

ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL
IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

8 FEBRUARY 2026

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...

We live in a world where appearances frequently matter more than they should. Contrary to this predominating tendency, Jesus teaches us that what we do flows from who and what we are. We can enlighten the world with the message of the gospel, because our lives have been transformed by that gospel and now we ourselves are light for others. We can serve others in various ways, only because we have been saved by God's grace and now we are agents of that grace in the lives of others. Our own renewal becomes the means through which God renews the world. Extraordinary things are accomplished through ordinary people. Jesus grew up as the son of a carpenter; some of the apostles were fishermen; Paul was a tentmaker; we are clerks and teachers, bus drivers and doctors, bank tellers and engineers. Like Paul we come to ministry in weakness and fear and much trembling. It is the

Spirit and power of God that work the wonders, and God works them through mundane elements of life such as light and salt. All disciples of Jesus are called upon to do the ordinary things of life in an extraordinary way.



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

READINGS THIS WEEK (YEAR A)

1st Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

Share with those in need and you will be rewarded.

Resp Psalm: Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Faith is a gift from God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders
for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty
soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

1st: sirach 15:15-20

Resp Psalm: Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1

2nd: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

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

Elevate: Louis Shu
E. elevateyouthminister@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHARISMATIC Prayer Group

Wednesday 11 February @ 7:30pm - Cenacle Room

Rosa: 0447 111 270 / John: 0407 182 916

All are welcome ...

Seniors Mass @ Holy Saviour Parish

Wednesday 11 February - 12pm

Followed by lunch - please bring a plate to share.

Coffee/tea will be provided.

All are welcome !

Contact Rose 0411 706 016

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

PARISH COMMUNITY FUN DAY

MONDAY 9 MARCH 2026 : (9AM - 3PM)

COLLECT your PLEDGE CARDS after the weekend

Masses this week.

** Please refer to the flyer in the Narthex or the Parish website for more information.*



Lunar New Year Celebration

Sunday 1 March 10.30am Mass

(followed by food and fellowship)

Pilgrimage to Bacchus Marsh
(outdoor Stations of the Cross & Mass)

Saturday 14 March

(* more details to follow.)

GUIDED ADORATION

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH, 2026

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Come spend an hour with me ...

Funeral of Bernard (Bernie) O'Dea

Date: Tuesday 10th February, 2026

Time: 10.30am Service

Location: St Christopher's Parish, Syndal

Refreshments: Fellowship Hub

Burial: Private Service

Let us keep the O'Dea family in our prayers..

2026 LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS

This year's discussion groups will follow the Brisbane Archdiocese program "The Journey Home", which provides reflections on the daily Gospel readings in Lent. Books are available at \$5.00ea.

We will have two programs running and we invite both Holy Saviour & St Christopher's parishioners to join;

Thursday Group Discussion: 7.30pm

19, 26 Feb; 5, 12, 19, 26 Mar

Friday Group Discussion: followed after 9:15am mass

20, 27 Feb; 6, 13, 20, 27 Mar

Location: Holy Saviour in the Cafe area.

These discussion groups allow parishioners from Holy Saviour & St Christopher's to share reflections during Lent and will be a great opportunity for collaboration in our ongoing partnership. Signup sheets for group participation are available from this weekend.

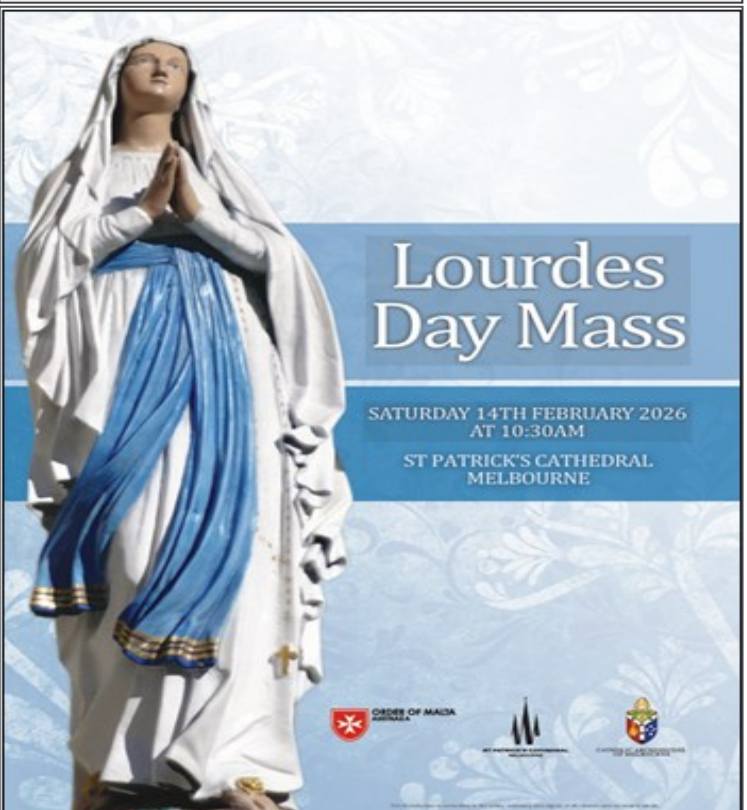


HOLY MASS

at

ST CHRISTOPHER PARISH

9:15 am and 7:30 pm



[Impacters]

EAST MELBOURNE

You're invited for worship and teaching every week followed by a time of community as we seek to grow deeper in our faith. All are welcome!

