



Canberra Inner North Catholic Community

Under the Care of Congregation of the Blessed
Sacrament (SSS)

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PO Box 900, Dickson ACT 2602

Parish Offices open for phone and email enquiries:
Tuesday to Friday 9am to 1pm

Physical offices re-open from Tuesday 4 February

The Presentation of the Lord | Year C | 2 February 2025

Today's Gospel is our story because it parallels the story of how our parents took us to be initiated into the Christian community. Moreover, at baptisms we have attended, we have prayed that the child being baptised will be healthy, free from harm, grow in faith and not be a cause of grief, harm or shame in later life to family, friends or strangers.

We have all met Anna in the elderly women who are the glue of our parish communities and who have held firm to their faith when those they trusted have faltered and failed. We have also met Simon - men who have grown old gracefully, who beam with delights at the sight of infants being brought into the faith community by proud and loving parents; men who have wrestled with questions and struggled with doubts but have stilled stayed faithful to God. These characters stand as beacons of hope, trust and courage for us all.

Let us pray today that, like them, we will remain true to the God who loved us into life, especially when we struggle to reflect that love to others. Doing that will lead us to the day when, with Simeon, we can pray:

'Now, God, I am ready to go home to you in peace.'

From God's Word, Daily Reflections, 2025

Parish Safeguarding Commitment

Our Parishes are committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of our children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families and carers, and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to, and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all of our thinking and action. This approach is to follow Jesus' command in Matthew 18:1-3. Enquiries or concerns please contact: Fr Anthony Riosa SSS—anthony.riosa@cg.org.au - Maria Hicks (Manager) - Phone **02 6239 9806** - Institute of Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS) ipss@cg.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Officers

Blackfriars Parish, Watson: Nicole watson.safeguarding@cg.org.au

Canberra Central, Dickson & Braddon: Barbara & Catherine: CanberraCentral.Safeguarding@cg.org.au

St Joseph's O'Connor: occonnor.safeguarding@cg.org.au

St Thomas More, Campbell: Shannon: Campbell.safeguarding@cg.org.au



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Fr Renoir Oliver Jr SSS
Facebook:

www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson

CANBERRA CENTRAL incl:
ST BRIGID'S 2 Bancroft St
Dickson ACT 2602
ST PATRICK'S 1 Donaldson St
Braddon ACT 2612
Fr Sebastian Luistro SSS

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH
58 Boronia Drive,
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ST THOMAS MORE PARISH
30 White Crescent
Campbell ACT 2612
Fr Anthony Riosa SSS
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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people, as Traditional Owners of the land where we gather today and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Entrance Antiphon - Cf. Ps 47: 10-11

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

First Reading - Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of Hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fullers' alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 23(24):7-10

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war.

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory.

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Second Reading - Hebrews 2:14-18

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Christ too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

Gospel Acclamation - Luke 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!
This is the light of revelation to the nations,
and the glory of your people, Israel.
Alleluia!

Gospel - Luke 2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: *Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord* – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

Communion Antiphon - Lk 2: 30-31

My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

INNER NORTH

Parish Secretary Position- Inner North Parishes

People are invited to apply for the position of Parish Secretary, Inner North Parishes (encompassing Campbell, Canberra Central, O'Connor & Watson). This is a part-time position of 30 hours (subject to review in 6 & 12 months). Employment conditions are subject to Clerks Award. Please email innernorth@cg.org.au for a detailed copy of the duty statement and selection criteria. Applications addressing the Selection Criteria with attached resume to Fr Anthony Riosa, SSS, anthony.riosa@cg.org.au must be received by Friday 7 February 2025.

Who Am I in God? Discovering our Christian Identity - A book by Fr Michael Lim and Dr Sunny Hong

Our own Inner North Parishioner, Dr Sunny Hong, together with Fr Michael Lim (Parish Priest, Goulburn) provide answers to this defining question in their newly published book, available now at the Canberra Catholic Book Shop.

The official book launch will be held at **11am on Saturday 8 February at the Canberra Catholic Bookshop, 55 Franklin Street, Forrest.**

CENTRAL CANBERRA, BRADDON & DICKSON

FEAST OF ST BRIGID'S 1 FEBRUARY– NOVENA

Dates and Times

28 - 31 January - 9.00am

1 February - Feast Day - 9.00am

2 February - Presentation of the Lord with Parish morning tea to follow in honour of St Brigid.

All are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE - 19TH OCTOBER 90th

Anniversary St Patrick's Church

We will have more information to follow on how you can help to mark this very special occasion.

St Brigid's Craft Group - next 5 February

St Brigid's Craft Group will be held in the parish hall at **1pm** on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Resuming Wednesday 5 February. Inquiries Trish Moore 0412324644 or Mary Boyle 0450060058.

Lost Photo St Brigid's

This treasured photo is very special to Ann and was on the altar in St Brigid's Church in November. If you know where it might be please contact Ann **0428 498 029** or the Parish Office.

BLACKFRIARS, WATSON

Mass & Reconciliation timetable changes - 1– 9 February

While Fr Renoir is on leave the following timetable changes will apply:

No Reconciliation 1 or 8 February.

