



St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

4th Sunday in
Advent
Year C -
19 Dec 2021

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



[Check in here!](#)

St Christopher's &
St Peter Chanel's
are open to limited
numbers and re-
strictions.



the code **941461** mar

PARISH OFFICE

55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603 (02) 6239 9846 (bh)
cathedral@cg.org.au www.cg.org.au/cathedral
Online Payments Link: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sccp>
Parish Secretary: Anh Tran—Office hours will vary over the coming weeks.
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),
5.00pm **Note new time*

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

2nd & 4th Sundays: 12.30pm

Weddings

St Christopher's: Saturday

1.30pm & 3.00pm

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Our lives are filled with journeys. Both literal and figurative. Many of us cannot wait to set out on the journey to see loved ones this Christmas, after a very difficult two years.

Yet it's not just us. The Christmas story too, speaks of a universal journey for the world, and the many other journeys of which it is made. There's the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem for the census. The journey of the shepherds to see the child. The journey of the wise men, and indeed of the angels to worship and adore. But of course the greatest journey of all, is the baby's own, from the womb into the light... from heaven to earth.

On this fourth Sunday of Advent we hear of another journey, that of Mary to visit her cousin Elisabeth. Imagine the sense of joy, yet confusion too, whirling within this young woman's trusting heart. Mary goes "in haste", to greet her cousin Elisabeth, yet this is no mere catch-up! Rather this meeting of the two expectant mothers has far deeper significance! It is the Old Testament pointing to the New – the Old Covenant, being fulfilled by the New, Eternal Covenant!

The Evangelist Luke is revealing something extraordinary here. Several details, while subtle, are identical to 2 Samuel 6, which narrates the story of King David before the Ark of the Covenant.

In those days Mary arose and set out 'in haste' to the Hill country of Judah, precisely what King David did generations earlier! "And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" Elizabeth exclaims, while David in 2 Samuel 6:9 says, "How can the ark of the Lord come to me?" The ark of the living God now greets Elizabeth, and so too us! Finally, the unborn John we hear "leaps for joy!" King David too "leapt and danced before the Lord".

This encounter tells of the magnificent and final Covenant between Creator and creature; existing now, not in a written commandment alone, but in the living flesh of God! Within the living Ark of Mary now comes the true Covenant, Jesus, law and mercy enfleshed; the living Bread from Heaven.

Many of us will journey this Christmas, yet the Greatest journey will be the one our heart makes to conceive of the fact that God has now come to us in Person! And when Christ comes to us, we cannot be left unchanged!

Pope Francis reminds us of the oldest Advent prayer, which invites God to draw close. "Advent" he says, "is the season for remembering the closeness of God who came down to dwell in our midst." "Let us make the traditional Advent prayer our own: 'Come, Lord Jesus.' ... say it at the beginning of each day and repeat it often, before our meetings, our studies and our work, before making decisions, in every important or difficult moment of our lives: 'Come, Lord Jesus.'"

Advent is both a time of "God's closeness and our watchfulness". "It is important to remain watchful, because one great mistake in life is to get absorbed in a thousand things and not to notice God.

Saint Augustine said: '*Timeo Iesum transeuntem*' (I fear that Jesus will pass by me unnoticed). Drawn by our own interests ... and distracted by so many vain things, we risk losing sight of what is essential."

"Advent is an incessant call to hope: it reminds us that God is present in history to lead it to its ultimate end, to lead it to its fullness, which is the Lord, the Lord Jesus Christ," Pope Francis says.

"May Mary Most Holy, the woman of the expectation, accompany our steps at the beginning of this new liturgical year, and help us to fulfil the task of Jesus' disciples, indicated by the Apostle Peter. And what is that task? To render an account for the hope that is in us."

Friends, there is no need to book online for **Christmas Masses** this year, but please be aware that we will be limited by number restrictions. While there is no mandate in place, it is recommended that masks be worn in the Cathedral and St Peter Chanel's during these Masses.

Thanks for all you have done these last two, difficult years. Thank you for your patience and support of each other and the office here. Let us hold firm in the hope of our faith, which is beyond human understanding, that the hope of Christmas will strengthen us as we approach 2022, and continue on the journey.

