

# St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

The Ascension  
of the Lord  
Year B -  
16 May 2021

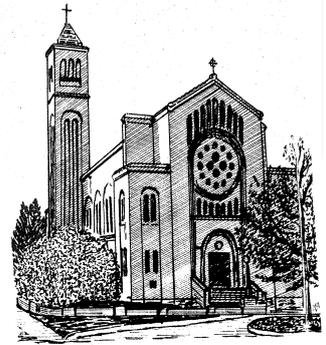
[Check in here!](#)

Masses numbers at  
St Christopher's &  
St Peter Chanel's  
will be limited until  
further notice.



the code **941461** mar

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



## PARISH OFFICE

55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603 (02) 6239 9846 (bh) Emergency Phone for Priests: 0491 072 304  
cathedral@cg.org.au www.cg.org.au/cathedral  
Online Payments Link: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sccp>  
Parish Secretary: Michelle O'Connor—on leave, Acting Secretary: Ellen Thomas, hours vary  
Accounts Officer: Karina Widjaja—Friday, 8am-4pm

## Sunday Mass

### St Christopher's

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

**Sat. Vigil:** 5.00pm

**Sunday:** 8.00am,  
11.00am (livestreamed),  
5.30pm

### 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:** 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

**Sundays:** 12.30pm

## Weddings

**St Christopher's:** Saturday

1.30pm & 3.00pm

**St Peter Chanel's:** By arrangement

Dear parishioners and visitors,

*"Out of Compassion for us He descended from Heaven and although He Ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in Him by grace."* – St Augustine.

A blessed Feast of the Ascension! How comforting these words of Saint Augustine for the Christian. Forty days after his Resurrection, Jesus ascends before his beloved disciples, back to his Father. In this moment, triumphant humanity enters divine glory, and now sits at the right hand of the Father. Jesus' earlier words to Mary Magdalene resound here: "...go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." In these words are again found the great promise: Jesus has made us God's children. Jesus, the head of the Body, precedes us this day into the Father's glorious kingdom so that "where the head has gone before in Glory, the body is called to follow in Hope" (from the Collect prayer for the Ascension).

We await now the Holy Spirit, the Comforter through whom Jesus fulfils those last words of Mathew's Gospel, words spoken no less to you and I than to the disciples in that precious moment: "know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time" (Matt 28:20).

Today, we name and celebrate the truth, that our true homeland is in heaven – to echo the words of St Paul. The Truth that we see with the open eye is that this Earth, however much we are creatures of it, is not our true home nor our end! Do we live in this knowledge day to day? After the Ascension, the disciples are told to "stay in the city, until... clothed with power from on high." We too, for the next week, shall wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit because we are not called, nor made, to stay in the city forever. But with the breath of the Spirit within us, we are commissioned "to go out to the whole world, and proclaim the Good News!"

We also begin this Ascension Sunday, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which continues until Pentecost Sunday. This week of prayer focuses all those who bear the name of Christian around John 15:1-7: "Abide in my love and you will bear much fruit." We pray in these days for the genuine unity of all Christians, that we may strengthen our witness together of the God who is life, and who dwells among us. With the difference of 'the stranger', we can often risk withdrawing into ourselves and seeing only that which separates us. But let us listen this week especially to the way Christ invites us to abide in his love, and so to bear much fruit.

While in Canberra, and indeed Australia, we are fortunate, we still see so many affected by COVID-19 around our world. As we begin our week of prayer, we remember all to whom we are united in Jesus' One Body, and the many millions of people who have suffered and died from this pandemic. We remember too those innocent, suffering unimaginably in the Gaza strip. Over these last weeks Jesus' voice has echoed the desire that we might come to and abide in him and his love, especially in the midst of suffering. Jesus invites us tirelessly, hopeful that united to him, we will find comfort (and even meaning) in our suffering, and in perseverance produce fruit that will bring life to all.

Finally, friends, this week the clergy of the Archdiocese, with Archbishop Christopher, will have their annual Clergy Assembly. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers during our time together, as we will you.

**Father Trenton van Reesch**  
Administrator, St Christopher's Cathedral Parish

**PARISH MINISTRIES**

**Director of Music**

*Jaki Kane*

**RCIA**

*Please contact parish office for next program.*

**School of Religion**

*See ad under Parish News.*

**Youth Minister**

*Anh Tran*

Email: [anh.tran@cg.org.au](mailto:anh.tran@cg.org.au)

**Weekly Liturgical**

**Calendar**

Mon 17 May	Monday of the 7th week of Easter
Tue 18 May	Tuesday of the 7th week of Easter
Wed 19 May	Wednesday of the 7th week of Easter
Thu 20 May	Thursday of the 7th week of Easter
Fri 21 May	Friday of the 7th week of Easter
Sat 22 May	Saturday of the 7th week of Easter
Sun 23 May	PENTECOST SUNDAY

