



ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL
IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

18 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 frequency with which we consider the question of insider-outsider is an indication of how important universalism and the breaking down of boundaries is within our religious tradition. All peoples, all lands are called on to praise God. Furthermore, God cares about and cares for all people (see Is 19:25), and God works through all people to accomplish good in the world: Gandhi, a Hindu of Indian origin; Martin Luther King, Jr, a Baptist minister; Susan B. Anthony, a suffragist; Nelson Mandela, a Black South African, etc. Human beings have always realised that, in comparison with the grandeur and expansiveness of the universe within which they live, they are weak and vulnerable creatures. This has led them to believe in and offer homage to a divine being, or beings. Praise of God has always been an expression of awe and gratitude as well as humility.

If neither gender, nor race, nor age, nor class nor culture qualifies one for being an insider, what does? Today's readings suggest that it is service of others. In breaking down the walls of prejudice, the social activists of our own age liberate not only the oppressed groups to which they belong, but also those who oppress them. The lives of these dynamic people show us that service of others draws them into our circles and encircles us in theirs. With open arms God invites all into an embrace of divine love. As God has embraced us, so we are called to embrace all others.

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 45:1-6

I am the Lord, there is no other.

Resp Psalm: Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7
(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5
Paul greets the Thessalonians.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars; you
are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on
those who fear him, who hope in his
merciful love, to rescue their souls from
death, to keep them alive in famine.

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

1st: Exodus 22:20-26

Resp Psalm: Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

2nd: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

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
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ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH ADDRESS:
184 BLACKBURN RD, SYNDAL

RCIA: Alison Trudgett
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**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 21 Oct @ 7:30pm Cenacle Room

Rosa: 0447 111 270 / John: 0407 182 916

All are welcome ...

MELBOURNE ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD 2026

We are pleased to announce that Phil Green, a member of the Parish Leadership Team (PLT) has been appointed by the Archbishop to be a member representing the Eastern region to participate in the Archdiocesan Synod taking place in December. He is 1 of 15 representatives from our region.

We thank Phil for accepting the appointment and wish him a fruitful and meaningful time during the Synod.



ALL SOULS DAY 2 NOVEMBER 2026

Mass times:

9.15am @ Holy Saviour
and

7.00pm @ St Christopher's

DID YOU KNOW?

Points of interest and Catholic lore

- The Herodians are mentioned only three times in the New Testament as a group within Jewish society (Mark 3:6; Mark 12:13; Matthew 22:16). In all three texts, they are aligned with the Pharisees in trying to entrap Jesus. They may have been supporters of the rule and policies of Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, ruler of Galilee during Jesus' lifetime.
- The first 'Caesar' was Gaius Julius Caesar, a Roman general, who emerged from the civil wars as the sole ruler of the Empire in 45 bc. After his murder the following year, his grand-nephew Octavian (Augustus) took over as ruler and adopted the name 'Caesar'. From then onwards, all rulers of the empire were known as 'Caesar'. The Caesar during Jesus' public ministry was Tiberias.



On 18 October 2026, the Catholic Church will mark the 100th World Mission Sunday. The annual celebration—traditionally the penultimate Sunday in October—invites Catholics to look beyond the boundaries of their own parish, diocese and country and remember something fundamental: we belong to a Church without borders.

As we mark **100 years of World Mission Sunday**, the Church gathers in a spirit of unity, prayer, and generosity. Across continents, communities come together to celebrate a shared calling that transcends borders, languages, and cultures – a living expression of a Church united in Christ and sent forth in mission. Chosen by Pope Leo XIV, the theme for World Mission Sunday 2026 has been announced as *'One in Christ, united in mission'*. It invites us to be rooted in unity with Christ and with one another, and calls us to walk together as sisters and brothers, bringing hope, compassion and the Good News to communities near and far.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday 27 November

Combined Reachout Mass & Volunteers
Appreciation Evening

Friday 4 December

Christmas Concert

Sunday 6 December

Advent Penitential Service

More details for the above will follow.



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->

PARISH / OTHER NOTICES

****REFRESH AND REDISCOVER: OPEN RCIA SESSIONS FOR ALL PARISHIONERS****

Would you like to refresh and deepen your knowledge of the Catholic faith? This year we are opening selected sessions of the RCIA programme to the whole parish under the title ****Refresh and Rediscover****.

These welcoming sessions are an ideal way to improve your understanding of key Catholic teachings, ask questions, and rediscover the beauty of our faith alongside the RCIA community. No prior knowledge is required and everyone is warmly invited.

