



ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL
IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)

10 MAY 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 hope because we have been blessed with the opportunity of participating in the exaltation of Jesus. This hope is based on promises: the promise that we will not be left orphaned when Jesus returns to his Father; the promise that we will be comforted by the Spirit whom Jesus will send. It is trust in God that enables us to live in this world as if the promises have already been fulfilled, for in fact, it is precisely such living that fulfils them.

We have not celebrated the Ascension, and yet all three readings speak of the Spirit. The same Spirit, who quickened the resurrected life of Jesus, enlivens us. This Spirit strengthens, comforts, guides and inspires us. Life in the Spirit requires that we conform our lives to the commandments of God, not in a legalistic or constraining way but out of love. The love that comes to us through the Spirit will then overflow into the lives of others, and we will be agents of God's love in the world.

The Spirit given by Christ is mediated through the laying on of hands. This still happens in our day in the gentle touch of friends, in the loving touch of parents, in the healing touch of those who cure both the body and the spirit. The liturgical year is preparing us for the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, and Jesus is preparing us for life in the Spirit here on earth. This is the reason for our hope.

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 6.00 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 8:5-8. 14-17
The Messiah is proclaimed and accepted in Samaria.

Resp Psalm: Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v.1
(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18
Suffer for good deeds, not evil.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 14:15-21

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete,
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

READINGS NEXT WEEK: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (YEAR A)

1st: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

Resp Psalm: Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

2nd: Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

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
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SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: MR PATRICK GREEN
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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)

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

Anointing Mass @ St Christopher's Parish

Wednesday 13th May 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 **13th May @ 7:30pm** - Cenacle Room

Rosa: 0447 111 270 / John: 0407 182 916

All are welcome ...

Meditation Group

Tuesday 19 May @ 7.30pm

For venue contact Claire on 0423 577 676

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 contact the office for further details

Prayer for the Synod Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus



We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we
gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our
hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to
pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote
disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor par-
tiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey
together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in
every place and time, in the communion of the Father and
the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

NATIONAL COUNT OF ATTENDANCE 2026 will take

place over the first four weeks of May. You will notice a
few volunteers roaming around the church undertaking
the count.

Heads Up ...

Mass Livestreaming

Every Sunday 10.30am mass is livestreamed. For those
who do not wish to be on video please notify any of
the volunteers who are on duty at this mass or contact
the parish office. Contact details noted on front page
of bulletin.

CCTV

CCTV cameras are in operation and positioned at all
main entrances for the safety and security of our
parish community.

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



OTHER NOTICES

Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima



O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. *Amen.*

OUR LADY OF
FATIMA

FEAST DAY

MAY 13

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/DLIIP>

Contact: Christina Sorbello on 0408 355 527

please indicate any dietary requirements

A MOTHER'S LOVE—A Reflection for Mother's Day

On this Sunday when we honour our mothers, the Church invites us to pause and contemplate one of the most profound gifts that God has given humanity — a mother's love. This love, tender and selfless, enduring and fierce, reflects something of the very heart of God Himself. The prophet Isaiah speaks of this divine tenderness in striking terms: "Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you." — Isaiah 49:15. Here, God does not compare His love to the love of kings or warriors. He compares it to a mother's love — because it is that love which most closely mirrors His own. A mother's instinct to protect, nourish, and remain present through every season of her child's life is a living parable of God's faithfulness. The Catholic Church has always held motherhood in the highest esteem, recognising it not as a social role but as a sacred vocation. Saint John Paul II, in his **Apostolic Letter Mulieris Dignitatem** (The dignity of a woman), wrote with deep insight about the dignity of women and the gift of motherhood: "*Motherhood involves a special communion with the mystery of life, as it develops in the woman's womb... This unique contact with the new human being developing within her gives rise to an attitude towards human beings — not only towards her own child, but every human being — which profoundly marks the woman's personality.*" — **Mulieris Dignitatem, §18**. A mother does not simply give birth to a child; she gives herself. Her love is a school of humanity. In her arms, a child learns for the first time what it means to be held, to be seen, to be cherished unconditionally. Our reflection would be incomplete without turning our gaze to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the greatest of all mothers. Standing at the foot of the Cross, she did not flee from suffering. She remained — in solidarity, in faith, in love. The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us: "*By his dying, Christ willed to give her as a mother to his disciple. And so in giving birth to Christ, the head, she was also giving birth to the Church, his body.*" — Catechism of the Catholic Church, §963 (cf. Lumen Gentium, §53) In Mary, every mother finds her truest model — a woman who pondered all things in her heart, who said yes to God even when the path was uncertain, and who loved with a love that did not count the cost. Today, we give thanks to God for all mothers and mother figures — those still with us and those who have gone before us in faith. We honour the sacrifices they have made in quiet rooms, in long nights, in the unseen work of shaping souls. Their love, like grace itself, is rarely spoken of in grand words. It is found in small acts, repeated endlessly, out of a heart that simply cannot do otherwise. May God bless every mother abundantly. May He comfort those who grieve the loss of their mothers, and may He console the mothers whose hearts carry sorrow today.

Fr Jacob Alvares SAC



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 term, can we remind 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 * You will need your WWCC number.

This link is also available on the parish website under Safeguarding.

(* Electronic link attached)

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

April 2026 : \$ 9,099.10

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

2ND COLLECTION - THANKSGIVING OFFERING

April 2026 : \$ 12,493.00

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 11 May 2026

Prayer Leader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	John Hackett	Marie Murphy & Gladys Hough	Kate Foley, John Corin, Pauline Perrin
Thursday 9.15am	Justin Tan	Flowers	
Saturday 9.15am	Mary Tan	Elvira Dlima	
Duty	6.00pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	David & Erlin Tenggara	Anastasia Darmawan	Grace Lim
Altar Server	Lukas Lettice, Klarissa Ryan, Naomi Thomas	Francesca & Vincenzo Purawinata	Vincent Ng, Josiah Paiva, Volunteer Required
Commentator	Ronnie Poskitt	John Stone	ELEVATE
Reader	Tony Hough	Graham Perrin	ELEVATE
Eucharistic Minister	Pat Barnes, Christina Sorbello	Betty Robinson, Helen Au Yeung	ELEVATE, Genny Leeworthy
Welcome Desk	-	-	ELEVATE
Greeters	Volunteer	Eunice Wong	ELEVATE
Ushers	Volunteer	Mina Ierufi	ELEVATE
Videographer	-	-	Kevin Widarja
Music	IGNITE	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: Colin Shibble, Gerald O'Dea, Sylvia Clarke, Nancye Peiper, Therese Vance, Pushparaj Fernando, Vincent Chong, Brigitt Lyons, Oscar Geer, Shirley Fairbank, Cecily Naughton, Clarice Perera, Stephanie Tatarczuk, Lucy Marino, Anton, Anna & Michelle Bertovic, Rachael Natasha Johan, Francis Tuckett, Henry Benda, John Rudd, Mark Thomas, Margaret Foley, Brian James Clarke, Jack Eva, Michael Samuels, Vincenzo Motto, Corazon Garrote Fernandez, Rodolfo Osorio Lafradez Sr., Corazon Tanjutco, Avelino Tanjutco.

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