ST CHRISTOPHER'S SYNDAL PARISH

5 DOON AVENUE, SYNDAL

IN THE CARE OF THE PALLOTTINES

In partnership with Holy Saviour, Vermont South

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) *08 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...

The early Christians thought that all their questions about death had been answered with the resurrection of Jesus. Therefore, when loyal Christians began to die, not only did their old questions come back, but also they were plagued with new and difficult ones. Was it possible that those loyal Christians had not been loyal after all? Or worse, were the promises made by Jesus empty promises? No! Paul assures us. It is all true. Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again, and all the faithful will be joined with him. *How* it will happen, we do not know. *When* it will happen, we do not know. *That* it will happen, we are sure.

The wisdom that we have culled from life becomes the treasury from which we draw the prudence and insight needed to negotiate life's paradoxes. It throws light on our strengths and on our weaknesses; it enables us to discern what is important and what is not; it directs us to bring extra oil in our lamps. Life and the wisdom that we have acquired through it, have taught us that we can indeed trust the promises of God. They have been fulfilled in the past, and wisdom assures us that they will be fulfilled in the future. It is wisdom that cautions us to be vigilant, to be ready to adjust our plans. It is wisdom that prepares us for the night watches of life. It is wisdom that instructs us to be ready at all times.

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: Wisdom 6:12-16
Wisdom comes to those who are worthy.

Resp Psalm: Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2
(R.) My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
God will raise up those who have died in Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

READINGS NEXT WEEK: 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

1st: Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31
Resp Psalm: Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1
2nd: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

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

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.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 6 December: Advent Penitential Service

More details for the above will follow.

ADVENT DISCUSSION GROUPS 2026



Commencing 26 November 2026
(Program runs for four weeks)

Join us for our Advent Discussion Groups using the Brisbane Archdiocese resource;
" Take the Way of the Heart"

- **Thursdays, 7pm** (from 26 Nov), **and**
- **Fridays, 10am** after Morning Mass (from 27 Nov)

Location: Holy Saviour Café/Foyer
Booklet cost: $5.00

Please add your name to the sign-up sheets at Holy Saviour or St Christopher's.

Enquiries: Connie Facciolo - 0402 859 749
Selena Costa Pinto - 0416 656 223

.. Everyone is welcome ..

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!

!! MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !!

If interested, please sign up - sheet located at welcome desk. We require volunteers to assist with the set up, clean up, welcome of guests and other ad-hoc duties throughout the event. Thank you !!

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE 2026

The season of giving is fast approaching, and so is our annual **Christmas Giving Tree**!

Tree Display Dates 2026 in the Narthex
November 21 & 22; November 28 & 29
December 5 & 6

After prayerful reflection, our **Outreach Committee** has chosen to extend our generosity beyond our local community. We will be supporting **life-changing programs** for children in need, run by the **Pallotine Missions in Bangalore Province, India.**

We have been requested to provide Christmas assistance for the following missions in India;

- **St. Joseph Church Mission**, Nadiad, State of Gujarat
- **Immaculate Conception Mission** in Padrifalia, Masat, Silvassa, Dadra and Nagar Heveli, in the Union Territory, Western India
- **St. Anthony's Church Mission** of Hulsoor, in the Basavakalyan region, Bangalore Region, Karnataka
- **Muchalamba Catholic Mission** in Muchalamba village, Bidar District, Karnataka.

According to the information provided there are 152 children. This year, rather than collecting physical gifts, we are asking for a ***donation of $25 for each child.*** These donations will provide school supplies and food parcels during Christmas for these children's families in these missions. More details of the process and how to donate will be provided in coming week's Saturday/Sunday masses. Your donation will help provide essential support and care to vulnerable children in these Missions. Together, let us be the light of hope this Christmas, across borders and into the hearts of those who need it most.

For more information please contact Shivanthi Chitty (0402077783).

st christopher's christmas caroling



St Christopher's Caroling Group will be spreading Christmas cheer by visiting homes and nursing homes on **Saturday, 12 December, from 2–5 pm.**

If you would like to join the singing group or invite our carolers to visit your home, **please contact the parish office: syndal@cam.org.au**

We look forward to sharing the joy of Christmas through song!

