

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



2nd Sunday in
Advent
Year B -
6 Dec 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 at St Christopher's will be offered with a maximum of 139 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

In this second Sunday of Advent, as we continue our preparation for the Birth of Jesus, we are introduced to the figure of John the Baptist, the first to identify Jesus as the one God's people had been waiting for! All four Gospels compel us to approach Jesus through this one 'crying out in the wilderness' (Mk 1:3). The Baptist calls us to a baptism of repentance, and Jesus acknowledges and agrees with John's message. Of John, Jesus says "among those born of women no one is greater..." (Lk 7:28). Jesus thus echoes the need of a transformative change (a *metanoia*) in each human heart. But while John's message was one that ended there, one of strict and immediate warning, as if to say, *it is now too late for you all!* Jesus proclaims, that there is *more to be said!*

We are reminded in Advent that Christ, will come again, and we look forward to that time with great anticipation and *joyful hope*, while also doing our diligence to prepare well here and now. Jesus announces that there is more to be said! Now is the time of mercy. More to be said by a God who is far more mysterious and patience than we first suspect! More to be said by a God who is far more merciful than we could ever believe! More to be said by a God who is far more loving and close to us than we dare to acknowledge. This is the Mystery of the Incarnation and Christmas - this is the Incarnate HOPE, of the God who comes to us!

While recalling the Israelites captivity, Isaiah in our first reading echoes this great hope, as he echoes the promise of Jesus' coming, to a people called to "prepare the way".

Let us, with John the Baptist, prepare the way friends, and let us do so confidently! Confident of our Lord's promise!

ATTENTION: CHRISTMAS MASSES 2020

This year, on account of Covid-19 restrictions and regulations, parishioners attending **Christmas Masses in the Cathedral parish are asked to register online through one of our Trybooking links.** Unfortunately, only limited numbers will gather within the Cathedral and Saint Peter Chanel's for each Mass, however outdoor space will be used in addition to accommodate overflow. *An additional Mass will be offered if necessary.

I sincerely thank you for your understanding and constant patience during this unsettling year. Jesus was born into the uncertainty and doubt of our lives this much is true - let us be consoled by His closeness in these days of Hope!

St Peter Chanel's Christmas Masses - 4 Masses at Yarralumla - <http://www.trybooking.com/BNJVH>

Saint Christopher's Cathedral Masses - 7 Masses Manuka - <http://www.trybooking.com/BNJYD>

Father Trenton van Reesch
Cathedral Administrator

PARISH NEWS

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

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music

Jaki Kane

RCIA

Thursday Evenings 6pm. Contact office to register you interest. Next Session 3 Dec.

School of Religion

Watch this space for 2021 Sacramental program dates.

Youth Minister

Chiara Catanzariti

Email: chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 7 Dec St Ambrose, bishop, doctor
Tue 8 Dec The Immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wed 9 Dec 2nd week of Advent
Thu 10 Dec 2nd week of Advent
Fri 11 Dec 2nd week of Advent
Sat 12 Dec 2nd week of Advent
Sun 13 Dec 3rd Sunday of Advent

Legion of Mary

(In Recess at the moment)

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*

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.

Adoration and Reconciliation not on this Sunday at St Peter Chanel's

Download the CHECK IN CBR App: To assist with COVID-19 compliance and data collection requirements, we have introduced the "Check In Cbr" App. The App is free, download onto your smartphone and register, then simply scan the QR code located in the church entrance each time you enter. All data is secure, it saves time and you don't have to touch the pen! Please note on WEEKEND MASSES you must still MANUAL SIGNING IN, to ensure numbers are not exceeded.

RECONCILIATION TIMES IN ADVENT: In preparation for Christmas, Confession times have been extended (please note: these are in addition to regular times). Tuesday-Friday from the 8th to the 18th of December during adoration from 5pm-6pm.

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING AND PROTOCOLS EVENING — 8 Dec, 6.30pm, Haydon Hall. Maria Hicks, IPSS Manager, has been invited to lead us through the latest protocols. **ALL** who perform ministries in the parish are required to attend. Maria's presentation will be opened up to all parish ministries. Please RSVP to cathedral@cg.org.au or 6239 9846.

Votive Candle stand volunteer is required to clean this stand approximately once a month. Please contact the Cathedral office for more information on 6239 9846 or email: cathedral@cg.org.au.

Olivewood from Bethlehem for sale after Masses— 12-13 Dec, olivewood biblical items handcrafted by the Christian artisans of Bethlehem for sale. EFTPOS & cash payments are accepted.

