



# ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL  
IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

*In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South*

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)**

**11 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...

Today's Gospel presents the parable of the wedding feast. A king prepares a magnificent banquet for his son's wedding and sends invitations to many guests. Surprisingly, those who were first invited refuse to come. Some are indifferent, while others react with hostility. In response, the king opens the invitation to everyone found on the streets, both good and bad, filling the banquet hall with guests. This parable reveals the generous heart of God. God's kingdom is not an exclusive club reserved for a privileged few. His invitation is offered to all people. Like the king in the Gospel, God continually invites us into a relationship with Him, into the joy of His kingdom, and ultimately into eternal life. Yet the parable also challenges us. The problem is not that God fails to invite; the problem is that people fail to respond. The first guests were too occupied with their own interests. Their farms, businesses, and personal concerns became more important than the king's invitation. The same temptation exists today. We can become so busy with work, possessions, schedules, and worries that we neglect prayer, worship, and service to others. The second part of the Gospel introduces the guest who arrives without a wedding garment. Accepting God's invitation is only the beginning. We are called to put on the "garment" of faith, repentance, love, and holiness. God welcomes everyone, but He also invites us to be transformed by His grace. Being a Christian allows our lives to reflect the values of the Kingdom. "I can do all things through him who strengthens me," remind us that responding to God's invitation is possible not through our own strength but through God's grace.

### 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 25:6-10

On this mountain the Lord will provide a feast.

**Resp Psalm:** Ps 22. R. v.6

(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord V

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

With God, Paul has strength for everything.

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 22:1-14

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

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

**1st:** Isaiah 45:1.4-6

**Resp Psalm:** Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7

**2nd:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

**Gospel:** Matthew 22:15-21

## 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. elevatemyouthminister@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



## 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**

## NO MORNING MASS

**ON Tuesday 13 October**

**You are most welcome to attend the day time mass at another neighbouring parish.**

## RITE OF ACCEPTANCE

This Sunday, we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance for our enquirers, **Janny, Sarah, Trinity, Joshua, and Jayden**, as they take an important step in their journey of faith. Let us keep them in our prayers and wish them every blessing as they continue to grow in their relationship with Christ and His Church. May the Lord guide and strengthen them on their journey of faith.

## 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 \*\***

## CHARISMATIC Prayer Group

**Wednesday 21 Oct @ 7:30pm Cenacle Room**

Rosa: 0447 111 270 / John: 0407 182 916

**All are welcome ...**

## 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.**

We wish him a safe and happy journey.

This Sunday we celebrate the

Sacrament of Baptism of

**Levi Samson Franklin**

May this sacred occasion mark the beginning of a beautiful and fulfilling spiritual journey.

God bless you always



## Mass intentions

Those who would like a mass intention to be offered up during mass, please contact the parish office.

*Mass Offering of min. \$10 welcome.*

T. 9802 8538 E. [syndal@cam.org.au](mailto:syndal@cam.org.au)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Points of interest and Catholic lore

- The wedding banquet is a commonly used image for the kingdom of God in the Hebrew and the Christian Scriptures. The feast was a symbol of the abundance to be provided by God for those who have faith.
- A Jewish wedding celebration often lasted for as long as a week, which may explain why some were reluctant to attend. Like living in the kingdom, it was demanding!



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](mailto:info@heartministryforwomen.com).

For more information and online registration:

<https://heart.thecatholicguy.com/melbourne->

## PARISH / OTHER NOTICES

### REFLECTION

#### Renewed & Sent: A Journey of Hope for Our Parish

From 1–3 October, I along with 4 members of our parishes had the privilege of attending the Renewed & Sent Parish Renewal Summit in Sydney, together with Bishops, priests, parish leaders and lay people from across Australia. It was a grace-filled opportunity to pray, learn, share experiences and reflect on how we can become a more missionary Church.

One message touched me deeply: our mission is not simply to maintain our parishes but to make disciples of Jesus Christ. We can have beautiful liturgies, many ministries and well-organised activities, but we must continually ask ourselves: Are we helping people encounter Jesus, grow in faith and become His missionary disciples?

