



# A Year of Celebration SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S CATHEDRAL CANBERRA

## 50th Anniversary 1973 - 2023

YEAR OF WALKING  
TOGETHER

8th August 2022-  
8th August 2023

PARISH OFFICE

55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603. [cathedral@cg.org.au](mailto:cathedral@cg.org.au) [cg.org.au/cathedral](http://cg.org.au/cathedral)

Online Payments Link: [bpoint.com.au/payments/sccp](http://bpoint.com.au/payments/sccp)

Parish Secretary: Anita Piper — 8:30am-4:30pm Monday to Thursday. Office Closed Friday-Sunday



5th Sunday Ordinary  
Time- Year A  
5th January 2023

WORD OF GOD  
SUNDAY



Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn  
Most Rev Christopher Prowse DD STD  
Administrator:

Fr Trenton van Reesch

Assistant Priest:

Fr Alexander Osborne

### From the Archbishop...

"For 50 years the Cathedral parish of St Christopher's has been a vibrant center of Catholic life for so many in the Archdiocese.

This anniversary Year offers us all an opportunity to look back with thanks for all the many blessings the Lord has given us, especially in the celebration of the Sacraments in our beloved Cathedral.

In this *Year of Walking Together*, we look forward in hope and faith for the next 50 years.

May St Christopher's Cathedral Parish become more and more a center of Evangelisation and Encounter with Jesus in the Holy Spirit who leads us forward on our Heavenly pilgrimage."

- Archbishop Christopher Prowse

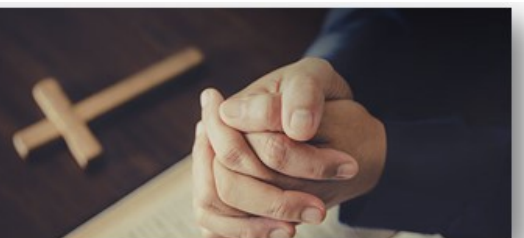
Join us **Sunday 5th of February at 11am Mass** to celebrate our 50th Anniversary, followed by a **Celebratory Reception in the Haydon Hall**, named after our First Parish Priest Mons Patrick Haydon.

### YEAR OF CELEBRATION – JANUARY 5, 2023 TO JANUARY 5, 2024

- 17<sup>th</sup> of March 2023, *Solemnity of Saint Patrick*. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner with Archbishop Christopher — Haydon Hall. Booking information to come, tables and individual tickets available.
- Saint Christopher's Museum — April. Please send us any photos you may have of the newly extended and consecrated Cathedral from 1973.
- *Thank you* to all who shared memories of the Cathedral and her Anniversary, in writing. Your contributions will be shared over the next weeks. Please continue to send your stories and memories to [cathedral@cg.org.au](mailto:cathedral@cg.org.au)
- **An ongoing year of celebration is organised for the Cathedral's Jubilee and will be posted through the Catholic Voice, our Website and Bulletin.**

"WORD OF GOD SUNDAY" 5th February 2023 — Pope Francis established the day in September 2019, devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. St Jerome reminds us, "Ignorance of Scripture, is ignorance of Christ". "For this reason, we need to develop a closer relationship with sacred Scripture" says Pope Francis. Often as Catholics we can find ourselves distant from the Bible. Yet we must not forget that the Scriptures emerged from our own faith community, the Church. The Word of God then is not something foreign to us, but integral to who we are, our very Identity. Visit [catholic.org.au/wordofgodsunday](http://catholic.org.au/wordofgodsunday) for resources.

Word  
of God  
Sunday



# GOLDEN JUBILEE 2023 — 50 YEARS OF FAITH

## Congratulations Saint Christopher's Cathedral — A Golden Jubilee!

On February 5, 1973, the Church of Saint Christopher became the Cathedral and the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. On February 5<sup>th</sup> 2023 we mark our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The story of our humble yet glorious Cathedral however, begins much earlier. On a warm 27<sup>th</sup> of February 1928, the Parish School of Saint Christopher's was established, with Father Patrick Haydon appointed the first parish priest. Over the following decade the school would serve also as the church and community hall, for Canberra's growing Catholic Community.

Until in 1938, when Saint Christopher's church was built and the following year officially opened by Archbishop John Panico, Apostolic Delegate (June 4).

*Canberra*, means 'meeting place', in the Ngunnawal language; and was so named because as the growing Capital, it was somewhere that many travellers would come. Placing the new Church and parish community of Canberra, under the patronage of Saint Christopher, the *patron saint of travellers*, seemed a suitable and even prophetic choice.

On February 5<sup>th</sup> 1948, when the *Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn* was formally established, the parish church of Saint Christopher, with her location, size and beauty, proved appropriate for the new Mother Church of the people of Canberra and Goulburn.

Saint Christopher's was extended and on the Silver Jubilee of the Archdiocese (1973), Archbishop Thomas Cahill consecrated the extensions and St Christopher's became the Cathedral of the Archdiocese.

