

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

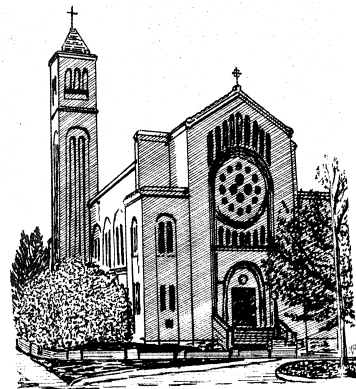
(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

7th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

— Year A

22/23 Feb 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



Sunday Mass

St Christopher's

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

Sunday: 8.00am,
11.00am (sung) & cuppa
5.30pm

St Peter Chanel's

Cnr Weston & Loch Streets,
Yarralumla ACT

Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil

Sunday: 9.30am

Weekday Mass

St Christopher's

Monday to Saturday: 12.15pm

Tuesday to Friday: 7.30am

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—12.00pm

Thursday: 6.00 - 6.30pm

Saturday: 11.00am - 12noon

St Peter Chanel's

Tuesday: 6.00 - 6.30pm

Saturday: 5.15 - 5.45pm

Adoration & Benediction

St Christopher's:

Tues-Friday weekly 5-6pm (except
1st Thurs).

Adoration: First Friday of the
month 12.45-2pm.

Holy Hour & Benediction for dis-
cernment of Priestly vocations: 1st
Thurs of the month 7-8pm

Vespers First Sundays, 6.30pm

Baptisms

St Christopher's: 2nd & 4th
Sundays, 12.30pm

St Peter Chanel's: 3rd
Sun, 10.30am

Weddings

St Christopher's: Saturday
1.30pm, 3.00pm and 4.30pm

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

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: Michelle O'Connor—Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.15pm, 12.45pm-4.30pm

Accounts Officer: Karina Widjaja—Wednesday

Dear Parishioners and Visitors to Saint Christopher's Cathedral Parish,

This Wednesday the **26th February is Ash Wednesday**, and the beginning of the season of Lent. In these 40 days we seek to experience *the mercy of God*, and yet in order to do this we need to first recognise and experience our *need for mercy*; on account of our own brokenness, weaknesses and sin. How have I fail to love God, by failing to love those placed in my life? Lent is a season of *change...* of alertness... of mercy, grace and conversion. In these days we interrupt the usual comforts, in order to rediscover in prayer, the merciful love of God. Works of charity can be concrete expressions of this repentance. During Lent we consciously deny ourselves of one thing in order to open ourselves up to receiving and freely giving another; namely Christ. It is a time given, to grown closer to God.

Lent didn't always begin on Ash Wednesday. In the 6th century Pope Gregory the Great spoke of the *season of Lent (Quadragesima, or the 'Forty Days')* as beginning on a certain Sunday and lasting until Easter Sunday. We see significant symbolism in this. In Genesis we have the 40 days of rain; Israel travels 40 years through the desert; Jesus spends 40 days fasting, and of course 40 days pass after the Resurrection during which Jesus forms and teaches his disciples before the Ascension. At the end of all of these 'biblical periods' of 40 those involved are changed: A sinful world is reconstituted, slaves are set free, 'the carpenter's son' (Matt 13:55) begins His messianic ministry, and those who once dwelt in fear and uncertainty become Spirit filled witnesses to the world. Lent, and its 40-day fast and intensification of prayer offers the Church the same opportunity for transformation, in the Christian narrative.

As an ancient biblical sign of repentance, ashes began to be used more in the Wednesday liturgy during the eighth and ninth centuries in order to help ritualise the transformation that occurs in Lent. Receiving ashes serves as a witness and reminder of the Christian's fundamental dependence and identity.

Lent is a season of contradiction. Light from darkness, hope from despair, and in its pinnacle the greatest contradiction—*the life of the Resurrection from the Death of the Cross*. In Wednesday's Gospel we'll hear of 'the hypocrites', who wanted to be seen as someone they're not, they turned not to Christ, but to themselves; and by refusing to accept their weakness, they refused to accept him. They were 'perfect' even trying to convince not just others but God Himself of this!

We've all been there; walking through the shops on Ash Wednesday and suddenly noticing everybody staring! *Do they not know that they have a giant smudge of mud smeared across their forehead?!* We stand out, and we don't always like it. Yet as I think more about it, we should stand out. Perhaps not so much on account of the giant smudge, but on account of the witness of our *faith*, our *speech*, our *actions*. In the world... you stand out as a sign of contradiction, **His sign of contradiction!** The ashes received on Wednesday then are not so much a sign of our weakness, so much as a sign of our strength in Him. They are a sign of contradiction to a world that says *you* need to be your own strength! Isaiah depicts God as a Rock, against which many stumble and fall! Jesus confirms his identity as the Son of the Father by too becoming that stumbling block. And in this way he becomes the true sign of contradiction. Christ Crucified! In the contradiction of the Cross.

Christ remains that sign of contradiction, in a world that sees God as a constant limitation placed on our freedom — where we're told to hide our weakness and wounds, where all that matters is our appearance before others. This Lent invites us, to allow our woundedness to stand out before God, to bring him those wounds and seek his mercy; for this becomes the place where Christ works. For we must never forget that those same wounds which were so bloody and grotesque on that Good Friday afternoon, were the same ones which on Easter Sunday, *shone like the sun*.

Masses for Ash Wednesday (with Distribution of Ashes) will be: **7:30am (SCC)**, **12 noon (St Bede's Red Hill, 12:15pm (SCC))** and **6:00pm (SCC)**. Lenten Journey booklets *Grace*, are also available at the Church exits for \$5.

Fr Trenton

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 24 Feb 7th week in Ord. time

Tue 25 Feb 7th week in Ord. time

Wed 26 Feb Ash Wednesday
Masses: 7.30am, 12.15pm & 6pm
St Bede's Mass: 12 noon

Thu 27 Feb Thurs. after Ash Wed.

Fri 28 Feb Fri. after Ash Wed.

Sat 29 Feb Sat. after Ash Wed.

Sun 1 Mar 1st Sunday of Lent

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
Office.**

YOUNG ADULTS SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER—25 Feb, 6:30pm, Capital pancakes (122 Alinga Street, Canberra). Start your lent right with pancakes on shrove Tuesday. Hanging out while eating pancakes, what more could you want! Join 'Canberra Cathedral Young Adults' Facebook group for info.

YOUNG MEN OF GOD—Inviting all young men 18+, the Young men of God movement is relaunching in Canberra, Tues. 25 Feb. 6:30pm for dinner at Beach Burrito Co. in the city before moving over to Highgate Canberra at 7:30pm for the start of our Lenten reflection journey. For more information find our Facebook group @ Young men of God Canberra or text Lachlan at 0422424676

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION TRAINING: Fri 28 February, 6pm, Cathedral.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION—Parishioners are invited to join with members of the Serra Club of Canberra for a half day led by Fr Mick Mullen at St Peter Chanel's, Sat 29 Feb, 9:15am. There will be short talks, quiet time, Exposition, Reconciliation and Mass; tea/coffee, light refreshments. RSVP John Smith 0408 113 690.

VESPERS for the First Sunday of Lent on Sunday 1 March, 6.30pm. All welcome to join in song and prayer with the Cathedral choir.

WOMEN'S YOUNG ADULT/PROFESSIONAL LENTEN SMALL GROUP 3 March, St Christopher's Crypt. 6:30pm-7:30pm. Lets journey deeper this lent together. Contact Chiara at chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au

PAPAL ANNIVERSARY MASS—Join Apostolic Nuncio, His Excellency Most Reverend Adolfo Tito Yllana celebration Mass for the 7th Anniversary of the Pontificate of Pope Francis. Wednesday 18 March, St Christopher's Cathedral at 5.00pm. All welcome.

HOLY RELICS VISIT—St Therese of Lisieux's relics and those of her parents St Louis and St Marie-Azelie are coming to Canberra. Over one week in March, the relics of the Little Flower, one of the most loved saints of modern times, will travel through the Archdiocese, stopping by St Christopher's Cathedral Parish along the way—**Sunday 29 March between 10.45am and 1.15pm. They will then be moved to St Peter Chanel's for veneration between 1.30pm to 4.30pm. They will then be moved back to the Cathedral at 5pm for 5.30pm Mass. The relics will leave Canberra at 6.30pm.** See the beautiful story of St Therese and her upcoming visit on pages 10-11 of the latest edition of the Catholic Voice. "Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love." — St. Therese of Lisieux.

PRAYING FOR THOSE BECOMING CATHOLIC—At the Easter Vigil (Saturday 11 April), those who have made the decision to share the Catholic Faith and become part of our faith community are welcomed into the Church, receiving the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. We continue to pray for all those who are preparing for Baptism and full communion with the Catholic Church. We are so very blessed to have the witness and faith of these Catechumens in our midst, it has been such a blessing and joy to journey with them. Please pray for: **Rebecca Langworthy, Mikyung Heo, Hall O'Meagher, Eliza Ride and Ella Borgo**

LENTEN PROGRAM REFLECTION GROUPS—Tuesday's, 10am in a Narrabundah residence. Call Parish office for details. Possible resource—see below notice 'Grace'. For expression of interest in running or participating in other groups, please contact the Parish Office.

