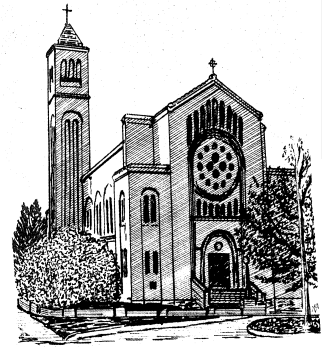


St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)



The Nativity of the Lord
Year B
25th December 2023

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

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/sccp
Parish Secretary: Anita Piper — 8:30am-4:30pm Monday to Thursday. Office Closed Friday-Sunday
Accounts Officer: Karina Widjaja—8am-4pm Friday



YEAR OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT
August 2023– 2024

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

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

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

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

St Christopher's:

2nd & 4th Sundays: 12.30pm

St Peter Chanel's:

3rd Sunday: 10:30am

Weddings

St Christopher's: Saturday

1.30pm & 3.00pm

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

2023 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

LOVE ALWAYS TRIUMPHS

The birth of Jesus, the Light of the World, always triumphs over the darkness.

The hope and light of the First Christmas in the Gospels is proclaimed from the darkness of the night. There is a star that guides. There is the joyful light that the shepherds, the Magi, and all creation encounter in the humble stable.

The surrounding “night” is not simply due to the fact of no sun. It is because there is no Son (of God) in the hearts of some. There are those who plot the killing of the Christ Child. Jesus himself is clothed in cloths and placed in a wooden crib – all suggesting a future death on Calvary. There is no hospitality for the “Prince of Peace” here.

This pattern continues even today.

There is the continuing darkness of the wars in Ukraine, the Holy Land, Africa and other places. Let us not forget that war is always a defeat for humanity – here darkness is chosen over the light of love and peace-making.

There is also the challenge in Australia of re-imagining our relationships with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people after the defeat of the Voice Referendum.

Also, with the upward trend of the cost of living, this Christmas will be tough for so many to provide the necessities of table and shelter for their loved ones.

Yet, in the midst of these many darknesses, dawns the triumph of Divine Love found in the birth of the Son of God – Jesus, love itself.

Let us in silence and adoration invite this Christmas light, that chases away the long darkness of loneliness and isolation, to triumph in our hearts, our families and our communities!

Let Christmas joy have a practical expression in helping others. Please give generously to the Archbishop's Christmas Appeal. It will assist greatly places of need throughout the world.

Happy Christmas and New Year to all!

Archbishop Christopher Prowse
Catholic Archbishop of Canberra
and Goulburn

Christmas 2023



NOTICE

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music

Ms Jaki Kane

RCIA

Miss Becky Langworthy

Contact Office

School of Religion

Miss Chiara Catanzariti

Youth Minister

Mr Andre Le

youth.cathedral@cg.org.au

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon Dec 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

Tues Dec 26 St Stephen, the 1st Martyr

Wed Dec 27 St John the Apostle

Thu. Dec 28 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Fri. Dec 29 5th day in the Octave of
the Nativity of the Lord

Sat. Dec 30 6th day in the Octave of
the Nativity of the Lord

Sun Dec 31 The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary & Joseph

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.**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

– please note, the Parish Office will be closed from December 22 to January 7. Normal office hours will resume Monday 8 of January, 2024.

ARCHBISHOPS CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2023—Funds raised will be used to support the ecumenical Christmas Bowl Appeal and its work in Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia and Myanmar in neighbouring refugee camps. International endeavours will include support towards: efforts of the Ukrainian Catholic Church assisting with evacuation, food and shelter and those in need at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land. As well as projects in the Dioceses of Otuokpo in Nigeria and Thamarassery in India and Gizo in the Solomon Islands. Thank you for your continuous generosity as 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!*



VIGIL/MIDNIGHT

Entrance Antiphon: *The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day*

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

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

Alleluia!

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

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.'

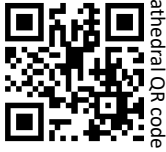
We pray for...

Those who are ill: Sonja Vocisano, Margaret "Peggy" Byrnes, Archie Ferris, Tony Dickins, Marilena Damiano Fr Greg Beath, Sophy Jacob, Alla Skorokhodova, Tony Kelly, Susie Menadue, Geraldene Ford, Kevin Conlan, Maja Marija Olip, McKenzie Killian, Fr Bill, Leung Man Kon, Beryl Johnson, Florencio Fariña, Alejandra Martinez, Colliss Parrett, Arianna Vignale, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Paul Mychailuk, Kalum, Nicholas Dyne.

Anniversaries of death: 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, Mary Pini, Anne Merner, Bruest Family, Sweeten Family, Mahony Family, Filomena Zulli, Rosario Morgante, Alan & Hazel Hobday, Denis Gilmour

Recently Deceased: Geraldine Conlan, Neville Reece, Zander Balmaceda, Kevin Wellspring (Father or Fr Julian Wellspring), Cathy Cleary, Jeanette Marie Evans, Frank Fulop, Tim Davies, Jerina Junakovic, Sr M Barbara Fogarty, rsj, Don Debus, Raymond Anthony, Kevin Bray, Colin Dwyer, Anita Ong-Siong Sy, Mgr Rob Egar, Rosa Mustapic, Pamela Rotmwell, Norma May

Readings — The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day) — Year B



Cathedral QR code

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

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

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, bring 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

(Shorter form Jn 1:1-5, 9-14) Jn 1:1-18

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. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. 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. John appears as his witness, He proclaims; 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received - yes, grace in return for grace, since , though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who had made him known.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER

Christmas Lectors

Mass	24/25 Dec	
5.00pm (SCC)	Jacqueline Hipwell Kevin Woods	
9.00pm (SPC)	Jaye Corcoran Ruth Meadows	
Midnight (SCC)	Becky Langworthy Les Buszynski	
8.00am (SCC)	Zvon Seselja Phil Pocock	
9.30am (SPC)	Felicity de Fombelle Raphael Molu	
11.00am (SCC)	Mark Hyman Bronwen Grey	
5.00pm (SCC)	Dorilyn Desuyo Liz Porra	



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