

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

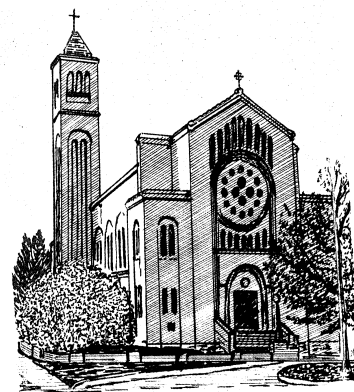
(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

— Year A

28/29 Dec 2019

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:

Friday weekly 5-6pm.
Adoration: First Friday of the month 12.45-2pm.
Holy Hour & Benediction for discernment of Priestly vocations: 1st Thurs of the month 7-8pm

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, The phrase of the poet John Donne, 'no man is an island' expresses the idea that human beings do so worst when isolated from others and so need to be part of a family and community to thrive. A family is one of the most essential and common phenomena we see in all human, animal, bird and reptile species. The family is the cornerstone of society. Being a part of a family is a blessing and happiness. In this world, many happy families are not wealthy or free from hardships and sufferings, but their faith in God, love, mutual support and sharing of difficulties make those families a more joyful one. Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth, and on this feast, the Church encourages us to look at the family of Nazareth, for inspiration, example and encouragement. The family of Nazareth consisting of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, was not only a happy family but also the holy family. The Gospel text today from St. Luke gives us a glimpse into aspects of the life of the Holy Family of Nazareth, where Jesus grew up and was obedient to his parents. Our Lord did not grow up as a member of royalty, but in a poor village in an out-of-way part of Galilee. His earthly parents Joseph and Mary are seen as perfect parents as they brought up Jesus with total care and obedience to Mosaic Law. They worked hard, helped each other, made sacrifices, accepted each other, and took good care of their child. Joseph, the father of the family patiently and humbly worked to provide the necessities of life for his family. To his neighbours, he was only a carpenter, unknown to the world, of no importance in their eyes. His ordinary selfless life made him known and revered until the end of time. The Blessed Virgin Mary was a dutiful, faithful wife and a loving mother. She had days of sorrow and anxiety which culminated only at the foot of the Crucifix on Calvary. She performed her role in its fullness and became a steady source of courage and inspiration. In other words, the life of the Holy Family of Nazareth is a source of inspiration for all families. Therefore, the most profound and most loving way of celebrating the Holy Family is to live like Jesus, Mary, and Joseph did: doing the will of the Father with love. We perhaps fail to do the will of God but we should never give up, always we need to rely on God's grace. It is true that we may not be a perfect, holy family, but we can be a sacred family if we are in God's grace. It is God's grace that makes us holy, and if the members of our family stay in God's grace, we are a blessed family. Therefore in this coming New Year, let us make efforts to make our families brighter, grace-filled and more sacred, so that image of Christ can always shine through our Families.

- Fr. Norvin Dias

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music: Jaki Kane

RCIA—Fr Trenton van Reesch
Weekly on Thursdays, 6pm

School of Religion

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 30 Dec	6th day in the Octave of the Nativity
Tue 31 Dec	7th day in the Octave of the Nativity
Wed 1 Jan	Mary, the Holy Mother of God Solemnity
Thu 2 Jan	Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, bishops, drs
Fri 3 Jan	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Sat 4 Jan	Christmas Time
Sun 5 Jan	The Epiphany of the Lord Solemnity

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 - 0438 585 177*

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.

NEW YEAR'S EVE ADORATION - 8pm - midnight at St Peter Chanel's, Yarralumla.

NEW YEAR'S EVE MIDNIGHT MASS at St Peter Chanel's, Yarralumla.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED OVER CHRISTMAS — The Parish office will be closed from Tuesday 24 December and reopen on Monday 6 January 2020. May God bless you and your families this Christmas and throughout 2020.

Our prayers are with all who are travelling over this Christmas and New Year period, may the New Born King, whose glory now fills the whole of creation: preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Saint Christopher, Patron of Travellers watch over and prayer for us.

We pray for and support all suffering from the devastation of fires and drought in these recent months and weeks. May the birth of Jesus, the hope of the world, fill our brothers and sisters with courage, comfort and the love of God as many rebuild their lives.

