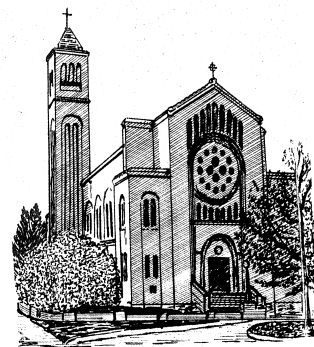


# St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



2nd Sunday of Lent,  
Year B  
25 February 2024

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



YEAR OF THE  
HOLY SPIRIT  
August 2023– 2024

#### 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

## Sunday Mass

### St Christopher's

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

**Sat. Vigil:** 5.00pm

**Sunday:** 8.00am,  
11.00am (livestreamed),  
5.00pm

### St Peter Chanel's

Cnr Weston & Loch Streets, Yarralumla ACT

**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

## 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

### St Christopher's:

2nd & 4th Sundays: 12.30pm

### St Peter Chanel's:

3rd Sunday: 10:30am

## Weddings

**St Christopher's:** Saturday  
1.30pm & 3.00pm

**St Peter Chanel's:** By arrangement

### To fast and give alms

Two practices of Lent are fasting and almsgiving. But why? Because they disturb and so discipline the body and mind, and in so doing mould the heart.

And yet without their necessary companion of prayer, they can become arduous and burdensome, and ultimately, fruitless...at least in the Lord's eyes. This is because they need their intended context and focus, namely, Christ. Without Jesus at their centre these powerful practices become detached, and simply form an ego more than a heart in the image of its Creator.

The great tragedy of our time – which many are coming to realise – is when this detachment slowly and subtly takes hold of the Christian. As a result activism becomes the 'character' or even mark of a Christianity disconnected from faith and relationship with God.

Here almsgiving and fasting are often adopted as a political stance, protest, or even a tool of self-affirmation and 'improvement'. But this is not the purpose of *Christian* fasting and almsgiving. Christian fasting and almsgiving are always about God, and as a consequence others and ourselves are bound up in the fruits thereof.

We can often focus upon the good 'we' are doing, but Lenten fasting and almsgiving cause us to see *what God is doing* in and for us, and through us, for others.

Pope Francis called fasting "not a quaint devotion" as some are tempted to think, but a "spiritual training ground where we joyfully renounce the superfluous things that weigh us down, grow in interior freedom, and return to the truth about ourselves."

As Christians when we *fast* (in the case of food) or *abstain* (in giving up other things), we deprive ourselves of passing realities and, reminded of our finitude, we become acutely aware of where true human hunger lies – in longing for the divine and reaching the eternal. This sacrifice of fasting opens up a space therefore to grow in **truer love for self**, created in, for and by God.

When we *give alms* in a similar way we deny ourselves, but here the purpose is to give something of ourselves, not from our surplus. Like the woman in the temple (Lk 21:1-4; Mk 12:41-44) we are called to offer *all* we have, and in this kind of giving, we more truly make an offering to God by serving others. The ancient practice of almsgiving allows us therefore to grow in a **more generous love of neighbour**.

These two acts of love, come from God and return to God; that is to say, how they affect ourselves and others are only secondary, to how they draw us closer to God.

They reflect the understanding that we are the Body of Christ. The Christian is not therefore an autonomous individual running their own race, but deeply bound in love to their neighbour, because they are bound to Him whom love us first (1 John 4:19).

For this reason the third discipline of prayer is the most important—the jewel in the crown—for through it, the first two practices bear fruit. In prayer, wings are given to fasting and almsgiving; our intimacy and familiarity with Jesus is intensified and the human heart is strengthened, reconfigured, and placed upon the path of true fulfilment.

Fr Trenton

# NOTICES

## PARISH MINISTRIES

**Director of Music**  
Ms Jaki Kane

### RCIA

Miss Becky Langworthy  
Contact Office

### School of Religion

Miss Chiara Catanzariti

### Youth Coordinator

Miss Anita Donaldson  
youth.cathedral@cg.org.au

### Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon Feb 26 2nd Week of Lent  
Tues Feb 27 2nd Week of Lent  
Wed Feb 28 2nd Week of Lent  
Thu. Feb 29 2nd Week of Lent  
Fri. March 1 2nd Week of Lent  
Sat. March 2 2nd Week of Lent  
Sun March 3 3rd Sunday of LENT 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.**

## LENT—STATIONS OF THE CROSS

5pm each FRIDAY during Lent.  
Saint Christopher's Cathedral.



- Good Friday is a day of fasting & abstinence (no meat).
- Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.
- The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. In Lent, we omit the "Alleluia" at Mass.

*We offer our Prayers and sincere Condolences to our own Deacon Don Nuygen and his family, at the passing of his dear mother Anna Nguyen Thi Minh*

## ARCHBISHOP'S LENTEN LIGHTHOUSES

Join Archbishop Christopher Prowse on a Lenten Retreat through his Sunday Homilies. "What have I done for Christ?", "What am I doing for Christ?", "What ought I do for Christ?"

