

ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL
IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

04 OCTOBER 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 metaphor of the vineyard, cherished by both ancient Israel and the early Christians, suggests that while vines might be hardy, they are also vulnerable. So is the reign of God. It must be tended and protected from what might endanger it, so that it may produce abundant and delectable fruit. In the gospel account, the vine does indeed produce an abundant crop. In fact, it is the very productivity of the vineyard that sets the stage for the treachery described. We can see ourselves in both uses of the vineyard metaphor. There are times when, regardless of what God seems to be doing for us, we simply rebel against God's plans. We stand in defiance. There are other times when we, who are disciples of Jesus, act as if the kingdom is ours. We might even marginalise or force out others with whom we do not agree, so that we have sole control.

When we consider the justice of God, it is important that we place it within the right context, lest we create a picture of God that is

false and misleading. It is because of God's tender love for the vineyard that treachery cannot be tolerated. If we have produced unacceptable fruits, it is for our own good that God steps in and dismantles the structures that enabled us to produce bad fruit. It is appropriate that God would snatch the vineyard from our grasp and entrust it to one who will faithfully carry out God's plans.

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 5:1-7

Israel is the vineyard of the Lord.

Resp Psalm: Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7
(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House
of Israel.

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:6-9

God's peace will reign in your heart and
mind.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I
have made known to you everything I have
learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.

READINGS NEXT WEEK: TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

1st: Isaiah 25:6-10

Resp Psalm: Ps 22. R. v.6

2nd: Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

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. elevateryouthminister@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

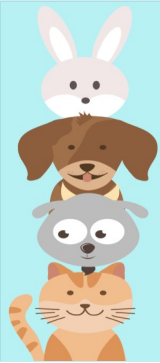
CHARISMATIC Prayer Group

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

Seniors Mass @ Holy Saviour Parish

Wednesday 14 Oct - 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 ****



PET BLESSING

In honour of the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi (feast day was 4th October), patron Saint of Animals and the environment, we invite you to bring your pets for a special blessing.
Sunday 11 October @ 12pm

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.

PARISH SECRETARY LEAVE DATES

Please note that Monica will be on leave from **Tuesday 6th October to 20th October inclusive.**

Anne (Holy Saviour Parish Secretary) will be available to assist with any queries. Parish emails will be checked intermittently.

Anne's working days:
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays)

FR JACOB ANNUAL LEAVE DATES

Please note that Fr Jacob will be away for his annual leave from **Monday 12 October to Friday 20 November inclusive.**

For any pastoral matters, feel free to contact Fr Jacob prior to him leaving.
We wish him a safe and happy journey.

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

For: Catholics

When: **Thursday 7.30pm~9.30pm**

Oct 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov 5, 11, 19, 26;
Dec 3, 10, 17

Where: Presbytery, St. Christopher's, Syndal

Cost: \$20 pp / * 12 pax max *

REGISTRATION MANDATORY

Please register **by 1 October** 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



You are invited to

Heart Women's Afternoon Tea

24th October 2026
1.30pm

St Christopher's Syndal
Catholic Parish Hall
5 Doon Avenue
Glen Waverley VIC 3150

Come enjoy a time of fun, faith and friendship

Ladies: come and enjoy afternoon tea with Heart Ministry for Women. It will be a time of **sharing, laughs, conversation, prayer and delicious food!** You can expect to leave feeling uplifted. All women are invited and you are encouraged to bring friends with you.

This event is FREE.

For catering purposes please RSVP via text message to Emma: 0439 885 509 or
info@heartministryforwomen.com.

For more information and online registration:
<https://heart.thecatholicguy.com/melbourne-atooctober2026/>

PARISH / OTHER NOTICES

Reflection ... Fr Jacob

October is traditionally dedicated to **Our Lady of the Holy Rosary**. It is an invitation for us to rediscover the Rosary—not simply as a familiar Catholic prayer, but as a school of prayer in which we learn to contemplate Christ with Mary.

The Rosary is, above all, **Christ-centred**. As we pray the *Hail Mary*, we repeatedly turn our hearts and minds towards the mysteries of Jesus' life: his Incarnation, his ministry, his Passion, his Resurrection and the glory of heaven. Pope St John Paul II described the Rosary as a “prayer of great significance, destined to bring forth a harvest of holiness.” He also called it a “compendium of the Gospel,” because its mysteries lead us through the essential events of Christ's life.

Why, then, do we need the Rosary?

