

Welcome

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
22 February 2026

*St Paul's Ipswich &
St Thomas' Ipswich North*

Today—St Paul's

7:00am Holy Communion

Rev'd Mpole Masemola

8:30am Holy Communion (Joint Service) (incl Kids Time with God)

Rev'd Mpole Masemola, Rev'd Allana Wales

11:30am South Sudanese Dinka Service

Rev'd Elizabeth Chol, Rev'd Rachael Adut

5:30pm Choral Evensong

Rev'd Mpole Masemola

—St Thomas'

NO SERVICE—Joint Service at St Paul's.

Readings

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-21; Matthew 4:1-11

Events for this week -

Sunday:

Following Joint Service—Annual General Meeting— St Paul's
4:00pm Ipswich Anglican Food Ministry

Tuesday:

10:30am Holy Communion—St Paul's
Following Service Bible Study: Break Open the Word

Wednesday:

9:30am Holy Communion—St Thomas'
Following Service Mature Persons Fellowship
6:00pm Beginners New Testament—St Paul's

Thursday:

7:00pm Bible Study: Text for Next Sunday-Via Zoom

Friday:

7:00am Holy Communion by Extension— St Paul's
9:30am Lent Study—St Thomas' Hall

Saturday:

4:00pm Church Gardening Group—St Paul's



Contact information

Parish Office Hours:

Monday—Friday: 9:00am—2:00pm

Parish Office phone: (07) 3812 0377

Postal address:

PO Box 168, Ipswich Qld 4305

Email: ipswich@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ipswichanglicans

Website: www.ipswichanglicans.org

St Paul's Church

Address:

124 Brisbane Street, Ipswich Qld 4305

St Paul's Op Shop:

Monday—Friday: 9:00am—2:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am—12:00pm

St Thomas' Church

Address:

15 Lawrence Street, North Ipswich Qld 4305

Clergy Contact Information

Rev'd Mpole Masemola 0416 073 519

Email: mpole.masemola@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Rev'd Allana Wales 0422 132 906

Email: allana.wales@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Parish Prayer

God of new beginnings, bless our Ipswich Anglican Community with a fresh vision for the future, with generous hearts to love one another, and with courage for the changes we now embrace. Draw us more deeply into the mystery of Christ, so that we draw closer to you and to each other. Make us a blessing to the city of Ipswich as we walk together into the future you have prepared for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Acknowledgment of Country

The Ipswich Anglican Parish Community respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners as custodians of the land and waters we share. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging, as the keepers of the traditions, customs, cultures and stories of proud peoples.

Next Week in the Parish

**Sunday (1 Mar) 2nd Sunday in Lent
—St Paul's**

7:00am Holy Communion

Rev'd Mpole Masemola

**8:30am Holy Communion by Extension
(incl Kids Time with God)**

Rev'd Allana Wales

11:30am South Sudanese Dinka Service

Rev'd Elizabeth Chol, Rev'd Rachael Adut

5:30pm Afternoon Eucharist

Rev'd Mpole Masemola

—St Thomas'

8:30am Holy Communion (incl Children's Ministry)

Rev'd Mpole Masemola

Next Sunday Readings:

Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13:17;
Matthew 17:1-9

Events for Next Week (from Sunday 1 Mar)

Sunday:

4:00pm Ipswich Anglican Food Ministry

Monday:

6:30pm New Testament Bible Study—St Paul's

Tuesday:

9:00am Holy Communion—St Mary's Hostel

10:30am Holy Communion—St Paul's

Following Service Bible Study: Break Open the Word

Wednesday:

10:00am Holy Communion—Bundaleer Lodge

6:00pm Beginners New Testament—St Paul's

Thursday:

7:00pm Bible Study: Text for Next Sunday-Via Zoom

Friday:

7:00am Holy Communion by Extension—St Paul's

10:00am World Day of Prayer—St John's Lutheran
Church, 32 Roderick Street, Ipswich

Saturday:

9:00am Half Day Lent Retreat—St Thomas'

4:00pm Church Gardening Group—St Paul's

Please be advised any attendees at a service or anyone entering the church grounds may be recorded on video and, in the case of a church service, may be included in the livestream broadcast online.

Message from Rev'd Mpole Masemola

In its own way, Ash Wednesday ushered in Lent quietly - not as a show or parade, but as an invitation to *turn*. To turn away from what distracts and towards that which restores. The ashes remind us not so much of darkness but of the opportunity to be re-made and renewed; not of despair, but of the possibility of new beginnings in God, even as we come to terms with our finitude and mortality.

Lent gives us three trusted companions for this journey: fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. These are not separate acts but intertwined disciplines that train the heart, mind, and hands to turn in the right direction.

Fasting is more than abstaining from food; it is the opportunity to have our desires reshaped. We practice saying "no" to what is fleeting so that we might say a deeper "yes" to what is lasting and even eternal. By loosening our attachment to the temporary, we learn to hunger for God's ways and God's Reign.

True fasting heals our desiring—it helps us long for what is good, just, and true. In simplicity, we begin to taste freedom; in restraint, we rediscover joy.

I am learning increasingly that prayer is not only about asking for things. It is about becoming attuned to God's Spirit, who guides our thoughts along right paths. In prayer, we are gently turned from the need to control towards trust in God's wisdom that leads us to reasoning better. I find that prayer helps me to follow Desmond Tutu's advice: "Don't raise your voice. Improve your argument."