With affection and prayers,
Fr Trenton

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music

Ms Jaki Kane

RCIA

Miss Becky Langworthy

School of Religion

Miss Chiara Catanzariti

Youth Minister

Miss Anh Tran

Email: anh.tran@cg.org.au

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 20 Dec 4th week of Advent
Tue 21 Dec 4th week of Advent
Wed 22 Dec 4th week of Advent
Thu 23 Dec 4th week of Advent
Fri 24 Dec 4th week of Advent
Sat 25 Dec The Nativity of the Lord
Sun 26 Dec The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph

PARISH GROUPS

Legion of Mary

*Monday at 5.30pm
Haydon Hall*

St Vincent de Paul

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
(Dec 12, Christmas Mass 1230)*

Filipino Community

*First Sunday bi-monthly at
5.00pm SPC*

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

COVID CAPACITY— restrictions have further eased to 2sqm. Bookings are no longer required through Trybooking.

- Facemasks are **strongly recommended** but not required. Sanitiser available at all entrances.
- All must use the Check-in CBR App. Thank you for your ongoing care and understanding.

PARISH CLOSED OVER CHRISTMAS — From Friday 24 Dec at 1pm, to Tuesday 4 Jan 2021. May God bless you and your families this Christmas and throughout 2022.

NEW YEARS EVE – Adoration and Benediction (from 9pm) and Midnight Mass at Saint Peter Chanel's. Mass begins at 11:45pm.

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL, 2021 – will support the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal and its work in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. Diocesan projects in Otukpo, Nigeria; Thamarassery, India and Gizo, PNG; where it will go to constructing a school hall. Other international works helping the poor within the La Salette Matha Province in India; and student assistance for the needy at Bethlehem University. See more in the *Catholic Voice*, along with details of donating.

CONGRATULATIONS – to all our students as they wrap up another wonderful year. May the staff, students, and families of all our Archdiocesan schools have a Holy, Joyous and Restful Christmas.

VINNIES CHRISMAS TREE APPEAL – thank you to all who have been so generous. For another Christmas you have helped support and given hope to struggling families.

PARISH EMAIL DATABASE – We now email the bulletin as well as parish notices and events. If you would like to be added to our mailing list please let us know at cathedral@cg.org.au

THANKYOU— to thank all the volunteers of our parish over the last year! What a year it has been! Know of the gratitude of our parish family for all that you do.

2022 COLUMBAN CALENDERS & CHRISTMAS CARDS now available at the Catholic bookshop.

SPC GARDEN – For some time now a dedicated volunteer group has worked away on the SPC garden, which looks magnificent! As a parish we want to express our deep gratitude for this gift to the parish and the wider Yarralumla community; largely achieved at their own cost. Thank you!!

WELCOMERS SOUGHT FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES – We are seeking parishioners to act as Welcomers on doors for the Christmas masses. We are expecting large numbers and seek your help with ensuring all are warmly welcomed, as well as ensuring all check-in with the CBR Check-in app. If you are able to assist please email cathedral@cg.org.au :)

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish Christmas Masses

Cathedral

6.00pm Vigil
8.00pm Vigil
Midnight Vigil (11.15pm Carols)
8.00am
9.30am
11.00am Bookings will not be necessary this year
5.00pm however capacity restrictions will apply

St Peter Chanel's, Yarralumla

5.30pm Vigil
9.00pm Vigil
9.00am
10.30am



LAUDATO SI ACTION PLATFORM - offers concrete steps towards achieving sustainability in the spirit of 'integral ecology' as spoken of in Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical. Visit: laudatosiactionplatform.org/ and care4ourcommonhome.org/home. You are invited to join on the platform.

Our parish acknowledges and celebrates the original custodians of this sacred land, the Ngunnawal people.

OTHER NEWS

Giving and Receiving— safer ways to make an offering. **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 Number and Surname (only for current Planned Givers);
or Donation (by parishioners not registered Planned Givers).

You can also Download the QKR! App. "QKR at Saint Christopher's Cathedral Parish"—A New, Easier way to donate!

