects on the shared
spaceship we all call home: Earth.



**YOU'RE ON A
SPACESHIP CALLED
EARTH**

**THIS BEAUTIFUL PLACE
THAT WE GET TO EXIST
TOGETHER.**

**THE BEAUTY OF
CREATION,**

**THINGS THAT WERE
DONE FOR US,**

**AND I LOOK AT ALL OF
THE AMAZING**

**THAT WAS CREATED
TO GIVE US A PLACE
TO LIVE**

WHOEVER CREATED IT,

[For the whole script of the speech by Astronaut Vic Glover](#)

Handel's Messiah

CHORAL WINTER SCHOOL



Call for Singers
to perform this
masterpiece
under the
direction of:
Conductor Volker Hedtfeld
Townsville, QLD
6-12 July 2026
in collaboration with Opera Queensland
and Great Barrier Reef Orchestra

COMING UP

Details and registration:

WWW.CLEVELAND-SINGERS.COM

Friends of St James Cathedral 2026 Art & Craft Exhibition

Opening: July 29th

**Exhibition runs
July 30th – August 9th**

Art Prize: “*Townsville Icon*”



St James
Sculpture
Erwin A. Guth

COMING UP

[Further information for Artists](#)

IN THE EARLY DAYS of settlement in North Queensland, ministrations were provided by the Diocese of Sydney to which it was attached, although there was a Diocese of Brisbane. For some time quite big towns—brought into existence chiefly by the discovery of gold—had no ministration whatever.

The first incumbent for this vast territory was the Rev. F. J. Grosvenor, who came to Bowen in 1863, four years after the discovery of Port Denison on which it stands. Bowen was the first place of settlement, and was for some time the port of the whole of North Queensland. In 1863, Townsville came into existence, and the Rev. C. Searle, who succeeded the Rev. F. J. Grosvenor at Bowen, visited there for services about once a quarter.

In the year 1870 a Committee was formed in Townsville for the purpose of making an appeal to Dr. Barker, Bishop of Sydney, to appoint a priest to Townsville, and the priest sent in response was the Rev. J. Adams, whose reminiscences will appear in another part of this book. His parish was a large one taking in, as it did, the whole of the north from Townsville to the Gulf of Carpentaria and extending westwards to the border of South Australia—1200 miles by 700 miles. All the work had to be done on horseback over country where roads can hardly be said to have existed. The main townships visited were Ravenswood, Charters Towers, Georgetown, Hughenden and Cardwell.

At first the services in Townsville were held in the Court House, but on October 1st, 1871, a Church dedicated to St. James was opened. Before the arrival of Mr. Adams, and during his long tours, services were conducted by Mr. J. Gordon, Police Magistrate. The first Confirmation in Townsville was held by Bishop Tufnell, of Brisbane, on 20th November, 1870, in the Court House, and the

following were confirmed:—Francis Hodel, Edward Henry Hodel, George Liddingham, Frances Hodel, Sophia Cecilia Gane and Elizabeth Anne Gane.

The very arduous and fruitful labours of Mr. Adams told on his health, and he was very reluctantly compelled to resign in 1873 and return to Sydney, his successor being the Rev. J. Done, who remained in Townsville until North Queensland was made a Diocese, which took place in 1878. Other incumbents appointed to newly created Parishes before this date were Rev. E. T. Tanner to Mackay in 1873, Rev. J. Jones to Charters Towers in 1875, and the Rev. C. Eva to Cooktown in 1875.

In this short sketch we see a handful of men endeavouring to minister to some thousands of people engaged in mining and pastoral pursuits over an area so great that it was impossible to do the work in anything like a satisfactory manner. We of to-day owe much to the painstaking and self-sacrificing labours of the pioneer priests, who in such isolation from other clergy and from one another, gave themselves without stint to the ministration of the Word and Sacraments under exceedingly trying conditions. They have laboured and we have entered into their labours.



Therefore in the first period of exploration, a handful of lonely priests, who were over 1000 miles distant from their Bishop, pressed hard upon the heels of miners, adventurers and squatters, to stand by the beds of the dying, and share in the adventures of the living, in the name of Jesus Christ.



The Revd. J. Adams.

Archdeacon Adams

The Rev. J. Adams, later Archdeacon of Kildare, Ireland, was the first resident Priest in Townsville, to which he came in 1870. He was instrumental in having its first Church erected in 1871. His work was of an enthusiastic and devoted character. In his reminiscences in this book we get a good idea of its difficulty and magnitude. (See page 100.)

His ministry of three years, brought to an end by ill-health, was of real value in the building up of church life in North Queensland.

ROSTER

Sunday Roster - St James Cathedral, Townsville

	<i>1st Sunday</i>	<i>2nd Sunday</i>	<i>3rd Sunday</i>	<i>4th Sunday</i>	<i>5th Sunday</i>
Welcomers	Kloudya Pollard	Trish and Lee Whitrow	Dee Anaka	Bernice Goon Chew	Dee Anaka
1st Reading & Psalm	Daniel Currie	Trevor Berryman	Amy Webb	Lynore Geia	Ray Bailey
2nd Reading	Wendy Bates	Ray Bailey	Robyn Gould	Beth Honeycombe	Jenny Stirling
Gospel	Shirley Thomson	Jenisha Abraham	Trevor Berryman	Renisha Abraham	Trevor Berryman
Intercessions	Lyn Pemberton	Brenda Fruitier	Jenny Stirling	Helen MacIntosh	Brenda Fruitier
Server	Robyn Gould	Lynore Geia	Robyn Gould	Lynore Geia	Robyn Gould
Chalice Assistant	Lynore Geia	Owen Stanley	Leigh Kennedy	Abraham Sargunasingh	
Morning Tea	Helen MacIntosh		Amy Webb	Christina Abraham	Marion Reid



Joe we've been saving for years for that family tomb—I can't believe you've gone and given it to that maverick disruptor from Nazareth!

Fear not my love—I have a sneaking suspicion he'll only need it for the weekend.

