



Canberra Inner North Catholic Community

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

Fr Anthony (Thonn) Riosa SSS Moderator:

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innorthcg.org.au

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PO Box 900, Dickson ACT 2602

Inner North Office hours:
Tuesday to Friday 9am to 1pm

Fifth Sunday of Lent | Year C | 6 April 2025

A woman, clothing in disarray, is dragged before Jesus to test his loyalty to the Law. She must be stoned to death. There is a total lack of interest in the woman, who must be caught in the act for the death penalty to apply. Confused and frightened, she is a plaything for the scribes and the Pharisees to use against Jesus. Where is her male partner in the story? Jesus reverses that situation.

Saint Augustine described this Gospel scene as an encounter between *misera* (a deprived and unhappy woman) and *miser cordia* (the personification of mercy). Asking those of them without any sexual failures to cast the first stone, he turns away and doodles on the ground. He is not interested in their deadly legal questions.

As they all slink away, Jesus speaks to the woman. No one condemns her, least of all Jesus. She is no longer a 'thing' to be used and abused, but a person capable of a relationship with God and with other people liberated by the love of God made visible in Jesus. He asks her to rejoin society: 'go your way', and to be attentive to God: 'don't sin anymore'. This is a Jesus that we must all come to love and imitate. 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.riosacg.org.au - Maria Hicks (Manager) - Phone 02 6239 9806 - Institute of Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS) ipsscg.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Officers

Blackfriars Parish, Watson: Nicole watson.safeguardingcg.org.au

Canberra Central, Dickson & Braddon: Barbara & Catherine: CanberraCentral.Safeguardingcg.org.au

St Joseph's O'Connor: occonnor.safeguardingcg.org.au

St Thomas More, Campbell: Shannon: Campbell.safeguardingcg.org.au



BLACKFRIARS PARISH

Cnr Phillip Avenue & Antill
Street,
Watson ACT
2602

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



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

58 Boronia Drive,
O'Connor ACT 2602
Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

Facebook :

www.facebook.com/stjosephsoconnor



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH

30 White Crescent
Campbell ACT 2612
Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

Facebook:

facebook.com/st.thomasmore.campbell

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 42: 1-2

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading - Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.

The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 125(126)

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled
with joy.*

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled
with joy.*

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled
with joy.*

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled
with joy.*

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:

they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.
*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled
with joy.*

Second Reading - Philippians 3:8-14

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the
supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.
For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I
look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have
Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer
trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection
that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection
that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and
based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the
power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by
reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I
can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the
dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not
yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize
for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my
brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won.
All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead
for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the
prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ
Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation - Joel 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel - John 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he
appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people
came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.
The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who
had been caught committing adultery; and making her
stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus,
'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of
committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the
Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning.
What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test,
looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent
down and started writing on the ground with his finger.
As they persisted with their question, he looked up and
said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him
be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down
and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this
they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest,
until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who
remained standing there. He looked up and said,
'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned
you?' 'No one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn
you,' said Jesus 'go away, and do not sin any more.'

Communion Antiphon - Cf. John 11:26

Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord.
Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.

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INNER NORTH

Our new Parish Secretary - The Canberra Inner North Catholic Community would like to welcome Yassasri Sirisena (Yass) who commenced in the role on Monday, we know you will all make her feel welcome

Baptisms

Congratulations to Zamarah Barnal who will be baptized at St Joseph's O'Connor this weekend. May her life be filled with God's peace and her heart with God's love, on this Baptismal day and all days to come.



Teens Youth Group – 12 April Saturday We've got one last Youth Group for high schoolers before the term is over at **St Brigid's** at **7pm** on **Saturday 12th of April**. Join us for a talk on Blessed Carlo Acutis before his Canonisation during the school holidays. There will also be pizza to sweeten the deal! If you know anyone interested, let us know at youth.innernorth@cg.org.au.

Penrose Park: Jubilee Pilgrimage:

Saturday 7 June 2025: Join us for a special Inner North Pilgrimage as part of the Jubilee Year 2025, a day dedicated to prayer, reflection, and encounter. Together, we will journey in faith through:

- **Mass** – Celebrating the Eucharist as the source and summit of our pilgrimage
- **Reconciliation** – Receiving the grace of God's mercy in the Sacrament of Confession
- **Rosary** – Praying with Our Lady as we reflect on the mysteries of Christ
- **Fellowship & Lunch** – Sharing time together in faith and community. Please register your interest with Emily at emilykathrynhall@gmail.com. A bus will be organised to pick up and return parishioners from Holy Rosary Watson. Tentative departure at 8:30am with a return by 3pm.

