



# ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL

IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)**

**1 MARCH 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...

The blessings upon which we meditate today are undeserved gifts from God. They were not earned. The graciousness of God transforms us in such a way as to effect new beginnings. It can be seen in the promises made to Abram. He leaves the past behind and moves into a new future. It can be seen in the psalm response. The Lord delivers us from death and inspires us to look to the future. It can be seen in the reading from 2 Timothy. Through Christ Jesus we are called to a new life of holiness; we escape the fetters of death and are brought into the freedom of the resurrection. We see it in the gospel, a glimpse into the future glory of Jesus which, through grace, we will be able to share. Lent is a time of new beginnings which find their origin in the abundant blessings of God.

The ultimate blessing of God is Jesus himself. As Abram was called to be the source of blessing for all others, as Peter, James and John were chosen to witness the transfiguration of Jesus, so today we too are invited to look to Jesus for inspiration during this holy season. Paul speaks of the salvation that Jesus brings as having come, not because of any works of righteousness that we might have performed, but because of the grace of God. Once again the Lenten readings focus on the merciful action of God in our lives, and in the end they point to Jesus.

#### 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:** Genesis 12:1-4

Abram leaves home receiving promises from the Lord.

**Resp Psalm:** Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.

**2nd Reading:** 2 Timothy 1:8-10

Following the Gospel entails some hardship.

#### Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel:** Matthew 17:1-9

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

#### READINGS NEXT WEEK:

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

**1st:** Exodus 17:3-7

**Resp Psalm:** Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

**2nd:** Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

**Gospel:** John 4:5-42

#### 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

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

The weekly Stations of the Cross followed by Mass during Lent will be held at  
**St Christopher's Church:**

Friday evenings at 6.30pm followed by mass  
27 February, 6, 13, 20, 27 March

## ABORIGINAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS at Holy Saviour

Wednesday 25 March following 9.15am mass.

## 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  
5, 12, 19, 26 Mar

Friday Group Discussion: followed after 9:15am mass  
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.



**Lunar New Year Celebration**  
Sunday 1 March 10.30am Mass

## GUIDED ADORATION FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026

**7:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

*Come spend an hour with me ...*

## Anointing Mass @ St Christopher's Parish

Wednesday 11th March 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 11 March @ 7:30pm - Cenacle Room

Rosa: 0447 111 270 / John: 0407 182 916

**All are welcome ...**

## HOME MASS INVITATION

All are warmly invited to join our Home Masses:

**Friday, 13 March | 7:30pm**

Host: Virginia & Nam Quek

☎ Text/WhatsApp: **0438 225 211**

**Friday, 27 March | 7:30pm**

Host: Cheryl & John Hackett

☎ Text/WhatsApp: **0407 182 916**

Please text the hosts directly if you'd like to attend.



## Second Sunday of Lent 28 February – 1 March 2026

**Sisilia** is a 13-year-old girl living in remote Tanzania, who had to walk long distances to collect water every day. Thanks to Project Compassion, Sisilia's school and village now have safe clean water close by and she can spend more time studying so she can fulfil her dream of one day becoming a pilot.



**Please donate today.**

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

**Or online at:** [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate)

**Or by calling:** 1800 024 413 Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

# OTHER NOTICES

## St Christopher's Community Fun Day

Monday, 9 March 2026 • Public Holiday

9am – 3pm

Walkathon + Parish Family Activities

- Walkathon – 9:00am Start  
1.5 km • 3 km • 4.5 km
- Free activities at day:
  - Jumping castle
  - Petting zoo
  - Line Dancing
  - Zumba & Fitness Sessions
  - Tryouts at the Tennis Club



### Light F&B Available:

- Free Sausage Sizzle
- Fairy Floss
- Popcorn
- Soft Drinks
- Barista Coffee

All donations for F&B are welcome  
Speak to a team member for any fundraising ideas

Join the Walkathon  
Pick up a Pledge Card  
in the Narthex

Or Sponsor a Walker

Volunteers Needed  
Speak to Team Member

Well-behaved, socially trained pets are welcome (kept clear of jumping castles, food areas & petting zoo)

### PLEDGE CARDS!

We kindly request all  
pledge cards to be  
returned by  
28 Feb/1 March .  
The team will be in  
the Cenacle.

My dear parishioners of St. Christopher & Holy Saviour Parish,

Grace and peace to you in Christ Jesus.

