



A Violinist in the Metro

A man sat at a metro station in Washington DC and started to play the violin; it was a cold January morning. He played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time, since it was rush hour, it was calculated that thousands of people went through the station, most of them on their way to work.

Three minutes went by and a middle aged man noticed there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds and then hurried up to meet his schedule.

A minute later, the violinist received his first dollar tip: a woman threw the money in the till and without stopping continued to walk. A few minutes later, someone leaned against the wall to listen to him, but the man looked at his watch and started to walk again. Clearly he was late for work.

The one who paid the most attention was a 3 year old boy. His mother tagged him along, hurried but the kid stopped to look at the violinist. Finally the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk turning his head all the time. This action was repeated by several other children. All the parents, without exception, forced them to move on. In the 45 minutes the musician played, only 6 people stopped and stayed for a while. About 20 gave him money but continued to walk their normal pace. He collected \$32. When he finished playing and silence took over, no one noticed it. No one applauded, nor was their any recognition.

No one knew this but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the best musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth 3.5 million dollars.

Two days before his playing in the subway, Joshua Bell sold out at a theatre in Boston and the seats average price was \$100.

This is a real story. Joshua Bell playing incognito in the metro station was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about perception, taste and priorities of people. The outlines were: in a commonplace environment at an inappropriate hour: Do we perceive beauty? Do we stop to appreciate it? Do we recognize the talent in an unexpected contest?

One of the possible conclusions from this experience could be: If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world playing the best music ever written, how many other things are we missing?



Good Shepherd Church

Anglican Parish of Bundaberg West

George & Takalvan Sts. Bundaberg

Rector: Rev'd Dr Richard Bowie 41528810
Phone & Fax - Office (07) 41528810
BOX 5120 Bundaberg West Qld 4670

Churchwardens:
Ian Lohse Ph 41 512210
Russ Ford Ph 41544157
Lesley Christensen Ph 41523860

Parish Office: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am – 12 noon

Email address: goodshepherdwest@bigpond.com

Web Site: www.goodshepherdbundaberg.org

The 'family church'.. where you're a stranger only once.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

8TH FEBRUARY, 2009

The Good Shepherd Family — our purpose is to grow together in Christ, to worship and learn, to be the Good News.

PARISH FAMILY NEWS!

Celebrating Birthdays

8th Glenis George
 Jenny Wedemeyer

Best wishes from us all!



Second Verse of Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to you
 To Jesus be true
 May God richly bless you
 Happy Birthday to you!



Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries

9th Colin & Estelle Bawden

Congratulations & much love to you all!

Anniversary of Baptism

12th Ann Hoffmann

"Marked as Christ's Own Forever"



Baptism



We welcome for Baptism today Saraya Grace Wilson together with her Godparents Toni, Brett, Bronwyn & Trevor, her Family & Friends.

We give thanks to God for the gift of Saraya and welcome her into our Parish Family.

Do you have a Parish Name Badge?

If not— please let us know via a care & courtesy slip and one will be available for you next Sunday.

If you do—please wear it! Some of us have "Senior Moments" and go blank! (The parish secretary included).

Would you like a set of planned giving envelopes? Let us know via a care & courtesy slip and a set will be available next Sunday.

Parish Council Meets this Tuesday at 7.30pm in the hall.

Thank you to all who attended our Parish Annual Meeting last Sunday. It was wonderful to see so many of you at the meeting.

If you haven't received a copy of the Annual Reports—extra copies have been printed and are available on the notices table today.

Our thanks to the incoming members of parish council. Your commitment & dedication to our parish is very much valued and appreciated.

Wardens: Lesley Christensen,
Russ Ford & Ian Lohse

Nominators: Russ Ford, Kate Johnson,
& Jenny Wedemeyer

Synod Representatives: Alison Vercoe
& Jenny Wedemeyer

Parish Council Members: Elected—

Ron Anderson, Carole Colville, James Daley, Pam Edgerton, Glenis George, Jan Lawrence; Clara Mason, Pam Middleton, Marg Tuffield, Cheryl Wright

Appointed by Rector: Fr. Edwin Edgerton, Sherryl Ford; Jan Lohse; Louise Stone-Schmidt (1 more may be appointed)

Regional Council: Jenny Wedemeyer

Auditor: To be appointed

A huge thank-you to the outgoing members of Parish Council —
Ros Kean & Reg Dean.



Bless You both for your commitment to our parish. We do appreciate all you have done.

The "Cookie Jar" is multi-purpose!!!

It pays to clean the church and mow the church grounds

Please feed it notes or coins and help to offset this cost.



Ash Wednesday—25th February Services 9am & 6pm Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

Rosters for February / March are available today. Please collect your copy.

COAT—Thank you to all who are supporting the Chinese Orphans Assistance Team—those who have pledged and those who give when they can—your donations make such a difference to these little children's lives.



For your Diaries:

Mayoral Prayer Breakfast Monday 9th March—6.45am to 8.30am.

Guest speaker Major Alan Laurens from the Salvation Army.
Entry is by pre-purchased tickets at a cost of \$20 per person. Tickets available at Council Offices, Bourbong Street.



The breakfast raises funds for school chaplaincy.

The Combined Brisbane & Bundaberg Festival of Male Voice Choirs present



"Festival of Praise"

Moncrieff Theatre
Saturday 28th March at 7pm
Admission Free—freewill offering to cover costs appreciated

Keep this day free!!

The Combined Parishes Cent Sale will be held on
Saturday 9th May at 1pm
in Christ Church Parish Hall.



