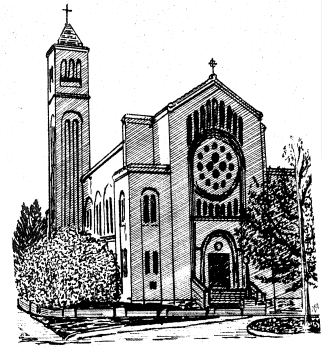


Cathedral QR code

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



24th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year A -
13 September 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,
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

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY by Mary Coloe PBVM

'How many times ...?'

What are the limits of love? Can love be measured? These questions lie behind Peter's query about forgiveness. He obviously considers seven a most generous number since it echoes God's words through the prophet Amos, 'For three transgressions and for four, I will not revoke the punishment.' (2:1). Jesus replies with an incalculable number 'seventy times seven'. Forgiveness, like love, has no limits.

Since 11 September 2001, I have thought a lot about forgiveness. It seems to me there are just two choices we can make. We can go the way of ever-spiralling vengeance, forever 'paying back' the wrongs we experience, or we can reach into the depths of our God-given and Spirit-gifted lives and forgive – impossible though that might sound. Left to ourselves, perhaps forgiveness is not possible, but given the Spirit of Jesus we may be able to access his power and 'turn the other cheek'. This is the almost crazy demand placed on Christians.

In the parable the slave owes an impossible amount to his master. The number, ten thousand talents, was simply the denomination in ancient accounting – perhaps today's equivalent of a 'billion' dollars. Remember that parables make use of hyperbole and exaggeration. There is no need to imagine how a slave could possibly have run up this amount of debt. The point is the enormity of it and the sheer impossibility of the slave ever being in a position to repay it. In response to the master's demand for repayment, and the threat of selling him and his family, the slave makes a ridiculous request for 'more time'. Then, the unthinkable happens, the Master feels compassion for the slave – literally his very bowels are moved with emotion. He set him free and forgives his debt.

The scene quickly changes. The slave, released from his impossible debt goes and finds a fellow-slave owing him a paltry sum, and shows him no mercy. What is missing here is a pause – a time for the first slave to be aware of the extraordinary generosity of his master, to know deep in his own being the enormity of his debt and a corresponding gratitude for being freed from this impossible burden.

The parable sets up the measuring stick for Christian love and this measure is that of the generous, forgiving master. From the experience of God's extraordinary generosity we ought to be able to be generous in our turn. The servant in the parable forgot his experience of being forgiven and focussed only on his being wronged. Christians need to be people with long memories, able to recall the times they have failed and been forgiven, and from this place reach out in forgiveness of others.

Remembering that we fail again and again and again might enable us to forgive 'seventy times seven'.

© Mary Coloe

Dr Mary Coloe PBVM is a Presentation sister and teaches in the field of New Testament studies at the Yarra Theological Union. She was Associate Professor in New Testament at the Australian Catholic University and has taught at Boston College, the Jesuit School of Theology Berkeley, and at the Ecce Homo Biblical Institute Jerusalem. Her specialist research areas include the Gospel of John and early Jewish Christian relationships. Dr Coloe has written numerous books, essays and journal articles on these and other topics and is a member of Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas and other biblical associations. Her home page is <http://dlibrary.acu.edu.au/staffhome/macoloe/>

CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY

This Sunday marks **Child Protection Sunday**. We give thank for the gift of our children, and we pray and support those who have been hurt by adults who were entrusted with the care of the most vulnerable, our children. The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to any abuse, and recommits to practices that support all, making the Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk.

You can access information on the Church's response to child sexual abuse on the Bishops Conference website (<https://catholic.org.au/responseandprevention>). This includes information about reporting, the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and the various national organisations with responsibility for safeguarding and child protection.

PARISH NEWS

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

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 14 Sep The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Tue 15 Sep Our Lady of Sorrows

Wed 16 Sep Sts Cornelius & Cyprian

Thu 17 Sep St Robert Bellamine

Fri 18 Sep Day of Penance

Sat 19 Sep St Januarius

Sun 20 Sep 25th Sunday in Ordinary time

Legion of Mary

Mondays 5.45pm, Haydon Hall
Contact: 0431 060 556

St Vincent de Paul

Assisting people in need and combatting social injustice in our community

Adventurers Youth Group

(primary school age)
Sundays, 8.45am SPC

Young Adults Bible Study

Thursday 6.30pm, Hayden Hall
chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au

Good Shepherd Prayer Group

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

Christian Meditation

Saturday at 5pm 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

Filipino Community

First Sunday bi-monthly at
5.00pm SPC

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

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**.

Weekend Mass sign in sheets—please ensure that when signing in for Mass, there is **only one name per line**. Please do not write for example: *Smith x3*. It is crucial that we only have the designated 100 people in the Cathedral at any one time, abiding by the 1.5 meter rule. Sheets are marked with 100 places to ensure this is achieved. Thanks for all you are doing in these days.

IS CHRIST CALLING YOU TO THE PRIESTHOOD? 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.

Weekend Collections: Parish collection stations receive Planned Giving envelopes and all other offerings. We continue to offer **Tap & Go PayWave machines**. Just tap your debit or credit card. You can also download the **Qkr! App** where you can select directly where your donations go, incl. archdiocesan missions. Please contact the Parish Office to set up Direct Debit or monthly Credit Card deductions for both collections – or, contact us with any questions. Thanks for your generous support!

