

Welcome

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
8 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 (incl Kids Time with God)
Rev'd Bill Ross (Celebrating 50 Years of Priesthood)

11:30am South Sudanese Dinka Service
Rev'd Elizabeth Chol, Rev'd Rachael Adut

5:30pm Prayer & Praise
Keith Gibson

—St Thomas'

8:30am Holy Communion by Extension (incl Children's Ministry)
Rev'd Brenda Davis

Readings

Isaiah 58:1-9a; Psalm 112; 1 Corinthians 2:1-13; Matthew 5:13-20

Events for this week -

Sunday: 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
3:00pm Little Church Garden—Basin Pocket
6:00pm Beginner's New Testament Greek Class

Thursday:

2:30pm Op Shop Volunteers Meeting—St Paul's Hall
7:00pm Bible Study: Text for Next Sunday—Via Zoom

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

Saturday:

7:30am Men's Fellowship Breakfast—St Paul's Hall
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 (15 Feb) Transfiguration

—St Paul's

7:00am Holy Communion

Rev'd Mpole Masemola

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

Rev'd Mpole Masemola

11:30am South Sudanese Dinka Service

Rev'd Elizabeth Chol, Rev'd Rachael Adut

5:30pm Compline

Rev'd Allana Wales

—St Thomas'

8:30am All Age Service

Rev'd Allana Wales

Next Sunday Readings:

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21;

Matthew 17:1-9

Events for Next Week (from Sunday 15 Feb)

Sunday:

4:00pm Ipswich Anglican Food Ministry

Monday:

6:30pm New Testament Study—St Paul's

Tuesday:

10:30am Holy Communion—St Paul's

Following Service Bible Study: Break Open the Word

6:30 pm Shrove Tuesday—St Thomas'

Ash Wednesday:

7:00am Holy Communion—St Paul's

9:30am Holy Communion—St Thomas'

3:00pm Little Church Garden—Basin Pocket

6:00pm Holy Communion—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

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

When the Gospel Sailed South:

The Story of Reverend Richard Johnson

On Monday of last week (3 February), the Anglican Church of Australia commemorated the Reverend Richard Johnson: a 35-year-old priest who, armed with his Bible, his Book of Common Prayer, and an unshakable conviction that the Gospel must be preached even at the world's edge, set sail for Botany Bay. There are easier job postings, one imagines. Yet, as the First Fleet departed on 13 May 1787, Johnson and his wife Mary tucked themselves aboard the *Golden Grove*, baptising their voyage with courage, faith, and probably a fair measure of seasickness.

Richard Johnson was born in the quiet village of Welton, Yorkshire, in 1755—a place unlikely ever to imagine itself connected to kangaroos or convicts. He studied in Hull under Joseph Milner, a fiery evangelical who also taught a certain William Wilberforce—yes, *that* Wilberforce, the future abolitionist. It was Wilberforce who later recommended Johnson for the unenviable post of Chaplain to a colony founded largely on convicts, soldiers, and desperation.

At Magdalene College, Cambridge, Johnson absorbed the vibrant evangelical scholarship of his day and emerged as one of those rare souls convinced that the Gospel was not a quaint Sunday affair, but the very business of living. By 1783 he was ordained deacon, and by 1784, priest.

Then came the strange divine call to New South Wales—a land as distant as one could flee without falling off the map. Johnson hesitated, and who could blame him? But after visiting the prison hulk at Woolwich, gazing intently into the faces of men and women bound for exile, he saw not criminals but souls. In that moment, the chaplaincy ceased to be an appointment and became a mission.

Before departing, Johnson married Mary Burton, a devout young woman who shared his convictions and, fortunately, his willingness to live without London's comforts. Their wedding, conducted by the Reverend Henry Foster, must have carried both joy and a hint of foreboding. In Australia, Johnson quickly adopted a policy of friendship toward Aboriginal peoples, even giving his daughter—born in 1790—an Aboriginal name, Milbah.

By all accounts, Johnson's years in New South Wales were not easy. His sermons often outlasted the patience of soldiers; his congregation of convicts was rarely attentive; his church, at first, was nothing more than the open air. Yet, with a resilience that can only be described as grace under duress, he preached, taught, comforted, built, and planted—both crops and faith. By modern standards, he was overworked, underappreciated, and consistently misunderstood. Yet through twelve exhausting years he devoted himself to the conviction that the Gospel did not stop where the map ended. At the farthest corner of the known world, he lived as if his small post were the centre of God's attention—and perhaps it was.

What, then, might we—less than a couple of decades shy of a quarter of a millennium later—learn from the Reverend Richard Johnson? First, he reminds us that the Church's calling is not ease but

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Generous Love of Christ

'For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty may become rich' 2 Corinthians 8:9

Generosity and grace go hand in hand. The truly generous person gives in abundance beyond any obligation. And generosity does not have to be in money. The generous person forgives when they are sinned against. Why should Christians be generous? Because of the supreme act of generosity to us, when Jesus left the untold glory of heaven to enter this world 'to seek and to save the lost' It is the supreme act of generosity.

Question for thought: Do I understand who Jesus is and what he has done?