This week in the Parish:



Monday		Rector's Day Off
Tuesday	9.00am 11.30am 7.00pm 7.30pm	Sewing Circle in the hall—Contact Marg Tuffield 41556616 AMS Lunch Meeting in Christ Church Supper Room Rector & Warden's Meeting Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday	9.00am 9.45am 10.00am	Mid-week Service Bible Study in the hall Pastoral Focus Visitor Mater Hospital
Thursday	7.00am	Pastoral Focus Home Visits & Bedside Communion Mater Hospital
Friday	7.00am 8.00am	Prayer Group meet in the church Bedside Communion Riverlea & Gracehaven
Sunday	7.00am 9.30am	Holy Communion Service Family Communion Service & Sunday School



RETREAT

Lay Lenten Retreat

Friday March 6, 7 & 8th—Toowoomba.

Contact Glenis George for further details
41579604.

Do we have your Birthdate, Wedding Anniversary, date of Baptism etc???

As your Parish Family we want to rejoice with you. Let us know via a care and courtesy slip so that our records can be updated and we can celebrate your special days with you.

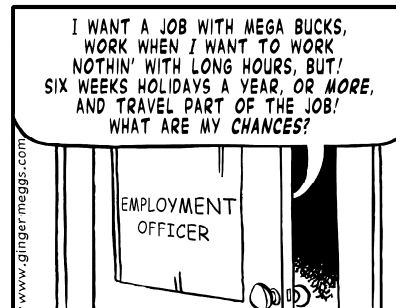
From a survey that asked children their definition of love:

Tommy, age 6: Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well.

Karl, age 5: Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other.

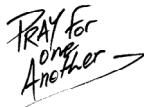
Chrissy, age 6: Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs."

Terri, age 5: Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.



Our Parish Prayer

Father God, equip our Good Shepherd family with the resources we need.
Empower us all by your Holy Spirit.
Strengthen, protect and guide us – especially in our times of need.
Remove the obstacles that would block our endeavours to do your will.
Make us one, within the fold of your church.
We ask in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.



Pastoral Focus Prayer.

God our Father,
Grant us the skills to serve your church;
The ears to hear the calls for help;
The lips to speak your words of truth;
The eyes to see the needs to fill;
The feet to go to those in want;
The mind to meet the doubts we find;
The heart of love to share your peace;
The hands to work without reward;
We ask this only to do your will,
Through Jesus, our Saviour, Redeemer and Friend. Amen.



Prayer of Evangelism.

Heavenly Father, Set our hearts on fire to go into the world in your name.
Grant us wisdom, and the confidence to speak your word.
Give us the strength and the will to continue through all circumstances.
Help us take the Good News to all who will listen,
so they may know Jesus as their Lord and master.
May we glorify your name in all we say and do. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.



In your prayers, please remember:-

Our Parish Family prayer list this week (from our parish directory – to show we care)

Joy, Bruce, Georgia & Susan Bass; David, Jan, Ben & Daniel Corfield; John & Rosamunde Finlay; Michael & Jean Gruchy; Ian, Susan, Ashlee & Courtney Lincoln; Leonie Stewart.

Absent Friends: Parish Family not with us today.

For those in need:

Prayers for Healing: "Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest"

Olly, Julia; Jodie; Sophie; Bridget; Ernie; Toni; Alison; Barney; Ruth; Ros; Judy; Richard; Sherryl; (and those known only to the Lord).

Thanksgiving for prayer's answered: Kym—for the birth of her little boy Cade Austin

Special Needs:

Kim, Nicky, Fiona, Bruce & Ros; Jonathon, Courtney & Jayden; Tammy; Bonny & children; Bev; Joyce; Richard; David; (& those known only to the Lord)

Our School Chaplains: Fr. Andrew, Annette, Teresa, Steven, Paula, Kelli, Adrian, Brenda, Grant, Noel, Craig, Marion, Lisa, Ian, Ruth & District Co-ordinator Judi Wenn

Our Link Missionaries with CMS – Shirley Gent in Pakistan and the Hayes Family – Bruce, Libby and their children Daniel, Julia, Stephanie & Ruth in Nepal and BCA Missionaries - the Keith Family—Rev'd Mike, Chantalle and baby Rachell in Lightning Ridge.

Years Mind – we remember- (i.e. the anniversary of the death of a loved one):-

Gus Vercoe; Hilda Diamond; Pearl Sinclair;

Thanksgiving for the Life of: Glenice Smith

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Sentence: Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles. Isaiah 40:31

Readings Today

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11 page 377
New Testament: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Readings next Sunday

Old Testament: 2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30 page 249
New Testament: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

**He took her by the hand
and helped her get up.
The fever left her and she
began to wait on them.**

YOUR OFFERTORY TRUST

How does one lay up treasures in heaven? The only way to get treasures into heaven is to invest them in things that are going to heaven. Material, temporal things are not going to heaven. Invest in eternal things for only such values are legal tender in Heaven.



ABM REFLECTIONS ON TODAY'S READINGS

Both Jesus and Paul see their job as proclaiming the gospel. Paul becomes all things to all people's lives to reach them where they are and this is what mission is about. People responded to Jesus and Paul because what they were saying about the God of love being near was in sympathy with who they were. There is an identity between the mission and the person. The challenge is that our lives and the message need to be in harmony with one another.

- Pray that we can give people a sense of the nearness of God in their lives.
- Pray for the Diocese of Polynesia and especially Bishop Viliami Hala'api'api, recently diagnosed with cancer—pray also for his wife Emma and family.