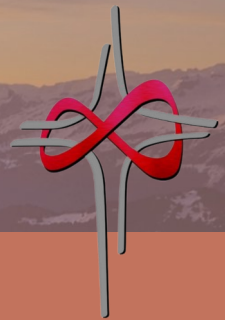


SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)

7 DECEMBER 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...

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent. In this week's Gospel, Matthew describes the work and preaching of John the Baptist. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets of Israel, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. In this reading, John directs a particularly pointed call to repentance to the Pharisees and Sadducees.



John's baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. John himself alludes to the difference between his baptism and the one yet to come. In this reading, John makes it very clear that his relationship to the Messiah yet to come, is one of service and

subservience. John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.

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

New to St Christopher's? Connect with Us:

<https://stchristopherssyndal.com.au/welcome-from-our-parish-priest/pages/new-parishioner-registration-form>

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

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

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. childrensministrysyndal@gmail.com

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

READINGS THIS WEEK (YEAR A)

1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse. Peace and justice will triumph.

Resp Psalm: Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17. R. cf. v.7
(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

2nd Reading: Romans 15:4-9
Live in harmony with one another.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: : Matthew 3:1-12

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)

1st: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

Resp Psalm: Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

2nd: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

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

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

Healing Mass



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
FEAST DAY MASS
MONDAY 8 DECEMBER
9:15AM**

AT ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Sunday 7 December - 7pm at St Christopher's

During Advent, we invite you to pray, reflect and receive the sacraments to properly prepare our minds and hearts for the joyous celebration of Christmas. In the penitential aspect of this season of preparation, we are called to repent and convert so as to make room for Christ. Please take advantage of this opportunity to prepare well for Christmas.

ANNOINTING MASS & CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS
Wednesday, 10 December at 12 noon
@ Holy Saviour

All are welcome to attend. A light luncheon will be provided. For catering purposes,
RSVP to Carmel 0428 203 501 or Rose 0411 706 016

St Christopher's Annual Christmas Luncheon

arrival 1130am - Lunch from 12 Noon

Bookings available *no walkins

Thurs 25th December 2025 Hennessey Hall

Contact Loretta - 0493 478 233 or

chrisTmasluncheon25@gmail.com

by 15th December

Calling for **VOLUNTEERS!**

For setup on the day ..

Contact Loretta 0493 478 233



**!! CHRISTMAS CARDS AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE !! \$5.00 per pack of 5 Cards**
Located in the Narthex.



Meditation Group

Tuesday 16 December @ 7.30pm

For venue contact Claire on 0423 577 676

Advent
The Season of Hope and Expectation

Afternoon Tea in Advent

**Saturday 4 p.m. : Nov 29 (Cenacle),
Dec 6, 13, 20 (Fellowship Hub)**

Booking/Inquiries: Fred Choy
discipleship@stchristopherssyndal.com.au
or Presbytery: 98028538

An hour of guided reflection on the themes of Advent, over cakes, bakes, tea and coffee, in a friendly and relaxed setting. Bring your friends or family – anyone who's not familiar with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love – and share what these themes mean to Christmas.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

St Christopher's Church

Christmas Eve Masses - Wednesday 24 Dec

6.30pm Carols - 7pm Mass

11.30pm Carols - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Mass - Thursday 25 Dec

10am

New Years Eve - Wednesday 31 Dec

10.30pm (followed by supper)

New Years Day - Thursday 1 Jan

10am

OTHER NOTICES

**** WORKING BEE ****

Saturday 20 Dec : 10am - 12pm

We need as many volunteers as possible to assist with cleaning the church in preparation for Christmas.

No need to sign up or register, just show up in the Narthex! *Your time and effort will be greatly appreciated !!*

CALLED AND GIFTED CHARISM DISCERNMENT - 2 DAY WORKSHOP

ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH, HENNESSY HALL

FRIDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2026 (7.30PM - 9.00PM)

SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2026 (9.45AM - 5.00PM)

Cost: \$10 per person *(includes lunch and afternoon tea)*

SIGN UP NOW! Sign-up sheets in the Narthex or email Mary Tan (mary@tuenproductions.com), giving your full name and mobile number & dietary requirements. If you are interested but cannot make it for this session, please also email Mary Tan and let her know, as we are planning for a second run of the 2 Day Workshop.

Refer to the workshop flyer in the Narthex for full details.

