



St Christopher's Cathedral Parish Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



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

HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS!

**The Nativity of the
Lord
Year C -
25 Dec 2021**

St Christopher's
& St Peter Chanel's
are open to limited
numbers.



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 OFFICE CLOSED FROM:

FRIDAY 24 DEC - TUESDAY 4 JAN 2022



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 & Public Holidays:
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

Baptisms

2nd & 4th Sundays: 12.30pm

Weddings

St Christopher's: Saturday
1.30pm & 3.00pm

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

MASKS MUST BE WORN INSIDE THE CATHEDRAL AND SAINT PETER CHANEL'S

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2021

Bethlehem Amazement

Sometimes we are offered the following Christmas greeting: "Have an amazing Christmas!" No doubt this greeting can mean all sorts of things. For Christians, the most amazing aspect of Christmas is God becoming human in the little babe of Bethlehem. For us, all other amazements in life flower from this fundamental Bethlehem amazement.

The Christmas scene of Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds, three Magi, animals, stars and angels are all stilled in silent amazement as they gaze on the Almighty God becoming a vulnerable baby in the humble stable at Bethlehem. Mary's prayer becomes our prayer as she says for all of us in amazement that our "soul magnifies the Lord."

During this Christmas and New Year Season, let us all magnify Jesus in our gratitude and humble response to all the amazing things that have happened to us during this extraordinary Covid year of 2021 - both good and not so good!

Let us show an amazing closeness to our families, neighbourhoods and cities where this time may be a real practical struggle. Now that we are able, let us visit each other- especially those who have had a very isolated and lonely 2021. Then our Bethlehem amazement will also have a real practical expression.

Rest up during this time! We are all tired!

God bless you all during this Christmas and New Year Season.

- Archbishop Christopher Prowse



VIGIL/MIDNIGHT

Entrance Antiphon: *Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world. Today true peace has come from Heaven.*

Responsorial Psalm: *Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.*

Communion Antiphon: *The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.*

First Reading

Is 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Second Reading

Ti 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

Gospel Reading

Lk 2:1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

CHRISTMAS DAY

Entrance Antiphon: *A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.*

Responsorial Psalm: *All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.*

Gospel Acclamation: *A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth.*

Communion Antiphon: *All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God*

First Reading

Is 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Second Reading

Heb 1:1-6

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

Gospel Reading

Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us. And we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

OTHER NEWS

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS 2021 APPEAL – Funds raised will support the National Council of Churches' Christmas Bowl Appeal and Church communities in PNG, Ethiopia, Gaza, Syria, Indonesia and Sri Lanka, as well as projects in the Dio-ceses of Otukpo in Nigeria and Thamarassery in India. Last year's Appeal raised \$50,000. Thank you for your generosity in the face of COVID. It will enable us to again reach out and assist our neighbours in need, this year.

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

I would like my donation to be:

| \$20 | \$50 | \$100 | \$150 | Other \$ _____

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Rev _____
(Block letters please)

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Please find enclosed my | Cheque | Money Order

I prefer to use my | Bankcard | Visa | Mastercard

Signed _____ Expires ____/____/____

**Please send to: Archbishop's Christmas Appeal
Attn: Deacon Joe Blackwell
GPO BOX 3089, Canberra ACT 2601**

*May we feel the comfort and joy of the God
who comes close!*