PARISH / OTHER NOTICES

Archdiocese of Melbourne Synod 2026 Update. Melbourne Synod 2026, convened by Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli, is an important opportunity for the Church in Melbourne to discern how best to live and proclaim the Gospel in today's world. Building on the Plenary Council, the Synod on Synodality, local consultations and the Archdiocese's renewal journey, three key themes have been identified: • Young Discipleship • Missionary Leadership • Formation and Participation. During July and August, parishes and individuals across the Archdiocese were invited to contribute to the consultation process. Our parish submitted seven group responses, and we sincerely thank all parishioners who participated. Synod members recently attended formation sessions led by Br Ian Cribb SJ and Cardinal Mario Grech, focusing on prayerful discernment and the ongoing synodal journey of the Church. We are pleased that **Phil Green** from our parish has been invited to participate in Melbourne Synod 2026. The formal Synod assembly will take place from **4–6 December 2026**. Parishioners seeking further information are encouraged to explore the resources and QR codes provided below or speak with Phil at parish events. Phil can also be contacted on **0427 782 564** or at **philbygr@hotmail.com**.

Vatican's 2021-24 Synod on Synodality "Final Document".

A short video/ podcast summary.

Melbourne Archdiocese summary & response to the "Final Document" Incls the upcoming Archdiocese-level Synod.

Where you can learn much more about the Synod, including the "Synod Directory" that outlines how and why the Synod has been convened and will operate.



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.

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
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)*

APPRECIATING YOUR UNIQUE GIFTS
A FUN MORNING OF RELAXATION & REFLECTION
Personal Growth Day (Marg Attwood)
Saturday 28th November 2026
9:30am—12:30pm
St Paul's Retreat Centre
Cost $25.00
RSVP 25th November
https://www.trybooking.com/DQKFN
Contact Christina Sorbello 0408355527

Refresh, Reflect, Reconnect
Waverley Women's Network

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

October 2026 : $ 6,632.95

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

2ND COLLECTION - THANKSGIVING OFFERING

October 2026 : $ 11,797.95

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 09 November 2026

Prayer Leader	Reader	Prayers of the Faithful	Counters
Tuesday 9.15am	Mary Tan	Paula Eales	Mary & Charles Seong, Carmelle Claney
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	Francesca & Vincenzo Purawinata, Naomi Thomas	*Leader Volunteer*, Klarissa Ryan, Benjamin Ho	Maria Jose Valencia, Beatrice Li, Harry Sanil
Commentator	Christina Sorbello	Jack Krohn	ELEVATE
Reader	Tony Hough	Phil Green	ELEVATE
Eucharistic Minister	Kevin & Grae Widarja	Graham Perrin, Brigid Chan	ELEVATE, Cheryl Hackett
Welcome Desk	-	-	ELEVATE
Greeters	*Volunteer*	*Volunteer*	ELEVATE
Ushers	Catherine & Kelvin Loo	*Volunteer*	ELEVATE
Videographer	-	-	Brett Lettice
Music	CANTATE	**Joe & Bernadette Fernandes**	ELEVATE
Morning Tea	-	Shivanthi & Gerard Chitty	ELEVATE

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

Recently Deceased: Rev. Fr Brendan Lane

Death Anniversaries: Stanilas Le Guen, John Joseph McMillon, Avril Regan, Umberto Petterlin, Val Flipo, Elizabeth Serle, Bill Jeffrey, Yodley Fernandez, Gary Stewart, Patrick Nicholl, Vincent Gifford, Gerald McKenna, Anne De Roza, Nuala Smyles, Thomas Yau, Lesley Beale, Filomena Salvatore, Brian Phelan, Marion McKenzie, Amy Phelan, Ippolito De Gennaro, Kathleen Richards, Dorothy Dias, Howard Harrison, Brian Clothier.

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