1. *How can I be more enriched in my Christian life?*
2. *Which church ministry should I serve in?*
3. *Why am I more drawn to certain church ministries?*
4. *Why do some people serve with so much joy and energy?*



ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB CHRISTMAS BBQ

Parishioners are invited to St Christopher's Tennis Club end of year BBQ function at the clubrooms on **Sunday 7 December, 5:30 for 6pm**. Food provided, BYO drinks. Vegetarian options available.

Please RSVP for catering to jackgkrohn@gmail.com.

Any questions, please contact Jack Krohn, St Christopher's Tennis Club President on 0433 124 473.

PARISH COMMUNITY DAY MONDAY 9 MARCH 2026 (9AM - 3PM)

An exciting new initiative ...
Inter-generational, fun, something for everyone!
Joining efforts to fund raise for **OUR Parish!**

**Jumping castle, Petting zoo,
Walking trail (1.5km, 3km & 4.5km),
Line Dancing, Zumba & Fitness sessions,
Coffee Truck & Free Sausage Sizzle!!!**
Lock the date in your calendars and look out for more details in mid Jan !

ST CHRISTOPHER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL has a new principal!

We are delighted to share that

Patrick Green has been appointed school principal at St Christopher's Primary School. Let us welcome Patrick and

keep him in our prayers as he takes on this new role for the St Christopher's school community.



ELEVATE at ACYF

What an Unforgettable Encounter with Christ!



Last week, thirty three of our young people travelled together to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF), and what they experienced was nothing short of extraordinary. The Holy Spirit moved powerfully as over 6,000 young Catholics from across the nation gathered as one to praise God with full hearts and open minds. Our Elevate group was deeply touched by the worship, the joy, and the overwhelming sense of unity in Christ. They heard from inspiring speakers, passionate faith leaders, and courageous young witnesses who shared messages of hope, purpose, and living boldly as disciples in today's world. Many of our youth returned renewed, strengthened, and eager to keep growing in their faith. They learnt not only about the beauty of the Church, but also about their own mission as young people called to shine God's light wherever they go. But the journey doesn't stop here. ACYF was not the end of the mission it was the spark. The challenge for all of us is to continue the momentum, to nurture this fire, and to carry this same energy into our parish, our homes, and our daily lives. God is still moving, and He is calling us to keep responding.

To help us continue this movement of faith, our **Connect group is gathering this Friday, 12th of December**, for an evening that promises to be uplifting, faith filled, and absolutely incredible. If you are between the ages of 18 and 30, you are warmly invited to join us. Come connect, grow, and continue the mission with your Elevate family. Let's keep the flame burning.

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

November 2025 : \$7,935.55

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

2ND COLLECTION - THANKSGIVING OFFERING

November 2025 : \$12,458.60

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 December 2025

Prayer Leaader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	Angela Liew	Paula Eales	Graham Baker, Margaret Campbell, Margaret Carr
Thursday 9.15am	Ronnie Poskitt	Flowers	
Saturday 9.15am	Louise Pagliaro	-	
Duty	6pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	Ida Wati	Anastasia Darmawan	Chris De Silva
Altar Server	Lukas Lettice, Rashwin & Radesh Lenora	3 x Volunteer Required	3 x Volunteers Required
Commentator	Andy Lim	Alvennia Winata	Jessica Fernando
Reader	Tony Hough	Jon Chavarria	Gwen O'Brien
Eucharistic Minister	Ronnie Poskitt, Pat Barnes	Betty Robinson, Marie Murphy	John & Cheryl Hackett, Genny Leeworthy
Welcome Desk	-	-	Loretta Stapleton
Greeters	Volunteer	Volunteer	Carol Peters
Ushers	Catherine & Kelvin Loo	Volunteer	Angela Yap, Ethan Ghee
Videographer	-	-	Jerome Tan
Music	CANTATE	Joe & Bernadette Fernandes	TRINITY
Morning Tea	-	Preethi & Chris De Silva	Marie & Gamini Fernando

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

Recently Deceased:

Death Anniversaries: Joseph Lee, Bernadette Behan, Assunto Ganga, Pat Richards, Elena Maugeri, Rose Galante, Phil Jacobs, Bill Rigby, Gerald Scully, Bro. Kevin Clark, Anita O'Dwyer, Kerry Glanz, Rocco Galante, Denis Koh, John McMillan, Agatha Wong.

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