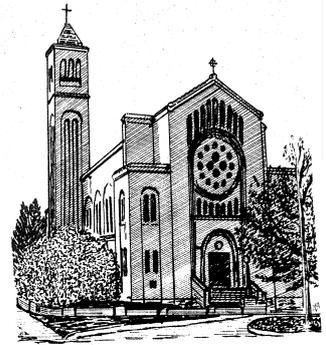


St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

25th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year B -
19 Sept 2021

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



St Christopher's &
St Peter Chanel's
are currently
closed due to
ACT ockdown.



Plenary Council
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

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

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 recently rediscovered the timeless, thought-provoking verses attributed to the Roman Statesman, Marcus Tullius Cicero; known to history simply as *Cicero* (106-43BC). In his culture and time, Cicero observed and even mourned shortcomings, which humanity still struggles with in the 21st century. I find it sobering, heartening, consoling and even comical, that even then, Cicero lamented humanity's wrestle with these obstacles; prevalent centuries before his own birth, in his own life-time and... today. We think we've come so far...! He writes:

*"Six mistakes mankind keeps making century after century.
Believing that personal gain is made by crushing others;
Worrying about things that cannot be changed or corrected;
Insisting that a thing is impossible because we cannot accomplish it;
Refusing to set aside trivial preferences;
Neglecting development and refinement of the mind;
Attempting to compel others to believe and live as we do."*

These stumbling blocks, daily companions on the road, remind us of the constant task to reject the gravity of our human weakness, folly and pride, which pull us *inward* as opposed to *out*. Outward to the other, outward to life, outward to God.

It seems Cicero's enduring words, closely canvass the heart of the argument among the disciples on the road. Indeed, even the disciples were occupied by the same obstacles as many today.

Yet Jesus offers the alternative, a remedy, with words paramount to the Christian life. 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' (Mk 9:35). Jesus invites them, and us, to imitate himself.

Jesus - forever the Teacher - schools his companions as to the heart of human happiness, purpose and the way forward. Predicting his passion, death, and Resurrection, Jesus not only prepares his disciples (those entrusted with his Mission) for what lay ahead, but even now reveals the identity that characterises those who belong to him. For those who belong to the world act as the disciples had on the road; investing in the trivial and shallow, forever debating *who is the greatest!* (Mk 9:34)

Jesus reveals however, where lasting greatness lies, and that is in the person aware of, yet undistracted and undeterred by their own brokenness. True greatness emerges from one who is focused on Jesus, and *his* power— to see through false ideas of worldly greatness which have blinded up and down the ages.

Disassembling preconceived ideas of greatness, effectiveness, power and status, Jesus teaches that the one who lives and dies in service of *the other*, is truly great. The one who welcomes, loves and attends to the lowliest; a lesson of which he is the archetypal teacher.

Jesus calls a little child and sets them among the disciples. For a child gives nothing of what the world considers 'valuable' in return. In a child there's no political 'payback', they can not vote, nor give speeches about how great your helpfulness is. In fact, they take for granted your care for them. They do not make a big deal of the fact that you pour your life out for them. Children and the vulnerable, prove, more than any other, whether you are truly great or not—whether you live to serve or to be praised.

Our second reading from Saint James warns, 'Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind... whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is something pure; ...makes for peace...is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good... [Those who] work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.' He then asks the haunting question, perhaps one similar to Cicero's: 'Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves?'

Today Jesus speaks to us, a reminder of where true greatness is found. Greatness and true happiness is found only in *diakonia*, service, that is, a life lived *for* the sake of the other, not the self. And not by chance! But by virtue of the fact that we were created in the image of a God defined by such perpetual self-giving. To 'give' is God's nature. And so...

*Greatness is to build and encourage life in the other;
to place our trust and faith in God's promise and not fret the things which are transient;
to embrace truth and holiness amid a world which says that such is impossible to know and to live;
Greatness it is to choose the other instead of ourselves;
to actively grow in knowledge of God; the true, good and beautiful in in our mind and heart;
it is to tirelessly propose to other, not proselytise, the Truth of Christ and witness his love.*

Father Trenton van Reesch

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 20 Sep Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, priest, martyr & Paul Chong Ha-sang & companions, martyrs
Tue 21 Sep St Matthew, apostle
Wed 22 Sep Weekday, Ordinary Time
Thu 23 Sep St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest
Fri 24 Sep Weekday, Ordinary Time
Sat 25 Sep Weekday, Ordinary Time
Sun 26 Sep 26th 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.

THE AUSTRALIAN PLENARY COUNCIL – it's about to begin! From **3rd-10th October** the plenary delegates will gather in hubs across Australia. The Plenary Council is a formal meeting of the bishops and other representatives of the dioceses and eparchies of the Catholic Church in Australia. Its purpose is to discern *what God is asking of us in Australia at this time*. While the church should ask this question always, the Council is a graced instrument for seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance. This comes through a gift that the baptised receive, "a sense for the faith" (*sensus fidei*). Moreover, the whole church *together* has this special gift, what is called "the faithful's sense of the faith" (*sensus fidelium*). This is a sacred conduit for hearing what God is asking. The bishops ensure that interpretations of divine revelation are faithful to the past. Yet equally important, is that God's present movement in human history is being acted upon. Vatican II spoke of how God "continues to converse" with His Body, the Church (*Dei Verbum*, 8). Through the Plenary Council, the Church desires to enter more intensely into the divine-human dialogue. Visit plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/ for the Council Agenda, the *Instrumentum Laboris* (Working document), members, roles and more.



Pray, Pray, Pray...

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.

Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council. Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road. Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying. Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.

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—Alpha is a series of free sessions where anyone can explore the basics of faith in an open, informal environment. 21 Sept, 7-8.15pm, via zoom. You're invited! Register: bit.ly/cathedralAlpha. Contact: Anh Tran, anh.tran@cg.org.au

ROSARY VIA ZOOM!— Join Archbishop Christopher to pray the Rosary. Wednesday & Friday at 4 pm. Click the link on the *CatholicVoice* Website, or enter in the details below after opening Zoom; Meeting ID: 850 2245 8332 Passcode: 543675



THE ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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/>

Leading up to the Plenary Council you are invited to join in a Novena from Sat 25th of September to Sunday 3rd October. Each day pray the Plenary Prayer, A decade of the Rosary and a moment in silent prayer for the intentions and success of the 5th Plenary Council of Australia. Come Holy Spirit!

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.au



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 Cagliari 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.cagliari.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.

Aid to the Church in Need Australia: One Million Children Praying the Rosary: ACN invites you to join the prayer campaign 'One Million Children Praying the Rosary' for unity and peace in the world on the 18th of October. Be part of this prayer campaign and join many others! Register and learn more at www.aidtochurch.org/one-million-children

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.

We pray for...

Those who are ill: Baby Antoni Feliks, 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: Michael Williams, 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 Elizebije Petar, Eduardo Pelaez Tan, Tee Eng Nio



Cathedral QR code

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 upholds my life.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!*

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

First Reading

Wis 2:12, 17-20

The godless say to themselves, 'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

Second Reading

Jas 3:16 – 4:3

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

Gospel Reading

Mk 9:30-37

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'