

# ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL  
IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)**

**26 APRIL 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 Fourth Sunday of Easter, often called **Good Shepherd Sunday**, invites us to rest in the image of Christ as the shepherd who knows each of His sheep by name. In **John 10:1–10**, Jesus speaks of Himself as both the shepherd and the gate — the one who leads us to safety, nourishment, and abundant life. This passage is not just about protection; it's about **relationship**. The sheep follow because they *recognize His voice*. In a noisy world filled with competing calls for our attention, the challenge is to tune our hearts to the gentle, guiding voice of Christ — a voice that never manipulates or coerces, but calls in love. The Good Shepherd's promise is not merely survival,

but **life in abundance** — a life marked by peace, purpose, and deep belonging. This Sunday also marks the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**, reminding us that each of us is called to follow in our own unique way: some as priests or religious, others as parents, teachers, healers, or quiet witnesses of faith in daily life.

### REGULAR 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:** Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41  
Three thousand are baptised at Peter's urging.

**Resp Psalm:** Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1  
(R.) The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.

**2nd Reading:** 1 Peter 2:20-25  
Christ delivered himself up to free us from sin.

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 10:1-10

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

## READINGS NEXT WEEK:

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)

**1st:** Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7  
**Resp Psalm:** Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22  
**2nd:** 1 Peter 2:4-9  
**Gospel:** John 14:1-12

## 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. syndal@cam.org.au

**Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals:**  
T. 9802 8538  
E. syndal@cam.org.au

**Children's Ministry & Sacramental preparation: Charles, Germaine**  
E. childrensministrsyndal@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 29<sup>th</sup> April @ 7:30pm - Cenacle Room  
Rosa: 0447 111 270 / John: 0407 182 916

All are welcome ...

## GUIDED ADORATION

FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 2026

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Come spend an hour with me ...

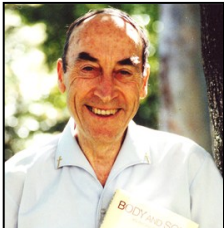
## Permanent Diaconate Information Session

2 May 2026

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and the 50s, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service. The information session is open to **everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate**. If you have attended any previous session, you are also welcome to attend this session. It is an opportunity to further discern your vocation. Wives most welcome. The session will be on Saturday morning, 2<sup>nd</sup> May and will be in person. If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison [Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au](mailto:Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au) with full name and parish, but **if you forget, then just turn up** on Saturday morning. All are welcome.

**Event Date: Saturday 2 May 2025, 10.00am–11.30am**

**Venue: Catholic Theological College,  
278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne VIC**



Rev. Fr. John Winson SAC 96yrs old  
A Pallottine Priest Returned to God on  
23/04/2026.

The Funeral arrangements are  
awaited.

## A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O God, Who chose the apostles to make disciples of all nations. Stir within the hearts of your children the courage to respond with joy and generosity to your invitation to follow you. Raise up among us many priests, deacons, and religious-witnesses of hope who will love you with their whole hearts and gladly spend their lives to make you better known and loved. Form them in the image of Christ, the Good Shepherd, and help them live each day as faithful labourers in your harvest. Help us, too, to recognise your voice in our own lives, and to support one another in discerning your will with openness and trust.  
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## BIBLE STUDIES

Practical Solutions for Sanctifying  
Everyday Circumstances

**James** An 11-part bible study featuring **Jeff Cavins**

Bible Study by Jeff Cavins and facilitated by Gwen O'Brien

St Christophers Parish - Cenacle Room

Thursdays at 7:30pm

(repeat on Saturdays from 10:00am—11:30am via zoom)

Commencing: Thursday 4th June, 2026

For Dates, please go to our website:

[Bible Study: Book of James | St. Christopher's Catholic Parish Syndal](#)

Or view the flyer in the narthex



**CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal** Next weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal (previously held during the month of August). CatholicCare Victoria is the Church's mission in action - empowering communities and building strength and resilience, to enable everyone to reach their full potential and live life to the full. Your kindness and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03) 9967 2515. "For I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Matthew 25:35).

## PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS ON FR JACOB'S 30TH ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD 29 April, 2026

We are so thankful for your presence in our parish family. Your kindness, your energy, and your love for God inspire us every day. Thank you for walking with us, praying with us, and leading us with such a generous heart. May God bless you with continued joy in your vocation.



## St Christopher's Readers and Commentators Ministers of the Word Saturday 9 May

There will be an information and training session on Saturday 9 May for all of our Readers and Commentators. An email will be sent to all with further details. Stay tuned!