On this day, the Archbishop anointed the walls where the marble crosses and candles now stand – and burn brightly on June 4<sup>th</sup> each year – setting this building aside as holy, where the living stones who gathering within, come to worship and give glory to God (1 Peter 2:4-6).

On Sunday, February 5, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Cathedral's dedication. We celebrate *this* anniversary with particular joy and thanksgiving. For this Cathedral has long been the physical representation of the community of faith which regularly gathers within and the place where the Mysteries of our faith take place.

St Christopher's is the Eucharistic heart and the steadfast sign of the unity of our Local Church of Canberra and Goulburn. Observing the dedication celebrates the mystery and magnificence of the *living* Church; the people of God in pilgrimage to the new Jerusalem.

We pray for all who have gathered over the last 50 years (and more), to worship within the walls of this parish Church and Cathedral. In moments of great sorrow and fear, as well as immense joy and awe. May every pilgrim who visits this place, go forth having experienced the gentle presence and the merciful Heart of the God who walks among us. And may we continue to invoke the intercession and protection of Saint Christopher as we continue along the pilgrim way.

- Fr Trenton

"On the 5<sup>th</sup> of February, 1973, as a seminarian, I was present to witness Archbishop Thomas Cahill consecrate St Christopher's Cathedral. Never then did I imagine then, that I would be appointed Administrator under Archbishop Francis Carroll. ...As Administrator (1984-1988), I came to know the parishioners quite well. They were supportive and faith-filled people. ...

A few changes occurred during my time. Through the generosity of parishioners we acquired a new Carrara marble altar for the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, a scaled down version of the high altar in the Annunciation Basilica, Nazareth; three beautiful icons executed by an Egyptian Benedictine nun, Sr. M. Paul, in their Convent on the Mount of Olives, Jerusalem; and two great bells from the Netherlands and a marble rail for the Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians from the Sacred Heart Church, Mosman, Sydney. ...

My bond, too, with our Spanish Romanesque Cathedral is very strong. Together with Fr Bernard Patterson we were ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Thomas Cahill in 1977. Even though St. Christopher's was never intended to be the Cathedral it has been made so by the extensions of Archbishop Cahill and its consecration in 1973.

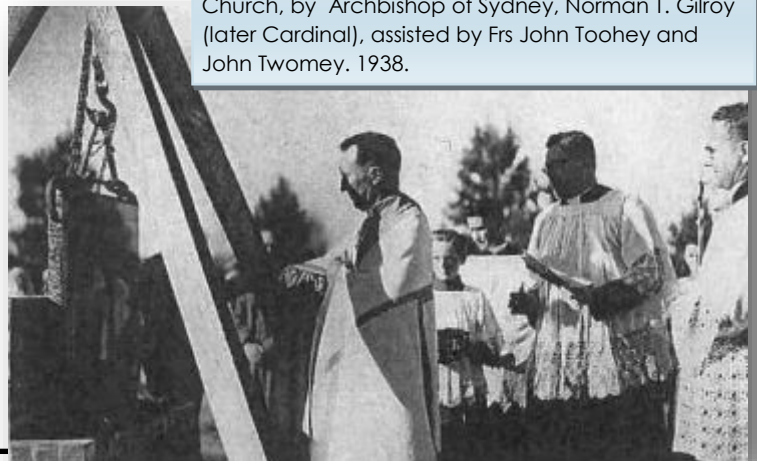
Praised be Jesus Christ.

- Fr Kevin Brannelly.



Mons. Patrick Maurice Haydon P.P.  
Parish Priest of Canberra from  
27.02.1928—1949

Laying of the foundation stone, St Christopher's Church, by Archbishop of Sydney, Norman T. Gilroy (later Cardinal), assisted by Frs John Toohey and John Twomey. 1938.



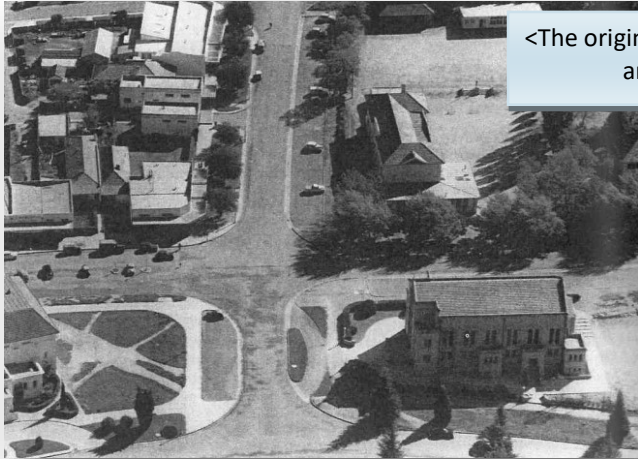
Our parish acknowledges and celebrates the original custodians of this sacred land, the Ngunnawal people.

# ANNIVERSARY EDITION

"In 1973 I was a second-year seminarian at St Columba's College, Springwood. Archdiocesan seminarians assisted in the liturgy of consecration. I had lived nearby in Fitzroy Street, attended the then St Christopher's School and later St Edmund's College, been an altar server and a member of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Manuka Scouts under the leadership of Fr Kevin Barry-Cotter, the then Administrator of the parish. The most noticeable difference was in the size of the extended and refurbished St Christopher's. I sensed that the occasion marked the change from what I had seen as a big parish church to one with significance well beyond those known to me. The presence of many bishops, the Governor-General and the Prime Minister confirmed this."



Mons. John Woods P.P  
Former Cathedral Administrator and  
Student at Saint Christopher's.



<The original St. Christopher's Church  
and School precinct



The Original Coat of Arms of Saint Christopher's  
Cathedral with our Cathedral motto:  
*Whoever looks towards St. Christopher  
has nothing to fear on their journey*



## Year of Walking Together

The Risen Lord walked together with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, drawing them from anxiety to hope, from confusion to joy.

Jesus, centre of our common Emmaus walk, with You alone to guide us, make Your home in our hearts; as we pour "new wine into fresh wineskins" (Mk 2:22)

Like Mary, imbued by the Holy Spirit, may we give birth to a renewed faith and

united pastoral action in this Archdiocese in the years ahead. St Mary of the Cross, our Great Australian Intercessor pray for us. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. All Saints of God, who name and guide our parishes, pray for us.

Amen.

**Chamber Philharmonia Cologne (Germany) Concert— Vivaldi, Bach & Saint -Saens** – 14 Feb, 8pm at St Christopher's Cathedral. Tickets [ticketmaster.com.au](http://ticketmaster.com.au), Tel 136 100 or cash at the door one hour prior to the concert.

**OPENING OF PARLIAMENT ECUMENICAL SERVICE**— 6 February, Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Manuka. 7:30AM.

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAYS – 5PM MASS @ SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S** – led by young adults & includes chant and hymns. Booklets are available to follow along.

**SEEKING HISTORIC PHOTOS**—Please send copies of your historic photos (with description) of Saint Christopher's, to [cathedral@cg.org.au](mailto:cathedral@cg.org.au). These will form part of a display for our anniversary year.

### FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCES OF OCEANIA

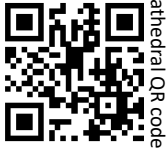
The next meeting will be held in Suva in Feb 2023. The focus is on care for the oceans & common home. Also the finalising of the continental response to the Synod of Bishops 'Document for the Continental Stage' – see [catholic.au/s/article/XVI-OrdinaryGeneral-Assembly-of-the-Synod-of-Bishops](http://catholic.au/s/article/XVI-OrdinaryGeneral-Assembly-of-the-Synod-of-Bishops). We pray for Archbishop Christopher who departed on Saturday.

### We pray for...

**Those who are ill:** Tony Kelly, Susie Menadue, Geraldene Ford, Kevin & Geraldine Conlon, Clara Yee, Maja Marija Olip, Sophy Jacob, McKenzie Killian, Sophy, Fr Bill, Leung Man Kon, Matthew Hurley, Beryl Johnson, Florencio Fariña, Alejandra Martinez, Colliss Parrett, Arianna Vignale, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Anthony, Paul Mychailuk, Kalum, Nicholas Dyne.

**Anniversaries of death:** 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:** Father Neville Drinkwater OAM, Giuseppe Paragalli, Sheila Langtry, Clare Broe (nee Scully), Jim Molan, Colleen Phillips, Renato Cervo, George Save, Maria Honchera, George Cardinal Pell, Denise Schmidt, Benedict XVI, Vin Kane, Tony Tamer, Frits Tedjakuntara, Joseph Williams, Philomena D'Cruze, Sharon Woods, Paul Kildea Snr, Hugo Caggiano, Br Anthony Atkinson FMS, Berty Jacob, Adrian Brown



Cathedral QR code

**Entrance Antiphon:** O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God

**Responsorial:** A light rises in the darkness for the upright

**Gospel Acclamation:** I am the light of the world, say the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life.

**Communion Antiphon:** Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

**First Reading**

**Is 58: 7-10**

Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shone like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call and he will say, 'I am here.' if you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

**Second Reading**

**1 Cor 2:1-5**

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

**Gospel**

**Mt 5:13-16**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

READERS ROSTER FEBRUARY			
Lectors			
Mass	4/5 Feb	11/12 Feb	
5.00pm (SCC)	Les Buszynski Becky Langworthy	Jacob Madden Ruth Meadows	
6.00pm (SPC)	Mike Nash Fiona Wheeler	Tarinya Hannedege Melissa Dixon	
8.00am (SCC)	Ceciley Matthews Marcus Smith	Phil Pocock Becky Langworthy	
9.30am (SPC)	Jaye Corcoran Raphael Molu	Raphael Molu Wanda Kaucz	
11.00am (SCC)	Jacqui Ramesh Cecilia Flores	Bianca Goh Les Buszynski	
5.00pm (SCC)	Rebekah O'Meagher Anthony Brierley	Liz Porra Anthony Brierley	

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