As your parish priest, I carry both Holy Saviour and St. Christopher Parishes in my heart and prayer. I do not see both as two separate communities merely sharing one priest; rather, I see both as sister parishes — distinct in history and character, yet united in faith, mission, and Eucharist. Presently, my vision is not about merging identities or diminishing traditions. It is about deepening communion and strengthening our shared witness to the Gospel. I dream of seeing our two parishes journeying together in a spirit of trust, mutual respect, and missionary purpose. Each parish has its own beautiful story, faithful families, devoted volunteers, and cherished traditions. These are gifts to be preserved and honoured. Yet I believe the Holy Spirit is inviting us to something more — to move from parallel existence to purposeful collaboration. At the heart of my vision is the Eucharist. When we gather at the Lord's table, we are one Body in Christ. From that unity flows everything else: our leadership, our service, our formation, and our outreach. I would like to see our leadership teams working in closer harmony, sharing wisdom and supporting one another in pastoral planning. While governance and finances remain responsibly structured, our direction and mission should reflect one shared pastoral vision: to form disciples and to serve our wider community with courage and compassion. In the area of faith formation, I hope we will increasingly share resources and programs where possible. Sacramental preparation, RCIA, adult faith formation, and youth ministry can be enriched when we pool our talents and energy. I would like our young people to know one another, our catechists to collaborate, and our families to feel part of a wider faith community. We are stronger when we walk together. Our outreach to the poor and those in need should become a visible sign of our unity. I envision coordinated charitable initiatives, shared volunteer engagement, and joint responses to local needs. When people see our parishes serving side by side, they will see not two institutions but one Church alive in love. Liturgically, I desire unity without uniformity. Each parish will continue to celebrate its patronal feast, honour its traditions, and express its cultural richness. At the same time, certain major celebrations and moments of formation can be shared as powerful expressions of communion. Occasionally gathering as one larger community will remind us that we belong to something greater than ourselves. Community life is also essential. I hope we will create opportunities for shared social gatherings, common prayer experiences, and leadership retreats. Collaboration cannot be built only on structures; it must grow from relationships. I want us to know one another, to pray for one another, and to support one another. The way forward for us must always be the Way of the Gospel — a path marked by humility, patience, listening, and trust in the Holy Spirit. Change can bring uncertainty, un-comfortability to our ethos & at times painful and I understand that. I promise to lead this journey slowly, transparently, and prayerfully. I will listen before deciding, consult before acting, and always keep the mission of Christ before us. My hope is that in the coming years, people will no longer ask, "Which parish is stronger?" but instead say, "Look how they love and support one another." I would like to see both communities flourish — not in competition, but in communion. Two churches, one mission. Two communities, one heart in Christ. Let us entrust this journey to the Lord. If we remain rooted in prayer and open to the Spirit, our partnership will not only strengthen our parishes but become a sign of hope for the wider Church. With gratitude for each of you and with confidence in God's grace,

Fr. Jacob Alvares, SAC.

### 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 2 March 2026

Prayer Leader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	John Hackett	Paula Eales	Mary & Charles Seong, Brian Incigneri
Thursday 9.15am	Ronnie Poskitt	Flowers	
Saturday 9.15am	Justin Tan	-	

Duty	6pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	David & Erlin Tenggara	Susan Lee	Chris De Silva
Altar Server	Lukas Lettice, Naomi Thomas, Klarissa Ryan	3 x Volunteers Required	Maria-Susana & Maria Jose Valencia, Elisha Lai
Commentator	Christina Sorbello	David Whalan	Jessica Fernando
Reader	Tony Hough	John Stone	Lena Peh
Eucharistic Minister	Ronnie Poskitt, Pat Barnes	Helen Au Yeung, Graham Perrin	John & Cheryl Hackett, Harry Lim
Welcome Desk	-	-	Margaret Yap
Greeters	Amy Noto	Rianny Tjung	Volunteer
Ushers	Volunteer	Mina Ierufi	Jeanette Alexander, Anne Boudeville
Videographer	-	-	Jerome Tan
Music	IGNITE	Joe & Bernadette Fernandes	TRINITY
Morning Tea	-	Shivanthi & Gerard Chitty	Olympia & Fed John

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

### Recently Deceased:

**Death Anniversaries:** Harold Lawless, Dominic Formaini, John Murray, John Thomas, Patricia Kennedy, Maureen Hallinan, Nilda De Marin, Doris Logan, Jack Claxton, Arlene D'Souza, John Lauritz, Jill Anne Foley, Adolf Pajank, Edward McConville, Fr Gerhard Christoph SAC, Barry Cowan, Tyronne Pires, Valeria Rac, Lawrence Augustine, Thomas.

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