CENTRAL CANBERRA, BRADDON & DICKSON

Eucharistic Encounter Catechesis - Each Tuesday evening at 5pm prior to our RCIA meetings. All are very welcome.

Stations of the Cross- During Lent the Community of the Risen Lord will be reflecting on the Way of the Cross every Friday at 7.00pm at St Brigid's Church, Dickson. Holy Mass follows at 7.30pm,

BLACKFRIARS, WATSON

ACU Graduation Mass 10 April at 9.00am - This will replace the regular scheduled time of 12.00pm

VOLUNTEERS are required for the Easter

ceremonies: Holy Thursday 12 disciples for Washing of the Feet. After the Holy Thursday Mass volunteers are needed to prepare the Church for Good Friday. On Saturday morning in preparation for the Easter Mass there are a number of jobs to prepare the Church for the

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

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

Anne Balfour O'Brien, Davina Godfrey, Joy Pollard, Uqasha Imran Amjad, Kitty Mullaney, Colin Duggan, Joseph 'Joe' Quigley, Barry Collis, Kevin Tee, Fr Kevin Flynn

IN LOVING MEMORY

Sr Joy Belt RSCJ, Paul Doyle, Norbertus Purba, Felipe Miragaya, Dominica Cortese, Helen Olsen, Tecla Perera, Clude Anthony, Isabel Barnes, Rev Francis Carroll, Felix Dennis Anderson, Kate Dwyer, James Bergin, Domingo Apolinar, Silvio Rossi

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Elsie Ong Lee, Maria Pham, Madelon Harvey, Errol Whitson, Patricia Brown, Robin Lees, Maggie McKeown, Colleen & Robin 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 like to renew your prayer request.

evening Mass. There will be a supper after the Mass to celebrate our Catechumens and Candidates help with the supper will be needed. A sign up-sheet is in the foyer if you can help with any of these tasks.

Recitation of the Rosary - We still have few copies of the 'Rosary' for sale in the parish office on Friday mornings for \$2. A reminder that the Rosary prayer will be recited at 9-20 am instead of 9-30 am on Palm Sunday 13/4. Please consider joining the parishioners who gather each Sunday morning to recite this prayer with the leader before our 10 am mass. Roster for April in church foyer.'

St Vincent de Paul Society: Watson Conference needs your help to volunteer! Watson Conference of SVDP assists community members in need in the suburbs of Watson, Hackett, Downer and Dickson. We would love to hear from you if you are able to give a couple of hours per week – particularly if you live in Dickson or attend Mass at St Brigid's. Richard Marson from your local Vinnies conference will be available after masses this weekend at St Brigid's to answer any questions you may have. Alternatively you can contact on 0466234446

ST JOSEPH'S O'CONNOR

Unpacking the Creed - As usual, we will be meeting on the second Wednesday of the month, that is, Wednesday 9 April at 7.30pm, at St Joseph's, in the parish hall. All welcome. For more information, contact Anna at Ana.Wierzbicka@anu.edu.au

St Joseph's Choir Practice for Holy Week

In addition to our regular **Tuesday 7:30pm** practice, St Joseph's choir is having an extra practice session at **2pm on 12 Apr (Sat)** in preparation for Holy Week. All are welcome.

On all Fridays of the Lenten Season. The Stations of the Cross will take place immediately after the

9.15am Mass and again at 6pm lead by the Syriac Catholic Community

Children's Liturgy at St Joseph's

St Joseph's 8.30am Children's Liturgy will be on during the next two week's masses, 4th and 5th week of Lent

St Joseph's Lectors (Readers) Reading training for Lectors will be held on the Saturday's of Lent after the 8:30am Mass by Donna. Current lectors may wish to familiarise themselves with our new microphone

ST THOMAS MORE, CAMPBELL

Please remember 2025 Parish Assembly - Sunday 6 April 11.30-1.30

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 13 April					
	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 Friday	5.30pm	9.00am	9.15am *Stations of the Cross every Friday after morning Mass*	12.30pm	11.45 1st & 3rd Friday of the Month
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	11.00-11.30 1st & 3rd Friday Monthly
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		8.00am - 8.00pm			
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 Thursday *During Lent*		8.30am	After 9.15am Mass	12.10pm	
Saturday Sunday	9.30am	8.30am	8.15am -Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help		