LENTEN PROGRAM BOOKLET 'GRACE' FOR SALE SOON—Features short daily reflections that accompany our major focus on the Lenten Sunday Gospels with spiritual direction. Please pay \$5.00 per book into the Poor Box or pay online: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sccp>.

SANCTUARY GROUP VOLUNTEER REQUEST—We are running short of volunteers for the Sanctuary Group for the Cathedral. Duties include cleaning the Altars, dusting pews & windowsills, candle care, replace holy water, etc. You will be on a roster once or twice a year for one month, attending to these duties on a weekly basis during that month. If interested, please call 62399846 or email cathedral@cg.org.au.

REQUEST FOR COLLECTORS AT ST PETER CHANEL'S—St Peter Chanel's is short of Collectors, especially for the 6pm Vigil Mass. If interested, please contact the Parish office on 6239 9846.

SEEKING YOUNG MUSICIANS! The Cathedral parish is looking for young people who enjoy playing an instrument or singing. If you would like to be involved in music making at the young adults Mass (5.30pm on the second Sunday of each month), please contact the Music Director, Jaki Kane. Some basic training in liturgy will be provided. Email cathedral@cg.org.au to register your interest—cathedral@cg.org.au.

2020 CATHEDRAL PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION PROGRAM

Confirmation classes starts Mon, 27 April, 6pm-7.30pm at St Peter Chanel's Parish Room, Cnr of Weston and Loch Streets, Yarralumla. This is for Year 5 & 6 students or older who live in Barton, Causeway, Deakin, Forrest, Fyshwick, Griffith, Kingston, Manuka, Parkes, Red Hill, Yarralumla or attend school in these suburbs. Children must have received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist prior to Confirmation. More information and Enrolment form on www.cg.org.au/cathedral or contact the Parish Office on 6239 9846. The celebration of the Sacrament will take place in St Christopher's Cathedral on Wednesday, 27 May 2020 at 5.30pm. **First Reconciliation** classes start 15 June for 29 July. **First Eucharist** classes start 17 August for 20 September.

OTHER NEWS

WHAT IS PRAYER? Join Fr Michael for a series of talks on prayer. Beginning on Sunday 16 February 2020 after the 9.00am Mass at St John Vianney Church, Waramanga. All invited. Tea & coffee available. **23 February**—How to pray with the bible "Lectio Divina"; **1 March**—Ignatian Contemplation; **8 March**—How to pray the Rosary; **15 March**—What is Sacrament?; **22 March**—What is Eucharist? **29 March**—What is Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick?; **5 April**—What is Liturgy?

ALPHA—new series starts in Queanbeyan Parish, Wed. 26 Feb, 6.30pm. Alpha talks are designed to engage people from all walks of life and inspire conversation. They explore the big issues of life and faith and unpack the basics of Christian belief, addressing questions like "Who is Jesus?", "Why and how do I pray?" and "How does God guide us?" Info: Selina 0438 664 110.

MENALIVE WEEKEND: Sat 29th Feb & Sun morning 1st March St Brigid's Dickson. A terrific weekend of testimonies from ordinary men, discussion, time out to reflect on your life journey, and hospitality. Since their founding in 2003 MenALIVE have run 400 events in 25 dioceses in Australia and New Zealand for more than 15,500 men. Info: contact Fr Emil 0414523036 or Najib Raya 0439581204 najibemail1@gmail.com.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER—Fri 6 Mar, 11am, St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Forrest. All welcome to attend the Ecumenical Service. Guest speaker Her Excellency Mrs Linda Huxley. A light luncheon to follow in the Church Hall for \$5.00.

CALVARY HOSPITAL AUXILIARY AUTUMN PLANT STALL—12 Mar, 7.30am-4pm, Calvary Hospital, Bruce. Info: Jan 0437790980

LEGION OF MARY ACIES—28 Mar, 11am, St Joseph's O'Connor. The Acies event is the Legion of Mary's annual consecration to Jesus through Our Lady, in the pattern of St Louis Marie de Montfort's 'True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin'. Celebrations will include the consecration, rosary and Legion prayers and Holy Mass concelebrated by Legion of Mary spiritual directors. All current, previous and potential members of the Legion of Mary, and anyone with a devotion to Our Lady, are most welcome. Contact: LegionOfMaryCanberra@gmail.com".