Request for Covid Marshalls for weekend Masses— Thank you to those who have offered assistance. The parish office is seeking volunteers who can ensure the correct sign-in procedure is followed at Masses. This would require arriving 30 minutes early and inspecting each sign in. If you are able to assist, please contact the parish office with your details either by phoning 6239 9846 or email cathedral@cg.org.au.

Entry to the Cathedral disruptions and parking: Scaffolding around the bell tower will remain for some weeks to come. The large ramp at the front/side of the Cathedral is temporarily removed due to weddings and will be reinstalled mid Dec. This is required due to repairs to the bell tower roof. Pedestrian access and disabled parking has also been moved during this time. Please follow the signs for entry to the Cathedral. We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

CATHEDRAL PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY—Friday 11th Dec, 6-8pm, Haydon Hall. Drinks provided. Please bring finger food, either a savoury or sweet plate to share. Sign up Food Sheets will be in churches to indicate what you would like to share. RSVP to Parish office numbers attending and what food you can share— Email office: cathedral@cg.org.au or call 6239 9846.

ST VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL—GIVING TREE. Boxes in the Cathedral and St Peter Chanel's for parishioner's to contribute hamper items (Christmas treats non-perishable foods) and unwrapped toys/gifts. Refer to posters for ideas of items for distribution to families in need. All contributions are required by 14 December. Thank you for your generosity every year!

Volunteers needed - The Garden group are about to begin the next exciting new phase on the Saint Peter Chanel's' garden project and are calling for volunteers. Contact: Mick Roche (0400 066 408).

Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council – meet Chi Holmick & Paul Monagle.

Chi was born in Vietnam and grew up, studied and worked in Canberra. Chi worked for the ATO as an applications developer but has since retired to now serve God in His Church, which she does passionately. A grandmother to 6 year old Charlie, Chi enjoys charity work, baking and decorating cakes and flower arranging. Paul is married to Kathy Monagle and moved from Melbourne to Canberra in 1982. They built a home in Fadden for their five children. In 2008 they down sized to Forrest to be near the Cathedral and our wonderful choir. The children and their families all live in Canberra. Paul works part time and Kathy teaches part time at St John Vianney's Waramanga.

Christmas Mass Timetable 24-25 December

An online booking system will be set up for Christmas Masses as Covid restrictions still apply. See the front of the bulletin for instructions on how to book.

St Christopher's Cathedral

- 6.00pm Vigil Mass
- 8.00pm Vigil Mass
- 12 Midnight 9.00am
- 8.00am
- 10.00am
- 11.00am
- 5.00pm

St Peter Chanel's,

- 5.30pm Vigil Mass
- 9.00pm Vigil Mass
- 10.30am

OTHER NEWS

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

Parish Collections: Like many in our community our parish has felt the Covid financial pinch. The finance council strongly encourage you to please consider recommencing your weekly financial contributions. While much has been put to a sudden halt, parish cost have continued to rise. Please consider direct debit and electronic forms of contribution to parish planned giving. Thank you for your generosity and support of your parish.

PRESENT PROTOCOLS - Please be familiar with current guidelines

- In accordance with government restrictions, only 139 people are permitted in the Cathedral at any one time. Entry to Mass will be through one door.
- ALL PARISHIONERS & VISITORS MUST sign in upon entry. Records are securely stored and destroyed after 28 days.
- All attendees (including children) must complete the Mass Register prior to entry.
- Communion is 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 hand sanitiser upon entry and clean your pew/space with the wipes provided.
- There will be no physical contact at the sign of peace.
- No collection plates are in use, but money/envelopes can be deposited at collection points.
- Please DO NOT return your bulletin to the basket, but keep or dispose of appropriately. **Please maintain social distancing 1.5m, at all times, including in the single line formed to receive Holy Communion.** Blue squares and yellow markers on the tiles indicate these distances. Thank you for your commitment in keeping everyone safe.

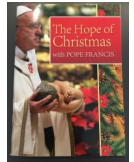
North Canberra Nativity Festival—10-13 Dec, 9am-5pm, St Margaret's Hall, Corner Antill St & Phillip Av Hackett. North Canberra Nativity Festival an exhibition of 200 nativities from over 40 countries, by Rosary Parish Watson in collaboration with Holy Cross Anglican & St Margaret's Uniting Communities. ALSO: Sunday 13th @ 6:30 Community BBQ followed by Carols.



