

Pilgrims of hope

Embark on a
transformational and
spiritual journey in
this year of Jubilee

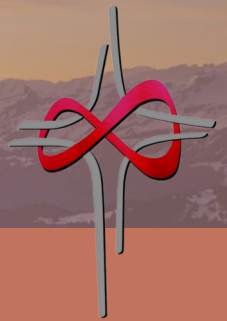


TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

7 SEPTEMBER 2025

WELCOME TO ST CHRISTOPHER'S

You are INVITED!



St Christopher's is a Missionary Parish of Intentional Disciples, passionate about being Christ to all, through our witness of God's love in action.

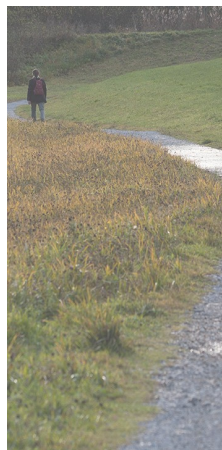
REFLECTIONS...

The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C reminds us that following Jesus is not always easy. He asks for more than quick prayers or kind words. He calls us to put him first, even before family or friends. That can be hard to hear. But Jesus wants us to know what we're saying yes to. He wants us to think carefully and choose with open eyes.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus says we must carry our cross. He uses examples like building a tower or planning a battle. These things take thought and care. Faith is like that too. It takes real commitment. It asks for trust and strength.

The other readings help us understand why we need God's help. Wisdom says we can't know God's ways on our own. We need the Holy Spirit to guide us. Psalm 90 reminds us that life is short. We should use our days wisely.

Paul's letter shows us what love looks like in action. He doesn't just talk about Christ. He lives it by sending Onesimus back in love.



MASS TIMES

Next Week's Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6 pm,
Sunday 8.30 am & 10.30 am
Livestream Sunday 10.30 am

Weekday Masses

Tues, Thurs & Sat 9.15am

Priest available for
Confession on Saturdays
after mass

PARISH PRIEST: FR JACOB ALVARES
E. jacob.alvares@cam.org.au

PARISH SECRETARY/VENUE HIRE:
T. 9802 8538
E. secretary@syndalcatholic.org.au

ACTING SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:
MR PATRICK GREEN
E. principal@scsyndal.catholic.edu.au

Elevate: Louis Shu
E. elevateyouthminister@gmail.com

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals:
T. 9802 8538
E. secretary@syndalcatholic.org.au

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH ADDRESS:
184 BLACKBURN RD, SYNDAL

RCIA: Alison Trudgett
E. rcia@stchristopherssyndal.com.au

Children's Ministry & Sacramental preparation: Charles, Germaine
E. childrensministriesyndal@gmail.com

St Vincent de paul:
T. 1800 305 330 (M-F 10am-3pm)

READINGS THIS WEEK (YEAR C)

1st Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18
Who can know the will of God?

Resp Psalm: Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1
(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

2nd Reading: Philemon 12-17:Phlm 9-10, 12-17
Paul sends Onesimus, formerly a slave,
back to Philemon as a brother.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS (YEAR C)

1st: Numbers 21:4-9

Resp Psalm: Ps 77:1-2. 34-38. R. v.7

2nd: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: John 3:13-17

Parish Office Opening Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am - 4pm

Fridays 9am - 4.30pm

5 Doon Ave, Syndal

St Christopher's website

We welcome you to browse through our new website ...
there is so much to see!

Link: <https://www.stchristopherssyndal.com.au>

PARISH MINISTRIES AND NOTICES

Healing Mass

St Christopher's Church
Sunday 7 September at 3pm with Fr Joby

Anointing Mass @ St Christopher's Parish

Wednesday 10 Sept at 11.30am

followed by lunch in the fellowship hub **All are welcome !**

Contact Lorraine T. 9802 3183

**** there will be NO 9.15am Mass ****

CHARISMATIC Prayer Group

Wednesday 10 September : @ 7:30pm - Cenacle Room

All are welcome ...

Rosa: 0447 111 270 / John: 0407 182 916

Meditation Group

Tuesday 16 September @ 7.30pm

For venue contact Claire on 0423 577 676

Wedding Anniversaries

We praise you, O God, we bless you, Creator of all things, who in the beginning made man and woman that they might form a communion of life and love. We also give you thanks for graciously blessing our family life so that it might present an image of Christ's union with the Church.