# OTHER NOTICES

## Reflection from Fr Jacob

The image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd is one of the most tender and reassuring in the Gospel. It speaks of a personal relationship—of a Shepherd who knows His sheep by name, who walks ahead of them, and who leads them to safety and life. This is not a distant or impersonal God, but one who is deeply involved in our lives, guiding us with love and care. In the Gospel (John 10:1–10), Jesus reminds us that His sheep hear His voice and follow Him. This raises an important question for each of us: do we truly listen for His voice amid the noise of our daily lives? The Good Shepherd speaks through Scripture, prayer, and the teachings of the Church. To follow Him requires attentiveness, trust, and a willingness to walk the path He sets before us. The call of the Good Shepherd is also a call to conversion. In the Acts of the Apostles, Peter urges the people to repent and be baptized. Turning away from sin and toward Christ is essential if we are to remain within His flock. It is through this turning of heart that we begin to experience the fullness of life He promises. At the same time, following Christ does not mean a life free from struggle. The second reading reminds us that Christ Himself suffered for us, leaving us an example to follow. In moments of pain, uncertainty, or trial, we are not abandoned. The Good Shepherd walks with us, strengthens us, and carries us when we are weak. Finally, Good Shepherd Sunday reminds us that we belong to a community—the Church. We are not solitary followers, but members of one flock. Through Baptism, we are united in Christ and called to care for one another with compassion and generosity. Just as the Shepherd looks after His sheep, we too are called to support, guide, and encourage one another in faith. As we reflect on these readings, let us renew our trust in Jesus, our Good Shepherd. May we listen more attentively to His voice, follow Him more faithfully, and live as a community that reflects His love. For He leads us not only through this life, but into the fullness of eternal life.



## WINTER APPEAL 2026

Next weekend (2/3 May) we will be holding our annual Winter Appeal. Your support can change lives!! By donating, you help provide assistance to those in need in our community. Every contribution, big or small, makes a significant impact. Donations \$2 and above are tax deductible and receipts will be provided. You can contribute by completing the envelopes provided in the church pews next weekend, or donations can be dropped off at the parish office at any time. Join us in our mission to give a hand up, not just a hand out to those in need. Together, we can make a difference. Thank you for your support!

## Beyond the Pews From Parishioners To Disciples

By Paulist Evangelistic Ministries

**A Faith Formation program:  
for those who seek a true life of discipleship in  
Christ, beyond the pews!**

By: Fred Choy  
Duration: **Tuesday 10.30am~12.30pm**  
Sessions: May 12, 19, 26; June 2, 9, 16, 23;  
[break]; July 28; August 4, 11, 18  
Place: Presbytery, St. Christopher's, Syndal  
Cost: approx. \$10/person / \*12 pax max\*

### REGISTRATION MANDATORY

Please register **by 10 May** by submitting your name and contact number to (or for inquiries):  
**(PLS TEXT ONLY – I'll call back) 0431 950090**  
**e: discipleship@stchristopherssyndal.com.au**

### WOMEN'S HEALTH EVENT

**SATURDAY 16TH MAY, 2026 / 9.30am—11:30am**

St Christopher's Hennessey Hall,  
(morning tea provided\*)

Guest Speaker: Unna Goldsworthy

Theme: Midlife Well-being: Breathwork Tools

Cost \$25 RSVP 14th May, 2026

Book Online: <https://www.trybooking.com/DLIP>

Contact: Christina Sorbello on 0408 355 527

\* please indicate any dietary requirements

### A Spiritual Retreat for Women

*with powerful teaching and testimonies,  
followed by a healing service*

*Led by Anastasia Rebello and Team*

Saturday 2nd May 2026 (10:00 a.m. to 16:00 p.m.) St. Christopher's Parish, Syndal, 5 Doon Ave, Glen Waverly VIC 3150-  
Morning tea provided. BYO lunch

For further details, contact: Jane - 0421 527 468

Come, join us and experience the power of the Holy Spirit at Women Alive and make JESUS a part of your everyday life.

### 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

March 2026 : \$ 7,831.40

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

## 2ND COLLECTION - THANKSGIVING OFFERING

March 2026 : \$ 13,983.00

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 27 April 2026

Prayer Leader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	John Hackett	Cheryl & John Hackett	Ashley D'Silva, Carmelle Claney, Brian Incigneri
Thursday 9.15am	Mary Tan	Flowers	
Saturday 9.15am	Justin Tan	Fleur Bocarro	

Duty	6.30pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	Ida Wati	Susan Lee	Pius Tang
Altar Server	Olivia & Cameron Lettice, Klarissa Ryan	Francesca & Vincenzo Purawinata	Vincent & Rachel Ng, Elisha Lai, Josiah Paiva
Commentator	Tony Hough	Jon Chavarria	Austin Swamy
Reader	Mary Tan	Anne Choy	Luciano De Biase
Eucharistic Minister	Christina Sorbello, Pat Barnes	Graham Perrin, Marie Murphy	Genny Leeworthy, Cheryl Hackett, Brian Worcester
Welcome Desk	-	-	Margaret Yap
Greeters	Edna Louzado	Rianny Tjung	Amy Noto
Ushers	Volunteer	Eunice Wong	Jeanette Alexander, Shireen Pires
Videographer	-	-	Dilan Cooray
Music	SHINE FOR CHRIST	EFRATA	REJOICE
Morning Tea	-	Virginia Quek, Ruchika Aggrawal	Olympia & Fred John

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

**Recently Deceased:** Rev. Fr. John Winson SAC

**Death Anniversaries:** Frederikus Benjamin Wiriadisastra, Maria Eugene Peniero, Vicky Toh, Stephen Clark, Vin Burton, Winifred Lappin, Garry Dowd, Helen Wee, Bill Roberts, Kevin Worcester, Dawn Worcester, Eliza Lai, Emmie Hevern, Veronica Sime, Eileen Welsh, Sylvia Heffey, Leo Mahoney, Norah Greene, Fr Eddy Wehrmaker SAC.

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