ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL

IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

ALL SAINTS (YEAR A) **01 NOVEMBER 2026**



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 we celebrate the memory of all the baptised who have gone before us and whose lives were virtuous. The saints of God are all those who have been baptised into Christ, who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. We all know people whose lives were steeped in genuine holiness. The life of every one of us has been blessed by their goodness. This is a day for us to remember and to celebrate their holiness. We celebrate the lives of all those who have been marked with the sign of faith, those who have been canonised by the church, those whom we have known personally as well as those whose names we do not know. In the beatitudes listed in today's gospel we are given examples of what it means to live lives of holiness. This gospel really does not present a blueprint for holiness. Rather, it offers a series of snapshots that demonstrate the holiness that is ours by virtue of our baptism. Those who have gone before us lived such lives. Today, as we remember them, we hold up their lives as examples of holiness and models for our imitation. The sentiments that are expressed and the commitment that it illustrated in the beatitudes clearly stand in opposition to the standards of the world. Their radicality may be more than some can understand, but they are traits that are recognisable by those who belong to the family of God, for they are genuine godly traits.

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: Revelation 7:2-4. 9-14
Vision of those who survive the trial.

Resp Psalm: Ps 23:1-6. R. see v.6
(R.) Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:1-3
We are already children of God.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

READINGS NEXT WEEK: 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

1st: Wisdom 6:12-16
Resp Psalm: Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2
2nd: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

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

CHARISMATIC Prayer Group

Wednesday 4 Nov @ 7:30pm Cenacle Room

Rosa: 0447 111 270 / John: 0407 182 916

All are welcome …



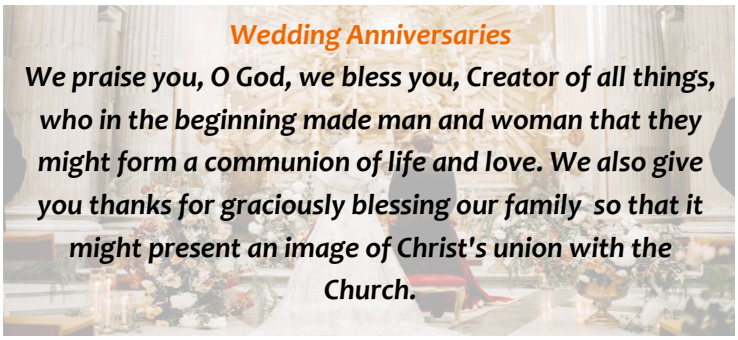
ALL SOULS DAY
2 NOVEMBER 2026
Mass times:
9.15am @ Holy Saviour
and
7.00pm @ St Christopher's



MEMORIAL MASS
WEDNESDAY, 11TH NOVEMBER 2026
7.00PM @ HOLY SAVIOUR

All are warmly welcomed to join in the candle lighting ceremony in memory of family, friends or parishioners who have died.

Please stay for a cuppa afterwards and share your memories with members of the Bereavement Group.



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.

HARK! THE PARISHES SING - CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St Christopher's and Holy Saviour parishes are joining together to present a Christmas concert, "Hark! The Parishes Sing,"

Friday, 4 December 2026
7–9 pm
St Christopher's Hennessy Hall.

Featuring musicians of all ages from both parishes, this special evening is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and family to celebrate the joy of Christmas together, enjoy an evening of music and fellowship, and get to know our parish community in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. ***Everyone is welcome!***

Anointing Masses *There will be* ***NO*** *Anointing Mass in November at St Christopher's.*

Christmas break-up

Details will be announced soon for both Holy Saviour and St Christopher's Parishes.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE DECEASED

In the Catholic tradition, November is traditionally a month of remembrance of the dead.

The month begins with the Solemnity of All Saints on 1 November and the Commemoration of the All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day), on 2 November.

In Australia, the Church has consistently encouraged prayers for the faithful departed and during November, a list of the names of the dead is usually placed in the church so that the community can remember them in prayer.

Feel free to add your loved one's names in the Remembrance Book located in the Church.

REMEMBRANCE DAY - ALL SOULS

For those who have passed on from **1 November 2025 to 31 October 2026,** we would like to include their names and pictures on the screen at the following masses:

Saturday 7 Nov 6pm
Sunday 8 Nov 8.30am & 10.30am

If you could kindly send through the name, date of birth, date of death and a photo to the parish office.
Parish Office Email: syndal@cam.org.au

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 6 December Advent Penitential Service

More details for the above will follow.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENING
FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

We invite all parishioners of Holy Saviour and St Christopher's who contribute to Parish life and outreach activities in a volunteer capacity, to join us for food and fellowship. The evening will commence with a Thanksgiving Mass at St Christopher's Church at 6.15 pm and will be followed by dinner at 7.00 pm at St Christopher's Church Hall.

For catering purposes, please let us know if you would like to attend. *R S V P by 15th November.*

Sign up sheets in the church foyer/narthex area.

