



Cathedral QR code

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



25th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year A -
20 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

Dear Parishioners, and Visitors to Saint Christopher's Cathedral Parish,
Around 1734 the Great English Poet, Alexander Pope, wrote a famous poem titled Essay on Man. In it, Pope attempted to draw attention to the chasm which exist between the ways of God and those of man. Pope speaks of an eternal order - the ways and mind and purposes of God - which elude the grasp, and baffle the human mind and heart. Of course, we would admit that Christ has made known such a mystery and purpose in His Son (Eph 1:8-10), that we no longer remain 'in the dark' with no wisdom or understanding, as Pope delicately suggests. And yet, at the same time, lines from Pope's poem can be seen to echo powerfully the Lord's words from Isaiah (our first reading today): "My ways are not your ways ... Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts (Is 55:8-9).

The parable of the workers in the vineyard further unravels this truth. Today's parable is a powerful one, going to the very heart of the human condition, and in a confronting way! In a sense the parable is about coveting. The 'wages' at stake however - even at the moment of Jesus' first telling of the parable - are not literal, daily wages for the workers. The 'wages' rather, could be said to be gifts given by God in His generous love; forgiveness, life and salvation.

The point is not that others receive blessings from God that we do not - but that they get the same as us. And they do not deserve it, do they? We become the judge! They are less worthy, later arrivals, or just plain... worse sinners. They don't deserve the same as we get! Perhaps not nothing... but certainly not the same!

The Lord's generosity, forgiveness and love are far greater than we could ever hope for, imitate, or conceive. Could we not say that the labourers mirror perfectly today's forgiven, in pews, pulpits and on the pavement?

The Owner of the vineyard directly asks those who have worked longest and (presumably) the hardest, "Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" God's grace, mercy and forgiveness are God's, to give as He sees fit. Who could understand His ways? As a direct result of this, often unconsciously, we covet God's power to forgive; who is forgiven and how. Think of the parable of the Prodigal son, and in particular the second son's response. On the return of his brother who has lived a debauched life, wasting away his father gifts, he retorts: "Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends" (Lk 15:29). As if to say 'I've earned your love... this one hasn't!' This son is caught up in the same trap as the first - the trap of 'worthiness'.

This confronting reversal of our sense of justice, expectations, and even hopes, speaks volumes about the truth of the Kingdom of God, which lies at the heart of the Gospel. Christ turns on its head, what we first thought we had figured out.

Of course this does not simply mean that 'anything goes'. But it does become a stern reminder that you and I are called to be imitators of God's mercy, understanding, charity, patience, and love; even when we feel we do not understand. After all, as Pope's poem echoes:

"Who sees with equal eye, as God of all,
A hero perish, or a sparrow fall...

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 21 Sep St Matthew, apostle, evangelist
Tue 22 Sep 25th week in Ordinary time
Wed 23 Sep St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest
Thu 24 Sep 25th week in Ordinary time
Fri 25 Sep 25th week in Ordinary time
Sat 26 Sep 25th week in Ordinary time
Sun 27 Sep 26th Sunday in Ordinary time

Legion of Mary

Thursdays, 5pm, Crypt
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.

First Holy Communion Candidates—We pray God's blessings upon the St Christopher's Cathedral Parish school of religion and students from St Bede's Primary school who celebrated their First Holy Communion this week. Thank you to the catechist's who prepared them.

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.

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.

St Peter Chanel's garden refurbishment – coming together in a community project—During last year's heatwave and drought, it became obvious to those parishioners who were watering the garden that more plants were dead than alive. The church grounds look neglected. So we have enlisted the services of a landscape architect (Paul Barisic-Bentley, former St Peter Chanel's student) who has drawn up a simple, attractive garden plan (displayed near the church entrance) that should be easy to maintain (this plan has been financed by a parishioner). Pending further consultation with Fr Trenton and parish finance committee, our garden revamp can begin in a few weeks. We welcome your support, either financially (\$ donation or sponsor a crepe myrtle tree) and/or with your physical on-the-ground help over the coming few months. This can be a great community muster, and we need to know of your interest and possible input before we proceed. Covid self-distancing will be required. Please be in touch with any of us, and thanks for considering this request.

Contact: Katherine & Mick Roche (0400 066 408); Barbara Belcher (0418 495 464); Susan & Rod Page (0401 731 918).

All night Adoration Vigil—25 Sep, 7pm to 7am, St Peter Chanel's Church. To book an hour please use the following link: <https://www.trybooking.com/BLPOI> or use this QR code. QR code instructions: Download QR reader on your smartphone & open your smartphone's camera app. Fit the QR code in your camera viewfinder until a URL notification pops up. Tap the URL notification that pops up.



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.

Explorers 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: 27 Sept (then next meeting 11 Oct after school holidays).

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

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

Calvary Hospital Spring Plant Stall—24 Sept, 8am-4pm, Jamison Centre. There will be a great variety of plants including succulents, natives, exotics, roses, geraniums, lilies, iris, shrubs, strappy plants and trees, to suit all conditions - hardy, ground cover, shade or heat loving, and indoor. Please bring your own bags or use one of our recycled boxes. All funds raised will be used to purchase equipment for the care and comfort of public hospital patients. For further information contact Jan on 0437790980.

World Mission Sunday—18 Oct. This year's Mission Sunday Appeal is for the Arrupe Centre in Cambodia, which supports through education, vocational training and health support, children & youth with disabilities. More information to follow.

We pray for...

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: Dominic McKeown, 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 – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time —Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *The Lord is near to all who call him.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.*

First Reading

Is 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Second Reading

Phil 1:20-24. 27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Reading

Mt 20:1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

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LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER				
Lectors			Extraordinary Ministers of Eucharist	
Mass	19/20 Sept	26/27 Sept	19/20 Sept	26/27 Sept
6.00pm (SPC)	Wanda Kaucz Damien Balachandran	Marcelle Disanayake Mike Nash	n/a	n/a
8.00am (SCC)	Assigned Philip Pocock	Joe Zavone Louise Zavone	n/a	n/a
9.30am (SPC)	Jaye Longland Lynn Chan	Dominic Chin Clarice Poh	n/a	n/a
11.00am (SCC)	Cecilia Flores Bronwen Grey	Edwina Hyman Mark Hyman	n/a	n/a
5.30pm (SCC)	Jacob Madden Scott Pobihun	Gabrielle Wright Rebekah O'Meagher	n/a	n/a

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