"The fruit of silence is prayer, the fruit of prayer is faith, the fruit of faith is love, the fruit of love is service, the fruit of service is peace." - Mother Teresa

POPE FRANCIS – "Having Mary close to Us this New Year."

Pope Francis spoke at the beginning of 2019 about renewing each year, or trust in Mary Our Mother. Let us do so again as we begin 2020 in hope! For us Catholics, Mary "is not an optional accessory: she has to be welcomed into our life" because Jesus entrusted her to his disciples and all of his disciples *to her care*.

"She is the queen of peace, who triumphs over evil and leads us along paths of goodness, who restores unity to her children, who teaches us compassion," Pope Francis said. He urged people to begin the New Year by holding on to the "amazement" experienced at the truth of Christmas, the Incarnation; the amazement that God was born a baby, "held in the arms of a woman who feeds her creator." "God has become one with humanity forever. God and man, always together, that is the good news of this new year," he said. "God is no distant lord, dwelling in splendid isolation above the heavens, but love incarnate, born like us of a mother, in order to become a brother to each of us." Jesus "pours out upon humanity a new tenderness," the pope said, which helps people "understand more fully God's love, which is both paternal and maternal, like that of a mother who never stops believing in her children and never abandons them." "God-with-us, *Emmanuel*, loves us despite our mistakes, our sins and the way we treat our world," he said. "God believes in mankind, because its first and preeminent member is his own mother." The church, which is called to be a mother, the pope said, must also be renewed and filled with amazement at the fact that it is "the dwelling place of the living God" and "a mother who gives birth to her children." Without that awareness, the church risks turning into "a beautiful museum of the past," he said. Pope Francis ended his New Year's homily praying that Mary would "take us by the hand. Clinging to you, we will pass safely through the straits of history."



ATTENTION: Call for Diocesan Delegates for the Plenary Council.

Have you been a part of the Plenary Council process of listening, prayer, dialogue and discernment? Do you feel called to be a delegate from our Archdiocese? Submit your Expression of Interest by speaking with Fr Trenton or Father Norvin. Expressions of Interest are due by noon, **25th January 2020**. Contact by emailing the Parish Office.

Any person expressing an interest **must** be available for **one** of the Preparation and formation days in: **Melbourne:** (Thursday 5.00pm 18 June 2020 – Saturday 12.00pm 20 June 2020). **Brisbane:** (Thursday 5.00pm 25 June 2020 – Saturday 12.00pm 27 June 2020). **Sydney:** (Thursday 5.00pm 16 July 2020 – Saturday 12.00pm 18 July 2020). **Perth:** (Thursday 5.00pm 23 July 2020 – Saturday 12.00pm 25 July 2020).

The **Plenary Council General Assembly 1** will be held on Sunday 2.00pm 4 October 2020 – Sunday 12.00 11 October 2020. And the **Plenary Council General Assembly 2**, on Monday 12.00pm 28 June 2021 – Saturday 12.00 3 July 2021.

OTHER NEWS

THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS —31 Dec. Everyone is invited to the 13th annual Canberra New Year's Eve Prayer Vigil at St Brigid's Church, 2 Bancroft Street, Dickson commencing at 8.00pm. First Cenacle is prayed at 8.00pm (Joyful Mysteries), Second Cenacle at 9.00pm (Luminous Mysteries), Third Cenacle at 10.00pm (Sorrowful Mysteries), Fourth Cenacle at 11.00pm (Glorious Mysteries). Exposition from 8.00pm until 11.45pm concluding with Benediction. For further inquiries phone Judy & Joe Mewburn 6254 6202.

A PROFOUNDLY REWARDING MISSION —Working in Education, Health and Trades? Assist to reduce poverty in overseas communities by sharing your skills. Mutual development assured! There are five places left on Palms Australia's January 4th – 12th Orientation Course. You must apply now for a position beginning any time in 2020. Call or text 0422 4PALMS (M-F). palms.org.au

TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH —Marriage breakdown is usually a traumatic experience for all those concerned with many divorcees unsure of the validity of this marriage within the Catholic Church. The Church reaches out in support of those whose marriage has broken down, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. If you are divorced or in the process of finalising your divorce and would like information about the annulment process, please contact the Tribunal on 6239 9813 or by email tribunal@cg.org.au. All enquiries remain confidential to the Tribunal.

