



# St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

22nd Sunday in Ord.  
Time, Year A  
3 September 2023

Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn  
Archbishop: Most Rev Christopher Prowse DD STD  
Administrator: Fr Trenton van Reesch  
Assistant Priest: Fr Alexander Osborne



YEAR OF THE  
HOLY SPIRIT  
August 2023– 2024

## PARISH OFFICE

55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603 (02) 6239 9846 (ph)

cathedral@cg.org.au www.cg.org.au/cathedral

Online Payments Link: www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sccc

Parish Secretary: Anita Piper — 8:30am-4:30pm Monday to Thursday. Office Closed Friday-Sunday

Accounts Officer: Karina Widjaja—8am-4pm Friday

## Sunday Mass

### St Christopher's

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

Sat. Vigil: 5.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am,  
11.00am  
5.00pm

### St Peter Chanel's

Cnr Weston & Loch Streets,  
Yarralumla ACT

Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil

Sunday: 9.30am

## Weekday Mass

### St Christopher's

Monday to Friday: 7.30am &  
12.15pm

Saturday (& Public Holidays):  
9.00am & 12.15pm

### St Peter Chanel's

Tuesday: 5.30pm

## 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

Monday to Friday: 5.00-6.00pm

### Rosary at the Cathedral

Mon–Fri 8am, Sat 11:40am, Sun  
4:45pm

## Baptisms

2nd & 4th Sundays: 12.30pm

## Weddings

St Christopher's: Saturday

1.30pm & 3.00pm

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

## COMFORT, SUFFERING & LOVE

Our readings touch on a matter of crucial importance to living our faith – sometimes our faith is excruciatingly hard. The prophet Jeremiah speaks from a place of great sadness; every time he hears the word of God, he howls and moans because he knows that it will cost him dearly.

Following God has caused him insult and rejection. He is grieved, he has become a social outcast, he says that he's tried to give up following God, but there's something deep in his soul that stops him. He is torn between wanting to follow men, living what this world calls a normal life, and wanting to follow God.

How often do we feel this way? How often do we hear ourselves saying that our life would be easier without God? I am sure we have all felt this way, at least once in our life.

Our Gospel gives us some hard comfort. Peter begins to tell Jesus that he should avoid his mission, and Jesus shockingly calls him Satan. He says that Peter is an obstacle, that he is thinking in the way of men and not in the way of God. Jesus tells us that to follow him, we must imitate him. We have to take up our cross and suffer as well.

Humanity thinks of comfort, God thinks of love.

God isn't cruel and wants us to suffer for the sake of causing pain. God wants us to give ourselves lovingly, which can hurt a lot. Suffering for the sake of suffering is senseless, but suffering for the sake of love is Christ-like. Peter is denounced because he wants Jesus to be comfortable, rather than to give himself fully. Giving ourselves fully, always means giving our pain, our heart-break, our misery; indeed, if we didn't give these things we wouldn't be giving away ourselves, but a false self.

The way of the world is to hide these things, but St Paul tells us that we shouldn't model ourselves after the world, after-all what good does a comfortable life do?

We can suffer for the sake of someone we love – just think of all the hard working fathers who hardly get to see their families, or the disciplinarian dad who is hated rather than thanked.

We can suffer for the sake of love, but we can't be comfortable for a higher cause. (Trust me, if there was a way I would have found it by now). We applaud and thank those who suffer so that others might live in comfort, but those who live in comfort whilst others suffer are thought to be the lowest of the low. It is loving to comfort others, but to live in comfort is a danger to ourselves, as it is a constant temptation to idleness.

Jesus tells us that he will return and reward us according to our behaviour. He tells us to renounce ourselves, take up our crosses and follow him, and that anyone who loses their life for his sake will find it. When our faith feels hard, when we become weary of God and seek the comforts of this world, let us remind ourselves of this: that Jesus promises us through suffering we will come to know our lives. Think of Jeremiah in heaven, how glad he must be because of his suffering, the suffering which has brought many people to love. We seek the comforts of the world but it is only the love that world cannot give which can satisfy.

Fr. Alex



# NOTICES

## PARISH MINISTRIES

**Director of Music**  
Ms Jaki Kane

### RCIA

Miss Becky Langworthy  
Contact Office

### School of Religion

Miss Chiara Catanzariti

### Youth Ministers

Mr Andre Le  
youth.cathedral@cg.org.au

### Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon Sept 4 22nd Week in Ord. Time  
Tues Sept 5 22nd Week in Ord. Time  
Wed Sept 6 22nd Week in Ord. Time  
Thu. Sept 7 22nd Week in Ord. Time  
Fri. Sept 8 2nd Week in Ord. Time  
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Sat. Sept 9 22nd Week in Ord. Time  
Sun Sept 10 23rd SUNDAY ORD.TIME

## PARISH GROUPS

### St Vincent de Paul

**Good Shepherd Prayer Group**  
Wednesday at 7pm SPC  
Parish Room (Feb-Dec)

**Christian Meditation**  
Saturday at 4:30pm SPC

### Other Communities

**Spanish Community**  
First Sunday of the month at  
11.30am SPC

**African Community**  
Second Sunday of the month at  
11.45am SPC **begins Feb.**

**Filipino Community**  
First Sunday bi-monthly at  
5.00pm SPC

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

### FATHER'S DAY APPEAL – Collection for retired priests:

Please give generously to the Father's Day Appeal conducted at all Masses this weekend. Special envelopes are provided in the church and donors will be issued with a tax deductible receipt. Donations can also be made at [www.cgatholic.org.au/donate](http://www.cgatholic.org.au/donate) or calling 6239 9801. Your contribution enables the Clergy Retirements Foundation to care for our retired priests. Thank you!



**St Peter Chanel's 10am Thursday Mass has been discontinued.** Mass at John James Calvary will be available at 10:30am starting from 7 September, each Thursday.

**The Year of the Holy Spirit (Aug 2023-2024)** – From Aug 15. In addition to the Pastoral Letter available on our website, Archbishop Christopher has provided further details & resources, also available on our website - 4 Focus areas & recommended background reading. Intro video: [youtube.com/watch?v=SC3cOLgY\\_wk](https://youtube.com/watch?v=SC3cOLgY_wk)

**Catechesis with Fr. Alex** — Every Monday 6:30-8pm at Haydon Hall, food and wine provided. Our next topic will be **The Sacrament of Holy Orders.**

**THE CANBERRA BACH ENSEMBLE** — 'The Lord is my Faithful Shepherd'. Choir, orchestra, and soloists, directed by Andrew Koll, will be performing JS Bach's 'Shepherd' Cantatas BWV 104, 85, 112 and the Mass in F, BWV 233 on Saturday 2 September at 7.30pm, and Sunday 3 Sep at 2.00pm at St Christopher's Cathedral. For more info and to purchase tickets, please visit [www.canberrabachensemble.com](http://www.canberrabachensemble.com)

**Vocations Dinner at Archbishop's House** — Thursday 7 September at 6pm. For men interested in discerning a call to the Priesthood. A hearty meal provided with insightful discussions & prayer. To RSVP please contact vocations director Fr Emil [emil.milat@cg.org.au](mailto:emil.milat@cg.org.au) 0414 523 036.



**Reading 'Round the Windows – St Christopher's Cathedral Book Club:** This month we are reading *City of God* by St Augustine of Hippo, one of the most influential texts in the development of Christianity. Please join us at Haydon Hall 6:30pm on Friday 29 September 2023 to discuss Books I to VI.

**RCIA/ADULT FAITH FORMATION 2023-24 - are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about our Catholic faith?** The *Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults* (RCIA) is a course for all wishing to deepen their knowledge of the faith, as well as for those preparing for adult Baptism and Confirmation. We meet on Thursday evenings at 6pm, commencing the first week of October 2023. Please contact the Parish Office for further information or to register.

**INTEGRAL ECOLOGY PILGRIMAGE**—The Archdiocese, in collaboration with the Australian Catholic University, is offering this deep learning experience focused on what integral ecology means for each person, parish, and school, and animating new pathways for our Laudato Si action plan. Everyone is welcome, with free weekly online sessions running from 31 August to 5 October. Please register and find further information at <https://cgatholic.org.au/integral-ecology-journeying/>

**CatholicCare / Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation Program**— Wednesday 13 Sept, 5:00pm-9:00pm Marriage Preparation program for engaged couples. Includes FOCCUS questionnaire, dinner, evening formation program and a private, follow-up couple discussion with a CatholicCare counsellor. The cost for the whole package is \$300 per couple. **Information and registration** - [www.marriagefamily.org.au](http://www.marriagefamily.org.au) **Enquiries:** Helena Zobec [marriage.preparation@cg.org.au](mailto:marriage.preparation@cg.org.au) or 0405 440 463

# NOTICES

**Giving and Receiving— Direct debit and QKR options are available, as well as TapnGo machines Thank you sincerely for your generosity.** If you are able, perhaps consider donating to 1st and 2nd collection via direct debit .  
**The First collection: contributes to clergy of the Archdiocese.** If you make an offering through direct debit, please include that you are a parishioner of the Cathedral Parish.

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

**The Second collection: contributes to parish mission and maintenance.** If you would like to give 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 # and Surname (only current Planned Givers);  
or Donation (parishioners not registered Planned Givers).

For more information or to set up monthly payments via direct debit, please contact the Parish Office. For step by step Qkr! instructions, visit [cgatholic.org.au/2016/10/something-beautiful-god/](http://cgatholic.org.au/2016/10/something-beautiful-god/)

**Thank you for your generosity**

**ARCHBISHOP'S PASTORAL LETTER—YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT—** Find the Archbishop's full letter on our website <http://cg.org.au/cathedral/Home.aspx>

**EVANGELISATION—** The Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry recent document offers a scriptural and theological reflection on the proclamation of the Gospel through the lenses of encounter, discipleship and mission. Drawing on seminal documents on evangelisation, including from Paul VI, John Paul II, Benedict XVI and Francis. *Evangelisation* can be downloaded directly from <https://bit.ly/Evangelisation2023>

This month **AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** is raising money to support Sisters in Paraguay. These Sisters not only care for the young in Paraguay but also support the families, visit the sick and the elderly, bring Holy Communion to those in need, give catechetical instruction and support disadvantaged with practical help and advice. To learn more and to make an offering visit [www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject](http://www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject) .

**Year of the Holy Spirit: Called and Gifted Workshop—**Discover God's call for your life! Discern your charisms (spiritual gifts) and begin to respond to God's call. Holy Rosary Watson is hosting a Called and Gifted Workshop led by Clara Geoghegan Wednesday **27 Sept** from **7-8:30pm**. Run over five weeks, please join us as we journey together to discern God's unique mission for each of us. All welcome! Please contact [emilykathrynhall@gmail.com](mailto:emilykathrynhall@gmail.com) to register or for more information

**CARETAXI: SAFE CHURCH TRANSPORT—** Mass, Medical/GP appointments, shopping trips, recreational trips, and more; qualified and caring drivers. Visit [caretaxi.com.au](http://caretaxi.com.au), or 0451 734 334.

**BIBLE STUDY—** St Raphael's, Queanbeyan on Thursday 6.30-7.30pm. Adults from 18 to 40 are welcome. For more information, contact David on 0415286080



## Year of the Holy Spirit

### PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE

O God, who by the light  
Of the Holy Spirit,  
Did instruct the hearts  
Of the faithful,  
Grant that by the same  
Holy Spirit we may be  
truly wise and ever rejoice in His  
consolations.  
Through the same  
Christ our Lord

Amen.

AUGUST 2023— AUGUST 2024

### We pray for...

**Those who are ill:** Tony Dickins, Catherine Cleary, Rosa Mustapic, Marilena Damiano Fr Greg Beath, Sophy Jacob, Alla Skorokhodova, Tony Kelly, Susie Menadue, Geraldene Ford, Kevin & Geraldine Conlon, Maja Marija Olip, McKenzie Killian, Fr Bill, Leung Man Kon, Beryl Johnson, Florencio Fariña, Alejandra Martinez, Colliss Parrett, Arianna Vignale, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Paul Mychailuk, Kalum, Nicholas Dyne.

**Anniversaries of death:** Antonio Torres Hidalgo, John Francis Thompson, Baby 'Angel' Thompson, Tom Brennan, Ralph Biggs, Michael Kelly, Teresa Calabria, Millie & Dick Millwood, Iris Mangan, William Flanagan, Beryl Phillis, Judith Appleton, John Roberts, Guerino Belmonte, Alfonso Cadona, Jim Phelan, Dorothy O'Donnell Vail, Jack Kane, Maria Walker, Colleen Brazil, Margaret Byrnes, Betty O'Brien, Norman Stevenson

**Recently Deceased:** Pauline Maher, Maria Baliva, Frank Commisso, Basilio Dias, Fr Laurie Beath (brother of Fr Greg Beath), Fr Rafael Cabezon OP, Leena Dias (Mother of Fr Norvin Dias),



## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time —Year A — 2/3 September



Cathedral QR code

**Entrance Antiphon:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you

**Responsorial:** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

### First Reading

**Jeremiah 20:7-9**

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could no bear it.

### Second Reading

**Rom 12:1-2**

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

### Gospel

**Mt 16:21-27**

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

### READERS ROSTER AUGUST

		Lectors		Eucharistic Ministers	
Mass	2/3 Sept	9/10 Sept	2/3 Sept	9/10 Sept	
5.00pm (SCC)	Irene Maranan Ruth Meadows	Dorilyn Desuyo Ruth Meadows			
6.00pm (SPC)	Fiona Wheeler Felicity de Fombelle	Tarinya Hannedege Fiona Wheeler			
8.00am (SCC)	Louise Zavone Joe Zavone	Zvon Seselja Phil Pocock			
9.30am (SPC)	Raphael Molu Jaye Corcoran	Clarice Poh Dominic Chin			
11.00am (SCC)	Cecilia Flores Bianca Goh	Samantha Hazlett Jacqui Ramesh	Jacqueline Hipwell Leeann Galloway		Bronwen Grey Mark Hyman
5.00pm (SCC)	Lynette Yap Solange Pereira	Anthony Brierley Francilia Gomes			

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