You can find the first and second lighthouse inputs on the Catholic Voice website or via the Qr Code



**PROJECT COMPASSION APPEAL 2024**— Please take a *Project Compassion* box or set of donation envelopes to support *Caritas Australia* this Lent. You can donate at [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or at 1800 024 413. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today & build a better tomorrow, for All Future Generations



**AN EVENING WITH FR TIMOTHY RADCLIFFE OP**— Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP was Master of the Order of Preachers from 1992 to 2001. A member of the community at Blackfriars, Oxford, he is the author of several very popular books and an internationally reputed speaker and retreat-giver. **Date:** Thursday **14 March 2024**, at Merci College, Wise Street Braddon. **5.30 -7.00pm Free Tickets:** <https://bit.ly/4blSurY>

**ST THOMAS MOORE FORUM**— How Christianity Triumphs in a Newly Pagan Society, **Wed 20 Mar 7.30pm- 9pm**, Speaker: Greg Sheridan, Foreign Editor, The Australian Newspaper & Author. Register Now: <https://bit.ly/stmf-200324> Engaging an AI Generation **Fri 14 Jun 6.45pm**, Speaker: Fr Rob Galea, Founder FRG Ministry. Register Now: <https://bit.ly/stmf-140624>

**SCHOOL OF RELIGION**— Confirmation classes start **Tues 2 April, 6pm-7:30pm** in St Peter Chanel's Parish Room, Yarralumla. Confirmation will take place on Saturday **18 May 2024** at the **5pm Vigil**. Please contact the office to enroll or for more information. First Holy Communion will start on the **9 May** for the **2 June** and First Reconciliation starts on the **4 June** for the **3 July**.

**THE FARM IN GALONG Ltd** (the Farm) - a residential rehabilitation centre established to address the needs of women recovering from drug and alcohol addiction.

We help them transition from the live-in program to independent living, restoring children who may have been removed, repairing relationships with family and in the community, and ultimately making a recovery permanent. Hands Across Canberra, consider donating today: [giving.handsacrosscanberra.org.au/event/the-farm-in-galong/home](https://giving.handsacrosscanberra.org.au/event/the-farm-in-galong/home)



# 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 [cgatholic.org.au/2016/10/something-beautiful-god/](http://cgatholic.org.au/2016/10/something-beautiful-god/) **Thank you for your generosity**

**LIVING WORD - ARCHDIOCESAN DAILY GOSPEL REFLECTIONS** – Want to stay connected to Christ and his Gospel every day? Sign up for FREE AT [cgatholic.org.au/LivingWord/](http://cgatholic.org.au/LivingWord/)

**CARETAXI: SAFE CHURCH TRANSPORT**— Mass, Medical/GP appointments, shopping trips, recreational trips, and more; qualified and caring drivers. Visit [caretaxi.com.au](http://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](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza) or phone 1800 024 413

**A Lenten Journey** - The Good Shepherd prayer group invites you to join us each Wednesday evening for talks, sharing groups and worship. Deepen your faith this Lent and draw closer to Jesus. **Weds 21 Feb to Weds 27 March, 7pm-9pm**, Parish Room, St Peter Chancels, Weston St, Yarralumla. Call/text Neda 0415 266 019, Susanna 0419 902 293, Gabriel 0422 285 491 for more info.

**Loreto Ex Students' Reunion**— in Canberra Saturday, at SFX Hall at **11am on 16 March 2024.** Followed by lunch at 1882 restaurant in Hall. For further details: [lore-to.canberra@gmail.com](mailto:lore-to.canberra@gmail.com)

The Caritas Project Compassion Appeal is now available in the Parish QKR App. Your donation helps Caritas Australia in their work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.



## 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 who are ill:** Nicoletta Ricciuti, Sonja Vocisano, Archie Ferris, Tony Dickins, Marilena Damiano Fr Greg Beath, Sophy Jacob, Alla Skorokhodova, Tony Kelly, Susie Menadue, Geraldene Ford, Kevin Conlan, 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:** John Conolley, Lauren Rochette, Alfonso Cadona, Saverio Calabria, Carlos & Francisca Abad, Anthony Osborne, Remigio & Maria Res, Pasquale Ciuffetelli, Noel Flanagan, Shannon Stevenson, Kenneth Mulach, Camillo Buhagiar, Helen Heffernan, Joyce Balnaves, Baby Georgia Morrison, Helen Richardson, Elsie Corkhill, Deceased Members of the O'Hanlon, Blackall, Eduardo Makaventa, Eugene Makaventa, Gorman & Proust Families, Claire Jones, Brianna Humphreys, Leo Biggs, Norma Roach, Gail Fenton

**Recently Deceased:** Anna Nguyen Thi Minh (mother of Deacon Don), Suzanne Wall, Dora Marleny Rodriguez Navarro, Kevin Allen, Mark Canning, Meg Dooley, Joan Percy (mother of Father Tony Percy), Ray Finnegan, Margaret "Peggy" Byrnes, Giysetino Ricciuti, Rathesh Fernando (brother of Fr Rembert Fernando) Geraldine Conlan, Neville Reece

# 1st Sunday of Lent —Year B — 17/18 February



Cathedral QR code

**Entrance Antiphon:** Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

**Responsorial:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Communion Antiphon:** This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

## First Reading

**Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18**

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

## Second Reading

**Roman 8:31-34**

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

## Gospel

**Mark 9:2-10**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

### READERS ROSTER FEBRUARY

Mass	Lectors		Eucharistic Ministers	
	24/25 Feb	2/3 March	24/25 Feb	2/3 March
5.00pm (SCC)	Ruth Meadows Les Buszynski	Edwina Hyman Mark Hyman		
8.00am (SCC)	Becky Langworthy Phil Pocock	Zvon Seselja Becky Langworthy		
9.30am (SPC)	Irene Maranan Raphael Molu	Tarinya Hannedege Fiona Wheeler		
11.00am (SCC)	Cecilia Flores Samantha Hazlett	Jacqui Ramesh Samantha Hazlett	Jacqui Ramesh Kathy Ruston	
5.00pm (SCC)	Rebekah O'Meagher Anthony Brierley	Sarah Thatcher Samuel Thatcher		

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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