Reaching Beyond 2020—People of all trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. Restrictions this year have made communities' needs acute, but your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation to ensure your readiness as travel resumes, and support on assignment. See www.palms.org.au; call Roger 0431 995 058/palms@palms.org.au

St Vinnies request for Christmas Holiday volunteers— Are you looking for an opportunity to help people in need? Vinnies shops need short-term volunteers to help us during our busiest time of year. Min. 4 hours/day; volunteer period 21 Dec-2 Feb. If you are interested, please call 0407 905 217, email volunteer.cg@vinnies.org.au or drop into your local Vinnies. You can find your nearest Vinnies shop by visiting www.vinnies.org.au/shops

Catholic Book Shop: Consider the Catholic Bookshop for all you Advent and Christmas needs: located just behind the Cathedral and open Monday – Friday 9:30 am to 5:00pm Saturday 9am – 1pm and Sunday 9 am to 1pm starting 29th November until Christmas. As well as books, we offer a wide range of piety goods, from icons to candles to sacramental gifts, and now beautiful Christmas Season gifts, Christmas cards and Nativity scenes have arrived for purchase – we hope you will come and visit us, we are so much more than a bookshop.



Engaged Encounter Retreat—20-21 Feb 2021. How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. For further information visit: www.engagedencounter.org.au.

Gifts of Faith—A Gift of Faith is a Christmas present given in place of a material gift. One can arrange multiple Gifts of Faith for children, grandchildren, god-children, siblings, cousins, co-workers, friends and parishioners. Find out more: www.thatcatholicshop.com/giftsoffait

ST CHRISTOPHER STATUE APPEAL 2020/2021 - Please take a copy of the Archbishop's exciting invitation to bring a tangible sign of *Hope* to our National Capital. Canberra was always destined to be a gathering place, and so our parish, which was to become our Cathedral, was named "St Christopher's"; Patron Saint of travellers and the '*Christ-bearer*'. Please consider giving to this appeal, either online @ www.cgatholic.org.au/giving, by calling 02 6239 9801, or through the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity!

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.

We pray for...

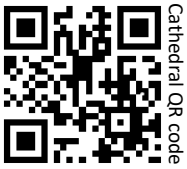
Those to be baptised: Leon Abdel-Massih; Santino Palombi; Nicolas Mauro Suarez

Those to be married: Sarah Ciuffetilli and Francois Rensburg

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

Anniversaries of death: Constantino Salza, Nola Palisi, Domenico Marando, Madeleine Marsh Wright, Domenico Virgara, Nuala Kelly, John McLennan Duffy, Giuseppe Bonfini, Philomena Burke, Fr Thomas Wright, Raymond Noonan, Eva Kotthoff, Kathleen Moriarty, Olga Knight, Margaret Wilson, Federick Howley, Edith Dorn, Ellen Fenner, Anna Italiano, Judy Foschia, Bruna Romano, Mary Pini, Anne Merner

Recently Deceased: Alexis Saaghy, Curtis Holland (USA), Lino Farronato, Gerald Byrnes, EPrain Barbery, Muriel Morgan, Dominic McKeown, Leena Lemley, Lou Westende, Shirley Cummings (nee Deane), Brian F Savage, Joan Ophel, John Kovacic, Geraldine Lawler, Barbara Develin, Beirut explosion victims,



Cathedral OR code

Readings of the Day – 2nd Sunday of Advent —Year B

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.*

First Reading

Is 40:1-5. 9-11

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Second Reading

2 Pt 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

Gospel Reading

Mk 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, ‘Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER				
Lectors			Extraordinary Ministers of Eucharist	
Mass	6/7 Dec	12/13 Dec		
5.00pm (SCC)	Stewart Unwin Ruth Meadows	Leeann Galloway Ceciley Matthews	n/a	n/a
6.00pm (SPC)	Mike Nash Damien Balachandran	Frances Bulbrook Felicity de Fombelle	n/a	n/a
8.00am (SCC)	Louise Zavone Zoe Zavone	Phillip Pocock Liza Quinn	n/a	n/a
9.30am (SPC)	Liz Porra Wanda Kaucz	Ruth Meadows Jaye Longland	n/a	n/a
11.00am (SCC)	Leeann Galloway Jacqueline Hipwell	Ranee George Cecilia Flores	n/a	n/a
5.30pm (SCC)	Becky Langworthy Jacob Madden	Becky Langworthy Liz Porra	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