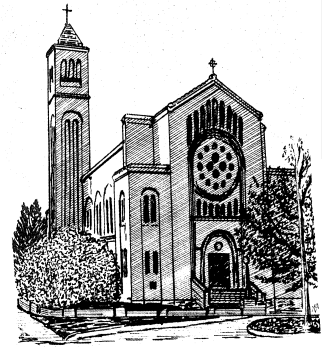


St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

24th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year B -
12 Sept 2021

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



Check in here!



the code **941461** mar

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

St Christopher's &
St Peter Chanel's
are currently closed
due to the ACT lock-
down.

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

Rosary at the Cathedral

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

Baptisms

Sundays: 12.30pm

Weddings

St Christopher's: Saturday

1.30pm & 3.00pm

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

Dear Friends,

I once heard the story of a woman driving through a long stretch of roadworks. Rocks, gravel, tar. It had it all. 20 zones. 40 zones. Stops and starts. After a long trip, there finally came the end where a sign read: "*End of construction. Thank you for your patience.*" This woman was Ruth Bell Graham, the wife of TV evangelist Billy Graham. Ruth was so touched by the message that she actually requested the words be placed on her headstone. And they were!

In these days, more than usual perhaps, we're confronted with the truth of how fragile and dependent we really are. And while eye-opening, it's not a bad thing to be reminded of. Yet how often do we ignore or even try to 'fix' this? The fact is, we *are* beloved sons and daughters, who do not need to try and be strong or successful or even fulfil our own meaning. We have a Father, a purpose, a story, a home.

Our lives are made of successes and failures, fulfilment and brokenness. The dizzy heights of joy and consolation. The detours and bumps of disappointment and set-back. Jesus admits this reality, instructing us to *take up your cross and follow him daily.*

Simply put, you and I are, "under construction"; we are daily in the process of *becoming* (Eph 4:13). With Isaiah then, we too profess: "For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away." (Isaiah 50:5).

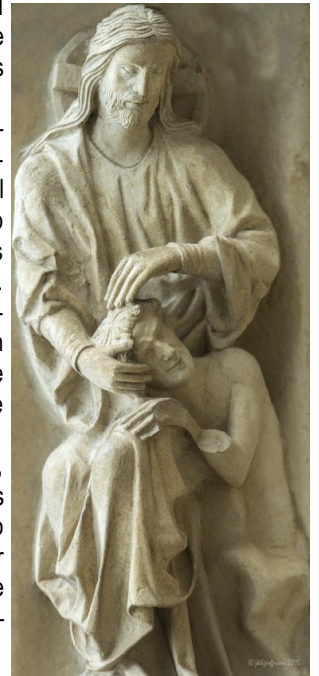
In the Gospel, Peter and the disciples reach a significant moment in their being 'moulded' as Jesus followers. Jesus asks them, "*Who do you say that I am?*" (Mk 8:29). This is the Christian Question. It is a question which demands a daily, personal response, and yet it is one which is always founded on the communal reply of the whole Body, the Church.

How we answer this question is also important. If Jesus is just some moral teacher, exemplifying the 'good life', then he becomes one among the many. While inspiring, his teachings will not shape us... We may even leave his word behind if a more attractive idea comes along. *But if he is God*, then everything Jesus says has eternal, life-giving value. What he says, we must do – keeping in mind that following Jesus is a life-long call.

My thoughts turn here to a carving over the north porch of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Chartres, France. Almost hidden from many human eyes; much like the truth it echoes. One almost needs eyes of faith which *want to find and see*. It depicts Adam (and so, all of us), created as an act of love. This sculpture isn't just great art, but a very effective theology. Adam lays upon the eternal Word, upon Jesus' lap – created as a bearer of God's image. Christ's hands, powerful and gentle, form and mould the crown of his creation. You and I. The Christian is one 'under construction' and this takes patience – God is working, not done with us yet

To Jesus' question Peter responds, "You are the Christ" – God become flesh. And because of this, Peter is willing to leave behind everything and follow (Mk 8:29). And yet it soon becomes clear that Peter still does not understand what it means to follow Jesus. "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Mk 8:34). Peter thought he had Jesus all figured out... He didn't. Indeed, even Peter and his faith were still "under construction". Learning daily what it meant to be a disciple. We are all, a work in progress. Or rather, a masterpiece becoming. I don't write this because it sounds good. But... because it is TRUE. How beautifully similar we are to Peter. And all who have followed Jesus up and down the ages.

At times our faith is strong, confident and comforting. At other times, we feel our world and surety has fallen from beneath us. We have days when we fervently follow Jesus, and days when we stumble and fall to things beneath our dignity. Yet we must not forget, that like St. Peter our faith is under construction – we are a work in progress. Jesus is the Christ, the only one who can lead us through the construction of life – through the detours, curves, and bumps in the road – to his kingdom.



PARISH NEWS

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music

Jaki Kane

RCIA

Please contact parish office for next program.

School of Religion

See ad under Parish News.

Youth Minister

Anh Tran

Email: anh.tran@cg.org.au

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 13 Sep St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor
Tue 14 Sep The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Wed 15 Sep Our Lay of Sorrows
Thu 16 Sep Sts Cornelius, pope, martyr & Cyprian, bishop, martyr
Fri 17 Sep Weekday, Ordinary Time
Sat 18 Sep Weekday, Ordinary Time
Sun 19 Sep 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

ALL PARISH GROUPS ARE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

Legion of Mary
Monday at 5.30pm
Haydon Hall

St Vincent de Paul
Adventurers Youth Group
(primary school age)
every 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month, 8.45am - 9.25am @ SPC

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

LOCKDOWN— Masses are offered on the regular schedule **for your intentions**. Mass will be livestreamed daily at 12:15pm and on Sunday at 11:00am. **MASS INTENTIONS**— Please email the Office with your Mass intentions and Masses for the deceased.

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL— 30 priests of our Archdiocese are cared for by the Clergy Retirement Foundation. This Appeal raises funds to provide security in retirement years, including accommodation and health care. Please be generous as in the past, all gifts remain tax deductible. To donate: 1) Visit www.cgatholic.org.au/donate. 2) Call (02) 6239 9801 3) or for cash and cheque donations, please send to GPO BOX 3089 Canberra ACT 2601. Thank you for supporting our faithful Fathers in their retirement.



PASTORAL LETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER – Human beings need humanity not Euthanasia – Please find a copy of this very important letter, online, on our parish website.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA) 2021-22— Come to pray and discover more about the Catholic faith in a supportive, welcoming environment. Open to ALL of all faiths or none, especially those interested in exploring the idea of becoming Catholic or receiving the Sacraments for the first time. Thursday evenings, 6pm, starting this Thursday, September 16. (Meeting on Zoom). Register and info email cathedral@cg.org.au

ALPHA ONLINE COURSE—21 Sept, 7-815pm, via zoom. You're invited! Alpha is a series of free sessions where anyone can explore the basics of faith in an open, informal environment. Register: bit.ly/cathedralAlpha. Contact: Anh Tran, anh.tran@cg.org.au

CATHOLIC BISHOPS' SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT— *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*. Available on our website, and see too our Archdiocesan Caring for Creation response group: care4creation.org

ROSARY VIA ZOOM— Join Archbishop Christopher to pray the Rosary. Wednesday & Friday at 4 pm. Click the link on the *CatholicVoice* Website. us02web.zoom.us/j/85022458332?pwd=MDZ4ODFhNjlvdnFkd21aVDQzWnAydz09 Or enter in the details below after opening Zoom; Meeting ID: 850 2245 8332 Passcode: 543675

NEEDING A LITTLE HELP?— Call your priest, and we'll get back to you asap. Need help ordering groceries online or just a chat? As a parish family we want to help... let us know, as a parish family, we'll be there! Contact the parish office.

SUPPORT— Isolation and lockdown has only exacerbated the already huge issue of mental health. Among other issues, loneliness is a paralysing experience for so many. But there is help. If you or someone you know needs extra support. Lifeline: 13 11 14, Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636 1800, 1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732, Confidential Helpline: 1800 737 732, Kids' Helpline: 1800 551 80, Confidential Helpline: 1800 737 732, Mensline: 1300 78 99 78, CatholicCare: 6162 6100. Of course, never hesitate to contact us at the Parish Office.

PLENARY COUNCIL - 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me.' Mark 8:27-35 'There can be no shortcuts, no bypassing the cross or the tomb, to encounter the resurrection. ... [We must stand] in solidarity and compassion with each other, particularly the wounded, the poor and the traumatised. (Humble, Healing & Merciful – Discernment Paper pp.12 & 18) www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/

An Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

2021 CATHEDRAL PARISH—SCHOOL OF RELIGION PROGRAM

First Eucharist classes have been postponed to 5 Oct for 31 Oct Mass. More information and Enrolment forms can be found on www.cg.org.au/cathedral or contact the Parish Office on 6239 9846.

