

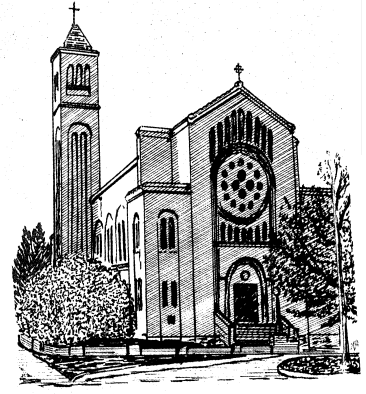
St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

2nd Sunday of Easter
(Divine Mercy)
— Year A

19 Apr 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
without a congregation
present until further
notice.**

**Confessions by
appointment**

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 (Working remotely)
Accounts Officer: Karina Widjaja—Friday, 8am-4pm (Working remotely)

Jesus, I trust in you

We are celebrating Easter with an uninvited guest: the coronavirus. Don't we all know it! Jesus is with us in all this mess. He too knew of a crown ("corona") of thorns. The Passion Readings of scripture tell us it was literally forced into his skull. But Easter brings THE transformation of everything. It is suggested in St Paul's letter to the Colossians. He says: "But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him." There is a key Easter word here: GLORY. Easter brings the transformation from a crown of thorns to a crown of glory! Here is the life-changing moment for all humanity: at the very moment we felt all was lost, all is found! Thorns become glory! We see this so clearly in the Easter Gospel from St John 20. The crown of thorns are felt in Mary Magdalen's words of terrible lament: "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him." These are our words in this pandemic. All seems lost. But this is not the case. The pandemic will pass. Hope is present. In this gospel passage from St John, it is the young disciple John, the one Jesus loved, who encounters this. Peter and John run to the empty tomb. John, being younger, arrives first. He gives way to Peter, the first Pope, as the symbol of apostolic authority. Peter goes into the empty tomb first. He examines the scene in almost a forensic manner. John is different. He enters later. The scripture is clear: "He saw and he believed." Love recognises love. Heart speaks to heart. Easter love ignites in the heart enlarged with hope and anticipation for love's initiative of grace. Even St Peter eventually experiences this Easter encounter. We all love St Peter and his bumbling life journey. He is like us all. For St Peter, Easter faith took some time to bloom. It takes us time in this pandemic to come to a similar reaffirmation that this time of thorns is a time of glory – an Easter time. Jesus is far more patient with us than we are with ourselves and each other. Let us be patient with each other. We are not to lose hope. As the Divine Mercy Sunday approaches (2nd Sunday of Easter), let us respond to the Risen Lord and say "Jesus, I trust in you". Alleluia!

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music: Jaki Kane

RCIA—Fr Trenton van Reesch
Weekly on Thursdays, 6pm

School of Religion

Youth Minister—Chiara Catanzariti
Email: chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 20 Apr 2nd week of Easter
Tue 21 Apr St Anselm
Wed 22 Apr 2nd week of Easter
Thu 23 Apr St George; St Adalbert;
Fri 24 Apr St Fidelis of Sigmaringen
Sat 25 Apr ANZAC day
Sun 26 Apr 3rd Sunday of Easter

Group gatherings in recess for the moment

Legion of Mary

*Wednesday at 6.15pm
Haydon Hall*

St Vincent de Paul

*Assisting people in need and
combatting social injustice in our
community*

Young Adults

*Animating parish and Archdiocesan
life through prayer and event
participation*

*Thursday 6.30pm Rosary/Bible
Sharing/Fellowship SCC
Geetanjali Rogers*

Good Shepherd Prayer Group

*Wednesday at 7pm SPC
Parish Room (Feb-Dec)*

Christian Meditation

*Saturday at 5pm SPC
"Be still and know that I am
God" (Psalm 46:10)*

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**

Mass will be live streamed daily from the
St Christopher's Cathedral.

Monday to Friday at 12:15pm, Saturday at
9:00am and Sunday at 11:00am.

Sign up on: [https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/
mass-online/](https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/) to get daily reminder emails.

Young Adults - On Facebook join the 'Canberra Cathedral Young Adults' group. We have weekly Bible Study on Thursday nights and will hold further events, talks and social online gatherings. Please email Chiara if you are interested to join or if you have any ideas of what you would like to see over this time (formation, prayer, support) chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au.

Parish Phone Tree—If you know someone who would appreciate a friendly call (and we may not have their details), please forward their name and number to the parish office. If you would like to be phoned in these days as part of our 'phone tree' please also email the parish office.

Pastoral Visits—Our utmost concern at this time is **the pastoral and spiritual care of our parish family**. In these days where isolation has become the new norm, the pastoral arm of the Church must be more than ever front and centre. Those who do regular home visitations are encouraged to now consider phone calls, checking-in and assuring each other of thoughts and prayers.

Fr Norvin and I are continuing to visit the hospital and nursing homes upon request to minister to the sick, struggling and dying. Let us keep all those who need care and the sacraments in our prayers.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will not take Communion to sick persons until further notice. Keeping contact via phone and other means is highly recommended and I ask all EMHC to please do this with those they visit, if possible.

