



12 Sunday aft. Pentecost-16 Aug 2026

St Matthew's-Holland Park

Reconciliation that breaks through barriers that divide us - divine mercy reaching further than human expectation.

Genesis 45.1-15

What It's About: Joseph, second-in-command of Egypt, reveals his identity to the brothers who sold him into slavery. Instead of punishment, he offers tears, embrace, and provision.

Main Point: Suffering can be reframed - not excused - as part of a larger story God is working. Forgiveness makes reunion possible.

What to Wonder: What would it take for me to see my worst wound as part of a larger story? Is there someone I've written off who needs to hear *I am your brother/sister*?

Psalms 133

What It's About: A short, vivid celebration of brothers and sisters dwelling together in unity - compared to precious oil and life-giving dew.

Main Point: Human unity is rare, extravagant, and holy - something worth stopping to notice and protect. Oil connects unity to holiness, blessing and the presence of God.

What to Wonder: When have I actually experienced this kind of unity? What broke it - and was it worth it? What does the "oil" image reveal about unity?

Romans 11.13-32

What It's About: Paul argues that God hasn't abandoned Israel - and that Gentile inclusion doesn't mean Jewish exclusion. Mercy moves in unexpected directions.

Main Point: God's plan is bigger and stranger than any group's assumption about who is in and who is out. An olive tree illustrates the relationship between Israel and the Gentiles.

What to Wonder: Where do I assume God has given up on someone - a person, a community, a people? What would it mean that God has "imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all?"

Matthew 15.21-28

What It's About: A Canaanite woman - an outsider by every measure - pursues Jesus relentlessly for her daughter's healing. Jesus resists. She persists. He honours her faith.

Main Point: Bold, persistent faith breaks through barriers. This woman argues her way to mercy and receives it fully.

What to Wonder: Do I bring that kind of relentless, undignified urgency to my own prayers? And what does it mean that Jesus *seems* to resist - is there an invitation in that tension to keep pressing in?

God's mercy refuses the boundaries we draw - it moves through broken families, crossed borders, and stubborn faith to bring people home to one another and to God.

[Matthew 15:21-28, Romans 11:1-2, Romans 11:29-32 NRSVA - The Canaanite Woman's Faith - Jesus - Bible Gateway](#); [What does Matthew 15:21-28 really mean? - God's Blessing](#); [23. The Faith Of A Canaanite Woman \(Matthew 15:21-28\) | Bible.org](#); [Psalm 133 Commentary: The Blessed Unity of God's People](#); [Commentary on Genesis 45:1-15 - Working Preacher from Luther Seminary](#)

NEW Intergenerational Service: 3-4pm 30th August

Ecumenical Taizé Service: 9/9/26 @6:30 p.m at St Bernard's Upper Mount Gravatt
CNR Logan Rd and Klump Rd followed by light refreshments.

On Sunday 20 September, [Anglicare](#), in partnership with [White Lady Funerals](#), is hosting **Tea for Tomorrow: High Tea Edition** at Kelvin Grove, raising funds to help furnish the rooms in our new **Youth Homelessness Accommodation Project**.

Fund raising Luxury Brisbane River cruise on the MV Island Princess- 6-9 p.m

7th October Tickets \$120 3 hours of Drinks and hot finger food included

Raffle Tickets Winners: 1st Rangì 2nd and 3rd Tim MIB

Bible Study Lady Chapel Friday 10am The Bible Unpacked

Ladies Study Wednesday Night see Janice E or Heather W

NO Meditation this week

Men's Breakfast 7am 1st Thursday of month

Behind the scenes thx: Secretary Kym

Next Sunday Pentecost 13: 9am 23 August;

Exodus 1.8-2.10

Psalm 124

Matthew 16.13-20

Romans 16.13-20

Parish Directory:

Revd. Morris Rangiwai: 0449 557 351; Morris.Rangiwai@anglicanchurchsq.org.au.

Wardens: Heather Walker: 0411556 279; hezzie16@gmail.com

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Bank Details: Holland Park Anglican Church Anfin BSB 704 901; Acct: 00000760.

Parish website : <https://www.stmatthewshollandpark.com/>

Parish Private Facebook site : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/292308270851142>

Public Site: <https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewsHollandPark> ;

Tipper's Treasure's FB site: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61559040358754>

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY:

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Turrbal and Jagera Peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather today. We acknowledge their continued spiritual connection to country and surrounding land, sky and water. We pay our respect to their Elders, past present and emerging and pray that we may continue to learn from and nurture one another in the spirit of Reconciliation.