

# Canberra Inner North Catholic Community

Under the Care of Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (SSS)

Fr Anthony (Thonn) Riosa SSS Moderator - [Anthony.Riosa@cg.org.au](mailto:Anthony.Riosa@cg.org.au)

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Parish Manager: Julie Barnes

Parish Secretary: Kathie Guillesser

Telephone: 0416 823 447 | Email: [innernorth@cg.org.au](mailto:innernorth@cg.org.au) | Mail: PO Box 900, Dickson ACT 2602

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am - 3.30pm | Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals: by Appointment contact the Parish Office

## Acknowledgement of Country

*We Acknowledge the Ngunnawal people, as Traditional Owners of the land where we gather today and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.*

Issue 03 - 17th December 2023 - Year B



# Third Sunday of Advent



**ST BRIGID'S & ST PATRICK'S  
CANBERRA CENTRAL PARISH**

2 Bancroft Street,  
Dickson ACT 2602

Fr Sebastian Luistro SSS

Website:

<http://cg.org.au/canberracentral>

### Mass Times

Saturday:

St Brigid's 6.00pm

Sunday

St Patrick's - 8.00am

German Mass - 10.00am

St Brigid's - 9.30am

Vietnamese Mass - 5.00pm

(odd Sundays)



**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH**

61 Boroona Drive,  
O'Connor ACT 2602

Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

Facebook :

[St Joseph's Parish, O'Connor,  
ACT](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephsParishOConnorACT)

### Mass Times

Saturday - 6.00pm (Vigil)

Sunday - 8.30am



**BLACKFRIARS PARISH**  
Cnr Phillip Avenue &  
Antill Street, WATSON ACT  
2602

Fr Renoir Oliver Jr SSS

Website:

[www.cg.org.au/watson](http://www.cg.org.au/watson)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/Holy-  
Rosary-Parish-Watson](https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson)

### Mass Times

Saturday - 5.00pm (Vigil)

Sunday - 10am & 5.00pm



**ST THOMAS MORE PARISH**

30 White Crescent  
Campbell ACT 2612

Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

Website:

[www.stthomasmore.org.au](http://www.stthomasmore.org.au)

Facebook:

[facebook.com/  
st.thomasmore.campbell](https://www.facebook.com/st.thomasmore.campbell)

### Mass Time

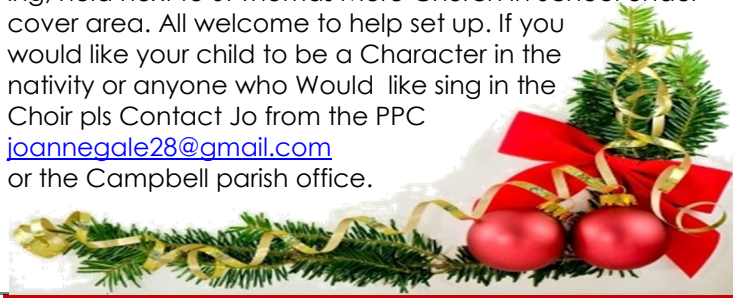
Sunday - 10.00am



The Year of the Holy Spirit  
AUGUST 2023 - 2024

## ST THOMAS MORE CHURCH- CAMPBELL

**Christmas Outdoor Mass & Set up:** on Sunday 24 Dec 2pm there will be a set up for the 6pm outdoor Mass that evening, held next to St Thomas More Church in School under cover area. All welcome to help set up. If you would like your child to be a Character in the nativity or anyone who Would like sing in the Choir pls Contact Jo from the PPC [joannegale28@gmail.com](mailto:joannegale28@gmail.com) or the Campbell parish office.



## CANBERRA CENTRAL - BRADDON & DICKSON

### FAREWELL MORNING TEA

There will be a farewell Morning Tea on Sunday 17th after Mass and I expect we will have a very large crowd.

- Please to bring a plate to share

A collection, for a gift for Fr Emil, will be taken up after the Masses this weekend.

