



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

10 May 2026 Rev Geoff Flynn Rev Sam Sadrata Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

John 14:15-21 (The Message)

The Spirit of Truth

¹⁵⁻¹⁷ "If you love me, show it by doing what I've told you. I will talk to the Father, and he'll provide you another Friend so that you will always have someone with you. This Friend is the Spirit of Truth. The godless world can't take him in because it doesn't have eyes to see him, doesn't know what to look for. But you know him already because he has been staying with you, and will even be *in* you!

¹⁸⁻²⁰ "I will not leave you orphaned. I'm coming back. In just a little while the world will no longer see me, but you're going to see me because I am alive and you're about to come alive. At that moment you will know absolutely that I'm in my Father, and you're in me, and I'm in you.

²¹ "The person who knows my commandments and keeps them, that's who loves me. And the person who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and make myself plain to him."

Mother's Day is a complicated and beautiful day.

Beautiful if you only hold perfect, unbroken memories and stories.

Complicated because all of us are touched by motherhood in different ways.

Even if we had the most wonderful, loving relationship with our mothers, we cannot bypass the soulful journey of motherhood.

Because we were created as Eve, givers of life, we must each take the journey to find our voice as a mother. Because each of us is still a little girl inside, we must each find our way.

Isaiah 46:4 "Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you."

God will carry us and will hold us as a father comforts and carries

his daughters and his sons. ~ unknown

Other Lectionary Readings:

Acts 17:22-31 Psalms 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22



CHURCH SERVICES 11am West

17 May ~ Rev Sam (HC)

24 May ~ Meg Mangan

31 May ~ Gowrie Community Church

Closing Service of Thanksgiving – followed by lunch at the Gowrie Community Hall 238 Sweeney's Lane Gowrie.



Good mums let you lick the beaters, but great mums turn them off first. ~ unknown

Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville
9:30 to 1:00pm Thursday, Friday & Saturday. Cuppa and a chat always available.



"Sometimes, you have to forget what's gone, appreciate what remains, and look forward to what's coming next."

PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATION

Our goal:

"To be transformed communities, experiencing, enjoying & sharing the gift of the friendship of Jesus."

Mission: "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve."

Minister: Rev Geoff Flynn 0421 338 202

Rev Sam Sadrata 0431 216 188

Pastoral Care: Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

Elder: Margaret Crowell

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH



..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We give thanks that Doug and Marg are safely back in Tamworth.
- We pray for Tony Shumack whose father, Warwick, died last Saturday.
- We continue to pray for David Bissett, and his family.
- We pray for Simon Hansford who was scheduled to have further eye surgery this week.
- We pray for safe travels for Evelyn and Tony, and for Geoff and Sharon.

Meg's Musings

It's Mothers Day, but I'd like to share some little bits of wisdom about grandparents - because we don't have a "Grandparents Day".

"I used to think I was too old to fall in love again, then I became a grandparent."

"The best dads get promoted to grandpa."

"A grandmother is a little bit parent, a little bit teacher, and a little bit best friend."

"A grandfather is someone you can look up to no matter how tall you grow."

"Because grandparents are usually free to love and guide and befriend the young without having to take daily responsibility for them, they can often reach out past pride and fear of failure and close the space between generations." – Jimmy Carter

"To a small child, the perfect granddad is unafraid of big dogs and fierce storms but absolutely terrified of the word 'boo.'" – Robert Breault

Blessing from Meg



Minister's Reflection

Mothering Sunday: Not Orphaned

This Sunday we mark Mother's Day—often called Mothering Sunday—a name that reminds us the day is about far more than flowers and cards. While Mother's Day is now a familiar part of our calendar, it is a relatively recent addition to Christian life and is not directly connected to the core celebrations of Jesus' death and resurrection.

The modern observance of Mother's Day grew from movements for peace and compassion. In the late nineteenth century, women such as Julia Ward Howe and Ann Reeves Jarvis called on mothers to unite in opposition to war and violence, driven by the suffering they witnessed in their communities. In Australia, Mother's Day first took root in 1924, in the shadow of World War I, as a response to grief, loss, and loneliness. It was intended as a day to care for those who had lost children, husbands, or the chance of family life altogether.

Over time, however, Mother's Day became increasingly commercialised. In my family, my mother always maintained that a handmade card was more special than a store-bought card. And now today, I wonder if it may have also been her protest against commercialism. While gifts can be meaningful, the pressure to "perform" on this day can also leave some feeling inadequate, overlooked, or burdened. The church has long supported the original spirit of Mother's Day—promoting peace, nurturing care, and solidarity with those who are lonely, grieving, or isolated—while remaining cautious about the ways commercialism can overshadow these deeper purposes.

This tension leads naturally into this week's Gospel reading from John 14:15–21. On the eve of his death, Jesus promises his disciples, "I will not leave you orphaned." He understands what it is to face fear, separation, and vulnerability, yet he speaks words of assurance. He promises the gift of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will abide with us and within us.

To be "orphaned" is not only about children without parents. At any stage of life, people can feel abandoned, unloved, or unseen. Many carry deep wounds—through loss, illness, financial strain, broken relationships, or emotional isolation. On Mother's Day especially, these feelings can surface painfully.

Yet the heart of the Gospel is this: we are not abandoned. God is with us—this Mother's Day and every day. In Christ, no one is forgotten, no one is unlovable, and no one stands alone. Thanks be to God.

Rev Geoff



UnitingWorld
connecting communities for life

UNITING WORLD - is the international aid and partnerships agency of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Barry Higgins will be giving a talk, and will answer any questions.

Saturday 30th May

4.30pm St Andrew's Room City Church

Please bring food to share for a "Potluck Dinner" afterwards.

It's expected to conclude by 7:00pm

1. Mother's Day is older than most people think

- Although many believe Mother's Day began in 1908 with Anna Jarvis, the idea of honouring mothers goes back thousands of years.
- Biblical texts in *Exodus* and *Leviticus* instructed people to honour their parents over 3,000 years ago.
- Ancient Greeks and Romans held festivals for mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele—the earliest known celebrations of motherhood.

2. Early Christian traditions shaped the modern concept

- In the UK and parts of Europe, the fourth Sunday in Lent became a day to return to the "mother church" for a special service.
- Over time, this evolved into a more secular celebration where children gave small gifts and flowers to their mothers.

3. The American movement revived Mother's Day

- The tradition faded until the years before the U.S. Civil War, when Ann Reeves Jarvis began "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to help women care for their children.
 - She later organised "Mothers' Friendship Day" to promote reconciliation between Union and Confederate soldiers.
 - Julia Ward Howe, a prominent abolitionist and suffragette, wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation" in 1870, advocating for peace and proposing a "Mother's Peace Day" on 2 June.
-continued

I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know that the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them. ~ Temple Bailey

4. The modern holiday began in 1908

- Anna Jarvis (daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis) organised the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in West Virginia.
- Department store owner John Wanamaker financially backed the event and held a celebration in his Philadelphia stores the same day, signalling the beginning of Mother's Day's commercialisation.

5. Early traditions were simple and heartfelt

- People wore white carnations, visited their mothers, and attended church services as part of the celebration.

~ M Curtis (Principals address Glasshouse Christian College)

*A gentle hand, a heart of gold,
A love that grows, a tale untold.
You guide my way, you dry my tears,
And fill with joy my happy years.
Thank you for all you do,
Happy Mother's Day to you!* ~ anon



There's no way to be a perfect mother and a million ways to be a good one. ~Jill Churchill



The very fact that you worry about being a good mom means that you already are one." ~ Jodi Picoult.

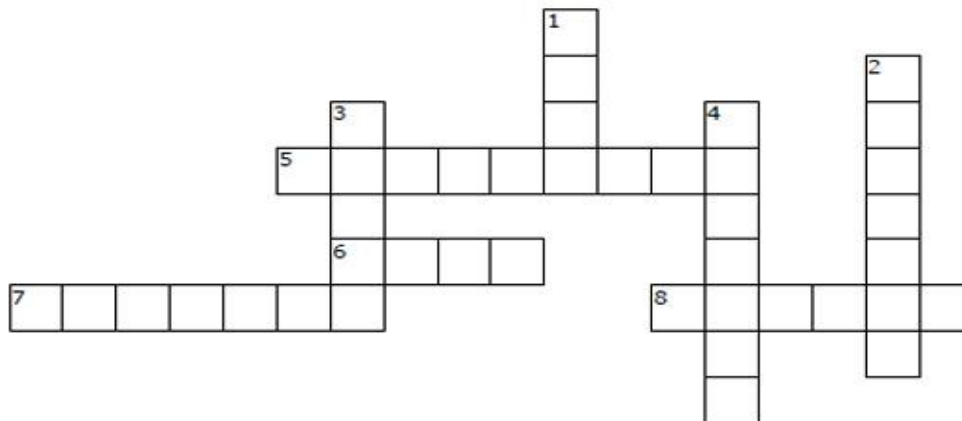
Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever." John 14:16 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on John 14:15-21 (NIV)



John 14:16



ACROSS

5. One who gives help or advice
6. To have a strong affection and attraction for someone
7. To give an order with authority
8. The first person of the Trinity; God the _____.

DOWN

1. To be alive or have life
2. For all time; time without end
3. The whole earth and all the people on it
4. Children who have no parents

FATHER COUNSELOR	FOREVER LIVE	WORLD COMMAND	LOVE ORPHANS
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B L L A D W G C L A I A X R N
 D X S L S G N C O S A M I O O
 Q N R H P K Y O I M H S A I K
 N O R M I O L E R S M O K A X
 W I U K R A C C E P T A W B K
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 G W N H N I N O Q W G D N S E
 F X S L D M Y U K H Q F P S F
 R C T K I H Y N C T H O G M R
 Z Z G L O V E S R G L R T Y D
 F A T H E R E E P A B E R S Y
 M U R O P S O L I E T V U E E
 K O O B E Y V O M Z M E T L O
 H C Q N E I P R Z B F R H F U

Sermon4kids4

FATHER	WORLD	OBEY	COUNSELOR	SHOW
ASK	COMMAND	LIVE	SPIRIT	LOVE
FOREVER	ORPHANS	MYSELF	TRUTH	ACCEPT

..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus