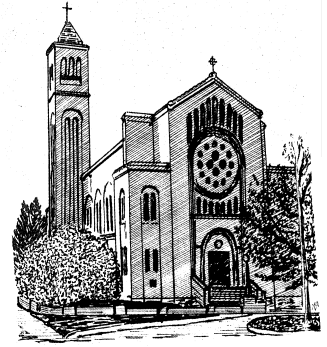


St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



20th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year A -
16 August 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

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

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

In the Gospel this weekend, Jesus' behaviour is confronting, to say the least. We are left thinking, how harsh and uncharacteristic; and to an extent we are right. Yet the 'hardness' of Jesus' words point not to indignation or a 'bad mood', but rather the severity of what He is trying to teach. It is a teaching about prayer and, surprisingly enough, God's boundless mercy and salvation, showered upon all people of every tribe and tongue and nation (See. Rev 7:9).

Jesus comes as *the Truth*, to *proclaim* the Truth— one which echoes the dignity of every person. What Jesus has to say is serious. Jesus was on fire with love for all those given to Him by His Father (John 6:37).

In the Gospel, Jesus enters foreign territory, where a Canaanite woman— that is, a non-Jew starts calling out: 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me.' Three times Jesus challenges the Canaanite woman, and three times she becomes not annoyed, but amazingly enough, more relentlessly resolved not to take *no* for an answer.

The woman's prayer is perfect: she recognises Jesus as the Messiah, she expresses her need in clear simple words, she persists even when her efforts seem fruitless, and her prayer is shrouded in utter humility. See what Jesus is allowing to be taught here?

Our prayer too should have the same qualities of faith, trust, perseverance, and humility. Jesus tests her three times. At first, by not answering her. Then, by saying 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel'. And finally, by telling her that 'it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs!' A pretty tough test by any standards! And the woman passes with flying colours! Jesus' desire was to reveal a beautiful, deep truth, to all those surrounding and witnessing this moment; especially His own disciples, who would carry on His teaching and exercise their Master's Mercy in a distinct way.

Jesus teaches that only humility, that is, recognising one need and utter dependence on God, is the path to being exalted (as indeed the woman was). Jesus also teaches that salvation isn't just a given (a trap many fall into), and equally He teaches by the Canaanite woman's persistent and sturdy act of faith, that *no one* is beyond the pale of God's love, even when the world and its lies say they are.

The Canaanite mother's response is profound! Her most admirable and alluring quality is her utter perseverance in prayer. Notice too that she asks for intercession, in this case from the disciples; and the disciples intervene. And lastly, she comes close to Jesus — bows down and trusts, in the most profound display of *faith!* As if to say, 'I know I am not worthy, but your mercy is far greater than any shortcoming or hurdle of mine!'

"Please... even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the Master's table". What incredible faith! I can be saved, I can be changed, I can be healed— even with just a crumb of Your Mercy — even with just a glance of Your Face. This is prayer.

As you have no doubt noticed, Fr. Norvin has taken annual leave during August. I want to thank on behalf of our parish, Fr. Michael Mullen, Fr. Tony Frey, Fr. Lachlan Coll, Fr. Warrick Tonkin, Fr. Steve Tynan and Monsignor Giuseppe Quirighetti, for their generosity in helping out with Masses for us during this time. I also want to thank Fr Greg Beath who for many years now has offered the 12:15 Mass on Mondays. We are most thankful.

As we continue to journey through these Covid times, let us be ever more aware of God's closeness and boundless mercy, especially in our moments of greatest struggle. Let us continue to check on and to pray for each other. And as always, please know of your priests' prayers for you.

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 17 Aug 20th week in Ordinary Time

Tue 18 Aug 20th week in Ordinary Time

Wed 19 Aug 20th week in Ordinary Time

Thu 20 Aug St Bernard, abbot, doctor

Fri 21 Aug St Pius X, pope

Sat 22 Aug The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sun 23 Aug 21st 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.

**PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE OR REPOSITION
'SIT HERE' SIGNS ON THE PEWS.**

A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

Dear Lord, I believe in the presence of Your Body and Blood in the Eucharistic celebration of the Last Supper. Since I cannot receive You Sacramentally, I embrace You Spiritually into my heart. Never permit me to be separated from you. My Lord and my God. Amen.

Notice about Covid-19 Restrictions:

Thank you too all who have consistently adhered to the Covid-19 protocols in our parish and Archdiocese. We are enabled to continue our prayer and worship because of your care and attention to this. Please ensure you continue to **sanitise your hands frequently** and **wipe your pew upon exiting**.

Attention: Last Sunday was the last 9am Mass at SCC. This Mass was added to accommodate parishioners when the church was reopened. Due to lower numbers and priest availability, a Mass in this time slot can not be offered at this moment. Please note the regular 9:30am Mass will continue to be offered at Saint Peter Chanel's.

Father's Day Appeal – Collection for retired priests. Please show your commitment to care for our retired priests by giving generously to the Father's Day Appeal held on 6 Sept. Please donate via www.cgatholic.org.au/donate, via Qkr! app or call 6239 9801. Alternatively special envelopes/forms will be available soon in the church. Donors will be issued with a tax deductible receipt for gifts over \$2.00.

IS CHRIST CALLING YOU TO THE PRIESTHOOD? Do you feel you could be being called to the priesthood? *Come and See* (John 1:39). Claim the date: A Vocations Weekend for those discerning a call to the priesthood – **18th-20th September 2020, Galong Retreat Centre**. Contact Fr Nulley, Archdiocesan Vocations Director paul_nulley@cg.org.au or Fr Trenton, trenton.vanreesch@cg.org.au.

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.

'Reflections of Faith', the design, symbols and meanings of the stained glass windows of St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla. Interested readers can purchase a copy of 'Reflections of Faith' for \$5.00 from St Christopher's Parish Office, with all proceeds being donated to St Vincent de Paul. We congratulate Gloria Osborne on her work.

Catholic Weekly printed paper—Back on sale for \$2 per copy this weekend. Catholic Weekly found in the Franklin Street foyer. Please place payment in the Poor Box.

New ways of Giving

- Direct Debit
- Qkr app
- Tap & Go
- Collection Point

More information:
www.cg.org.au/cathedral or contact Parish office 6239 9846.

2020 CATHEDRAL PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION PROGRAM RECOMMENCING

FIRST TWO PROGRAMS START THIS MONDAY

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.

Adventurers Primary Age 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. Next Meeting: 23 Aug

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—30 Aug**, join us for 11am Mass at the Cathedral followed by brunch together! Please email me at chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au



OTHER NEWS

Mass live streamed 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.

SAFE CHURCH TRANSPORT - A Transport Service that Provides a Companion. Do you or someone close to you wish to attend church but don't have the means or a companion to make it happen? **CareTaxi** is your answer. Your fulfilment is our blessing! Holy Mass, Medical/GP appointments, shopping trips, recreational trips, sightseeing, school trip and more; our qualified and caring drivers can assist you. Visit www.caretaxi.com.au, call +61 451 734 334 or email services@caretaxi.com.au.



CARE TAXI
Wellbeing for all

CCR 2 day seminar on "Christ-like Leadership" with Joe and Julie Chircop from the Servants of Jesus Community. At St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah. Fri. 21 Aug, 5:30-9pm & Sat. 22 Aug 9am-4pm. Come and learn about Jesus' way of servant leadership! All welcome! Free with collections taken to cover costs. Soup supper available on Fri night. Bring your own Lunch on Saturday. To register call Neda 0415 266 019 or Maida 0423 658 326 or online at www.ccract.org.au.

Women's Retreat Day - 22 Aug, 9am and concluding with dinner, St Thomas the Apostle, 37 Boddington Cres, Kambah. The retreat is based on St Catherine of Siena's words "Be who you are meant to be and you will set the world on fire". This event is both an in-person event and available online. More Info: mglisisters@gmail.com.

Women's Reflection Afternoon—29 Aug, 2-4pm (livestreamed). Participate at home or gather with friends wherever you have internet access. The afternoon will include two inspiring talks and several short guided prayer experiences provided by local prayer groups and movements. Hosted by the Archdiocesan Women's Taskforce. More details next week. Enquiries Email catholic.women@cg.org.au or ring/text Lara on 0429 192 869

Laudato Si dialogue—Commencing August/September an ecumenical group will look together each fortnight at Laudato Si, Pope Francis' letter "On Care for Our Common Home". To register and further information, email: BelconnenSouth@cg.org.au or on 0428625110.

Mental Health—Are you struggling in this time of crisis? CatholicCare Canberra & Goulburn 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? 61626100.