**Legion of Mary**

*Monday at 5.30pm  
Haydon Hall*

**St Vincent de Paul**

*Assisting people in need and combatting social injustice in our community*

**Adventurers Youth Group**

*(primary school age)  
every 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month, 8.45am - 9.25am @ SPC*

**Good Shepherd Prayer Group**

*Wednesday at 7pm SPC  
Parish Room (Feb-Dec)*

**Christian Meditation**

*Saturday at 5pm 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*

**Filipino Community**

*First Sunday bi-monthly at 5.00pm SPC*

**CONGRATULATIONS CONFIRMANDI** — We joyously congratulate all children from St Bede's who will be "sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit" this Wednesday, in the Sacrament of Confirmation. We assure you of our prayers and pray too for all children preparing for Confirmation in the coming weeks. Be true witnesses to Jesus loving presence, to the ends of the earth!

**30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES 1991 ASSEMBLY** — During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2021, we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the World Council of Churches Assembly in Canberra, with the WCC Reunion Choir leading worship. Sunday, 16 May 2021 6:30pm St Andrew's Presbyterian Church 1 State Cir, Forrest ACT 2603. For more information contact: Rev. Dr Tim Watson [rector@holycrosshackett.org.au](mailto:rector@holycrosshackett.org.au)

**POPE FRANCIS' ROSARY MARATHON FOR END OF COVID** — Join May's global Rosary, at 30 Marian Shrines around the world, including St Mary's Cathedral (Sydney) on Sunday 16 May (6pm AEST). Join live-stream or pray the Rosary in your own time each day. St Christopher's is taking part in the Rosary marathon, with Rosary prayers at 8am weekdays, 11:30am Saturdays and 4:30pm Sundays. Rosary packs are available in foyers.

**PLENARY COUNCIL** — Oct 2021 & April 2022. As the journey continues, you are invited to prayerfully read the Working Document ('Instrumentum Laboris') <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/instrumentum-laboris/> If you've missed our denary zoom gathering last Friday, where we shared our thoughts on the document. The next meetings will be: Western Deanery – 12pm Tues, 25 May & for the Northern Deanery – 5pm Fri, 28 May. To find out what Deanery you are in and to register: <https://cgatholic.org.au/plenary/> Let us continue forward, together!

**MUSICIANS AT SPC** — Saint Peter Chanel's is seeking musicians to help enrich the liturgy through their musical gifts. If you are interested in helping with either weekend Mass or have any questions please contact the parish office.

**CATHEDRAL SECRETARY** — on annual leave from 19 April to 24 May. Ellen will fill in during this time. Office hours may vary.

**PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE CHECK IN CBR APP** — To assist with COVID-19 compliance and data collection requirements, use the "Check In Cbr" App. Download onto your smartphone and register, then simply scan QR code at the church entrance each visit.

**ST BEDE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL - ENROLLING NOW!**

A Small Catholic primary school K-6, with a Big Community. Come and Visit!  
Call office on 6295 6559, or drop by 55 Hicks St, Red Hill ACT

**2021 CATHEDRAL PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION PROGRAM**

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on **Wednesday, 26 May 2021** at 6.00pm. Please keep the children preparing for Confirmation in your prayers. **First Reconciliation** classes start 13 Jul for 11 Aug. **First Eucharist** classes start 17 Aug for 12 Sept. More information and Enrolment forms can be found on [www.cg.org.au/cathedral](http://www.cg.org.au/cathedral) or contact the Parish Office on 6239 9846.

**Parish Collections**

Like many in our community, our parish has felt the Covid financial pinch. The finance council encourage you to consider recommencing your weekly financial contributions. Please consider direct debt and electronic forms of contribution to parish planned giving. Thank you for your generosity and support of your parish.

**New ways of Giving**

- Direct Debit
- Qkr app
- Tap & Go
- Collection Point

More information:  
[www.cg.org.au/cathedral](http://www.cg.org.au/cathedral) or contact Parish office 6239 9846.

**Mass will be live streamed** from the St Christopher's Cathedral. Sunday at 11:00am. The congregation will be filmed during the livestreaming. <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>

#### PRESENT PROTOCOLS - Please be familiar with current guidelines

- In accordance with government restrictions, 260 people are permitted in the Cathedral, respecting the 2sqm p/p rule.
- ALL PARISHIONERS & VISITORS **MUST USE THE CBR CHECKIN APP** AND sign in upon entry (including children) . Records are destroyed after 28 days.
- Communion is received in the hand only & not under the species of the Precious Blood.
- Physical distancing rules still apply. Please use hand sanitiser upon entry and clean your pew/space with the wipes provided.
- Please sit where there is a 'Please sit here' marker. *NB:* Families can sit together.
- There will be no physical contact at the sign of peace.
- Please **DO NOT** return bulletins, but keep or dispose of appropriately. **Please maintain social distancing 1.5m, at all times, including in the single line formed to receive Holy Communion.** Blue squares and yellow markers on the tiles indicate these distances.