New Reading/Lector Volunteers requested—For some months now the Cathedral has added a Vigil Mass at 5pm. Please email the parish office if you are interested in joining the Lectors Roster for this Mass and/or other of the Cathedral Parish Masses (excluding the 11am Mass). This includes Masses at St Peter Chanel's Yarralumla. Training will be provided. Email: cathedral@cg.org.au if you are interested.

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

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.

Young adults and professionals: **Young Adults Brunch—27 Sept**, join us for 11am Mass at the Cathedral followed by brunch together! Email: chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au

"Come and See" (John 1:39) - Discerning a Vocation to the Priesthood? - 18th-20th September

Our parish acknowledges and celebrates the original custodians of this sacred land, the Ngunnawal people.

OTHER NEWS

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



Gracious God, you love and care for all of your children, We entrust to you the lives of children and adults at risk who have been abused in any way, and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed. Help us to hear their cries of pain and to take responsibility for those whose lives have been broken. Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those wounded by abuse, and the failure to be heard. We pray that with the help of your grace all may find support, so that now and in the future, wounds may be healed and

peace may be found. We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

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 DO NOT return your bulletin to the basket, if you are not taking it home put it in the bin.

Please 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.

Father's Day Appeal - The Archdiocesan Clergy Retirement Foundation thanks everyone who contributed so generously. For those still wishing to make a donation, envelopes are available in the church foyer and can be left either on the collection plate or posted to the Foundation Office. Donations can also be made at www.cqatholic.org.au/donate. **Thank you for your generous support.**

A Journey of Discernment: The Plenary Council by Archbishop Timothy Costelloe is available at: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/a-journey-of-discernment-The-Plenary-Council.pdf> or please contact the parish for a hardcopy to be provided to you.

Vinnies Covid-19 Appeal: Vinnies will not be holding a winter appeal in 2020. Instead, we are encouraged to donate to the COVID-19 Crisis Appeal. You can donate online at www.donate.vinnies.org.au/covid-19-emergency-appeal or by calling 13 18 12. Vinnies Canberra Night Patrol is also seeking donations of warm items- blankets, jackets, new socks. You can donate at any of the Vinnies shops.

Support of the church in the Holy Land - 13 September. The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land normally takes place on Good Friday. This year, the collection has been moved. The collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land. Last year, Australian Catholics donated \$1.3 million to this cause. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land and keep them in your prayers.

New Life in God's Spirit seminar, an opportunity for a deeper encounter with Jesus! Everyone is welcome to this free seminar held at the parish room, St Peter Chanel's Catholic Church, Weston St, Yarralumla each Wednesday evening 7pm-9pm from Wed. 9 September to Wed. 28 October. Talks, testimonies, prayer ministry and fellowship. Speakers include Fr David Tremble MGL, Fr Emil Milat and Fr Josh Scott, Canberra Central parish, and Roby Joshua, Jesus Youth Australia. For more info and to register, call Neda 0415 266 019, Susanna 0419 902 293.

"The Way Forward" A free online pro-life panel, 19 Sept, 2-4pm. What practical steps, however small, can we take towards creating a more life-affirming culture? Pro-Life Professionals (Canberra) are hosting a panel of speakers involved in medicine, law and policy, and the social media sphere, who are finding innovative ways to reach out in support of pregnant women and their unborn children. Join us for an afternoon of online presentations and Q&A, and learn how you too can help to build a culture of life. Register at bit.ly/way-forward-canberra. Enquiries: Belle Joseph bjoseph87@yahoo.com.au 0412 689 976.

Isolation from COVID-19 has only exacerbated the already huge issue of mental health. Among other issues, loneliness is a foundational experience of so many. This year's **Social Statement of the Australian Bishops** is titled: **"To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today"** and can be found on Australian Bishops Conference website: www.catholic.org.au

Praying for Vocations: Every Friday: Evening Prayer and Adoration, Mary Help of Christians, Pearce 5.30 p.m.-6.00 p.m. First Wednesday: Adoration St. Brigid's Dickson, Serra commitment - 12.00 noon-1.00 p.m. First Friday: Adoration at St. Christopher's Cathedral following 12.15 p.m. Mass.

We pray for...

Those to be baptised: Sebastian Balachandran; Luca White;

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

Anniversaries of death: Antonio Torres Hidalgo, John Francis Thompson, Baby 'Angel' Thompson, Tom Brennan, Allan Biggs, 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: Leena Lemley, Lou Westende, Shirley Cummings (nee Deane), Brian F Savage, 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,

Readings of the Day – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time —Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.*

First Reading

Sir 27:30 – 28:7

The Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Second Reading

Rom 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Reading

Mt 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

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LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER

Lectors		Extraordinary Ministers of Eucharist		
Mass	12/13 Sept	19/20 Sept	12/13 Sept	19/20 Sept
6.00pm (SPC)	Marcelle Disanayake Wanda Kaucz	Wanda Kaucz Damien Balachandran	n/a	n/a
8.00am (SCC)	Philip Pocock Assigned	Assigned Philip Pocock	n/a	n/a
9.30am (SPC)	Gloria Osborne Colliss Parrett	Jaye Longland Lynn Chan	n/a	n/a
11.00am (SCC)	Renee George Ceciley Matthews	Cecilia Flores Bronwen Grey	n/a	n/a
5.30pm (SCC)	Leeann Galloway Liz Porra	Jacob Madden Scott Pobihun	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