

ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL
IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

2 AUGUST 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...

Jesus nourishes us. In a world that is fraught with meaninglessness, he offers purpose; to a world that is stumbling in darkness and confusion, he provides direction. He satisfies the hungry heart; he enlivens the drooping spirit. Those who follow Jesus will never be left to languish in the desert. If we but open our eyes, we will be amazed at the bountifulness of the nourishment that is provided for us. We will discover that God is magnanimous, even prodigal in giving, that God's generosity exceeds all of our expectations and also our understanding. Furthermore, we are nourished by God through the ministry of each other, through the simple things of life, (distributing bread and gathering up the fragments): visiting the sick and consoling the grieving; caring for a child and giving aid to an elder; bagging groceries and directing a choir. If we but open our eyes, we will be astounded at how ordinary actions can satisfy our hunger and the hunger of others. Most amazing of all is that this nourishment is given freely; there was no thought of requiring payment. God simply invites: Come! All we have to do is reach out our hands to receive and we will never be sent away to find nourishment for ourselves. We will discover that a bond is established that endures. Jesus is filled with compassion, a compassion that is not a fleeting emotion, but an enduring attitude. Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ.

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: Isaiah 55:1-3

Come to the water.

Resp Psalm: Ps 144:8-9, 15-18. R. v.16

(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.

2nd Reading: Romans 8:35, 37-39

Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word
that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

READINGS NEXT WEEK: NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

1st: 1 Kings 19:9,11-13

Resp Psalm: Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

2nd: Romans 9:1-5

Gospel: [Matthew 14:22-33](#)

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 SAC
E. jacob.alvares@cam.org.au

PARISH SECRETARY/VENUE HIRE:
T. 9802 8538
E. syndal@cam.org.au

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

Elevate: Chelsea Lim
E. elevateyouthminister@gmail.com

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals:
T. 9802 8538
E. syndal@cam.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 dePaul:
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

Seniors Mass @ Holy Saviour Parish

Wednesday 12 Aug - 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 ****

CHARISMATIC Prayer Group

Wednesday 12 Aug @ 7:30pm Cenacle Room
Rosa: 0447 111 270 / John: 0407 182 916

All are welcome ...



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SOLEMNITY MASS

**@ ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH &
HOLY SAVIOUR PARISH**

FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST : VIGIL MASS 7PM

SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST : 9:15AM

(Only at St Christopher's Parish)

Melbourne Synod 2026 – Theme Paper Release

Synod theme papers

The Synod theme papers are an important step in our journey of listening and discernment as we prepare for the Melbourne Synod. The papers aim to foster a spirit of hope and imagination—trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal, and deeper communion.

Conversation in the Spirit process

The suggested reflection process is 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. This process is based in prayer and allows people to come together to both speak and to listen. Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us. A guide to this process is attached.

How do we provide feedback?

At the conclusion of each theme paper, there are prompt questions for reflection. Responses to these prompt question can be provided via the QR code or the website address which is at the end of the paper.

**To access the Theme Papers, click on
QR Code**



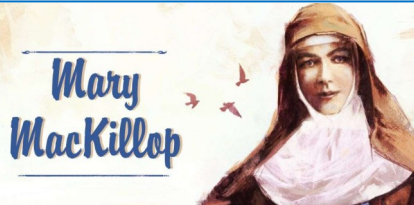
PRAISE AND WORSHIP

**WITH FIRST FRIDAY MASS
& ADORATION**

7 August, 2026

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

music by Elevate



FEAST DAY - 8 AUGUST

Mass:

Saturday 9:15am

@ St Christopher's

Loving God, we thank you for the example of Mary MacKillop who, in her living of the Gospel witnessed to the human dignity of each person. She faced life's challenges with faith and courage. We pray through her intercession for our needs. May her holiness inspire us to be people of hope, love and forgiveness. We make this prayer through Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Wedding Anniversaries

We praise you, O God, we bless you, Creator of all things, who in the beginning made man and woman that they might form a communion of life and love. We also give you thanks for graciously blessing our family so that it might present an image of Christ's union with the Church.



We exist to serve the people of God, enabling the Gospel of Jesus Christ to come alive in our community"

Would you like to explore the Catholic Faith? The team of RCIA welcomes participants to join the 2026 program starting on

Thursday 20 August 2026.

RCIA Co-ordinator: Alison Trudgett

Queries and registration via Parish Secretary

T: 9802 8538, E: syndal@cam.org.au

National Vocations Awareness Week

Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.



PARISH / OTHER NOTICES

Malaysian/Singaporean Foodfest Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 August 2026

Fellowship Hub

Pre-order your food packs and desserts by completing the order form located in the Narthex.

***Pre-order closes this Sunday 2 August after 10.30am mass*

Note: Saturday 6pm
(only Fried Vermicelli/Noodles available)

Limited food packs will be available for sale after each mass on 8 & 9 August.

Russo Estate Winery Outing, Diggers Rest

Thursday 3 September 2026
10:45AM

Seniors Lunch

2 Course \$23.90 | 3 course \$28.90

A la carte menu available for non-seniors

Transport can be arranged if required.
Sign up sheets in the Narthex or message
Mary Tan 0420 712 972 by **9 August**.

Fr Jacob's Reflection ...

"They All Ate and Were Satisfied" (Matthew 14:13–21)

The feeding of the five thousand is far more than an extraordinary multiplication of loaves and fish. It reveals the very heart of Jesus—a heart moved by compassion for every human need. Faced with the vast crowd, Jesus did not send them away. He saw both their physical hunger and the deeper longing beneath it. He satisfied their empty stomachs with bread, and in time, he would go on to feed the whole world with the Bread of Life—his own Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist. This Gospel speaks with striking relevance into our world today. We live in an age where **millions still suffer the devastating effects of war, violence, famine, and displacement. Families are driven from their homes, children go to bed hungry, and countless people lack even the basic necessities of food, clean water, shelter, or safety.** Theirs is a **hunger that goes beyond bread—a hunger for peace, dignity, hope, and love.**

Jesus' words to his disciples carry the same urgency now as they did then: **"You give them something to eat."** This is a **call to move beyond feeling sympathy toward taking compassionate action.** None of us can resolve every crisis facing our world, but each of us has something to offer. Through our support of relief agencies, our parish outreach, our charitable works, and our simple acts of kindness, what little we give can become, in God's hands, a source of abundant grace.

The question, then, is this: do we truly stop to consider one concrete way we might feed another's hunger—whether physical or spiritual—through a donation, a visit, a shared meal, or simply by offering our attentive presence to someone who is struggling?

This miracle also points to a deeper truth: the hunger at the centre of every human heart is a hunger for God. Bread nourishes us for a time, but only Christ can satisfy our hunger for meaning, for forgiveness, for peace, and for eternal life. Each time we gather at the altar, Jesus feeds us again with himself, strengthening us to become, in turn, bread broken for others.

As disciples of Christ, we are called to receive this gift with grateful hearts and to let our lives become living signs of his compassion. May the Eucharist shape us into people who see the hungry, welcome the stranger, comfort the grieving, and labour for a world where every person knows both the nourishment of daily bread and the life-giving love of Christ.

Pray: Lord Jesus, Bread of Life, make me an instrument of your compassion, that all who hunger may be satisfied.



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

June 2026 : \$ 7,556.70

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

2ND COLLECTION - THANKSGIVING OFFERING

June 2026 : \$ 11,507.10

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 3 August 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		
Saturday 9.15am	Louise Pagliaro		
Duty	6.00pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	David & Erlin Tenggara	Felcon Gatab	Grace Lim
Altar Server	Lukas & Cameron Lettice, Naomi Thomas	Malone De Silva, Klarissa Ryan	Vincent & Rachel Ng, Beatrice Li
Commentator	Grae Widarja	John Stone	Julian Tan
Reader	Mary Tan	Phil Green	Luciano De Biase
Eucharistic Minister	Ronnie Poskitt, Marie Murphy	Betty Robinson, Brigid Chan	John & Cheryl Hackett, Brian Worcester
Welcome Desk	-	-	Loretta Stapleton
Greeters	Amy Noto	Eunice Wong	Cynthia Boudeville
Ushers	Volunteer	Alvennia Winata	Chris De Silva, Anne Boudeville
Videographer	-	-	Jerome Tan
Music	IGNITE	Joe & Bernadette Fernandes	TRINITY
Morning Tea	-	Malaysian / Singaporean FoodFest	Malaysian / Singaporean FoodFest

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

Recently Deceased:

Death Anniversaries: Lorraine Corin, Marjorie Martin, Jessie Chan, Vladislav Trpak, Kevin Hough, James North-Coombes, Margaret Kelly, Peter Li, Joe Seery, Guiseppe Pulvirenti, Tindara Giliberto, Bela Biro, Patricia Behan, Sr Genevieve Jeffrey PBVM, Imelda Doyle, Akos Budai, Br John Philis SAC, Helen Lauritz, Thomas Morton, Jean Hill, Kevin Murray, Mary Rowe, Eric Robin Donovan, Leina Bardsley, John & Esmay Clements, Terry O'Brien, Simon Yap, Kitty O'Dowd, Sebastian D'silva.

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