If you can help contact Fran Pearson:

[fmpearson12@gmail.com](mailto:fmpearson12@gmail.com)

### Charismatic Prayer Group

In Dickson Parish Hall each Friday, Mass, worship, talk & prayers at 7:00pm-9:30pm. Last meeting for 2023 will be 22 December 2023, resumes mid January 2024. For more details contact Shan at [shahandra777@gmail.com](mailto:shahandra777@gmail.com)

### Eucharistic Adoration: Twelve Hours for the Lord

Weekly Adoration, every Wednesday in Dickson church, from 8:00am to 8:30pm, with Benediction at 8:20pm. Last Wed will be 20 December until we restart hopefully in Feb 2024.

### Legion of Mary

Meets weekly in Dickson Parish hall. Legionaries are simply Mary's means of action in the world today! Come and join any time. For more information contact Sherree via text: 0407 610 526.

### Parish Library – St Brigid's Hall

A large selection of Catholic books is available for borrowing in our Parish Library. Books may be borrowed when the hall is open, eg. after Sunday Mass, or please contact Legion of Mary (ph 0407 610 526) for access at other times.



St Patrick's Craft ladies have knitted a Nativity Set which they are raffling for their Altar Society.

Tickets available at Parish Lunch and after Mass. Drawn on Sunday 17 Dec

## THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

invites you and your friends to

THE 17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PRAYER VIGIL

Where: St Brigid's Church

Address: 2 Bancroft Street, Dickson

Date: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Time: 8.00pm

First Cenacle is prayed at 8.00pm (Joyful Mysteries)

Second Cenacle is prayed at 9.00pm (Luminous Mysteries)

Third Cenacle is prayed at 10.00pm (Sorrowful Mysteries)

Fourth Cenacle is prayed at 11.00pm (Glorious Mysteries)

Exposition from 8.00pm until Benediction just before Midnight.

For more information – visit the website: [mmp-oceania.net](http://mmp-oceania.net)

## HOLY ROSARY CHURCH - WATSON

For sometime now, Holy Rosary parish has invited our parishioners to morning tea at GangGang in Frencham Pl Downer, on the third Thursday of the month at 10-30 am. This gathering is purely social and we pay our own way with credit card in the cafe.

It is not necessary to inform Carmel Lewis that you are coming. Just turn up and you will be welcome at a table in or outdoors which will be reserved now to include an extended invitation to St Brigid's, St Patrick's, St Thomas More and St Joseph's communities. Do hope you will consider joining us. Our next gathering will be Thursday 18/1/24.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.  
Carmel Lewis.

This year Holy Rosary Church will have a Children's Christmas Eve Mass. If you have a child / children who would like to participate please email the office: [innernorth@cg.org.au](mailto:innernorth@cg.org.au) addressed Watson Christmas Eve Mass.



## ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH - O'CONNOR

**Wednesday 20th December | Men of St Joseph's | 7.30pm | St Joseph's Parish Centre**

The men of St Joseph co together on the first Wednesday of every month to pray the Rosary and to St Joseph who is our role model. This is an opportunity for men to share their faith experiences and discuss topics in a Positive Christian environment that nurtures the pursuit of holiness.

**Every Saturday | Legion of Mary | 9.00am - 10.30am | St Joseph's Church - Legion of Mary Room**

The Lady of Mt Carmel presidium of the Legion of Mary meeting is on every Saturday at 9.00am to 10.30am in the room at the entrance of St Joseph's Church. This is an opportunity for anyone wishing to further their knowledge of Our Mother Mary as well as learning more about faith, holiness, humility and evangelisation of the Catholic religion.

### St. Joseph's Flower Arrangement Sponsorship – you can help!

We are inviting you to sponsor the flowers not only for our Christmas and Easter flower arrangements but throughout the year. By sponsoring our flowers, you can help us reduce the cost of these arrangements. The total cost for the Church flower arrangements at St. Joseph's, O'Connor is \$2,000 and any contribution you make towards this expense would be greatly appreciated.

You can contribute by depositing the donation through our Parish Bank Account: BSB: 062 786 No: 000012798 Reference: Flower and Name.