Sunday Mass times will be -

2 February - 10.30am

9 February - 10.00 am

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord:

William (Bill) John Moore, Anne Whelan, Fr John Ryan, Sr Dawn Carey, Marco Falzarano, Edith Recinos.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Rodney Sleba, Gerald Tuohy, Heather Pook, Suzanne Stafford, Jack(John Joseph) O'Brien, Alice McDonald,

Florina Cabardo, Emilia Klaric, John Collett, Bernardo Altamirano, Tony Boyle.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Robin Lees, Maggie McKeown, Jenny Hodges, Peter Catlin, Deulinda Lial, Colleen Lees, Noel Tanzer, Wendy Altamore.

Prayer intentions will remain in the bulletin for four weeks. You are welcome to email the parish office if you would

Accommodation Required

There is an urgent request from a Year 12 Dickson College Student (17 year old, female) who is seeking somewhere to board as she completes Year 12 - February to November 2025. No vehicle, so needs to be a bus or walking distance from the college. If you can help, please contact Pastor Julie (St Margaret's) on 0413 540 790 or pastorjulie.stmargarets@gmail.com, for more details

The Rosary - 9.30am Sundays

Thank you to Jasmine and daughter Florence from year four at Rosary school for leading the Rosary so beautifully on Australia Day for Blessings on our country. There is still a vacancy for a leader to volunteer on Sunday 23/2 for repentance and trust in God reciting the Luminous mystery. Just add your name to the roster in the church porch with your contact details if you wish. Help is available. A roster for the Sundays in March will soon be printed. More Rosary pamphlets containing the Luminous mystery will soon be available from the parish office at the cheap cost of \$2.

ST JOSEPH'S O'CONNOR

READERS (LECTORS) – TRAINING - Saturday mornings

We are seeking new readers, including teens and young people, to join our Liturgy Team. Donna will be providing reader training and practice to anyone interested on Saturday mornings after the 8:30am Mass (9:00am).

The Men of St Joseph - 5 February

The Men of St Joseph meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. The group will be meeting in the St Joseph's parish hall this Wednesday 5 February starting with the Rosary at 7.30pm. Please contact Andrew Italiano on 0422 929 536 for more information.

Eucharistic Adoration - 7 February

On Friday 7 February from 5pm to 10pm, there will be a Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration Vigil for the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary at St Joseph's Parish Centre (next to the church). All welcome. Stay or come and go at any time during the evening.

ARCHDIOCESE

ECUMENICAL SERVICE 4 FEBRUARY

St Christopher's Cathedral 7.15 am - On behalf of Archbishop Christopher you are warmly invited to attend this special Mass. This is to mark the commencement of the Australian Parliament for 2025 - An opportunity to remember the privileges and responsibilities we bear before God and to ask for blessings on our nation.

Eucharistic Celebration of Religious Life - 9 February - Pilgrims of Hope for over 165 years
Come and celebrate the contribution of 30 different religious orders across our Archdiocese. **11am, Sunday 9 February at St Christopher's Cathedral, Manuka.**
Celebrated by Archbishop Prowse.

Contribute to the First Collection:

Account Name: Central Presbytery Fund
BSB: 062-786 - Bank Account: 00029248
Reference: Your parish location, name and intention (e.g. Campbell Smith 1st collect)

Contribute to your parish via the "Qkr!" mobile app or direct deposit:

Canberra Central : A/C Name Canberra Central Parish
BSB: 062786 A/C: 00013150 Ref: Name & Giving Number.

Blackfriars: A/C Name: Blackfriars Parish Watson
BSB: 062786 A/C: 00013341 Ref: Name & Giving Number.

St Joseph's: A/C Name: St Joseph's Parish
BSB: 062 786 A/C: 00012798 Ref: Name & Giving Number.

St Thomas More: A/C Name: St Thomas More Parish BSB: 062786 A/C: 00014869 Ref: Name & Giving Number.

MASS, SACRAMENT & DEVOTION TIMES - week ending 9 February

	Blackfriars, Watson	St Brigid's, Dickson	St Joseph's, O'Connor	St Patricks, Braddon	St Thomas More, Campbell
Mass					
Sunday	10.00am 5.00pm	9.30am 5.00pm Vietnamese Mass - 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month	8.30am	8.00am	10.00am
Tuesday to Thursday	5.30pm	9.00am	9.15am	12.30pm	
Friday	5.30pm	9.00am	9.15am	12.30pm	11.45am Resumes 7 Feb
Saturday	5.00pm (vigil)	9.00am 6.00pm (vigil)	8.30am 6.00pm (vigil)		
Reconciliation					
Friday			8.15 - 9.00am - during Holy Hour	11.30 - 12.30pm	
Saturday	4.00 - 4.30pm	9.30 - 10.00am 5.30 - 5.50pm	5.15 - 5.45pm		
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament					
Tuesday			8.15 - 9.10am		
Wednesday		9.30 to 10.30 am* (8.00am - 8.00pm resumes 5th Feb)			
Thursday					
Friday	6.00 - 7.00pm			11.30am - 12.30pm	
Saturday		9.30 - 10.00am			
Anointing of the Sick					
Sunday		After 9.30am Mass - 3rd Sunday of the month			11.15am - 1st Sunday of the month
Saturday			Within 8.30am Mass - 1st Saturday of the month		
Rosary Prayers					
Tuesday to Friday		8.30am	After 9.15am Mass	12.10pm	
Saturday		8.30am	8.15am Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help		