E: GlenWaverleyNorth@cam.org.au *(Holy Saviour)*

E: syndal@cam.org.au *(St Christophers)*

PARISH / OTHER NOTICES



Who will stand for the least among us? Australians were rightly horrified by the announced livestream execution of a convicted mass murderer. While US authorities have seen sense and cancelled the livestream, they still plan to execute the man. This isn't the only execution to grab our attention recently. The failed execution of another prisoner in the US has shown there is no neat, 'dignified' way to take someone's life, despite the promises of advocates. To many Australians, this culture of death seems foreign to us. The truth, however, is that the taking of lives does occur here. The termination of the unborn at one end of life and the terminally ill at the other end is just as brutal and should be just as shocking. But, like capital punishment, the reality of these deaths is often hidden from us.

In the past week, the Labor Party proudly announced that, if reelected, Victorian taxpayers would cover the full cost of abortions for expectant mothers in Victoria. The Liberal/ National Coalition swiftly confirmed they would follow suit. Last year, Victoria made so-called 'Voluntary Assisted Dying' easier to access. Despite advocate promises about 'dying with dignity', it's not hard to find accounts of patients whose attempts to end their life using VAD have not been quick or easy or painless. Australian authorities don't often publish this sort of data, so this reality is largely hidden from us.

But do we hold in our mind and heart the stark reality of what is occurring when human lives are deliberately ended? Each person is unique and unrepeatable; made in the image and likeness of God, with inherent dignity and infinite worth that is never lost. Sadly, this is too often ignored. Australia rightly recognised decades ago that it could no longer justify capital punishment, if it ever could. We have the means to safely incarcerate convicted criminals for the rest of their lives if necessary. How then can we justify ending the lives of the unborn, whatever the reason given? Do we not have the means to support the least among us and their mothers? And with the sick and the terminally ill, don't we have the means to support them fully with love, compassion and medical care, to the end? Will politicians who advocate to fully fund one 'choice' also advocate to fully fund the alternatives? Sadly, no major political party—Labor, Liberal, National—or the Greens or One Nation is offering to really turn back the tide on this culture of death. True, no candidate or political party can ever solve every issue or be a perfect representative. When casting our votes in November we will need to weigh up the full range of issues and policies before us to decide who would best serve the common good—or least harm it. Let us pray that those we choose will govern wisely and prudently, upholding the good of all, especially the least among us.



We warmly invite you to join us in celebrating
Jesus' Birthday,
if you find yourself spending Christmas Day on your own or far from family and friends. Children welcome.
Let's share a joyful meal in good company with lots of festive cheer.

WHEN 25th of December (Christmas Day)
at 12 Noon

WHERE St Christopher's Catholic Parish
Hennessy Hall
5 Doon Avenue, Syndal Victoria 3150

R S V P
by 5 of December, 2026
via Text ONLY to Maria (0419340308)
RSVP ONLY, Strictly NO WALK INs

CHRISTMAS LUNCH DONATIONS WELCOME
Please send your contribution to:
ST CHRISTOPHERS CATHOLIC CHURCH
BSB: [633000] **Account Number:** [210603015]
Reference: Christmas Lunch
Cash donations are also gratefully accepted at the
Parish Office.

Faith in Action: An election guide from the Bishops of Victoria

Ahead of the 2026 Victorian election, the Bishops of Victoria have issued an election statement highlighting key issues for Catholics to consider when deciding their vote. You are invited to read the statement and prayerfully discern how your vote can contribute to the common good.

View the statement online at:
bit.lyStateElection2026.

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 2 November 2026

Prayer Leader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	John Hackett	Angela Chin	Ashley D'Silva, Carmelle Claney
Thursday 9.15am	Justin Tan		
Saturday 9.15am	Phil Green		

Duty	6.00pm	8:30am	10:30am
Sacristan	Paul Liew	Mary Seong	Pius Tang
Altar Server	Shaina Chaugule, Kevin Saldana, Adrian Win	Malone De Silva, Daniela Ho	Evana D'Silva, Josiah Paiva, Amber Crasta
Commentator	Kevin Widarja	Graham Perrin	Mikhail Santosa
Reader	Grae Widarja	Volunteer	Catherine Drake
Eucharistic Minister	Johnathan & Carrie Ng	Marie Murphy, Betty Robinson	Harry Lim, Christina Sorbello, Volunteer
Welcome Desk	-	-	*Volunteer*
Greeters	Edna Louzado	Susan Lee	Deanna Gutermann
Ushers	*Volunteer*	*Volunteer*	Jeanette Alexander, Chris De Silva
Videographer	-	-	Jerome Tan
Music	IGNITE	**Joe & Bernadette Fernandes**	TRINITY
Morning Tea	-	Shamalka Fernando & Family (tbc)	Olympia & Fred John

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

Recently Deceased:

Death Anniversaries: Arthur Azavedo, Edith Griffin, Norrie Dixon, Fr John Dempsey MSC, Charlotte Skran, Nola Eliot, Enid Datanarayana, Frank O'Rourke, Sheila Edebohls, Muriel Gardener Igoe, Pat Krohn, Evars Cirups, Valentine D'Souza, Ladelina Demeterio, Jim Hegan, Peggy O'Shannassy, Ben Martanata, Des Said, Mark Atkinson, Dexter Arboleda, Brigid Keeley, Nic Chosich, Rita Davies, Bossuet Dias, John Gill, Peh Thiam Chye.

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