We live in a world filled with noise, distraction and anxiety. Our minds are often occupied with work, responsibilities, worries and endless information. The Rosary gives us a simple and peaceful way to **stop, become still, and place ourselves in the presence of God**. The repetition of the prayers is not empty repetition. It creates a rhythm that allows us to contemplate the mystery of Christ.

St Paul reminds us: “Pray constantly” (1 Thess 5:17). The Rosary helps make this possible in the ordinary circumstances of life. It can be prayed in church, at home, while travelling, during a quiet walk, or even in moments when we are unable to find our own words before God.

The Church has repeatedly encouraged this prayer. The Catechism teaches that Marian devotion “differs essentially from the adoration which is given to the incarnate Word and equally to the Father and the Holy Spirit” (CCC 971). We do not pray to Mary instead of Jesus. **We pray with Mary and ask her to lead us closer to Jesus.**

Pope Francis has encouraged Christians to pray the Rosary as a prayer that “helps us to contemplate the face of Christ with the heart of Mary.” Mary always directs us towards her Son. At Cana she gives us the simple instruction: “**Do whatever he tells you**” (John 2:5).

Perhaps this October we can make the Rosary part of our daily spiritual rhythm. Families could pray even one decade together. Individuals could begin with one decade and gradually pray the full Rosary. Those who already pray it might renew their devotion by meditating more deeply on each mystery.

The Rosary is not a magical formula or a substitute for the Sacraments and the Mass. It is a **school of contemplation, a weapon of peace, and a path of discipleship**. Through Mary, we learn to look at Jesus closely, trust him deeply and follow him faithfully.

May this October bring our families and parish community closer to Christ through the loving hands of Mary, **Our Lady of the Holy Rosary**.

FEAST DAYS

ST FRANCIS OF
ASSISI

4TH OCTOBER



ST FAUSTINA
KOWALSKA

5TH OCTOBER



OUR LADY OF THE
ROSARY

7TH OCTOBER



FORMED[®]
The Catholic Faith. On Demand.

Now available for St Christopher's Parish - on your device wherever you are! **Sign up is FREE ...** You will find online faith formation resources for all ages such as videos, movies, Bible Studies and much more available at your finger tip. To create an account follow the prompts : <https://formed.org/signup>

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

September 2026 : \$ 8,043.60

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

2ND COLLECTION - THANKSGIVING OFFERING

September 2026 : \$ 13,190.35

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 05 October 2026

Prayer Leader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	John Hackett	Margaret Foley, Pat McCulloch, Louise Pagliaro	Margaret Carr, Margaret Campbell
Thursday 9.15am	Justin Tan		
Saturday 9.15am	Phil Green		
Duty	6.00pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	David & Erlin Tenggara	Mary Seong	Pius Tang
Altar Server	Gabriella Reuben, Kevin Saldana, Adrian Win	Francesca & Vincenzo Purawinata	Rachel Ng, Josiah Paiva, Zoe Anthony
Commentator	Mary Tan	John Stone	Julian Tan
Reader	Grae Widarja	Alvennia Winata	Volunteer
Eucharistic Minister	Carlos & Carmine Escobar	Graham Perrin Volunteer	Brian Worcester, Christina Sorbello, Volunteer
Welcome Desk	-	-	Loretta Stapleton
Greeters	Edna Louzado	Volunteer	Carol Peters
Ushers	Cynthia Boudeville	Rianny Tjung	Jeanette Alexander, Ethan Ghee
Videographer	-	-	Jerome Tan
Music	CANTATE	Joe & Bernadette Fernandes	TRINITY
Morning Tea	-	Sharon Gomes, Luz Johnson	Deepa Gurusinghe, Angela Yap

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

Recently Deceased: Silvana Ursini

Death Anniversaries: Desmond Norris, Victoria Demajo, Kevin Norris, Edward Turner, Tohir Noto, Jose Chavarria, Marie Hebrard, Francis Xavier Hagerty, Bill Fraser, Olive Fogarty, Les Malloy, Molly Jones-Ellis, Jack Krohn Snr., Kathleen Corr, Nellie Lim, Cheong Fook Wah, Kate Gleeson, Ted Piper, Angelo Costanzo, Lyn Stewart, Deanna Valles, Sheryl Van Dort, Dominic Savio Nguyen, Mircho Todorov-Verbanov, Irene Dinnie, Mrs Sampayo, Bob Walsh, Giovanni Ursini, Peter Hansen, Frank Hanrahan, Rose Gill, Dora Merritt.

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