



St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



2nd Sunday of Advent,
Year B
10 December 2023

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

PARISH OFFICE

55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603 (02) 6239 9846 (ph)
cathedral@cg.org.au www.cg.org.au/cathedral
Online Payments Link: www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sccp
Parish Secretary: Anita Piper — 8:30am-4:30pm Monday to Thursday. Office Closed Friday-Sunday
Accounts Officer: Karina Widjaja—8am-4pm Friday



YEAR OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT
August 2023– 2024

Sunday Mass

St Christopher's

Cnr Canberra Ave & Furneaux
Street, Forrest (Manuka) ACT

Sat. Vigil: 5.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am,
11.00am
5.00pm

St Peter Chanel's

Cnr Weston & Loch Streets,
Yarralumla ACT

Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil

Sunday: 9.30am

Weekday Mass

St Christopher's

Monday to Friday: 7.30am &
12.15pm

Saturday (& Public Holidays):
9.00am & 12.15pm

St Peter Chanel's

Tuesday: 5.30pm

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

Monday to Friday: 5.00-6.00pm

Rosary at the Cathedral

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

Baptisms

2nd & 4th Sundays: 12.30pm

Weddings

St Christopher's: Saturday
1.30pm & 3.00pm

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This second week of Advent we encounter the voice of John the Baptist in the Wilderness:
"Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight!"

All four Gospels bring us to Jesus through this mysterious figure. John the Baptist comes preaching a baptism of repentance. And yet, what can puzzle us, is that Jesus is then baptised by John. This is not because He is sinful, but that He might make clear to us, how truly united with us He is, and so too the nature of His Mission. Jesus has come to comfort and to save, to console and to reunite us to our God. Jesus agrees with the Baptist's message, he endorses it. In being baptised He also reveals that He has taken the burden and consequences of our woundedness and sin upon Himself... as if He were the one who had offended.

In this season of advent, we prepare anew to conceive within ourselves, the God who comes in flesh and blood. Let us then prepare the way! For the God who reveals Himself anew, is far more mysterious than we first suspect! Here and now, there is something more to be said by a God who is far more merciful than we could ever believe. Something more to be said by a God who is far more patient than we have ever known. Something more to be said by a God who has entered space and time, in order that He might seek us out and come to us – in the vulnerability of a Child... to save His people! May our hearts be humble and vulnerable enough to re-learn daily what Jesus is offering.

Let us relish advent days of reflection, prayer and joyful expectation. For in the midst of our personal and communal darkness, we are reminded that in Jesus we have every reason to rejoice. For where John announced that the time was up, Jesus professed that it is not yet the end, but the beginning of a great flood of mercy!

Advent is a time to realise that God has come to find us... let us prepare the way! A helpful piece to mediate upon is given to us in the words of the first Preface of Advent in the Mass. This preface is used from the First Sunday of Advent to December 16, and clearly reflects the fact that the Church's prayer in Advent focuses on both Christ's coming in the flesh at his birth and on his coming again at the end of time.

For he assumed at his first coming the lowliness of human flesh, and so fulfilled the design you formed long ago, and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, that, when he comes again in glory and majesty and all is at last made manifest, we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise in which now we dare to hope.

Annual Carols and Readings at the Cathedral Returns! Our Carols and reading will again take place this year on the **14th December at 7pm** in Saint Christopher's Cathedral. Join us on this joyous occasion!

A blessed Advent to all, and know always of your priests' prayers for you.

Fr Trenton



NOTICES

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music
Ms Jaki Kane

RCIA
Miss Becky Langworthy
Contact Office

School of Religion
Miss Chiara Catanzariti

Youth Ministers
Mr Andre Le
youth.cathedral@cg.org.au

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon Dec 11 2nd Week of Advent
Tues Dec 12 2nd Week of Advent
Wed Dec 13 2nd Week of Advent
St Lucy
Thu. Dec 14 2nd Week of Advent
St John of the Cross
Fri. Dec 15 2nd Week of Advent
Sat. Dec 16 2nd Week of Advent
Sun Dec 17 3rd Sunday of Advent Yr, B

PARISH GROUPS

St Vincent de Paul

Good Shepherd Prayer Group
Wednesday at 7pm SPC
Parish Room (Feb-Dec)

Christian Meditation
Saturday at 4:30pm 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 begins Feb.

