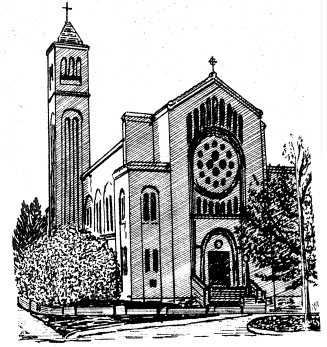


St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



15th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year A -
12 July 2020

Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn
Archbishop: Most Rev Christopher Prowse DD STD
Vicar General: Fr Tony Percy VG
Administrator: Fr Trenton van Reesch
Assistant Priest: Fr Norvin Dias

Masses will be offered
with a maximum of 100
people present until
further notice.

PARISH OFFICE

55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603 (02) 6239 9846 (bh) Emergency Phone for Priests: 0491 072 304
cathedral@cg.org.au www.cg.org.au/cathedral
Online Payments Link: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sccp>
Parish Secretary: Michelle O'Connor—Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.15pm, 12.45pm-4.30pm
Accounts Officer: Karina Widjaja—Friday, 8am-4pm

Sunday Mass

St Christopher's

Cnr Canberra Ave & Furneaux
Street, Forrest (Manuka) ACT

Sat. Vigil: 5.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am, 9am
11.00am (livestreamed),
5.30pm

St Peter Chanel's

Cnr Weston & Loch Streets,
Yarralumla ACT

Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil

Sunday: 9.30am
2.00-3.00pm Adoration
& Confessions

Weekday Mass

St Christopher's

Monday to Friday: 7.30am &
12.15pm

Saturday: 9.00am & 12.15pm

St Peter Chanel's

Tuesday: 5.30pm

Thursday: 10.00am (9.30am
Adoration): Anointing Mass first
Thursday of the month.

Reconciliation

St Christopher's

Wednesday: 11.30am-12.00noon

Thursday: 6.00 - 6.30pm

Saturday: 11.00am - 12noon

St Peter Chanel's

Tuesday: 6.00 - 6.30pm

Saturday: 5.15 - 5.45pm

Adoration

St Christopher's

Tuesday to Friday: 5.00-6.00pm

Baptisms

Sundays: 12.30pm

Weddings

St Christopher's: Saturday

1.30pm, 3.00pm and 4.30pm

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

Dear parishioners and visitor's to Saint Christopher's Cathedral Parish,

How encouraging it has been to be able to gather together for the Mass these past few weeks. Welcome back, welcome Home! Let us continue to be vigilant and to pray for all those affected and struggling in these days.

This weekend we are reminded of a great truth, that Christianity is about meeting the God who is *with us here and now*, not once upon a time, far off and distant. Time and again through history God has reminded His people of how close He is. And so again in our day. He may *feel* distant, but if anything, Jesus teaches us that Catholicism is not about a feeling. It's about Facts! The Fact that God became incarnate by the Holy Spirit. The Fact that He was born of the Virgin Mary. The Fact that He preached and healed many. The Fact that Jesus in time and space instituted the priesthood and breathed life into His church on that first Pentecost; the Fact that He died on Calvary that we might be saved. And the Fact that God now remains with us in the Sacraments and in *His Church*, where He is present not in a feeling or empty symbol, but factually in the Eucharist, in unreserved fullness and glory.

While in some ways, Jesus' teaching style mirrored the rabbis of his day, in one way he was utterly distinct, this was in his use of parables. Jesus took the simplest, most mundane and familiar things, and used them to speak and reveal the most profound and fantastic truths.

In this week's Gospel we hear of a sower, going out to sow! Who is the sower? The sower is God. The God Who created everything that we know (and indeed all that we don't!) is painted as a sower! Most unnerveing however is the fact that this sower doesn't seem too good at his trade! Seed wasn't that easy to come by and certainly not cheap. Jesus' listeners knew this! But we hear that the Sower is scattering seed all over the place! Casting seed everywhere almost recklessly! See what is happening here?

This parable speaks of the splendid extravagance of God! The seed, we are told, is the Word of God, the Word made flesh! God the Father sows the seed, Jesus, with an utter extravagance that makes no sense to the world.

God, so to speak, casts Jesus everywhere! The God who becomes incarnate is present in every place; every crevice, every road, and valley... There is no place that Jesus is not!

Jesus then speaks of the soil, in order to speak of the human heart and its receptiveness to the seed of the Word. There is the rich soil which reaps a rich harvest. But there is also the poor soil, which is hostile and rejecting of the seed of the Word; preventing it taking root and flourishing! 'Listen, anyone who has ears!' Jesus cries.

The Sower and the fertile soil - these familiar, humble things speak to us of the vast mysteries into which we have been immersed. In the end as God's sons and daughters, Jesus reminds us that we too are simple, humble, flesh and blood. And yet at the same time we are also His body, a community of faith, nourished by God and set in the world - to speak of the wonders of God's love; which are far beyond the world's wildest hopes or dreams.

In the Second reading Saint Paul encourages: "what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us" (Romans 8:18). He continues "the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth" (Rom 8:22). And so too the Church in our time, with all its pains and pangs. And yet, it endures in the certain knowledge of the promise which belongs to Her, when on that day, when every tear is wiped away, every broken heart restored, every burden of our ordinariness transformed, we, as the sons and daughters of God, finally behold the bride of Christ, the Church, in all her now transformed and unblemished beauty.

These are the facts - May our hearts be open and fertile soil for the Word that is given to us this day.

Father Trenton van Reesch
Administrator, St Christopher's Cathedral Parish

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music: Jaki Kane

RCIA—Fr Trenton van Reesch

Contact office to register your interest for next RCIA program.

School of Religion

See details below

Youth Minister—Chiara Catanzariti

Email: chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 13 Jul St Henry
Tue 14 Jul St Camillus de Lellis, priest
Wed 15 Jul St Bonaventure, bishop, doctor
Thu 16 Jul Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Fri 17 Jul 15th week in Ordinary time
Sat 18 Jul Blessed Virgin Mary
Sun 19 Jul 16th Sunday in Ordinary time

Legion of Mary

Saturdays 3pm, Haydon Hall
Contact: 0431 060 556

St Vincent de Paul

Assisting people in need and combatting social injustice in our community

Young Adults

Animating parish and Archdiocesan life through prayer and event participation

Thursday 6.30pm Rosary/Bible Sharing/Fellowship SCC
Geetanjali Rogers

Good Shepherd Prayer Group

Wednesday at 7pm SPC
Parish Room (Feb-Dec)

Christian Meditation

Saturday at 5pm SPC
"Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10)

Other Communities

Spanish Community

First Sunday of the month at 11.30am SPC

African Community

Second Sunday of the month at 11.45am SPC

Filipino Community

First Sunday bi-monthly at 5.00pm SPC

For details of any of the above, contact the Parish Office.

What is my Vocation? - GOD IS CALLING ... ARE YOU LISTENING?!

Listening to God's call and responding to our vocation in life is a source of great joy and peace.

The process of listening is called 'discernment'. We have guides to aid us in this process, but they do not concretely say 'This is your Vocation'. You may feel you are being called to the priesthood, religious life or marriage. Do not be afraid to answer the call.

Don't expect a burning bush... It is not always easy to discern your vocation. There will be confirmations throughout life, however...there will also be distractions too. When Elijah listened for the Lord, he encountered a great wind, an earthquake and fire but the Lord was not in any of these signs. Rather God spoke in a "still, small voice" (1 Kings 19:11). We need the help of the Church to discern what God is asking of us, and a heart that opens itself courageously to the Holy Spirit. If you feel a call to the priesthood or religious life, **contact Fr Paul Nulley, Archdiocesan Vocations Director** or **Fr Trenton, Assistant Vocations director.** paul_nulley@cg.org.au. trenton.vanreesch@cg.org.au.

Lord I am not worthy... It's true, none of us are! As we come close to God and what he asks of us in our life, we generally feel a sense of unworthiness. But remember, even the great apostle, Peter had the same feeling!

Planned giving Contributions: Planned Giving Envelopes for the 2020-2021 financial year are available in the church. Please use only these new envelopes from July onwards, rather than any remaining 2019-2020 envelopes. (Some envelopes numbers will be changed for this coming financial year so we want to avoid any confusion from using the old envelope numbers). Thank you very much to all our generous givers.

2019/20 Tax receipts are available this weekend in the church. If you have supplied your email, please check your inbox for your receipt (also check your junk mail). Otherwise your receipt will be in the church.

Parish Income & Expenditure summary now available in the church

2020 CATHEDRAL PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION PROGRAM RECOMMENCING

First Reconciliation (yr 3 children): classes start Mon, 17 Aug 2020, 6pm-7.30pm at St Peter Chanel's Parish Room. The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will occur on 9 Sept. 2020.

First Eucharist (yr 4 children): classes start Mon, 17 Aug 2020, 6pm-7.30pm at St Peter Chanel's Church. The First Eucharist Mass will occur on 20 September at the 11am Mass, Cathedral.

Confirmation (yr 5 & 6 children): classes start Mon, 12 Oct 2020, 6pm-7.30pm at St Peter Chanel's Parish Room, Yarralumla. Confirmation Mass will occur on Wed, 18 Nov 2020 at 6pm.

These programs are for children who live in Barton, Causeway, Deakin, Forrest, Fyshwick, Griffith, Kingston, Manuka, Parkes, Red Hill, Yarralumla or attend school in these suburbs. Children must have received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist prior to Confirmation. More info. & Enrolment form on www.cg.org.au/cathedral or contact the Parish Office on 6239 9846.

Saint Christopher's Youth & Young Adults

Adventurers Youth Group:

Sunday's at 8.45am at St Peter Chanel's our *Primary youth group* **Young Adventurers**, will gather at **SPC before 9:30am Mass** this weekend (12th). This group will then run fortnightly (26th July). I warmly welcome any primary age students to join Chiara for what is proving to be an exciting new occasion in our parish community and beyond to gather in faith and friendship!

Young adults and professionals:

Bible study every Thursday night 6:30-7:30 at Haydon Hall. **New members are always welcome!** Join 'Canberra Cathedral Young Adults' on Facebook to keep updated on all events! **Young Adults Brunch—26 July**, join us for 11am Mass at the Cathedral followed by brunch together! Please email me at chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au

NEW! HOME Groups – The Cathedral Parish is about to begin an exciting new Catechetical and fraternal initiative for young people. Taking place on Wednesdays from July 29th till August 26th (6-7.30pm) **HOME Groups** will cover 5 sessions over 5 weeks. These sessions are about hangout out with friends and talking about the deeper questions of faith. Small groups will work through different topics on the Catholic Faith in a relax, informal way. Please RSVP your interest by Sunday, 12th July. Come and deepen the interior life and be equipped with the necessary truths to live out boldly and generously the Catholic Faith. Cost: \$30, will purchase the book *Evangelium* for each participant, and will be the material used for each session. Stay tuned for more HOME initiatives! Contact Chiara at chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au.



OTHER NEWS

Mass live streamed daily from the St Christopher's Cathedral. Sunday at 11:00am. <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>

NEW PROTOCOLS - Please familiarize yourself with current guidelines

- In accordance with government restrictions, **only 100 people** are permitted in the church at any one time. Entry to Mass will be through one door.
- ALL PARISHIONERS & VISITORS MUST sign in upon entry. Records are renewed daily & destroyed after 28 days.
- All attendees (including children) must complete the Mass Register prior to entry.
- Communion is to be received in the hand only & not under the species of the Precious Blood
- Physical distancing rules still apply—respecting the 4sqm p/p rule.
- Please sit where there is a 'Please sit here' marker. Every 2nd pew is closed. NB: Families can sit together.
- Please use the hand sanitiser upon entry and clean your pew/space with the wipes provided at entrances.
- There will be no physical contact at the sign of peace.
- No collection plates to be passed around, but money/envelopes placed at collection points.

Please Note: Maintain social distancing 1.5m, at all times, including in the single line formed to receive Holy Communion. Blue squares on the tiles mark this distance. Thank you for your assistance in keeping everyone safe.

"Wedding Plans under Control?" - 1-2 Aug— How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit our web site: www.engagedencounter.org.au

Today is **Sea Sunday**, when the church prays for those who live and work on the sea. Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. Today's Appeal supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. During the COVID-19 pandemic, seafarers continue to bring products to sustain our population and economy, often at personal risk to their health. To support this ministry, please visit and donate at: bit.ly/seasundayaustralia

Mental Health—Are you struggling in this time of crisis? CatholicCare Canberra & Goulburn have been providing mental health services to the Canberra community and surrounding regions for nearly 20 years. They provide an extensive range of services including outreach, counselling and residential support. They are sure to have a service to meet your individual needs. We are here to help! Need to talk? 02 6162 6100

Collection Points—New ways of Giving and Receiving

The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn has now begun to move towards a simpler, and safer way of collecting money for parishioners and parish staff. Collection plates will no longer be passed about during Masses. Instead, we are introducing **donation points** around the Cathedral and Saint Peter Chanel's for your convenience. You are still able to donate in cash, however we strongly encourage electronic means of making your offering. **Direct debit** and **QKR** options are now available, as well as **TapnGo** machines (more of which will be located around our churches soon. Apologies for this delay).

Planned Giving envelopes are also now available for collection and can be placed in the collection boxes

Following new archdiocesan protocols, there will now be only one collection taken. TapnGo and loose monies will be split 30% for archdiocesan clergy support (previously 1st collection) and 70% (previously 2nd collection) for our parish support.

Thank you for your offering and your generosity.

The First collection: contributes to the clergy of the Archdiocese.

BSB:	062-786	Account Name:	CATHEDRAL
Bank Account:	000029248	Reference:	FORREST & SURNAME

The Second collection: contributes to the mission and maintenance of the parish. If you would like to give towards the Parish expenses and are not currently registered for Planned Giving, please deposit into the following bank account:

BSB:	062786	Account Name:	St Christopher's Cathedral
Bank Account:	000015080	Reference:	Planned Giving Number and Surname (only for current Planned Givers); or Donation (by parishioner's not registered Planned Givers).

Download the Qkr! App. QKR! At Saint Christopher's Cathedral Parish—A New, Easier way to donate!

Similar to swiping your phone at an EFTPOS Machine you can now use our **purpose-built secure parish app** to contribute to our parish community. Payments for 1st (Clergy) & 2nd Collection (Parish) are listed. Please ensure you include your Planned Giving number for 2nd Collection contributions. Contact the Parish Office if you have forgotten your Planned Giving number on 62399846. ". For more information or to set up monthly payments via direct debit, please contact the Parish. For step by step Qkr! instructions with pictures, please visit <https://cgcatholic.org.au/2016/10/something-beautiful-god/>

Tap & Go PayWave Machine to contribute to the Church collections without the necessity of carrying cash. Please PayWave your card at the pre-set Tap N Go machine located in the Church Foyer when you exit the church. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

We pray for...

Those to be baptised: Gabriel Brown

Those who are ill: Lauren Nihil, Arianna Vignale, Lucy Duncan, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Anthony, David Kibbey, Jacqueline Khin.

Anniversaries of death: David Black, Ted Rodrigues, Brothers Vales, Duro Kish, Helen Mary O'Brien, Lady Mary Lawler, Frs Barney & Paddy Lynch, Br Paul Nixon mgl, Dianne Fraser, Gerald Kilmartin, Elizabeth Virgara, Carmel Barton, Domenico Nirta, Kevin Hogan, Lynnette Cousens, Catherine Duffy, Harry Galvin, Kevin Kelly, Fr Wally Stefanski, Walter Ghirardello, Rosamond Rumble, Vera Urh, Damian McMahon, Judith Campbell, Dr John Connors, Kevin Kelly, Msgr John Hoare, Lilian Green, Richard Halpin, Phyllis Ferry, Colin (Mick) Kilpatrick, Patrick Brazil, Bernabe Baez, Merv O'Brien, Dorothy Clowry, Rita Langsford,

Recently Deceased: Effie McKeogh, Carmel MacDonagh, Michael Somes, David Clark, Robert Somes, Dante Scorpecci, Rita O'Connor, Denis Hogan, Joyce Cook, Tony Donohoe, Katarina Kish, Sr Mary Agnes, Colleen Cotter, Keith McLaughlin, Peter Becker, Regina Paredes, Hilda Quinones, Shirley Evans, Josip Persic,

Readings of the Day – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time —Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.*

First Reading

Is 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Second Reading

Rom 8:18-23

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Gospel Reading

Mt 13:1-23

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!' Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. 'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. 'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

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LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER

Mass	Lectors		Extraordinary Ministers of Eucharist	
	11/12 July	18/19 July	11/12 July	18/19 July
6.00pm (SPC)	Mike Nash Wanda Kaucz	Wanda Kaucz Geraldene Ford	Any available EMHC	Frances Bulbrook
8.00am (SCC)	Kristina Faigl Philip Pocock	Louise Zavone Joe Zavone	Phil Pocock Liza Quinn	Mimma Memmolo Tony Pelle
9.30am (SPC)	Lynn Chan Ruth Meadows	Clarice Poh Dominic Chin	Wilfred & Margaret Lawrence	Any available EMHC
11.00am (SCC)	Cecilia Flores Edwina Hyman	Leeann Galloway Jacqueline Hipwell	Ceciley Matthews Kathry Ruston	Edwina Hyman Mark Hyman
5.30pm (SCC)	Rebakah Meagher Gabrielle Wright	Gabrielle Wright Jacob Madden	Elizabeth Young Lionel D'Cruze	Elizabeth Young Lionel D'Cruze

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish encompasses the areas of Barton, Causeway, Deakin, Forrest, Fyshwick, Griffith, Kingston,