The Summit reminded me that parish renewal begins with personal renewal. Before we can renew our communities, we must allow God to renew our own hearts through prayer, the Eucharist, the Word of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Renewal is not merely about introducing new programmes; it is about becoming a community whose life, relationships and actions reflect the love of Christ.

I was particularly inspired by the emphasis on leadership, teamwork and listening. A missionary parish cannot depend on the priest alone. Every baptised person has a unique gift and a part to play in the mission of the Church. As your Parish Priest, I am convinced that our parish will grow when we listen to one another, encourage participation, recognise people's gifts and work together with a shared vision.

Our experience with initiatives such as Alpha reminds us that people are longing for friendship, belonging, meaning and a personal encounter with Jesus. However, Alpha is not the destination; it is a beginning. We are called to accompany one another beyond that first encounter into deeper discipleship, ongoing formation, service and mission.

As we continue our journey at St Christopher's and Holy Saviour, I believe the Lord is inviting us to move from maintenance to mission, from spectators to participants, and from simply belonging to the parish to actively living and sharing our faith. This is not about doing more for the sake of activity, but about becoming more intentional in everything we do.

Dear parishioners, renewal is not the responsibility of a few; it is a calling for all of us. Let us ask the Lord together: What is the next step You are inviting our parish to take? How can I contribute to this mission?

The Summit was called **Renewed & Sent** because Jesus renews us not for ourselves alone, but so that we may bring His love and hope to others. May the Holy Spirit renew our hearts, unite us in purpose, and send us out as joyful missionary disciples, bringing Christ to everyone we meet.

With gratitude and prayers,  
Fr Jacob



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 12 October 2026

| Prayer Leader        | Reader                        | Prayers of the Faithful                  | Counters                                  |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 9.15am       | Mary Tan                      | Cheryl & John Hackett                    | Kate Foley,<br>Justinne & Juan Agapay     |
| Thursday 9.15am      | Ronnie Poskitt                |                                          |                                           |
| Saturday 9.15am      | Louise Pagliaro               |                                          |                                           |
| Duty                 | 6.00pm                        | 8:30am                                   | 10:30am                                   |
| Sacristan            | Ida Wati                      | Anastasia Darmawan                       | Chris De Silva                            |
| Altar Server         | Olivia Lettice, 2 x Volunteer | Malone De Silva, Daniela Ho, Benjamin Ho | Chrislyn Wawolangi, Adrian Win, Volunteer |
| Commentator          | Carmen or Carlos Escobar      | Alvennia Winata                          | ELEVATE                                   |
| Reader               | Mary Tan                      | Jon Chavarria                            | ELEVATE                                   |
| Eucharistic Minister | Pat Barnes, Marie Murphy      | Helen Au Yeung, Betty Robinson           | ELEVATE, Harry Lim                        |
| Welcome Desk         | -                             | -                                        | ELEVATE                                   |
| Greeters             | Volunteer                     | Volunteer                                | ELEVATE                                   |
| Ushers               | Catherine & Kelvin Loo        | Volunteer                                | ELEVATE                                   |
| Videographer         | -                             | -                                        | Brett Lettice                             |
| Music                | SHINE FOR CHRIST              | Joe & Bernadette Fernandes               | ELEVATE                                   |
| Morning Tea          | -                             | Jason Chia, Lyn Lam                      | ELEVATE                                   |

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

### Recently Deceased:

**Death Anniversaries:** Elsie Armstrong, Peter Tuckett, Joseph Chye Lim, Gregorio Maugeri, Paul Donovan, Anna Thurzsky, John Francis Carter, Beryl Aponso, Julie McGrath, Angela Gwynne, Valentine Debeljak, Stanley Lyons, Carl & Winifred Rawlins, Brooke Morgan-Payler, Con Crowe, Patricia Wignell, Keith Hanson, Joy King, Pat Wilson, Chai Yew Cheng, Earle de Niese, Tom Millett, Fr Roger Ryan, Jaskola Marta, Doug Cook, Les Stivala.

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