



# St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



6th Sunday of Easter  
Year A  
14th May 2023

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



YEAR OF WALKING  
TOGETHER  
8th August 2022-  
8th August 2023

## PARISH OFFICE

55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603 (02) 6239 9846 (bh)

cathedral@cg.org.au www.cg.org.au/cathedral

Online Payments Link: www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sccc

**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  
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

**Thursday:** 10.00am

Anointing Mass (2nd Thurs of 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

**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

## A Celebration of Life!

We give thanks today for mothers – including those who have died, and mothers to be. Thank you for the sacrifice and love we've known from you; and all women and mother figures, who echo the wisdom, perseverance, and beauty of the enfleshed God who walks life's journey with us.

Motherhood, above all, is a living image of the God who promises and *gives life*; weaving that presence into the fabric of human existence. It is an image of the divine.

Yet our culture, which we have seen grow more insolent and obstinate toward life (especially in these months and weeks...) is one which increasingly prioritises ways of death over life. Today however is a day to *celebrate* the human person's participation, in *creating, sustaining* and *giving* life! Not ending it! Mothers Day is a day that places human flourishing, and not its demise, at life's centre.

Whether religious or not, human virtue dictates that to lose sight of this fact, makes for a slippery slope to the *complete* rejection of life and its dignity. This is not the foundation upon which our lives and the present freedoms we enjoy, are built, but... they too will soon disappear, if we do not stand up for life and demand that the human person and their dignity come first, antecedent to any misleading, divisive and dehumanising ideology.

Indeed, as Archbishop Christopher recently wrote in his letter against euthanasia "Love does not kill love". The question becomes: Are we really a culture of love and life (the banner many love to rally under?) Or are we (now, not so secretly), really one of death and demise?

We pray that today may serve as a wider reminder to honour the dignity and the vocation of life and this day, motherhood. Not degrading, discouraging or inhibiting it, but recognising it as the foundation it is, and doing all we can to allow it flourish.

We pray today, for *all mothers* and *mother figures*, especially those with lives marred by struggle, disappointment, and violence. May we be a culture of *life*, which actively relieves burdens, and upholds dignity.

For mothers who have lost children, may they find consolation in the support of others, and the promise of being with their child again. And for all who experience the pain of infertility, we draw close to you this day.

With all going on, it is fitting that we celebrate today, Mother's Day, the vocation beyond compare - co-creators and *ambassador of life* - bringing *life*, not death, into the world.

A Happy and Blessed Mother's Day.  
Father Trenton van Reesch

## A Mother's Day Reflection from a Local Mother of 3.

"I want to become a saint... I should have started sooner, while it was not so difficult; but in any case 'better late than never.'" St Zélie Martin (St Thérèse of Lisieux's mother)

I love the honesty and frankness of St Zélie, how many of us have arrived at this point, perhaps in surrendering our lives to God a little late? Not a particularly inspiring quote, but real and relatable nonetheless!

When our eldest was four, we were walking together and out of the blue he said with tears in his eyes, "God doesn't answer my questions and I talk to Him all the time. Why doesn't He want me to see Him?" I provided the typical Catechism response. Later, I reflected on our son's question and whether I had the same hunger to see God? Was I just meeting my Sunday obligation out of habit? Could I trust God? I knew the answer to my son's question would ultimately require us as parents to lead by example.

With three children now, I look back and see how Christ was leading me through my son. At the core of a mother is the desire to meet their children's every need. I now see that as God in us, wanting to provide for His children. As a mother, I was unrealistically placing that expectation on myself to satisfy and be everything my children needed, and the truth is I was never designed too – what a relief! Instead, I can give them Jesus who is everything. I can daily surrender myself and my vocation to our heavenly Father allowing Him to provide for us and direct our next steps.

In learning to surrender my motherhood to Christ, I have experienced the most raw, vulnerable, and beautiful moments of this journey so far. Sure, there are days where the idea of marooning our children on a distant shore does not seem like such a bad idea, but don't we all have those days in our vocations? How comforting to know that even when struggling in our vocation we remain first and foremost unconditionally loved as children of God.

There is such beauty in the vocation of being a mother. I see Christ smiling at me daily through our children, in every kiss, in every hug and every look of vulnerability. The other day my second eldest son sweetly wanted to bless us all with holy water, when it came to my turn, he made a small cross on my forehead and said, "I bless you Mummy, the holy water ran out, so I used my spit instead." The good Lord clearly has a sense of humour.