Location: St Christopher's Catholic Parish

Time: Tuesdays @7:30pm

THE CATHOLIC GUY
BRUCE DOWNES

OTHER NOTICES

Children's Ministry



Welcome to a new year in the Children's Ministry!

We are excited to begin another year of faith formation with children from kinder to Year 6. Enrolment is now open for all children who are interested in joining the Children's Ministry community.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY PROGRAMME & ACTIVITIES 2026

- Weekly classes for Kinder-Yr 6 children during school terms: 9.20-10.20a.m.

Special Events

Welcome Tea	8 Feb, 9:30-10:15am
Lenten Preparation	22 Feb, 9.20 -10:20am
Retreat for YR 5-6	7-8 March
Easter Movie Night	25 th April, 6:30 - 8:30pm
Family Day	17 May 12 noon
Bible Knowledge Quiz	23 rd Aug, 9:20 - 10:20am
Community Service Day	25 th Oct, 9.20 - 12 pm
Thanksgiving Camp	5-6 Dec

- Sacraments of First Reconciliation & First Eucharist
- Children's Liturgy during 10.30am mass

ENROLMENT:

Link for enrolment: <https://forms.gle/55X3ALZJbK59r7a47>

Children receiving sacraments need to be enrolled and should attend the sessions from the beginning of the year to be fully prepared to receive the sacraments

Children who have previously enrolled in Children's Ministry will need to enrol again for a new school year.

Deadline for enrolment: 8 February 2025

Annual enrolment fee: \$40 per child, \$60 for 2 children, \$80 for 3 children or more

Sacrament fees: 1st Reconciliation (\$20), 1st Eucharist (\$30)

We look forward to having your child/children with us on their faith journey!

Safeguarding – All Volunteers

St. Christopher's is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and adults at risk.

As we begin a new year, a reminder for all volunteers to ensure that you have a Working With Children Check (WWCC), have signed a Code of Conduct Declaration (CoC) and have completed the Safeguarding Essentials Training (SET).

The SET and CoC have an expiry of three years and many of the original certificates for volunteers who completed these early in the process have started expiring. Log in and check your expiry dates.

You can complete the training module, as well as signing the CoC Declaration, by going to the Archdiocese

website - www.safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org

This link is also available on the new parish website under Safeguarding. (* Electronic link attached)

As Archbishop Comensoli said – 'Safeguarding is not just about compliance but about developing a Safeguarding Culture within the parish.'

ELEVATE YOUTH GROUPS

Term 1, 2026



>> "The Call to Discipleship"



events

FAST 24
20 MAR, 6PM - 21 MAR, 7:30PM

YOUTH MASS
15 FEB, 15 MAR
@ 10:30AM

fridays
6:30-9:00 >>



youth

30 JAN*
13 FEB
27 FEB
13 MAR
17 APR

YOUTH: Year 7-12
CONNECT: 18-30
***COMBINED: All**



connect

30 JAN*
6 FEB
20 FEB
6 MAR
27 MAR
10 APR



CONTACT US...
IG @elevateyouthgroups
elevateyouthminister@gmail.com

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

January 2025 : \$10,135.05

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

2ND COLLECTION - THANKSGIVING OFFERING

January 2025 : \$14,545.00

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 9 February 2026

Prayer Leader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	Mary Tan	Pauline Perrin	Ashley D'Silva, David Whalan, Genny Leeworthy
Thursday 9.15am	Ronnie Poskitt	Flowers	
Saturday 9.15am	Louise Pagliaro	-	
Duty	6pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	Ida Wati	Susan Lee	Pius Tang
Altar Server	Olivia Lettice, Cameron Lettice, Klarissa Ryan	3 x Volunteers Required	Maria-Susana & Maria Jose Valencia, Beatrice Li
Commentator	Tony Hough	Louise Pagliaro	ELEVATE
Reader	Austin Swamy	Phil Green	ELEVATE
Eucharistic Minister	Ronnie Poskitt, Pat Barnes	Helen Au Yeung, Graham Perrin	ELEVATE, Harry Lim
Welcome Desk	-	-	ELEVATE
Greeters	Volunteer	Alvennia Winata	ELEVATE
Ushers	Volunteer	Volunteer	ELEVATE
Videographer	-	-	Kevin Widarja
Music	CANTATE	Joe & Bernadette Fernandes	ELEVATE
Morning Tea	-	Buddhi & Lakshitha Reginald	ELEVATE

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

Recently Deceased:

Death Anniversaries: Jose Luis Aviles, Maria Elena Aviles, Helen McBride, Michael Sia, Ismay Clements, Hengky Supit, Michelle Gooden, Janina Wojtkowska, Poy Cheung Fong, James Ramsay Leishman, John Filipic, Peter Spencer, Ann Doyle, Pedro Wong, Richard Brojer, Suzette Arboleda, John Parkes, Peter Corby, Michael Johnson.

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