



ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL
IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

9 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...

Although divine power is manifested in dramatic ways, it is also present in what is unassuming. Traces of God can be seen in the delicacy of a violet, in a cool summer breeze, in the blush of innocence, in the fiery eyes of justice. Every one of us lives in the midst of God, breathes the breath of God's life, and is constantly touched by the exquisite artistry of God's creativity. Life itself is a mountain experience of God. As wonderful as life may be, it can also be very frightening at times. There are misunderstandings and rancour, jealousy and vindictiveness, greed and a hunger for power. Our personal lives can come unravelled and we can feel that we are genuinely 'at sea'. Every human being is tossed about by the exigencies of life. It is at times like these that we need faith in Jesus. Even though we do not recognise him, he is there in the midst of our chaos. Having the power of God, he is the definitive champion of all chaos, and so he is able to allay our fears and calm the sea.

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

A true experience of God, whether it be within the ordinariness of life or one of life's tribulations, is both transformative and effusive. It is a reality that cannot be contained; it must be proclaimed. Disciples must be ready to do what they can in order that the good news of God's revelation be made known to others.

READINGS THIS WEEK (YEAR A)

1st Reading: 1 Kings 19:9-11-13
The Lord passes by Elijah as a whisper.

Resp Psalm: Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8
(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

2nd Reading: Romans 9:1-5
Serving Christ involves some pain.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

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

1st: Isaiah 56:1-6-7
Resp Psalm: Ps 66:2-3 5-6. R. v.4
2nd: Romans 11:13-15. 29-32
Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

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. elevateteenminister@gmail.com

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals:
T. 9802 8538
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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 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

CHARISMATIC Prayer Group

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



*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



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)

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.



ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2026

IN THE CHURCH AT 11AM

To Register, please email the
parish office: syndal@cam.org.au

*** must have received 1st Holy Communion to participate ***



Cheese and Wine evening : Fri 4 Sept: New Parishioners Welcome!

We would like to invite our new parishioners to an informal Wine and Cheese evening on
Friday 4th September at 6-7 pm, Cenacle.

The purpose of the evening is to welcome all new parishioners to our parish family.

If you wish to attend, please RSVP to our Hospitality Co-ordinator Cynthia via email cboudev@gmail.com



Joy Shelley, Canossian Sister

Age, 97 years

Who was called home to be with our Lord on 4th August, 2026

Let us pray for her soul and thank our Lord for her service here at St Christopher.

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 will be away at the Clergy's Conference from Monday 11th August—Friday 14th August.

There will be NO Morning masses,
Communion Services will be held instead on:

Tuesday 12th August, 9.15am @ SC's

Friday 14th August, 9.15am @ HS

Morning Mass is only available on
Thursday 13th August, 9.15am @ SC's

SENIORS MASS

WEDNESDAY 12TH AUGUST @ Holy Saviour

12 noon in the Church, followed by lunch.

Please bring a plate to share. Coffee/tea will be provided. **All are**

St Christopher's Tennis Club's excellent *en tout cas* courts are now available for casual bookings - use the Booking button at <https://play.tennis.com.au/stchristopherssyndaltennisclub>.

Cost is just \$10 per hour per court for a special introductory period. Lights are available using \$2 coins - six coins per hour. *Come and try!*

Any questions contact Club President

Jack Krohn on 0433 124 473.

ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN 2026

The 2026 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a one time or monthly pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. Brochures with more information can be found around the church. Online (direct debit or credit card) donations are the most secure and preferred method of donating and can be made via the QR code located on the campaign material. You can also donate via the supplied campaign envelopes or anonymously via cash directly into the collection plate during the campaign weekends.



PARISH / OTHER NOTICES

Melbourne Archdiocesan Synod

What is the Holy Spirit saying to us and the Archdiocese?

Let's come together and share our collective wisdom led by the Holy Spirit.

Schedule of Conversations in the Spirit Sessions
(One and a half hours)

Venue: Fellowship Hub

Tuesday 11 August 10am

Theme: Missionary Leadership

Thursday 13 August 10am

Theme: Formation and Participation

Saturday 15 August 3pm

Theme: Missionary Leadership

Tuesday 18 August 10am

Theme: Young Discipleship

Wednesday 19 August 10am

Theme: Formation and Participation

Zoom Sessions

Thursday 13 August 7.30pm

Theme: Missionary Leadership

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86383516411pwd=PTgJB9ha8YuoRepayKewJtowEacaNK.1>

Thursday 20 August 7.30pm

Theme: Formation and Participation

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83996811555pwd=rbCnD2bA3udHoCNBCaAM4N4nHtbA2V.1>

Fr Jacob's Reflection ...

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, St Francis of Assisi reminds us in his beautiful prayer: **“For it is in giving that we receive.”** These simple words express one of the deepest truths of our Christian faith. Every gift we offer to God returns to us in ways far greater than we can imagine. Generosity is never a loss; it is an investment in God's Kingdom. Jesus Himself tells us, **“Courage! Do not be afraid.”** (Matthew 14:27). These words are the theme of this year's Archbishop's Campaign. They remind us that when we place our trust in God, He can accomplish extraordinary things through ordinary people like us.

The Archbishop's Campaign is much more than a fundraising appeal. It is an invitation to participate in the mission of Christ across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Through your generosity, we help to form our future priests, care for our retired and sick priests who have faithfully served God's people for many decades, strengthen the ministries of our Church, support chaplaincies, Catholic Care, overseas missions, the John Pierce Centre for the Deaf, theological education, and many other charitable works that bring Christ's love to those most in need.



Today we also give thanks for the gift of vocation. At present, our Archdiocese has **17 seminarians** preparing to become priests, with **three new seminarians entering this year**. They are saying “yes” to God's call. They need our prayers and our practical support. At the same time, we honour our retired priests whose lifetime of sacrifice has nourished our faith. Many baptised us, celebrated our marriages, comforted us in times of grief, and faithfully preached the Gospel. Supporting them is not simply an act of charity; it is an act of gratitude.

Saint John Chrysostom once said, **“Not to share our wealth with the poor is to steal from them.”** He reminds us that everything we possess is ultimately God's gift, entrusted to us for the good of others.

Saint Mother Teresa also said: **“It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving.”** God does not measure the size of the donation but the generosity of the heart.

And Saint Paul encourages us: **“God loves a cheerful giver.”** (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Each of us may not be called to become a priest, a religious, or a missionary, but every one of us is called to be a partner in the Church's mission. Through our prayers, our witness, and our generosity, we become co-workers in spreading the Gospel.

Today I invite you to prayerfully consider making a gift to the Archbishop's Campaign. If you are able, a monthly recurring gift provides ongoing support for these important ministries. Whether your contribution is large or small, it becomes part of something much greater than ourselves—the continuing mission of Christ in our Archdiocese.

As we reflect on the blessings God has given us, let us remember the words of our Lord:

“It is more blessed to give than to receive.” (Acts 20:35)

May our generosity today become a sign of our gratitude to God and a blessing for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued generosity, your faith, and your support. May God bless you abundantly.

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

July 2026 : \$ 7,442.90

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

2ND COLLECTION - THANKSGIVING OFFERING

July 2026 : \$ 13,094.80

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 10 August 2026

Prayer Leader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	Mary Tan	Angela Chin	Justinne & Juan Agapay & <i>Volunteer (Supervisor)</i>
Thursday 9.15am	Ronnie Poskitt		
Saturday 9.15am	Phil Green		
Duty	6.00pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	Ida Wati	Mary Seong	Pius Tang
Altar Server	Shaina Chaugule, Kevin Saldana, Klarissa Ryan	Francesca & Vincenzo Purawinata	Chrislyn & Celine Wawolangi, Josiah Paiva
Commentator	Christina Sorbello	Phil Green	ELEVATE
Reader	Mary Tan	Anne Choy	ELEVATE
Eucharistic Minister	Jonathan & Carrie Ng	Marie Murphy, Helen Au Yeung	ELEVATE, Genny Leeworthy
Welcome Desk	-	-	ELEVATE
Greeters	Edna Louzado	Rianny Tjung	ELEVATE
Ushers	Cathy & Beng Lee	Susan Lee	ELEVATE
Videographer	-	-	Kevin Widarga
Music	SHINE FOR CHRIST	Joe & Bernadette Fernandes	ELEVATE
Morning Tea	-	Gregory Cardoz, Lyn Lam	ELEVATE

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

Recently Deceased: Sr Joy Shelley.

Death Anniversaries: Kevin Blizzard, Aleksandra Lotocki, Patrick Greene, Clem Naughton, Anne Liew, Doreen Gleeson, Brian Schaefer, Catherine (Kit) Moar, Gwen Pearce, Phoebe Ludowyke, Gabriel Silvapulle, Fr Mark Nugent CP, Vin Walsh, Margaret Ferguson, Solita Chavarria, Joseph Phang, Petrus Krisologus Widarja, Ellen Briggs, Ted Incigneri, Ted Incigneri, Zofia Dziedzic, Josephine Miller, Lee Siew Tuan, Domenico Centofanti, Teodoro Tuazon, Juan Tuazon, Regino Cancio, Neville Saker, Aileen Landy, Sr Carmen OSB, Pang Peng Mun, Corazon Tanjutco.

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