We sincerely thank you for partnering with us to enhance the beauty and magnificence of our worship space during this Christmas season.

God bless you for your generosity.

### Christmas Carols at St. Joseph's O'Connor

There will be Christmas Carols sung on 24 December at 8:30pm (before the 9pm Christmas Mass) at St Joseph's, O'Connor. You are all invited.



### Entrance Antiphon - Philippians 4: 4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.

### First reading - Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

### Responsorial Psalm - Luke 1:46-50,53-54

**R. My soul rejoices in my God.**

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy. R.

### Second reading - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

### Gospel Acclamation - Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel - John 1:6-8,19-28

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. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

*a voice that cries in the wilderness:*

*Make a straight way for the Lord.'*

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

**Communion Antiphon is NOT recited when hymns are sung.**

### Communion Antiphon - Cf. Is 35: 4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

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### Next week's Readings

First reading - 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

Second reading - Romans 16:25-27

Gospel - Luke 1:26-38

## ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

### Support is Needed!

Help life saving assistance to refugees fleeing violence; including evacuation, food, shelter as well as student assistance in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Communities in India, Africa and the Solomon Islands are also assisted. Donations can also be sent to: Archbishop's Christmas Appeal, GPO Box 3089, Canberra ACT 2601.

## FR EMIL'S SHEPHERD CORNER

I was speaking to two boys who made their Confirmation at St Thomas More's recently, and they said who were the new priests taking over from me?

I said Frs Anthony and Sebastian and they replied with surprise- we chose those two saint names for Confirmation! A God coincidence or signal grace as I call it- that the Blessed Sacrament . Fathers are called to be here.

I only have Christmas and new year in the parishes before some January leave and start in *Our Lady Help of Christians Parish* on 13 January, so thank you to all who have been *companions on the journey* as we audaciously sought to try and live the perfect holiness St Paul speaks of in today's 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and so bring about the reign of Jesus in our homes, parish and community.

I pray I have brought my experience of 10 years in the country NSW to the Inner City of Canberra, with my focus on constant prayer underpinning pastoral initiatives from youth group, MenAlive, pilgrimages and adult education, social events and many more.

You have become part of my spiritual journey, part of my heart and I pray, known or unknown to you, the Holy Spirit will come after me to bless you in Christ.

God's blessing  
Fr Em



## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

### 2nd RITE OF RECONCILIATION

19th December - 6.30pm - St Brigid's Church  
Four Priest's will be available

### CHRISTMAS EVE 24th December

- 5.00pm - Holy Rosary Church, Watson
- 9.00pm - Holy Rosary Church, Watson
- 6.00pm - St Thomas More, Campbell (outdoors)
- 6.00pm - St Joseph's Church, O'Connor
- 8.30pm - St Joseph's Church, O'Connor (Christmas Carols)
- 9.00pm - St Joseph's Church, O'Connor

### CHRISTMAS DAY—25th December

- 8.00am - St Patrick's Church, Braddon
- 9.30am - St Brigid's Church, Dickson
- 9.00am - St Joseph's Church, O'Connor
- 10.00am - Holy Rosary Church, Watson



## BAPTISM

### *Giuseppe Massimo Valeri*

will be baptised this weekend.  
May his life be filled with God's peace,  
and his heart with God's love...  
on this Baptism day and always.



## MASS TIMES

### Weekday Masses

St Brigid's	9.00am - Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday
St Joseph's	9.15am - Tuesday / Thursday / Friday 8.00am - Wednesday 8.30am - Saturday
St Patrick's	12.30pm - Tuesday to Friday
St Thomas More	10.00am - During School Term, as advised when class attends.
Goodwin Village Ainslie	10.30am - Tuesday 19th Dec.
Holy Rosary Church	5.30pm - Tuesday to Friday
ACU Signadou	12.00noon - First Wednesday during Uni term