Happy Mother's Day to all women, and most especially, our Blessed Mother! Thank you to the fathers in our lives, both physical and spiritual, for responding to Christ's call and treading with us on the messy road of family life.

# NOTICES

## PARISH MINISTRIES

**Director of Music**  
Ms Jaki Kane

### RCIA

Miss Becky Langworthy  
Contact Office

### School of Religion

Miss Chiara Catanzariti

### Youth Ministers

Miss Chiara Catanzariti  
Mr Andre Le  
youth.cathedral@cg.org.au

### Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon May 15	Monday of the 6th week of Easter
Tues May 16	Tuesday of the 6th week of Easter
Wed May 17	Wednesday of the 6th week of Easter
Thu. May 18	Thursday of the 6th week of Easter
Fri. May 19	Friday of the 6th week of Easter
Sat. May 20	Saturday of the 6th week of Easter
Sun. May 21	The Ascension of the Lord

## 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.



Join us  
**Save Calvary Hospital**  
Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn  
Calvary Hospital Bruce  
Catholic Health Australia  
[www.savecalvary.com.au](http://www.savecalvary.com.au)

**CLERGY ASSEMBLY 2023 – Monday 15th –19th May.** Please note there will be **NO MASSES** held at Saint Peter Chanel's from Tuesday 16th May –Thurs 18th. The Cathedral Mass & liturgy schedule will remain as normal. Thank you for your understanding.

**CALL FOR READERS—** You are invited to volunteer at St Christopher's Cathedral and St Peter Chanel masses. Sat **5pm** (SCC), **6pm** (SPC), Sun **8am & 5pm** (SCC) and **9:30am** (SPC). Training will be provided. Please email our Readers Roster Coordinators at [scc.spc.readers@gmail.com](mailto:scc.spc.readers@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering in this ministry.



### *A Prayer for Mothers*

Loving God,

as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you give life and care to us, your Church. Bless all women, as we celebrate this day, the gift of motherhood, a gift from you. Through them, you reveal how close you are to us. May they be strengthened as your daughters, and know how they are loved. May Mary, the Mother of Jesus, inspire them to live their vocation as Christian mothers of faith and hope. Guide and protect them in challenging times and help them to continue to trust in you all the days of their life



**VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT DAY—** Friday dinner **30 June to 4pm Saturday 1 July.** In the peaceful rural setting of St Clement's retreat centre Galong, this is a time of talks by Archbishop Christopher Prowse and other speakers to help a person discern a call to priesthood/religious life. Rsvp required by 23 June to Fr Emil Milat [emil.milat@cg.org.au](mailto:emil.milat@cg.org.au) 6248 5472. Cost \$50 (concessions available).

**CONVERSATIONS ON FAITH—** is starting up again with Season 2 from **16th May!** Haydon Hall, **7pm-9pm.** Please join us as we explore the topic, "Faith and Controversy". We will kick off on Tuesday with "General Controversy and how to have those conversations" with the illustrious Monica Doumitt, who is the Director of Public Affairs and Engagement for the Archdiocese of Sydney and a columnist with The Catholic Weekly. We will continue on 30th May, with "Faith and Gender Identity," 13th June with a panel on "Faith and Life" and 27th June with "Faith and Religious Controversy". All are welcome!



**Women's Eucharistic Retreat Day—**All women are invited to join the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia at St John Vianney Primary School, Waramanga, for a retreat day on 24 June. In addition to talks and discussion, the day will include time for silence and prayer during a Holy Hour and will help you grow in love for, and devotion to, the gift of the Holy Eucharist. An opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. Morning tea and lunch are provided. Tickets are available <https://www.trybooking.com/CGYG>

**SCHOOL OF RELIGION—** 1st Reconciliation classes start **Thurs 1 June, 6pm-7:30pm** in St Peter Chanel's Parish Room, Yarralumla. Please contact the office to enroll or for more info. 1st Reconciliation will take place on Wed 28 June 2023 at 6pm. First Eucharist starts 27 July for 20 August.