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

OTHER NEWS

Mass will be live streamed from the St Christopher's Cathedral. Mon-Sat at 12.15pm & Sunday at 11:00am. <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>

New Ways of Giving and Receiving—The Archdiocese offers simpler and safer ways of making your financial offering, during this time of pandemic and into the future. **Direct debit** and **QKR** options are available, as well as **TapnGo** machines (when we return to Masses 'in person'). Thank you sincerely for your generosity. Please continue to make your offering during this time, if you are able, and perhaps consider donating to 1st and 2nd collection via direct debit.

The First collection: contributes to clergy of the Archdiocese. *If you make an offer to this first collection 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 mission and maintenance of the parish. 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 Number and Surname (only for current Planned Givers); or Donation (by parishioner's not registered Planned Givers).

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

You can now use our **purpose-built secure parish app** to contribute to the 1st & 2nd Collection. Please include your Planned Giving number for 2nd Collection contributions. Contact the Office if you have forgotten your Planned Giving number.

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

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2021

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have suffered any form of abuse, and for their families. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by clergy and lay in Church settings. We recommit to practices that support those affected and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk. The Church must be the safest place for all. Please find out more about our work in this area at catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday



Virtual Gathering on Supporting Couples—18 Sept 10am. Participate in a no cost 'virtual' gathering on the theme of 'Supporting Couples'. There will be stimulating talks from a range of speakers. For more details go to www.teamsoceania.com.au or contact Tim Power on 0437 013 328. You can register at <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=43655>

The Parenting Children Course 21 Sept, 7.30-8.30pm. (via zoom) For parents of young children, seeking connection and support during lockdown while learning new skills. It's fun, hopeful and designed to inspire confidence in your abilities as a parent. Register at bit.ly/101_Parents or contact Emma.Baker@bbcatholic.org.a

Vocations Discernment Weekend: Friday 24 Sept. – Sunday 26 Sept. An extended discernment opportunity involving a retreat at Galong. For more information please contact paul.nulley@cg.org.au

Canberra Catholic Bookshop—Despite the Covid lockdown we are taking phone calls, and processing email and web orders. We can take payments over the phone and customers can collect curbside. Please email catholic.bookshop@cg.org.au or go online www.catholicbookshop.org.au

(NEW!) THE MARRIAGE COURSE – Whether married 4 months or 40 years, in a good place or struggling, *The Marriage Course* offers practical support and ideas to strengthen your marriage. Hosted by the Archdiocese, explore 7 topics together in the comfort of home (via ZOOM). For those at any stage of marriage. Begins Tuesday 19th October. Cost is \$70. Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qba2wYpXgUs> To register visit: www.cgatholic.org.au/marriagefamily/the-marriage-course/ or contact Steph Ransom steph.ransom@cg.org.au

Volunteer in Australia and Overseas - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco—We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for January 2022 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Australia. When it is possible and safe to do so, we will recommence sending volunteers to work with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste & the Solomon Islands. Applications close October 30th. Send us an inquiry - www.cagliero.org.au

'How to Live on Earth as if it is Heaven' - Join Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy, for the latest daily online devotional series at: www.bruce-downes.org. The Catholic Guy Ministry aims to help people strengthen their relationship with God and their walk with Christ.

We pray for...

Those who are ill: Fr Laurie Blake, Teddy Kartadinata, Florencio Fariña, Alejandra Martinez, Colliss Parrett, Arianna Vignale, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Anthony, David Kibbey, Paul Mychailuk, Kalum, Ira Tirtobudi, Nicholas Dyne, Hubo Ballivian, Fr Peter Gannon.

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: Christopher Richards, Pamela Manning, Richard Brophy, Ulderico Barzi, Sr Maria (Heather) Roberts (Sister of Fr Hilton Roberts), Lorenzo Pastrello, Linda di Cullo, Josef Wiedemann, Sr Marie Jeanne Graham rsj, Fr Elizabije Petar, Eduardo Pelaez Tan, Tee Eng Nio, Ferry Tedjajadi, Aurelio Biurra,



Cathedral QR code

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: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

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

First Reading

Is 50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

Second Reading

Jas 2:14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

Gospel Reading

Mk 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, '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, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'