Filipino Community
First Sunday bi-monthly at
5.00pm SPC

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Cathedral

5pm Vigil
Midnight Mass (Carols at 11.15pm)
8am Mass
11am Mass
5pm

St Peter Chanel's, Yarralumla

9.00pm Vigil (8:30pm Carols)
9:30am Mass



PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY— You are invited to the Cathedral Parish Christmas Party. **Friday 15 Dec, 6-8pm**, Haydon Hall. Drinks provided. Please feel free to bring a savoury, salad or sweet plate to share. All are welcome!

ST VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL—GIVING TREE. Help support families struggling this Christmas. Boxes are available in churches to receive hamper items (non-perishable foods) and gifts, to distribute to families in need. Thank you always for your generosity.

CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE— Come along and join in singing with the Cathedral Choir in a service of Christmas carols and readings. **Thursday 14 December 7:00pm at St Christopher's Cathedral.**

Vocations Dinner at Archbishop's House—Tuesday 12 December at 6pm. For men interested in discerning a call to the Priesthood. A hearty meal provided with insightful discussions & prayer. To RSVP please contact vocations director Fr Emil emil.milat@cg.org.au 0414 523 036.

Baptist Care - Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist—Seeking volunteers to bring communion to Catholic residents at BaptistCare Carey Gardens Aged Care Home, Red Hill. You will be required to undertake training which will be provided and hold a WWVP card. Contact the Cathedral office for more info.



Tribunal of the Catholic Church— Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Canberra Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process. For further information please phone the Canberra Office of the Tribunal Office on **6239 9813** or email tribunal@cg.org.au

FILIPINO SIMBANG GABI (9 Days Novena Mass) - 15-23 Dec | Join us for Simbang Gabi, a beautiful 9-day novena mass celebration leading to Christmas, held from December 15-23 at 7:00 pm. Experience the joy of the season at St. Peter Chanel's Church Yarralumla. All are welcome to join in this festive tradition of prayer and community.

Vigil Mass – Saint Peter Chanel's Yarralumla, 6pm Mass— Friends, in recent years the number of parishioners and visitors attending the 6pm Vigil Mass at SPC has slowly declined, while numbers at the five other Masses in the parish have increased. For this reason we have decided that the 6pm Vigil Mass will cease to be offered at the end of December 2023. The Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass will continue to be offered at the Cathedral. I understand that this inevitable decision will come as a disappointment to many who have attended Mass at this time for some years. Of course, the 930am Mass on Sundays will remain.
I thank you most graciously for your understanding.

NOTICES

Giving and Receiving— Direct debit and QKR options are available, as well as TapnGo machines Thank you sincerely for your generosity. If you are able, perhaps consider donating to 1st and 2nd collection via direct debit .
The First collection: contributes to clergy of the Archdiocese. If you make an offering 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 parish mission and maintenance. 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 # and Surname (only current Planned Givers);
or Donation (parishioners not registered Planned Givers).

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

Thank you for your generosity

Plenary Council: Letter to the people of God — Released a statement reflecting on the fifth Plenary Council of Australia. 26 November 2023 | Solemnity of Christ the King. The document can be found on the Cathedral website.

CARETAXI: SAFE CHURCH TRANSPORT— Mass, Medical/GP appointments, shopping trips, recreational trips, and more; qualified and caring drivers. Visit caretaxi.com.au, or 0451 734 334.

Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal— The sudden escalation of hostilities in Israel and Gaza has seen unimaginable impacts for the people affected by this conflict. Around 1.5 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs. With your compassionate generosity, we can provide emergency support to people displaced and affected by the hostilities to meet basic needs and cope with trauma. **Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal.** You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413

Loreto Ex Students' Reunion— in Canberra Saturday, **16 March 2024** For further details: loreto.canberra@gmail.com

MARYMEAD CATHOLIC CARE CANBERRA & GOULBURN—Since opening its doors in June 2020, MacKillop House has given accommodation to 125 single women aged between 18-80 in the 'big house' and 20 Mothers with some 34 accompanying children in the 6 Villas. The generosity of many has enabled the refurbishment of 25 bedrooms to continue and carpet to be replaced. The need is great! We welcome donations to help make a difference! All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Visit our website <https://mccg.org.au> and go to the 'donate' box at top right of page, or by direct transfer: BSB: 062-786; Account Number 00010602; Account Name: CatholicCare Canberra & Goulburn. Please indicate that the donation is for 'MacKillop House' and email advice to Noelene.quinane@mccg.org.au



Year of the Holy Spirit

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE

O God, who by the light
Of the Holy Spirit,
Did instruct the hearts
Of the faithful,
Grant that by the same
Holy Spirit we may be
truly wise and ever rejoice in His
consolations.
Through the same
Christ our Lord

Amen.

AUGUST 2023— AUGUST 2024

We pray for...

Those to be baptised: Tobechukwu Ivan Nwokeogu, Gabriel Olisa Uzokwe, Berka Nyuymenka

Those who are ill: Sonja Vocisano, Margaret "Peggy" Byrnes, Archie Ferris, Tony Dickins, Marilena Damiano Fr Greg Beath, Sophy Jacob, Alla Skorokhodova, Tony Kelly, Susie Menadue, Geraldene Ford, Kevin & Geraldine Conlon, Maja Marija Olip, McKenzie Killian, Fr Bill, Leung Man Kon, Beryl Johnson, Florencio Fariña, Alejandra Martinez, Colliss Parrett, Arianna Vignale, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Paul Mychailuk, Kalum, Nicholas Dyne.

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, Bruest Family, Sweeten Family, Mahony Family, Filomena Zulli, Rosario Morgante, Alan & Hazel Hobday, Denis Gilmour

Recently Deceased: Kevin Wellspring (Father or Fr Julian Wellspring), Cathy Cleary, Jeanette Marie Evans, Frank Fulop, Tim Davies, Jerina Juna-kovic, Sr M Barbara Fogarty, rsj, Don Debus, Raymond Anthony, Kevin Bray, Colin Dwyer, Anita Ong-Siong Sy, Mgr Rob Egar, Rosa Mustapic, Pamela Rotmwell, Norma May,

2nd Sunday of Advent —Year B — 9/10 December



Cathedral QR code

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: 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

Isaiah 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 of 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 Peter 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

Mark 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 Judea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptized 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 baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

READERS ROSTER DECEMBER

		Lectors		Eucharistic Ministers	
Mass	9/10 Dec	16/17 Dec	9/10 Dec	16/17 Dec	
5.00pm (SCC)	Crystal Lavien Jacob Madden	Stewart Unwin Ruth Meadows			
6.00pm (SPC)	Fiona Wheeler	Tarinya Hannedege Fiona Wheeler			
8.00am (SCC)	Phil Pocock Zvon Seselja	Louise Zavone Joe Zavone			
9.30am (SPC)	Marcelle Disanayake Tarinya Hannedege	Damien Balachandran Raphael Molu			
11.00am (SCC)	Bronwen Grey Cecilia Flores	Jacqueline Hipwell Samantha Hazlett	Bronwen Grey Mark Hyman		Edwina Hyman Leeann Galloway
5.00pm (SCC)	Anthony Brierley Kevin Woods	Rebekah O’Meagher Solange Pereira			

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St Christopher’s Cathedral Parish encompasses the areas of Barton, Causeway, Deakin, Forrest, Fyshwick, Griffith, Kingston, Manuka, Parkes, Red Hill, Yarralumla