

Our Weekly Prayers

Church Diocese The World Our Ministry Unit Those in need Anniversary	18th Pray for the Diocese of North West Australia Pray for the Principals, Staff and Students of the Diocesan Schools Give thanks for the work of the United Nations For new members of our Ministry Unit family For those without enough food to survive Catherine Row, Ellen Nettle & Helen Alford
Church Diocese The World Our Ministry Unit Those in need Anniversary	19th Pray for the Diocese of Perth Pray for all School Chaplains Give thanks for the work of the environmental movement For our Synod Reps, Philip Cole and Leigh Kennedy For those who are maimed and injured as a result of warfare Evelyn Watson, Vera Johnston & Walter Scott
Church Diocese The World Our Ministry Unit Those in need Anniversary	20th Pray for the Diocese of Riverina Pray for all University Chaplains For all families, particularly those experiencing hardship For the members of the Friends of the Cathedral For those who live without the necessities of life
Church Diocese The World Our Ministry Unit Those in need Anniversary	21st Pray for the Diocese of Rockhampton Pray for all undertaking theological education For the peoples and rulers of the countries of Asia For our Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, Rev'd Shirley Thomson For those who are suffering with cancer Robin Gilliver & Alex Murray
Church Diocese The World Our Ministry Unit Those in need Anniversary	22nd Pray for the Diocese of Sydney Pray for all involved in Bible Studies in the Ministry Units For all political alliances: especially those involving Australia For those whose work largely goes un-noticed Give thanks for the ministry of the church to the sick and dying
Church Diocese The World Our Ministry Unit Those in need Anniversary	23rd Pray for the Diocese of Tasmania Pray for stipendiary Lay Ministers For those who strive for peace For missionary work outside our Ministry Unit For the staff and residents of our hospitals and aged care homes Mawat Lui, Railana Abbasi & Victor Venn
Church Diocese The World Our Ministry Unit Those in need Anniversary	24th Pray for the Diocese of Murray Pray for those involved in non-stipendiary ministry For all employers For those who read in church For those who are no longer able to live at home: particularly children Ruby Bennett

TOWNSVILLE
ANGLICAN MINISTRY UNIT
Diocese of North Queensland

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Twenty-First Sunday

After Pentecost

18th October,

2026

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Eucharists:
9.00am St James' Cathedral

Wednesday Eucharists:
12 noon St James' Cathedral



WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP.

We hope that you enjoy worshipping with us this morning and we invite you to stay behind and join us for a cuppa.

We are a warm and welcoming church, accepting of all God's people; a diverse congregation in age and backgrounds; a place where everyone is valued for who they are now and not just what they might become; a place where everyone is encouraged to grow in faith, hope and love.

For more information about us, or enquiries about, Baptisms, Weddings, and other activities please contact the Dean - Fr Jeffrey Akoia or the Churchwardens Leigh Kennedy & Owen Stanley.

See contact details above.

As a congregation we acknowledge the Bindal and Wulgurukaba peoples. as original custodians of the land on which our churches are built. We pay respect to their elders past, present and future. We value the traditions, cultures and aspirations of the original stewards of this land and hold in great significance the valuable contribution that they have made and continue to make within the Townsville community.

MINISTRY UNIT DIRECTORY

Dean: Fr Jeffery Akoai **Clergy:** Rev'd Canon Vic Hall
Fr Kevin Bourke
Fr Mitchell Porter
Rev'd Frances Maltby
Rev'd Christine Reedman
Rev'd Shirley Thomson
Deacon Dr Lynore Geia

Wardens: Leigh Kennedy
0473 974 282
Owen Stanley

THANKSGIVING

Please consider direct deposit for your freewill offering to God's work in the Ministry Unit,

Account Name: Church Wardens of St James Cathedral General Account

BSB: 034 222

Account Number: 250713

ANFIN also offers a direct giving option. There are brochures on the back table to complete. It is also possible to complete and lodge the application online.

If you wish to do this, please email the Cathedral and we will send you the link.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Sunday	18th	The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
		9.00am Eucharist at St James
		5.30pm Melanesian Service in Ayr
Monday	19th	8.30am Morning Prayer
		1.30 pm Bolton Clarke
Tuesday	20th	8.30 am Morning Prayer
Wednesday	21st	8.30am Morning Prayer
		12.00pm Eucharist at St James
		5.30pm Eucharist at St James
Thursday	22nd	Fr Jeffery: Charters Towers (All Day)
Friday	23rd	8.30am Morning Prayer
Saturday	24th	10.00 am Baptism
		5:00pm St. Matthews Mass
Sunday	25th	The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
		9.00am Eucharist at St James
		5.30 pm Melanesian High Mass

More than a church - We are a family

SHORT TERM PRAYER LIST:

Mary Gallagher, Zoe, Carrie, Marion Reid, Brenda Fruiter, Jennie Roberts, Tracey, Denise Rougier, Dean Pointing, Davey,

LONG TERM PRAYER LIST

Robyn Gould, Colleen Malcolm, Betty



Which Way? Townsville Youth Mental

Health Forum. 20/10/2026 at St James Anglican Cathedral. We will have a guest speaker and a panel of 5 to 6 people.