PALMS AUSTRALIA—Reach Beyond: Become Simply Rich....All trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. They're not asking for money or gifts that contribute to degrading dependence. Your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation and support. You will be rewarded with riches greater than you might imagine. Look at www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0422472567, or email palms@palms.org.au

SISTERHOOD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE—20-22 March — weekend long event for women of all ages and stages of life at Stanwell Tops Sydney. Through keynote talks and workshops, mass, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reconciliation & quality sisterhood, women are given the opportunity to deepen in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ & develop community with other women. The conference seeks to provide keynote inputs, which are both spiritually enriching but also practical to the lives of women of all ages and stages Of life. Registration Ticket - \$270 including meals & accommodation. Tickets can be purchased via www.sisterhood.org.au.

EMMAUS JOURNEY—"They recognised him in the breaking of the bread" (Luke 24:35) Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May. Presenter Father Pat Corbett C.Ss.R. This retreat is designed for people in the 'second half of life'. A gentle four day experience of wholeness and well-being. Ensuite room \$550, shared facilities \$450. Contact Saint Clements Retreat Centre 02 6380 5222, or <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/event/emmaus-journey/>

REQUEST FOR TRAINED EUCHARIST MINISTERS AT CALVARY JOHN JAMES HOSPITAL—looking for volunteers to fill in some gaps on its roster to bring communion to Catholic patients in hospital. You need to: be available once a month for an hour and a half; do some initial orientation training and yearly Refresher Training; have a cover letter explaining your Eucharist position in your parish; and a current Working with Vulnerable People Card or be prepared to get one. If you can help, please phone Samantha Thirkettle on 6281 8112 or email on Samantha.Thirkettle@calvarycare.org.au for more information.

Pope Francis invites us to hold the word of God in our hands each day. The daily readings can be found and accessed free on the Living Word <https://cgcatholic.org.au/LivingWord/>. Subscribe today.



Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land. O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council. Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road. Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth. Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying. Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen. **Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.**

A note on Fasting and Penance—Abstinence from meat, and fasting, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday must be observed by all who have completed their 18th year and not yet begun their 60th year. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain. On all other Fridays of the year including Fridays in Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by any one of the following. **Prayer** — this could be Mass, sitting with scripture, family prayer, rosary or simply visiting the church. **Self-denial** — abstaining from meat, sweets, limiting social media/technology use or other entertainment. **Helping others** — special attention to someone in particular need; the elderly, sick, lonely or overburdened.

Tap & Go PayWave Machine to contribute to the Church collections without the necessity of carrying cash. Please PayWave your card at the pre-set Tap N Go machine located in the Church Foyer when you exit the church. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

We pray for...

Those to be married: Carly Tesoriero and Xavier Forsberg

Those to be baptised: Harry Tys; Lauren McBride; Arian & Ostin Lloyd

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

Anniversaries of death: 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, Gorman & Proust Families, Claire Jones, Brianna Humphreys, Leo Biggs, Lirio Lukban

Recently Deceased: Henry Tabisz, Mary-Anne McGrath, Rod Frazer, 4 children killed at Oatlands, Roberto Emilio, Mary Bowe (Kilmartin), 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 – 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time —Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.*

First Reading

Lv 19:1-2. 17-18

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: ‘Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: “Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

“You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.”’

Second Reading

1 Cor 3:16-23

Didn’t you realise that you were God’s temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men’s thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Gospel Reading

Mt 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

‘You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.’

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LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER				
Mass	Lectors		Extraordinary Ministers of Eucharist	
	22/23 Feb	29 Feb/1 Mar	22/23 Feb	29 Feb/1 Mar
6.00pm (SPC)	Frances Bulbrook Wanda Kaucz	Mike Nash Sheila van Gent	Pieter van Gent	Mary Debus Sue Buckingham
8.00am (SCC)	Kristina Faigl Zoa Salazar	Kristina Faigl Joe Zavone	Mimma Memmolo Tony Pelle	Liza Quinn
9.30am (SPC)	Gloria Osborne Lynn Chan	Clarice Poh Dominic Chin	Colliss Parrett	Colliss Parrett
11.00am (SCC)	Mark Hyman Edwina Hyman	Liz Porra Ceciley Matthews	Liz Porra Leeann Galloway	Jacqueline Hipwell Bronwen Grey
5.30pm (SCC)	Jonathan Lee Jacob Madden	Edwina Hyman Mark Hyman	Tony Croke Lionel D'Cruze	Elizabeth Young Lionel D'Cruze

St Christopher’s Cathedral Parish encompasses the areas of Barton, Causeway, Deakin, Forrest, Fyshwick, Griffith, Kingston, Manuka, Parkes, Red Hill, Yarralumla