CAN YOU VOLUNTEER AT VINNIES DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS? Vinnies shops need short-term volunteers to help us during our busiest time of year! There are a variety of roles available – retail assistants, general hands (lifting and carrying!), and sorting donations. During this Christmas Holiday, your energy, compassion and skills can make a real difference to those doing it tough. If you are interested, call 02 6234 7348, email volunteer@svdp-cg.org.au or drop into your local Vinnies. Find your nearest Vinnies shop by visiting www.vinnies.org.au/shops

FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL - Journey with St. Paul as you relive the Acts of the Apostles and the famous letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Greek islands in this 10N pilgrimage led by Catholic Priests that features Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Kusadasi, Crete, Santorini, Hosios Loukas, Delphi, Thessaloniki, Philippi and Kavala for an all-inclusive Land Package price of \$4490 + Tips. The fare includes Entrances & Sites as per itinerary + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + 3N Cruise with Lunch + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. 2020 Departures Available: 12th May 2020 and 20th Oct 2020. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300721561 or email us info@magiholidays.com.au

SISTERHOOD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE—20-22 – March 2020—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. Early Bird Registration Ticket - \$239 including meals & accommodation. This special price is available only until December 17 2019. Tickets can be purchased via www.sisterhood.org.au.

KARINYA HOUSE: supporting women and babies in crises pregnancies. Please consider financially supporting by becoming a 'Friend of Karinya' today. www.karinyahouse.asn.au

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 LISTENING AND DISCERNMENT SESSIONS—Theme: How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Prayerful and Eucharistic; 6.30-9pm: **21 Jan 2020**, Haydon Hall, 55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT.



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.**

Prayer for the Blessing of Rain



Lord God, Bless Australia – our Great South Land of the Holy Spirit.

Grant, that as the Cross shines in our southern skies, so may Christ bring light to our nation, to its peoples old and new. May we receive the blessing of abundant rain so that the “desert blooms with the life that lies in wait.” We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



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 who are ill: Brian Kelly, Lucy Duncan, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Bruce Kennedy, Betty O'Neill, Anthony, Lisette D'Cruze, David Kibbey, Jacqueline Khin, Scott Pobihun

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,

Recently Deceased: Patricia Smith, David Cusack, Anica Soldo, John Gallagher, David Askew, Andrew Italiano, Stanley Marris, Patricia Brennan (Mother of Fr Frank Brennan) Desmnd Maquire, Patrick Maher, Florence Taylor, Pasquale Caggiano, Rosalie Novak, Betty O'Brien, Norman Stevenson, John Arganese, Antonio Russo,

Readings of the Day – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph —Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.*

First Reading

Sir 3:2-6. 12-14

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

Second Reading

Col 3:12-21

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

Gospel Reading

Mt 2:13-15. 19-23

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: I called my son out of Egypt. After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets

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LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER				
Lectors			Extraordinary Ministers of Eucharist	
<i>Mass</i>	<i>28/29 Dec</i>	<i>4/5 Jan</i>	<i>28/29 Dec</i>	<i>4/5 Jan</i>
6.00pm (SPC)	Sheila van Gent Geraldene Ford	Frances Bulbrook Felicity de Fombelle	Any available EMHC	Mary Debus Sue Buckingham
8.00am (SCC)	Mineke Peerboom Kristina Faigl	Philip Pocock Assigned	Any available EMHC	Mineke Peerboom Liza Quinn
9.30am (SPC)	Gloria Osborne Colliss Parrett	Colliss Parrett Wanda Kaucz	Any available EMHC	Colliss Parrett
11.00am (SCC)	Bronwen Grey Gabrielle Wright	Mark Hyman Liz Porra	Any available EMHC	Jacqueline Hipwell Bronwen Grey
5.30pm (SCC)	Leeann Galloway Liz Porra	Jacob Madden Leeann Galloway	Any available EMHC	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