### Reconciliation

St Brigid's	9.30am - 10.00am Saturday 5.30pm - 5.50pm Saturday
St Patrick's	12.00noon - Friday
Holy Rosary Church	4.00pm - 4.30pm Saturday
St Joseph's	5.30pm - Saturday Available during Adoration

### Adoration - Holy Hour

St Joseph's	8.15am - Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Holy Rosary Church	6.00pm - 7.00pm Friday
St Brigid's	8.00am - 8.30pm Wednesday

### Pray the Rosary

St Brigid's	8.35am - Tuesday to Saturday
St Joseph's	Tuesday, Wednesday (Cenacle), Thursday & Friday - After Mass

### Anointing of the Sick

St Joseph's	8.30am - First Saturday of the month
St Thomas More	9.00am First Sunday of the month

### Regional Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:

**Next meeting we will resume with weekly** 7.30pm Thursday, beginning in February 2024, the Parish Centre Dickson. For more info. Pls Contact Parish Office 0416 823 447.

### PUBLIC ROSARY Gaudete Sunday

3rd Sunday of Advent,  
17 Dec at 10:30 am to  
12:00 pm at Garema  
Place, Canberra Centre.  
Gather at the performing  
stage.



## In Your Prayers please remember those in our community who are ill:

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Mary Pavey, Anne Corver, Sue King, Barbara Wilson, Una Bell, Philip Bailey, Peter Catlin, Veronica Cornelly, Rosa Maria Santos, Gloria Sibley, Beth Delos Santos, Fr Ellis Clifford, June Pollard, Philip Cruz, Maureen Blood, Awny El-Ghitany, Pamela Sandy, Una Ford, Robin Lees, Elizabeth Webster, Ann Moran, Colleen Brackett (& friend Jackie), Indra, Baby Remi Elliott, Tony Bandle, Clare Packer, Mahsa Raoofian, Christopher Douglas, Kahren, daughter of Joycelyn, Lyn Mowbray Lily Copeland, Neville Caulfield, Maggie McKeon, Alphonsa & Maria Bankovsky, Carmel Slammon,

## Our recently Deceased

Our recently Deceased: May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord.

Marguerite Serge, Fr David Halsted OP, Ursula Ramsay, Ashley La'Porte, Jerina Junokovic, Janet Uhr, John Kirkland, Frank Boyle, Gail Flegg, Mary Flood, Giuseppe Mangeruca, Patrick Gleeson aka Patty, Rex Sutherland, Doug Senior, Michael Morrisroe, Aidan Moore, Van Minh Hugh, Patricia Beesley, Cornelius Romer, Sr Mary Geraldine Agnew, John Dimichael (son of Tony & Margaret), Joyce Thomson, Louisa van Staden,

## In Loving Memory

Gabriel Savas, Paula Savas, James Patrick Bergin

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO PRIEST & PARISH

### Contribute to the First Collection.

Account Name: Central Presbytery Fund  
BSB: 062-786 - Bank Account: 000029248  
Reference: Use your Parish Location to assist in correct allocation & Your Name (e.g. Campbell Smith)

**Planned Giving:** Planned Giving is a weekly, fortnightly or monthly contribution to the first and/or second collection via cash, direct Debit or credit card. By contributing you help by the parish to forecast and budget its ongoing expenses. To contribute to your parish's planned giving, please contact the Parish Office.

### Canberra Central Parish

Account Name: Canberra Central Parish  
BSB: 062786 - A/C: 000013150  
Reference: Name & Giving Number

### Blackfriars Parish

Account Name: Blackfriars Parish Watson  
BSB: 062786 - A/C: 000013341  
Reference: Name & Giving Number

### St Joseph's Parish

Account Name: St Joseph's Parish  
BSB: 062 786 No: 000012798  
Reference: Name & Giving Number

### St Thomas More Parish

Account Name: St Thomas More Parish  
BSB: 062786 - A/C: 000014869  
Reference: Name & Giving Number

**PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is 3.00pm TUESDAY**  
Ph: 0416 823 447

*Bring love wherever you go.  
Shine light wherever it's dark.  
Leave blessings wherever you've been.*