All sessions take place at:
7:30 pm on Thursday evenings
in the Fellowship Hub
at St Christopher's Parish, Syndal.

****Dates and topics:****

- * Thursday 29 October 2026 — Eucharist and the Mass
- * Thursday 5 November 2026 — Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick (with practical demonstration)
- * Thursday 12 November 2026 — Holy Orders and Matrimony
- * Thursday 3 December 2026 — Christian Models, Catholics & Mary (Mary as Apostle)
- * Thursday 21 January 2027 — Christian Morality & Christian Decision Making
- * Thursday 4 February 2027 — Catholic Values & Virtues, Christian Communities and Differences

Just come along — no registration needed.
For more information contact Justin Tan
(justin@tuenproductions.com) or the Parish Office on
9802 8538.

JAM, HONEY & CHILLI OIL FUNDRAISER

St Christopher's School Parents Association
Pantry staples for your home, meaningful support for our school... win-win! All proceeds will go towards putting up a shade sail and improving the friendship garden for our kids. Please select the first option 'N/A' for the 'Grade' selection on the form.

Place as many orders for yourself, friends, and family here before 22 October. Online order form: <https://form.jotform.com/262488146845065>

Please see flyer on the noticeboard for further information

Repose of the souls of Josephine Motta and Dianne Greene

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Josephine Motta** who passed away on **Thursday 8 October 2026** and **Dianne Greene** who passed away on **Thursday 13 October 2026**.

We extend our heartfelt condolences and prayers to Josephine's family and Dianne's family and loved ones during this time of loss. May the comfort and peace of Christ be with them.

Funeral of Josephine Motta

Date: Wednesday, 21st October 2026
Held at: St Christopher's Parish
Time: 11.00am funeral mass

Funeral of Dianne Greene

Date: Thursday, 22nd October 2026
Held at: St Christopher's Parish
Time: 11.00am funeral mass
Refreshments: Fellowship Hub

Commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Peace held in Assisi on 27th October 1986

The 27th October marks the 40th anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Peace in Assisi. In 1986, Pope John Paul II invited world religious leaders to come to Assisi to fast and pray for peace. This was a milestone in interreligious dialogue that communicated a powerful symbolic message to the world – the spirit of prayer and non-violence. Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, Zoroastrians, leaders of African and American Traditional Religions and of Shinto took part in this event. His Eminence, George Jacob Cardinal Koovakad, prefect for the Dicastery for Inter-religious Dialogue, remarked that the 27 October 1986 was a turning point in the history of interreligious dialogue, becoming a lasting symbol of the Church's commitment to promoting social justice, moral well-being, peace and freedom for the benefit of all. His Eminence acknowledged that the anniversary will be commemorated in Assisi on 27 October 2026 in the presence of the Holy Father. He extended an invitation to each local Church community to find appropriate ways to commemorate this historic milestone.

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 19 October 2026

Prayer Leader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	John Hackett	Pauline Perrin	Genny Leeworthy, Brian Incigneri Volunteer
Thursday 9.15am	Justin Tan		
Saturday 9.15am	Phil Green		
Duty	6.00pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	Paul Liew	Felcon Gatab	Robert Vecchio
Altar Server	Mikaela, Raphaella & Raziel Reuben	Olivia Lettice, Louraine Gatab	Maria Jose Valencia, Zoe Anthony, Harry Sanil
Commentator	Tony Hough	Anne Boudeville	Ian Darmawan
Reader	Kevin Widarja	John Stone	Mikhail Santosa
Eucharistic Minister	Christina Sorbello, Volunteer	Brigid Chan, Graham Perrin	Justin Tan, John & Cheryl Hackett
Welcome Desk	-	-	Anne Boudeville
Greeters	Angelina Cubinar	Sharon Gomes	Althia Mohan
Ushers	Volunteer	Susan Lee	Lyn Lam, Elvira Dlima
Videographer	-	-	Louie & Julian
Music	GRAE'S GROUP	RECORDED MUSIC	CHRISTY'S GROUP
Morning Tea	-	Gregory Cardoz, Harendra	Genny Leeworthy, Anne Liston

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

Recently Deceased: Dianne Greene, Josephine Motta

Death Anniversaries: Lillian Belleville, Nancy Natoli, Ariel Arboleda, Sr Mary Esler RSM, Phero Pham Hong Thai, Helen Wilson, Jose Mamet, Maureen Roney, Ted Poole, Jack Wilson, John Brideson, Isobel Joseph, Kyran Day, Denis O'Brien, Bryant de Niese, Cornelia Vogels, Anthony O'Brien, Allan Sadler, Jim Malloy, Flo Bouloux.

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