THE CATHOLIC GUY : Tuesday 9 September, 2025

Join us at 7.30pm for the launch of

The Catholic Guy Ministry hosted by Bruce Downes
at St Christopher's Church, Syndal

See you there ...!

Child Protection Week 7-13th September 2025

If we work together, we can take action to create a community where all children can grow up safe and well.

Ensure positive and respectful interactions with children and young

people listen to them. Promote the inclusion and empowerment of all children and young people. Never alone rule - avoid one-to-one, unsupervised situations with children and young people. Report any allegations or concerns regarding child safety. Adhere to all parish safeguarding standards (refer to website).

Further resources: <https://www.napcan.org.au/ncpw/>

Year of the Jubilee

Pilgrimage to St Macartan's Church

(4 Drake Street, Mornington, Victoria 3931)

Saturday 20th September, 2025 10.30am - 5.00pm

(Meet at St Christopher's at 10.30am)

Programme:

- * Mass, Confession, Tea & Fellowship
- * Please register on the sheets in the Narthex
- * Carpooling can be arranged

Parish Retreat - Santhom Grove, Milgrove

(previously known as Pallotti College)

(Overlooking the picturesque Yarra Valley)

You are invited to come on a weekend of reflection and spiritual uplifting from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon

3rd to 5th October 2025

All are welcome!

Cost per night: Single \$165, Double \$300 (Day rate available)

(Incl. breakfast, lunch, dinner, + morning/afternoon tea & materials)

Theme: Jesus and Mary

Contact Rosa : 0447 111 270 John : 0407 182 916

Thank You !

Fr. Jacob Alvares wishes to extend his heartfelt gratitude to the parishioners of Holy Saviour and St. Christopher's, Syndal, for your warm participation in the celebration of his installation as Parish Priest by Bishop Tinh Nguyen, last Sunday at St. Christopher's. Thank you for your kind wishes, your presence, and for sharing the wonderful fellowship and food together. Your support and encouragement mean a great deal as we continue our journey of faith as one parish family.

God bless you all!

Fr. Jacob Alvares



Father's Day Prayer

God our Father,

In your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless those fathers who have taken upon themselves, the responsibility of parenting. Bless those who have lost a spouse to death ... or divorce who are parenting their children alone. Strengthen them by your love that they may be and become the loving, caring persons they are meant to be.

Grant this through
Christ our Lord.

Amen

OTHER NOTICES

Sri Lankan Food Fest!



Sunday 14th Sept

after the 8:30 am & 10:30 am masses

Delicious takeaway lunch packs & snacks!

Perfect to take home and enjoy with family & friends!

EFTPOS or Cash payments acceptable

****Calling for more helping hands from our Sri Lankan community**

Your generous gift supports ministries across the Archdiocese —bringing the Good News to life not only in word, but in action.

Thank you.



THE ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN
2025



melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign

The 2025 Archbishop's Campaign

Thank you to everyone who has so generously already made a pledge or gift to the 2025 Archbishop's Campaign. Every gift, large or small, is greatly appreciated! If you are yet to make a gift, you can still do so. This campaign supports the vital ministries of the Church in our Archdiocese. Campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards are still available in the church. You can also make a gift online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign. I encourage you to please give generously to the Campaign.

SALT—Youth Recollection

STEADFAST AS LIGHT & TRUTH

A Youth Recollection for grades 5-12

FRIDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER, 2025

9.45AM—3.30PM

St Christopher's Catholic Church

Fees: \$20 (lunch provided)

Contact: Alfani 0433 403 838

Register by 19 Sept 2025



St Christopher's Church Parish Dinner Dance

11th of October 2025
7pm - Midnight

Springvale Town Hall
18 Grace Park Avenue
Springvale 3171

Music By
THE NEX GEN BAND
&
DJ

Caterers
Royal Regale Caterers
Asian Fusion Buffet
BYO Drinks

Adults \$70
Kids (5-12) \$35
Under 5 - Free

Dress Code - Smart Casual
Shades of Yellow & Orange
Raffles & Prizes

Tickets
Marquetta 0432 828 675
Shivanthi 0402 077 783
Parish Office 9802 8538



St Christopher's
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rights of Admission Reserved



elevate
YOUTH

This past Friday, our parish came alive with an incredible night of praise and worship! The church was filled with beautiful music and the powerful energy of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We were especially blessed to hear from our very own Youth Minister, Louie, who shared about his recent time in Rome. He spoke about seeing the Pope and joining over one million young people at the Jubilee of Youth at the Vatican, a truly moving experience of faith and unity.