2022 to 2023  
THE YEAR OF  
**walking TOGETHER**

# 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**

**ARCHBISHOP LAUNCHES THE YEAR OF WALKING TOGETHER**— Find the Archbishop's full letter on our website :) [cg.org.au/cathedral/Home.aspx](http://cg.org.au/cathedral/Home.aspx)

**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.

**CATHOLIC MEN'S BREAKFAST**— Have breakfast with like minded men and Catholic Author, Speaker and Entertainer, Chris Padgett. **Tuesday 23 May, 7am-8:45am**, Haydon Hall **Cost:** \$38. (Tables of 8 for schools only \$220) Enquiries Frank Stanford [fstanford200@gmail.com](mailto:fstanford200@gmail.com) 0417 664 110

**Marriage & Family Life Cocktail Dinner**—**Tuesday 23 May 6:45 pm** Enjoy a fun night out with parishioners from across the Archdiocese while Catholic author, comedian and theologian - Christopher Padgett - helps us laugh our way to a more hopeful vision of the Church's proclamation of marriage and family life. **All welcome – single, married, young and old. Tickets are \$45 and include wine, soft drinks, hot finger food and dessert.** **Venue:** Veritas Building, ACU Watson., **Enquiries:** Lara Kirk [lara.kirk@cg.org.au](mailto:lara.kirk@cg.org.au) 0429 192 869 **Registration:** <http://bit.ly/PadgettCocktail>

**LAUDATO SI WEEK**— (16-24 May) is the eighth anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si': on care for our common home* and a call to action for Catholics around the world to unite and rejoice in the progress we have made in bringing *Laudato Si'* to life and to commit ourselves to further prayer and action in the care for our common home. The theme for 2023 is **Hope for the Earth, Hope for Humanity.**

**SPIRITUALITY MORNINGS**—“ *The Sacred Journey of Spiritual Transformation* “5 Part Series commencing on **MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JUNE 10am to 12 noon** at the Sisters of Mercy Community Centre, Townsend St. Phillip. Please contact Sr. Lorraine to Register or for further information. Email: [lorraine.cupitt@gmail.com](mailto:lorraine.cupitt@gmail.com)



## *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.

### **We pray for...**

**Those to be baptised:** Erich & Violet Rosette, Joaquin Tonog, Poppy Wright

**Those to be married:** Steven Kelava & Alenka Nappo

**Those who are ill:** 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, Anthony, Paul Mychailuk, Kalum, Nicholas Dyne.

**Anniversaries of death:** David Langworthy, Gael Armour, Mary June Slocum, Alyssa Henley, Judy Cummins, Frank Brennan, Monica Cooper, Carla Pastrello, Peg O'Hehir, Jane Jennings, Stanley & Mollie Jones, Fr Viv Morrison, Alma Sainsbury, Jack Delaney, Kathleen Bennett, Frances Riordan, Allan Read, Max Bradley, Jean Sunner, Mary O'Brien, Mary Hehir, Jennifer Gowing, David Crossin, Sr Leonie Crotty, Peter Xavier, Michael Rheinberger, Marcus Mumford, Anthony Sullivan, Margaret Gillespie, Sandra Altrin, Robert Porra, Carmel Pickard, Thomas Clowry, Denis Hogan, Joyce Cook, Katarina Kish, Rita O'Connor, Stephen Brooks

**Recently Deceased:** Theresa Harris, Fr Bob Maguire, Cyrus Kaucz, John Boyd-Boland OFM, Laurence Mooney OSA, Brian Johnston CSsR, Patricia Steele, Carmen Chavez, Fr Michael Brillantes, Medardo Balmaceda, Agnes Shea, James Goldrick, Karen Lang, Eric Barros,



Cathedral QR code

**Entrance Antiphon:** Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia

**Responsorial:** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia

**Communion Antiphon:** If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia

**First Reading**

**Acts 8:5-8. 14-17**

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Second Reading**

**1 Pt 3:15-18**

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**Gospel**

**Jn 14:15-21**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.

**READERS ROSTER APRIL**

		Lectors		Eucharistic Ministers	
Mass	13/14 May	20/21 May	13/14 May	20/21 May	
5.00pm (SCC)	Crystal Lavien Lynette Yap	Jacob Madden Ruth Meadows			
6.00pm (SPC)	Felicity de Fombelle Melissa Dixon	Tarinya Hannedege Mike Nash			
8.00am (SCC)	Becky Langworthy Phil Pocock	Joe Zavone Louise Zavone			
9.30am (SPC)	Raphael Molu Maria Noronha	Dominic Chin Clarice Poh			
11.00am (SCC)	Les Buszynski Jacqui Ramesh	Jacqueline Hipwell Cecilia Flores	Bronwen Grey Mark Hyman		Edwina Hyman Bronwen Grey
5.00pm (SCC)	Francilia Gomes Anthony Brierley	Rebecca O'Meagher Anthony Brierley			

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