THANK YOU: The St. Paul Charters Towers congregation thanked all of you who have donated clothes and books towards their new Thrift Shop project. Donation is still open as Fr. Jeffery is slowly dropping off these items each Thursday on his trip to Charters Towers.

Melanesian High Mass service at 5.30pm on Sunday 25th October.

CHOIR RECRUIT: Please talk to Anne Melanovic or Fr. Jeffery if you can sing and read music and wish to join the choir.

October and November are busy months. Please look after yourselves if you are travelling to visit and spend the Christmas with families overseas and in other states. Drink a lot of water!

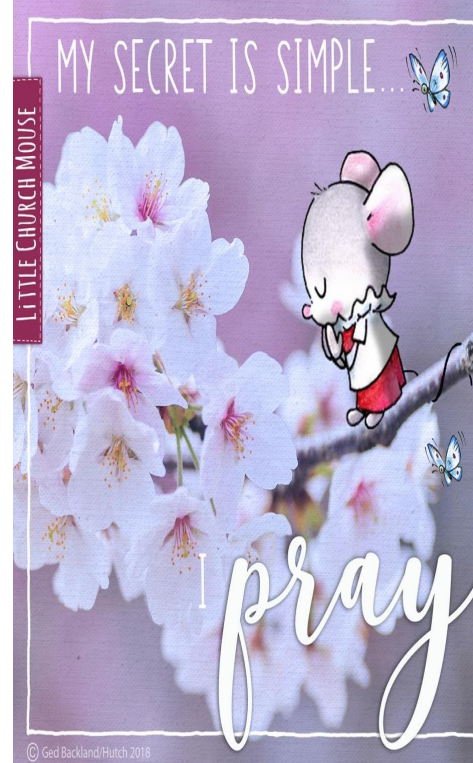
MISSION OF THE MONTH - OCTOBER

This October, our parish family is turning our hearts, prayers, and resources toward Mental Health by supporting HEADSPACE. Headspace Townsville provides free, confidential early-intervention mental health and wellbeing support for young people aged 12 to 25. Operated by Stride Mental Health and supported by the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network, the centre helps youth navigate personal, physical, and professional challenges. How you can support this mission:

- **Pray:** Please keep those struggling with mental health challenges, and the teams at Headspace who support them, in your daily prayers.

- **Give:** Financial donations can be made using the special collection envelopes available at the back.

Note: Please ensure all donations are clearly marked with "Mission of the Month" so they can be directed correctly. Thank you for your support.



ARE YOU VISITING?

Thank you for sharing this worship with us this morning. If you would like to contribute to the funds of the Cathedral, you can use the QR code here, or place your offering on the offertory plate during the hymn.

Your contribution supports the ministry of the churches in our Ministry Unit.



Sexual Abuse contact line: 1800 242 544

A GOSPEL REFLECTION

(Read Matthew 22:15-33)

In today's Gospel, Jesus faces a bombardment of "trick questions" designed to trap Him. First, an unlikely group of Pharisees and Herodians tries to trap Him on civic duty: "Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" If He says yes, He offends devoted Jews; if He says no, He faces Roman treason charges. Next, the



Sadducees pose a ridiculous, hyper-literal scenario about marriage in the resurrection, trying to mock eternal life.

Jesus effortlessly cuts through their traps by exposing their true blindness. Holding up a denarius, He asks whose image is on it. "Caesar's," they reply. His response is timeless: "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to

God the things that are God's."

The coin bears Caesar's stamp, so it belongs to the earthly realm. But what bears the stamp of God? You do.

From the very beginning, humanity was stamped with the image and likeness of the Creator. While we navigate our temporary civic duties, our ultimate allegiance, our hearts, and our future belong to God. When Jesus pivots to answer the Sadducees, He reminds them that God is "not the God of the dead, but of the living."

We are called to live dynamically in the present world without losing sight of eternity. Earthly institutions can claim our currency, but only God can claim our souls. This week, ask yourself: Am I giving God what truly belongs to Him?

THE 21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Year A)

Sentence

Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's,
and to God the things that are God's.

Matthew 22:21

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: grant that your church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in proclaiming the cross to be the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

A reading from the book of Exodus (33:12-23)

Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the

rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

The response to the verses of Psalm 99 is:
He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud.

The Lord is king; let the people tremble; he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake. The Lord is great in Zion; he is high above all peoples. Let them confess his name, which is great and awesome; he is the Holy One.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud.

'O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.' Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; he is the Holy One.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud.

Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his name, they called upon the Lord and he answered them. He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud.

'O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.' Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud.

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians (1:1-10)

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and

peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead -- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Alleluia, **Alleluia**

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia

The Lord be with you

And also with you

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 22, beginning at the 15th verse (22:15-33)

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to

no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away. The same day some Sadducees came to him, saying there is no resurrection; and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies childless, his brother shall marry the widow, and raise up children for his brother.' Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married, and died childless, leaving the widow to his brother. The second did the same, so also the third, down to the seventh. Last of all, the woman herself died. In the resurrection, then, whose wife of the seven will she be? For all of them had married her."

Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is God not of the dead, but of the living." And when the crowd heard it, they were astounded at his teaching.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

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