How to still contribute financially to St Christopher's Cathedral Parish

As our churches are not open for Masses due to Corona Virus, our weekend collections are not being taken up. If you would like to contribute to the First Collection, you can make a direct transfer from your bank account.

The First collection is for the support of clergy in the parish and beyond. Each priest in a parish draws a personal stipend from the first collection for living expenses, food and housekeeping. Funds are also directed to:

- Priests in parishes where the first collection is insufficient to meet their stipend
- The support of the Archbishop, Vicar General and Chancellor
- Priests in remote dioceses across Australia
- Clergy Retirement Foundation (in support of sick and retired clergy)

Account Name: CATHEDRAL
BSB: 062-786
Bank Account: 000029248
Reference: FORREST & SURNAME

The Second collection, which includes the planned giving program, is the main source of our parish income. The second collection funds are used for the day to day running of our parish. That is to pay for the repairs, wages, insurance, utilities and the many other expenses incurred to keep our parish functioning. If you would like to give towards the Parish expenses and are not currently registered for Planned Giving, please deposit into the following bank account:

Account Name: St Christopher's Cathedral
BSB: 062786
Bank Account: 000015080
Reference: - Planned Giving Number and Surname (only for current Planned Givers); or Donation (for donations by parishioner's not registered Planned Givers).

**IN THESE COMING WEEKS AND MONTHS PLEASE STAY UP
TO DATE ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE [http://cg.org.au/
cathedral/Home.aspx](http://cg.org.au/cathedral/Home.aspx)**

OTHER NEWS

'Spiritual Communion'

Saints often made an act of spiritual communion when they couldn't receive the Eucharist at Mass.

For various reasons we may be prevented from receiving the Eucharist in the Mass. In these cases the Church encourages us to make an act of "spiritual communion," where we unite ourselves to God through prayer. It is a beautiful way to express to God our desire to be united with him when we are unable to complete that union in the reception of Holy Communion.

Countless saints incorporated this type of prayer into their daily lives. Making an act of spiritual communion for them was an essential part of life and drew them closer to God, daily.

St. Josemaria Escriva encouraged everyone to make a spiritual communion as often as they could, "What a source of grace there is in spiritual communion! Practice it frequently and you'll have greater presence of God and closer union with him in all your actions."

Padre Pio also had a habit of making a spiritual communion throughout the day outside of the celebration of Mass. He desired to be always united with Jesus Christ in everything he did.

Below is a traditional prayer of spiritual communion that many saints have prayed over centuries. It can be prayed if you find yourself at Home or at work, in the car or in bed, wherever you are - lifting up your thoughts to God, pray it often in these days!

The ultimate goal of our lives should be communion with God and an act of spiritual communion can help a person draw closer to that goal.

***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.



Please visit www.catholicvoice.org.au for more resources, prayers and news.

Links to the Wider Church

Sacred Space – Daily Prayer online with the Pope: <https://www.sacredspace.ie/apostleship>

Vatican News: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

QKR!

AT SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S CATHEDRAL PARISH

Is carrying cash no longer your style?

Join us in our trialing of Qkr! Similar to swiping your phone at an EFTPOS Machine you can now use our **purpose-built secure parish app** to contribute to our parish community. Payments for 1st (Clergy) & 2nd Collection (Parish) are listed. Please ensure you include your Planned Giving number for 2nd Collection contributions. Contact the Parish Office if you have forgotten your Planned Giving number on 62399846.

Caritas Project Compassion is also currently listed under "Special Appeals". Details of the Appeal are listed within the App payment description.



Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn Catholic Development Fund, with the assistance of the Commonwealth Bank and Mastercard, Sydney.

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

We pray for...

Those who are ill: Arianna Vignale, Anna Vincent, Lucy Duncan, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Anthony, Lisette D'Cruze, David Kibbey, Jacqueline Khin, Katarina Kish, Mary Brennan

Anniversaries of death: Chris Nebauer, Peter Ryan, Francesco & Francesca Barbaro, Natalina Servello, Anne Lynch, Tim Ayers, Patrick Develin, Vince Gallagher, Madeline Nogrady, Fr John Butz, Brian O'Donovan, Catherine Nancarrow, Bruno Pini, Giustina Cadona, Ingrid Kemp, John Keating,

Recently Deceased: Keith McLaughlin, Peter Becker, Regina Paredes, Hilda Quinones, Shirley Evans, Josip Persic, Don Furner, Henry Tabisz, Mary-Anne McGrath, Rod Frazer, 4 children killed at Oatlands, Roberto Emilio, Bruce Kennedy, Ronald D'Cruze, Brian Kelly, Betty O'Neill, Patricia Smith, David Cusack, Anica Soldo, John Gallagher, David Askew, Andrew Italiano, Stanley Marris, Patricia Brennan,

Readings of the Day – 2nd Sunday of Easter —Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.*

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Second Reading

1 Pt 1:3-9

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls

Gospel Reading

Jn 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

© 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.