God Almighty, we are greatly encouraged to see how vibrant Mothers Union is in Tanzania. We pray for the Diocese of Morogoro and pray that members will be strengthened in their faith and trust in you. Give them wisdom in facing challenges of poverty and unemployment. We thank you for the support they give to those struggling. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Pray Daily

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

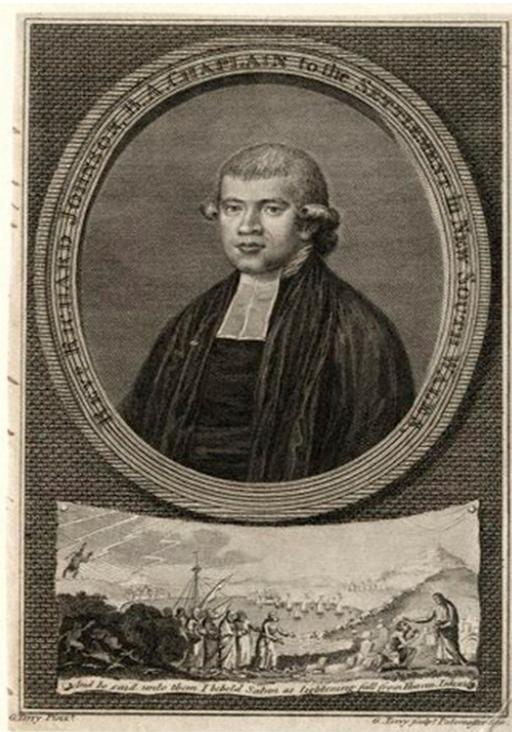
The Anglican Communion

- Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui
- The Diocese of Bunbury: Ian Coutts; Clergy and People
- The Parish of Morningside: Martyn Hope, Warwick Humphries
- Logan Multicultural Ministry
- Matthew Flinders Anglican College, Buderim: Principal – Michelle Carroll; Chaplain – Kathrin Koning; Chair of College Council – Peta Grenfell; members of College Council; staff & students

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endurance; not applause, but faithfulness. Second, he teaches that planting seeds of grace sometimes means never seeing the harvest. The traces of Johnson's wattle chapel may be long gone, but in its place stands a national Church. And third, his life testifies that faith, when joined to action, can endure even the harshest conditions—whether of climate or congregation.

As we remember him, perhaps the invitation is simple: to go once more into our corners of the world—parish halls, schools, nursing homes, and coffee shops—and speak good news with the same stubborn hope as that lone clergyman under the gum trees.



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

Pastoral
CARE

Prayers for Healing

Marion Corry
Janet Shailer
Margaret Murphy
Kade Johnson
Jan Mundt
Barbara Hayward
Heather James
Angela Lawrence
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

Year's mind

Bill Saba
Edward Barrow-Dowling
Eugene Sardoni
Victor Austin
Clarice Leigh
Harold Sorensen
Mary Eastwood
Leslie Cribb
Norman Thomas
Vince Preston

Rest in Peace

Our thoughts and prayers are with Chris Raymont and Family on the passing of his mother.



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

An Op Shop Volunteers Meeting will be held in St Paul's Hall on **Thursday 12 February at 2:30pm**.

For more details or if you would like to become an Op Shop volunteer, please speak with Verna Hunt.

Shrove Tuesday

is being held on **Tuesday 17 February 2026**

at St Thomas' Church
at 6:00pm for 6:30pm start.

St Thomas' is bringing savory pancakes
& St Paul's sweet pancakes.
(Please RSVP attendance to the Parish office
—for catering purposes)

Ash Wednesday Services

on **18 February 2026**

are being held at both churches
7:00am St Paul's; 9:30am St Thomas'; & 6:00pm St Paul's.

Lent Study: A Cross in the Heart of God

Please join us for a Lent Study, over five Friday mornings, in the hall of St. Thomas Church.

English theologian and priest The Rev'd Samuel Wells has written a thought-provoking piece about how the crucifixion of Christ pertains to our understanding of salvation and Scripture.

A Cross in the Heart of God: Reflections on the Death of Jesus. Canterbury Press Lent Book 2021, by Samuel Wells.

**9:30-11am / The Hall, St Thomas Church
15 Lawrence St, North Ipswich.**

Friday 20th February

Friday 27th February

***note, no Lent study on Friday 6th March**

Friday 13th March

Friday 20th March

Friday 27th March

Please email Rev'd Allana at

allana.wales@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

by Friday 30th January if you would like to participate.

This is to allow time for the books to be purchased.

Payment can also be made at that time to

Account Name: Ipswich Anglican Parish / BSB: 704901

Account number: 00000260 / Reference: Lent Study

I'd love anyone to join the group, it's a great mix of old and new faces.

The cost of the book is \$30, however please speak to Rev'd Allana if cost is a barrier.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST



**2ND SATURDAY OF MONTH
@ 7:30 A.M**

NEXT EVENT - 14 FEBRUARY 2026

**ST PAUL'S HALL,
124 BRISBANE STREET, IPSWICH**



Sunday 22 February 2025

COMBINED SERVICE

followed by the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

for the Ipswich Anglican Parish

at St Paul's Church

124 Brisbane Street Ipswich

(Nomination Forms 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.**