ACBC National Catholic Men's Gathering for 2020 is now an online event for registered participants. The program will be delivered in four pre-recorded sessions of approximately 1 hour in length (starting 15 Aug). Each session will offer input from a variety of speakers and musicians, along with a response and questions for group discussion or individual reflection. The program offers flexibility so that you may participate individually or gather with others from your parish/diocese or men's ministry group. The intent is to inspire and encourage all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish, diocese and the world. Registration now available. Go to: bit.ly/cmng2020event.

14th National Prayer Crusade for Vocations—6 Sept-28 Nov. (launched by the Knights of the Southern Cross) praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life including Chaplains for the Australian Defence Force (both in Australia and overseas). All Catholic organisations/schools/colleges, parishes and individual Catholics throughout Australia are being invited to participate. Each participant is asked to choose one week during the Crusade period and pray the following Crusade Prayer each day: "Heavenly Father, you know the faith, courage and generosity of your people throughout Australia including the men and women serving at home and overseas with the Australian Military Services. Please provide your people in Australia with sufficient Priests, Deacons and Religious to meet their needs and be with them always as they endeavour to meet the challenges of their daily lives. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen."

My Voice - Youth— seeks to realise the Archdiocesan three-year vision for youth: belong, believe and become. It involves children in articulating their rights and responsibilities within the Church. The project is designed for students in Years 4-7. If you would like to participate in the survey, go to: cgyouth.org.au/myvoice or email youth@cg.org.au for more information.

We pray for...

Those to be baptised: Hazel Westerlaken

Those who are ill: Arianna Vignale, Lucy Duncan, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Anthony, David Kibbey, Frank Boyle, Muriel Morgan

Anniversaries of death: Bruna Stevenson, Maria Memmolo, Clare O'Connor, Rosa Morabito, Pat Boyle, Alejandro & Orlando Cerda, Alex Skleplic, Petty Gonsalvez, Paul Ryan, Francesco & Francesca Barbaro, Joan Kauzic, Anka Gnjec, Tulla & Sam Brown, Gwen & Mick Gallagher, Michael O'Brien, Odette Gaspardis, Michael McKeown, Flo Daley, Fr Vincent Dowdy, Amelia Kneipp, William Saw, Anna Kieswimmer, Margaret Mary Kelly, Kath Durie, Annie James, Eileen Biggs, Annie Davis, Sr Gertrude Ryan, Michael Heath, Michael O'Connor, Cardinal EB Clancy, Fr Giuseppe Canova, Fr Adrian Cork, James Rice, Kit Dale, Rita Dodson, Noel Honan, Marjorie Kenny, Patricia Robertson, Charlie Morella, Norman Stevenson, Clive Waldren, Clarita Flores, Nicanor Pazcoguain

Recently Deceased: Joan Ophel, John Kovacic, Geraldine Lawler, Barbara Develin, Beirut explosion victims, Tom Hallahan, 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,

Readings of the Day – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time —Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *O God, let all the nations praise you!*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.*

First Reading

Is 56:1.6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Second Reading

Rom 11:13-15. 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Reading

Mt 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, ‘Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.’ But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. ‘Give her what she wants,’ they said ‘because she is shouting after us.’ He said in reply, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.’ But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. ‘Lord,’ she said ‘help me.’ He replied, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the house-dogs.’ She retorted, ‘Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master’s table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.’ And from that moment her daughter was well again.

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER				
Lectors			Extraordinary Ministers of Eucharist	
Mass	15/16 Aug	22/23 Aug	15/16 Aug	22/23 Aug
6.00pm (SPC)	Felicity de Fombelle Damien Balachandran	Geraldine Ford Marcelle Disanayake	n/a	n/a
8.00am (SCC)	Louise Zavone Philip Pocock	Joe Zavone Louise Zavone	n/a	n/a
9.30am (SPC)	Gloria Osborne Colliss Parrett	Ruth Meadows Colliss Parrett	n/a	n/a
11.00am (SCC)	Bronwen Grey Veronica Shi Hui	Scott Pobihun Cecilia Flores	n/a	n/a
5.30pm (SCC)	Rebekah O’Meagher Jacob Madden	Mark Hyman Edwina Hyman	n/a	n/a

St Christopher’s Cathedral Parish encompasses the areas of Barton, Causeway, Deakin, Forrest, Fyshwick, Griffith, Kingston, Manuka, Parkes, Red Hill, Yarralumla