This is the inner turning of *metanoia*—a renewal of mind and heart. Prayer forms us to say, not "my will be done," but "Thy Kingdom come."

Almsgiving is more than giving away what we do not need. It is a way of realigning our relationship with possessions, rediscovering that all we have is held in trust from God.

When we give, we participate in God's alternative economy—one of generosity, good stewardship, and shared abundance. Through this, God uses us to imagine better, fairer ways of living together. Even better and more just economics.

In short, Lent is about this turning. A turning away from self-absorption and a turning towards God; turning away from possession to gift; from control to communion. It draws us into life-giving relationship with God and with neighbour—especially the poor, the forgotten, and the oppressed.

To turn is to live again—freed, renewed, and aligned with the love and justice of God. Wishing you all a fruitful turning this Lent.

Mpole Masemola

The Sacrificial Love of Christ

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many' *Mark 10:45*.

In a sense, when we forgive, we take the burden of wrongdoing on ourselves. When Jesus came into the world to save sinners, he paid the cost of forgiveness; he ransomed us; he bore the penalty of sin. Why would God thus send his Son, knowing that the ransom would involve his terrible death upon the cross? It was love. It was the love of Jesus which meant that he accepted this death to save the unworthy. It is no wonder that the cross is the enduring symbol of the Christian faith. It was the greatest moment in human history. He died for you. He died for me.

Question for thought: Am I filled with gratitude to Jesus?

Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank you for members in the Diocese of St David's in Wales as they help provide holiday breaks for families in need as well as toys for children in hospital and support seamen. As they meet together may they be encouraged by your Word and prayer. Amen.

Pray Daily

<https://anglicanfocus.org.au/2026/01/22/pray-daily-february-2026/>

The Anglican Communion

- The Church of Ireland
- The Diocese of Sydney: †Kanishka Raffel; Assistant Bishops – †Peter Hayward, †Christopher Edwards, †Peter Lin, †Michael Stead, †Malcolm Richards, †Gary Siew Leong Koo; Clergy and People
- The Parish of Quilpie:
- Anglicare SQ Southport Respite Centre
- St John's College UQ: Warden – Rose Alwyn; Chaplain – Samuel Dow; Chair of Council – John Peden; members of College Council; staff & students



Prayers for Healing

Marion Corry
Janet Shailer
Margaret Murphy
Kade Johnson
Jan Mundt
Barbara Hayward
Heather James
Nicole Woodward
Barry Blake
Tina Moore
Louise Gardner
Jackie Cornish
Kathy Chevalier
Cheryl Marsh
Don Rossiter
Hellen Bongomin
Jan Grieve
Sue Porche
Lesley Briggs
Rebecca Parry
Gary Seymour
Nerida Lord
Chris Ingham
June Pidgeon
Brian French

Year's mind

Ethel Clem
Dulcie North
Florence Saunders
Iris Stephan
Ella Knight
Evelyn Weir
Kim Leslie
Ellen Noble
Audrey Stephan
May O'Callaghan



For Direct Parish Offerings
please scan the above
QR Code

February Mission Giving: Our giving to mission work outside the Parish via the Planned Giving envelopes will go to help support the work of **Bush Church Aid**

*If you or anyone you know would like to receive
Pastoral Care please contact:
Parish Office (3812 0377)*



TODAY—22 FEBRUARY 2026

COMBINED SERVICE

followed by the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

for the Ipswich Anglican Parish

at St Paul's Church

124 Brisbane Street Ipswich

(Nomination Forms and AGM Reports
available at back of each church)

Half Day Lent Retreat



'Journey Through Lent with Jesus'

Saturday 7th March
from **9am.**

at **St Thomas Church**

Morning Tea provided. No cost to attend.
Please ring Lesley on 0404 005 088 to register.



World Day of Prayer 2026
Focus on **Nigeria**



World Day of Prayer

will be held at

St John's Lutheran Church, Ipswich
on Friday 6 March 2026 at 10am.

This year's service has been written by the women of Nigeria on
the theme of "I will give you rest: Come".



**Basin Pocket
Community Garden
Open Day**

 **FREE Sausage Sizzle** 

- ✓ Children's activities
- ✓ Bring your friends, neighbours & family
- ✓ Ipswich City Big Band Performances -11am & 1pm
- ✓ Plants for SALE by Cyril
- ✓ Cake and Goody stall

Saturday, 14 March 2026

11 am - 3 pm

82 Blackall Street, Basin Pocket
(Toilet on site)

**'Explore our community garden and
enjoy our green space together.'**

KINDLY DONATED

Blackall Street Butchery - Sausages

Feeding Kids Queensland, Food Bank - Drinks and Snacks

Youth Lenten Reflection Evening
Come to your Cathedral!

On Friday 20 March, a Lenten Reflection Evening will be held at
St. John's Cathedral, Ann Street, Brisbane, for people aged 11-17.

The event will begin in the Darnell Room
(in St. Martin's House, adjacent to St. John's Cathedral)
at **6.30pm** with dinner.

After a time of discussion and worship, the evening will finish with the
beautiful choral Nocturnes service in the Cathedral at **9pm.**
Parents and friends are invited to attend the Nocturnes service,
and the event will end at around **10pm.**

Registration is helpful for catering purposes, but not essential.
After 5pm, free parking is available on the St. John's Cathedral site.

For more information, please email Canon Julia Van Den Bos
jvandenbos@stjohnscathedral.com.au
or Rev'd Allana Wales allana.wales@anglicanchurchsq.org.au