**Canberra Catholic Bookshop**— Extensive range of Sacramental & Religious Gifts, Books, Music & Church Supplies - You are always welcome: Opening Hours—Monday – Friday 9:30 am – 5 pm; Saturday 9 am – 1 pm. Ph: 6239 9888, Ground floor, St Christopher's Pastoral Centre, 55 Franklin Street, Forrest.



**Laudato Si Jubilee**— 21 May, 10.30am, St Peter Chanel's courtyard & gardens, Yarralumla. Archbishop Christopher will mark the Vatican's Laudato Si Jubilee & Laudato Si week with a tree planting and Liturgy of the Word outdoors at St Peter Chanel's. This ecumenical gathering will also inaugurate an archdiocesan-wide Laudato Si, Caring for Creation movement. Tel: 0428 625 110.

**Protection of Babies who Survive Abortion**— #1. 23 May, 7pm-8.30pm, #2. 27 May, 6pm-7.30pm, Holy Trinity Parish Centre, 3 Strangways St, Curtin. Sponsored by ACT Right to Life Association the first of two talks by George Christensen. Light refreshments, RSVP for catering to Bev Cains: 345bevc@gmail.com; 0418 718 713.

**Talk on the Blessed Virgin Mary**— 23 May, 1pm-6pm, Dickson parish centre. Fr Emil Milat will be hosting a day on the importance of the Blessed Virgin Mary and her role in our faith journey, using the Cafe series of video presentations, Let it Be, on Pentecost Sunday. No need to book, BYO afternoon tea.

**Our Health Ahead: Opportunities & Challenges for Community Health & Wellbeing**— 8 June, 5.45pm, ACU Campus 223 Antill St, Watson. As part of the Blackfriars Series, Ms Heidi Prowse, CEO, Mental Illness Education ACT, will be speaking on the topic of 'Mental health education: supporting young people to thrive.' This is a free public lecture. More info & register: [OCD.Canberra@edu.acu.au](mailto:OCD.Canberra@edu.acu.au).

**Women's prayer/sharing Groups**— Contact: [calltoconnect.ministry@gmail.com](mailto:calltoconnect.ministry@gmail.com) "Call to connect" catholic women's ministry can help you with free starter kits. More information : <https://womenstaskforceacg.wordpress.com/women-prayer-groups/>

**Volunteer Needed for Kalumburu Mission**— Diocese of Broome WA. Volunteers play an important role in helping our Parishes continue an active presence amongst the local people, For further information: Diocese of Broome Chancery T: 08 9192 1060 or by email [secretary@broomedioocese.org](mailto:secretary@broomedioocese.org)

**COVID-19 Vaccination News**— Pope Francis and the Australian Catholic bishops support and reassure: please visit [catholic.org.au/coronavirus](http://catholic.org.au/coronavirus) for more information.

#### We pray for...

**Those to be baptised:** Camila D'Amico, Alexis Knight.

**Those to be married:** Jezrelle Joyce Dela Paz & Jason Mark Golfo.

**Those who are ill:** Florencio Fariña, Alejandra Martinez, Clarrie Pickard, Colliss Parrett, Arianna Vignale, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Anthony, David Kibbey, Paul Mychailuk, Kalum, Melania Widjaja, Edhie Rahardja, Danny Yuwono, Nicholas Dyne, Hubo Ballivian, Fr Laurie Blake, Fr Peter Gannon, Mineke Peerbom.

**Anniversaries of death:** 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,

**Recently Deceased:** Achilles Diokno, Maria Alves Dos Reis Valentin, Katarina Res, Lorraine Davies, Desmond Power, Fr Kevin Barry-Cotter, Gail Fenton, John Kelleher, Colleen Merritt; Norma Roach, Max D'Souza, Katarina Imsirovic, Teresita Ranuds, Peter Theodore, Zoran Barac, Carlo de Luca, Claudia Higuera, Alan Fogarty, Milly Somes, Peter Day (father of Fr Peter Day).

## Readings of the Day – The Ascension of the Lord —Year B



Cathedral QR code

**Entrance Antiphon:** *Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** *Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.*

### First Reading

**Acts 1:1-11**

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

### Second Reading

**Eph 1:17-23**

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

### Gospel Reading

**Mk 16:15-20**

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.' And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

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### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER

Lectors			
Mass	15/19 May	22/23 May	
5.00pm (SCC)	Scott Pobihun Ceciley Matthews	Mark Hyman Edwina Hyman	
6.00pm (SPC)	Damien Balachandran Geraldene Ford	Fiona Wheeler Shiela van Gent	
8.00am (SCC)	Louise Zavone Marcus Smith	Dione Smith Becky Langworthy	
9.30am (SPC)	Gloria Osborne Eleanor Noorli	Scott Pobihun Collis Parrett	
11.00am (SCC)	Lynn Chan Leeann Galloway	Bronwen Grey Jacqueline Hipwell	
5.30pm (SCC)	Mark Hyman Edwina Hyman	Liz Porra Rebekah O'Meagher	