A purpose-built secure parish app to contribute to the 1st & 2nd Collection. Include your Planned Giving number for 2nd Collection contributions. 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/>

Thank you for your generosity

CATHOLIC BOOKSHOP — Christmas gifts, holiday reading, nativity sets & Christmas cards. **ATTN:** Daily Mass Book 2022 - please check : If you are missing pages 64 – 91 please return to the Catholic Bookshop to exchange it for a new book.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN WOMEN'S TASKFORCE— Visit our website: womenstaskforceacg.wordpress.com/

ARCHDIOCESAN ONLINE ADVENT RESOURCE - Advent resource featuring reflections from families from around our Archdiocese. For use in small groups or alone, in person or via zoom. 4pm this Sun 12 Dec or 10am this Tue 14 December. Meeting ID: 961 8683 9540. Be enriched by the reflections of our Archbishop & of lay people from around our Archdiocese on *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis' document on the family. Videos & handouts freely available at cgatholic.org.au/ADVENT or contact lara.kirk@cg.org.au 0429 192 869

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED: advent appeal to help Christian refugees suffering persecution, conflict and violence. This year share the hope of Christmas with Christian refugees and help ease their burdens. To make a donation visit aidtochurch.org/adventappeal.

VINNIES VOLUNTEERS DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS REQUEST—Hours: Minimum 4 hours/ day (20 hours/holidays); Volunteer Period: 01/12/21 – 31/01/22 (negotiable); Info: 0407 905 217, or volunteer.cg@vinnies.org.au. vinnies.org.au/shops.

SYNOD OF BISHOPS: SYNOD ON SYNODALITY "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The Universal Church now embarks on a similar journey we've experienced in our Plenary Council. You are invited to make a submission via an online portal, now open. Make a 250 word submission at <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch> The diocesan consultation phase has been extended too, to the 15 August 2022. Dates on the guides and resources on catholic.org.au/synodalchurch. We will also make a submission as a parish community—more to come!

The 'O' Antiphons

The Antiphons sung/said before the *Magnificat* during Evening Prayer of the Church on the seven days before the vigil of Christmas are known as the 'O' Antiphons. They are an urgent cry, imploring the Messiah, under a variety of titles, to come:

17th December: *O Sapientia* (Wisdom)
18th December: *O Adonai* (Master)
19th December: *O Radix Jesse* (Root of Jesse)
20th December: *O Clavis David* (Key of David)
21st December: *O Oriens* (Rising Sun)
22nd December: *O Rex Gentium* (King of Nations) & 23rd December: *O Emmanuel* (God With Us!)

We pray for...

Those to be married: Roderick Smith and Louise Hallam

Those who are ill: Beryl Johnson, 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, Nicholas Dyne, Hubo Ballivian, Fr Peter Gannon.

Anniversaries of death: Kevin Ruane, 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,

Recently Deceased: Denis Gilmour, Fr. Brendan Shannon, Fransiska Setiowati Silasudjana, Fr. Stan Barry CM, Sr M Andre Guthrie, Kerry Allan, Rodrigo De Guzman, William Wright, Cristina M M Santos, Yolly Lucas Reyes, Fay Murray, Carter & Andre Harrison-Saunders, Neville Dodds, Agostino Luongo, Joy Sweeny, Wilfredo Riosa (Fr. Anthony Riosa's father) Michael Williams, Christopher Richards, Pamela Manning.



Cathedral QR code

Entrance Antiphon: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just one; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, make us turn to you ; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation: I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

First Reading

Mi 5:1-4

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

Second Reading

Heb 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.' Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading

Lk 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER				
Lectors				
Mass	18/19 Dec	25/26 Dec		
5.00pm (SCC)	Crystal Lavien Becky Langworthy			
6.00pm (SPC)	Fiona Wheeler Mike Nash			
8.00am (SCC)	Dione Phil Pocock	Phil Pocock		
9.30am (SPC)	Lynn Chan Liz Porra	Ruth Meadows		
11.00am (SCC)	Leann Galloway Jacqui Ramesh	Cecily Matthews Edwina		
5.00pm (SCC)	Rebekah O'Meagher Lynette Yap	Rebekah o'Meagher		

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