Here in Melbourne, we too could take part in something special: the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF), happening from 30th November to 2nd December. This promises to be an unforgettable time of faith, fellowship, and joy for our young people. To help make this experience possible, our youth are organising a number of fundraisers to minimise costs and support as many as possible to attend. Keep an eye out for more information in the coming weeks, we'd love your support!

Acknowledgment of Country -

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respect to them and their cultures.



PARISH MINISTRIES & NOTICES

1ST COLLECTION - PRESBYTERY

August 2025 : \$ 6,834.10

Supports the Parish Priest, Supply Priests, Priests of the Archdiocese and Archbishop's fund

2ND COLLECTION - THANKSGIVING OFFERING

August 2025 : \$ 14,528.40

This collection goes towards the running costs of the Parish and supports all the Ministries

THANKSGIVING CONTRIBUTION TO ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH

Your kind donation helps support our community



ROSTER

Week Beginning Monday 8 September 2025

Prayer Leaader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	John Hackett	Marie Murphy, Gladys Hough	Kathryn Foley, Juan & Justinne Agapay
Thursday 9.15am	Angela Liew	Flowers	
Saturday 9.15am	Louise Pagliaro	Elvira Dlima	
Duty	6pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	Paul Liew	Louise Pagliaro	Pius Tang
Altar Server	Lukas Lettice, Rashwin & Radesh Lenora	Olivia Lettice, Malone De Silva	Rachel Ng, Maria-Susana & Maria Jose Valencia
Commentator	Ronnie Poskitt	John Stone	Ian Darmawan
Reader	Christine Sorbello	Phil Green	Gwen O'Brien
Eucharistic Minister	Marie Murphy, Pat Barnes	Graham Perrin, Brigid Chan	Brian Worcester, Catherine Drake, <i>Volunteer</i>
Welcome Desk	-	-	Margaret Yap
Greeters	<i>Volunteer</i>	Rianny Tjung	Lina Liu
Ushers	<i>Volunteer</i>	Susan Lee	Angela Yap, Shireen Pires
Videographer	-	-	Jerome Tan
Music	CANTATE	Joe & Bernadette Fernandes	TRINITY
Morning Tea	-	Sri-Lankan Food Fest	Sri-Lankan Food Fest

In Faith, Hope and Love, let us pray for repose of the souls of

Recently Deceased:

Death Anniversaries: Caterina Carnovale, Gao Xing Hua, Marlene Ellis, Hannah Morton, Angelo Salvitti, Angela Gill, Ted Bamber, Adam Lancaster, Mary-Anne Smith, Gabriel Ting, Patrick McNerney, Michael Hannah, Smiljka Sadler, Constance Donohoe, Sean Sutherland, Hasan Wahyudi, Lorelei Jelly, Jadwiga Brojer, Martha Purana, Andrew Boudeville, Merle Jenks, Teresita Martin Ocampo, Anthony Cameron, Marianne Murray, Brian Johnson, Martin Anthony, Patricia Speer, Norman Oliver, Eileen Donohoe, Andrew Walston-Leo, Murray Bird, Winifred Pieris, Young Sook Moon, Victoria McLeary, Jimmy Lazzaro, Monica Las Celles, Joan Quinn, Alberto Guzman, Joseph Jackson, Albert Demajo, Elogio Pascasio, Bernard Heng, K.D. Lawrence, Isobel Ryan, Nellie Antonis, Alice Cini, Joan McCarthy, Margaret Tan, Walter Rutishauser, Fr Peter Murray SAC, Pauline Shanley, Nell Fraser, William Tay.

St. Christopher's is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults