

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

The Most Holy
Body & Blood of
Christ— Year A
14 June 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



**Masses will be offered
with a maximum of 20
people present until fur-
ther notice. Bookings
essential one day prior.**

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—Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.15pm, 12.45pm-4.30pm

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, 9am
11.00am (livestreamed),
5.30pm & 6.30pm

St Peter Chanel's

Cnr Weston & Loch Streets,
Yarralumla ACT

Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil

Sunday: 9.30am

Weekday Mass

St Christopher's

Monday to Friday: 7.30am,
12.15pm (livestreamed)

Saturday: 9.00am
(livestreamed), & 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: 11.00am—11.30am

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

Monday to Friday: 5.00-6.00pm

Baptisms

Sundays: 12.30pm

Weddings

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

St Peter Chanel's: By arrangement

Dear Parishioners of St Christopher's Cathedral Parish

The well-known proverb 'blood is thicker than water' is a profound and true one, but perhaps not for the reasons we first think. Many would understand the saying to be an acknowledgment that family loyalties run deeper than any other relationship. The truth however is that over time the quote has, like countless others, morphed. Perhaps this is because the original quote used the word covenant, which doesn't really roll off the tongue! It is said that 'blood' in the original quote did not refer to familial ties at all, but rather the water made the connection to family. In this case, the water referred to the amniotic fluid, that is, the water in the womb. The Blood on the other hand referred not to family but to a covenant. The original proverb therefore reading: "The blood of the covenant is thicker (even) than the water of the womb."

On this feast of *Corpus Christi* we hear words generously echo from the lips of Jesus once more – "This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many" (Matt 26:28). This blood that we drink and the Body that we eat, create the greatest bond between creature and Creator.

We can often think of our family relationships as the closest, most intimate, most trustworthy ones we have. Well these do not even come close to the relationship that God offers in the Eucharist. This is why such a period has been so difficult. The Eucharist matters, the Eucharist is not some mere symbol, but the very Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus. We need it, we need Him! A God who loves us so much, that He deigns to feed us with His very flesh... a flesh that He so agonizingly suffered in and gave up, that we might have that life!

In the Garden (in Genesis) we hear that the hungry Adam and Eve tried to snatch Eternal Life for themselves. They grabbed and ate from the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. But what the Eucharist reminds us of, is that God wants to give divine life as a gift – you can't steal it! At the last supper Jesus in a way recreates this original meal. Here Adam doesn't snatch – but the 'New Adam', Jesus, gives.

The question becomes however: do we have eyes to see what is given? Because many do not, to see what is given for our nourishment, our life?

We can imagine the certain confusion of the disciples and countless others as Jesus speaks these words in the Gospel today. They are confronting, extraordinary words.

"I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world."

Many people hearing him grumbled in protest, and yet the extraordinary fact remains, Jesus did not seek to reassure them or insist that he was speaking only symbolically when he said they must eat his flesh. Rather he becomes even more adamant by shifting his vocabulary from the polite form of eating, φαγεῖτε (phagete – meaning simply "to eat") to the impolite form, τρώγων (trogon – meaning to "munch, gnaw or chew"). So insistent was he that they grasp this Truth, that he permitted the fact that most left him that day and would no longer follow in his company due to this teaching (cf Jn 6:66). Yes, the Lord paid quite a price for his graphic and "hard" teaching (Jn 6:60).

Let us however, relish in this Truth, the Truth of the Eucharist, the Truth of the Real Presence, and the Truth of a God who not only loves you, but feeds you with His own Flesh and Blood.

Indeed 'blood is thicker than water' – and it is through this blood that we are bound to God and He to us, in a bond that can never be broken, a Covenant that will forever endure!

A Blessed Solemnity of *Corpus Christi* to all, and let us pray that we may all gather physically around His table of the Eucharist again soon.

Know of your priests closeness to you, especially in these very trying times.

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

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music: Jaki Kane

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

School of Religion
Dates to be advised soon

Youth Minister—Chiara Catanzariti
Email: chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 15 Jun 11th week in Ordinary time
Tue 16 Jun 11th week in Ordinary time
Wed 17 June 11th week in Ordinary time
Thu 18 Jun 11th week in Ordinary time
Fri 19 Jun The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Sat 20 Jun The Immaculate Heart of The Blessed Virgin Mary
Sun 21 Jun 12th Sunday in Ordinary time

Legion of Mary

Sunday 12.15pm
Contact: 0431 060 556

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.

Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus—Friday 19th June - Adoration and Benediction, 1pm-3pm.

Baptisms and becoming Catholic: On 21st June at 9am Mass, 5 of our Elect will be baptised and welcomed into the Catholic Church. Let us keep in our prayers **Becky Langworthy, Nina Heo, Eliza Ride, Hall O'Meagher and Ella Borgo**. What a joy this is for our community. We congratulate our brothers and sisters in Christ and assure them of our prayers as we all journey along the pilgrim way. May Saint Christopher watch over us all on the way.



CHANGES TO MASS TIMES AND RECONCILIATION—See front page for Mass and Reconciliation times for the Cathedral and St Peter Chanel's church, Yarralumla.

In accordance with government restrictions, only 20 people are permitted in the church at any one time. Each Mass is limited to 20 parishioners. Please email the parish office to see what Masses might be possible to attend. Bookings are essential at least one day prior to the date you want to attend. Call 6239 9846 or email cathedral@cg.org.au **before** 4.30pm Mon-Fri. Physical distancing rules still apply.

A Watchful Eye: The Cathedral will soon place security cameras around the cathedral precinct. This means the Cathedral will be able to remain opened for longer hours and ensure, after a recent wave of vandalism, that our Church is safe and secure. This project will also bring the Cathedral up-to-date with other churches and Cathedral security measures. If you are able to contribute monetarily to this project, even of the smallest amount, please contact the parish office.

School of Religion—New dates for School of Religion will be released next week, check bulletin and parish website.

Saint Christopher's Youth & Young Adults

Primary School Youth Group— On the 5th of July we'll be launching our youth group 'Adventurers!' kicking off at 8:45am before **Sunday 9:30am Mass at St Peter Chanel's**. This is a group for all primary aged children, and all are most welcome! We would really appreciate your input on time, what you would like to see, etc.) Please visit: <https://forms.gle/MqE8V2wpopmqDX8R7>. Children's reflection sheets for after Mass are available on our website under 'news' on the side bar!

'BEYOND' videos and worksheets - Our Archdiocese has released a new series called 'Beyond'. You can watch these videos that feature our administrator Fr Trenton and our Youth Minister Chiara. New episodes are made available every Saturday 7am on the Catholic Voice Website Episode 1—<https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/video-beyond-episode-one-god-and-me/>

High School students:

ALPHA every Tuesday 7pm-8pm on Zoom. Open to all students years 10- 12 Here what it's about: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3NBFjDOil>. Join us on: <https://zoom.us/j/99139267513>, Meeting ID: 991 3926 7513 & **Q&A**—make way for an event series to gather with friends, for the opportunity for Q and A on topics that are important to you.

Young adults and professionals:

Bible study every Thursday night 6:30-7:30 on Zoom. **New members are always welcome!** Join 'Canberra Cathedral Young Adults' on Facebook to keep updated on all events! **Young Adults Brunch—28 June**, join us for 11am Mass at the Cathedral followed by brunch together! Please email me at chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au so we can reserve your place at Mass!

Planned Giving Donations—Please ensure your payments towards Planned Giving is up to date prior to the end of the Financial Year. Our last banking date for 2019/20 Financial Year is the weekend of 20/21 June. No money given after this date will be included in your Tax Receipt for that Financial Year.

2020 Planned Giving Pledge forms are now available in the churches and on the website. Please complete if you want to change your contribution or your details. If we don't receive a new Pledge card, this office will assume your contributions will remain the same. Direct debit forms are also available. If you have given this office your email, the Pledge form was emailed to you with the weekly Bulletin during the week. If you would like a Pledge form emailed to you, please request this via cathedral@cg.org.au.

Planned giving Envelopes: If you can't make financial contributions to the Parish electronically, please call the office to organise dropping off your Planned Giving envelope on 6239 9846.

OTHER NEWS

Mass live streamed daily from the St Christopher's Cathedral. Monday to Friday at 12:15pm, Sunday at 11:00am. For daily reminders emails: <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>

Invitation to Sign Petition: The Archdiocese has been petitioning the ACT Government to allow 50 people for liturgical celebrations, which would bring the Territory in line with New South Wales parishes. The Archdiocese is inviting Catholics to sign a petition to this end, which can be found at <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/petition-to-the-chief-minister-of-the-act/>.

QKR! At Saint Christopher's Cathedral Parish

A New, Easier way to donate!

Join us in our trialing of Qkr! Similar to swiping your phone at an EFTPOS Machine you can now use our **purpose-built secure parish app** to contribute to our parish community. Payments for 1st (Clergy) & 2nd Collection (Parish) are listed. Please ensure you include your Planned Giving number for 2nd Collection contributions. Contact the Parish Office if you have forgotten your Planned Giving number on 62399846. Caritas Project Compassion is also currently listed under "Special Appeals". For more information or to set up monthly payments via direct debit, please contact the Parish.

For step by step Qkr! instructions with pictures, please visit <https://cg catholic.org.au/2016/10/something-beautiful-god/>

Archdiocesan Marriage & Family Month - Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Archdiocese is bringing quality, interactive, live-streamed Marriage Enrichment to your home every Sunday from mid-June at 11.45am (straight after the 11am Online Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday 14th, 21st & 28th June). Join us at <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/> to listen to and ask questions of our international, interstate and local guest presenter couples.

Free Online International Catholic Marriage Summit – in a world first, high profile Catholic speakers and social media personalities will be presenting, together with their spouses, on the highs and lows of every day married life as committed Catholics. Under instructions to 'keep it real', 50 couples will share on topics ranging from finances, conflict and grief to sex and communication. Enquiries ring or text 0429 192 869. Register for free [HERE](https://www.joyfuleverafter.org) or at www.joyfuleverafter.org. (Local couple Tim & Lara Kirk will be presenting and will direct their speakers fees to the Canberra Goulburn Archdiocese for ministry to engaged and married couples).

Plenary Council: As many have heard both the 2020 and 2021 sessions of the Plenary Council have necessarily been postponed a year respectively. And while disappointing and not ideal our prayer and dedication to the process must continue. Pentecost saw the release of the information gathered for the discussion papers for the six areas for the Writing Groups which will form the *Instrumentum Laboris*. The results can be viewed at: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>.

How to still contribute financially to St Christopher's Cathedral Parish

As our churches are not open for Masses due to Corona Virus, our weekend collections are not being taken up. If you would like to contribute to the First Collection, you can make a direct transfer from your bank account.

The First collection is for the support of clergy in the parish and beyond. Each priest in a parish draws a personal stipend from the first collection for living expenses, food and housekeeping. Funds are also directed to Priests in parishes where the first collection is insufficient to meet their stipend; the support of the Archbishop, Vicar General and Chancellor; Priests in remote dioceses across Australia; Clergy Retirement Foundation (in support of sick and retired clergy)

BSB:	062-786	Account Name:	CATHEDRAL
Bank Account:	000029248	Reference:	FORREST & SURNAME

The Second collection, which includes the planned giving program, is the main source of our parish income. The second collection funds are used for the day to day running of our parish. That is to pay for the repairs, wages, insurance, utilities and the many other expenses incurred to keep our parish functioning. If you would like to give towards the Parish expenses and are not currently registered for Planned Giving, please deposit into the following bank account:

BSB:	062786	Account Name:	St Christopher's Cathedral
Bank Account:	000015080	Reference:	Planned Giving Number and Surname (only for current Planned Givers); or Donation (by parishioner's not registered Planned Givers).

Please visit www.catholicvoice.org.au for more resources, prayers and news.



So often we can feel isolated and alone, and these days during the lockdown this terrifying feeling can consume us even more. This is important to our parish and wider community, you are not alone, you are loved. **Need to talk? 02 616226100.** Or visit <https://catholiccare.cg.org.au/> Crisis support lines 24/7 Lifeline 13 11 14—Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467—Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800—Men's Line Australia 1300 78 99 78—Family Drug Support 1300 368 186



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 baptised: Henry McPhail

Those who are ill: Linda Seaniger, Lauren Nihill, Arianna Vignale, Lucy Duncan, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Anthony, David Kibbey, Jacqueline Khin.

Anniversaries of death: Frs Barney & Paddy Lynch, Kathleen Louise Hogan, Tony Conlan, Geraldine Pearson, Dorothy Black, Emilio Rao, Ron Pearson, Theresa Borg, Catherine Alice Duffy, Raymond Taylor, Luke Robert Webber, David Black, John Millard, Madge Colvin, Thomas Douglas, William Hudson, Elizabeth Ann Taylor, Bishop Aloysius Morgan, Fr Peter Cronin, Ian Lees, Patricia Kane, Yvonne Bradley, Andriana Koukari, Ken Roberts, Richard Roberts, Maria Mendes, Patricia Flood, John Connors, Etienne Jevardat de Fombelle

Recently Deceased: Dante Scorpecci, Rita O'Connor, Denis Hogan, Joyce Cook, Tony Donohoe, Katarina Kish, Sr Mary Agnes, Colleen Cotter, Keith McLaughlin, Peter Becker, Regina Paredes, Hilda Quinones, Shirley Evans, Josip Persic, Don Furner, Henry Tabisz, Mary-Anne McGrath, Rod Frazer, 4 children killed at Oatlands, Roberto Emilio, Bruce Kennedy, Ronald D'Cruze, Brian Kelly, Betty O'Neill,

Readings of the Day – The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ —Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.*

First Reading

Dt 8:2-3. 14-16

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

'Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

Second Reading

1 Cor 10:16-17

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

Sequence

Sing forth, O Zion, sweetly sing The praises of thy Shepherd-King, In hymns and canticles divine; Dare all thou canst, thou hast no song Worthy his praises to prolong, So far surpassing powers like thine. Today no theme of common praise Forms the sweet burden of thy lays – The living, life-dispensing food – That food which at the sacred board Unto the brethren twelve our Lord His parting legacy bestowed. Then be the anthem clear and strong, Thy fullest note, thy sweetest song, The very music of the breast: For now shines forth the day sublime That brings remembrance of the time When Jesus first his table blessed. Within our new King's banquet-hall They meet to keep the festival That closed the ancient paschal rite: The old is by the new replaced; The substance hath the shadow chased; And rising day dispels the night. Christ willed what he himself had done Should be renewed while time should run, In memory of his parting hour: Thus, tutored in his school divine, We consecrate the bread and wine; And lo – a Host of saving power. This faith to Christian men is given – Bread is made flesh by words from heaven: Into his blood the wine is turned: What though it baffles nature's powers Of sense and sight? This faith of ours Proves more than nature e'er discerned. Concealed beneath the two-fold sign, Meet symbols of the gifts divine, There lie the mysteries adored: The living body is our food; Our drink the ever-precious blood; In each, one undivided Lord. Not he that eateth it divides The sacred food, which whole abides Unbroken still, nor knows decay; Be one, or be a thousand fed, They eat alike that living bread Which, still received, ne'er wastes away. The good, the guilty share therein, With sure increase of grace or sin, The ghostly life, or ghostly death: Death to the guilty; to the good Immortal life. See how one food Man's joy or woe accomplisheth. We break the Sacrament; but bold And firm thy faith shall keep its hold; Deem not the whole doth more enfold Than in the fractured part resides: Deem not that Christ doth broken lie; 'Tis but the sign that meets the eye; The hidden deep reality In all its fullness still abides. Behold the bread of angels, sent For pilgrims in their banishment, The bread for God's true children meant, That may not unto dogs be given: Oft in the olden types foreshadowed; In Isaac on the altar bowed, And in the ancient paschal food, And in the manna sent from heaven. Come then, good shepherd, bread divine, Still show to us thy mercy sign; Oh, feed us still, still keep us thine; So may we see thy glories shine In fields of immortality; O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best, Our present food, our future rest, Come, make us each thy chosen guest, Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest With saints whose dwelling is with thee.

Gospel Reading

Jn 6:51-58

Jesus said to the Jews: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

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