



# Canberra Inner North Catholic Community

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

Fr Renoir Oliver Jr SSS Moderator :

[renoir.oliver@cg.org.au](mailto:renoir.oliver@cg.org.au)

Fr Anthony (Thonn) Riosa SSS : [anthony.riosas@cg.org.au](mailto:anthony.riosas@cg.org.au)

Fr Sebastian Luistro SSS: [sebastian.luistro@cg.org.au](mailto:sebastian.luistro@cg.org.au)

Parish Secretaries: Kathie Guillester: 0416 823 447

Yass Sirisena: 0412 128 038

Email: [innernorth@cg.org.au](mailto:innernorth@cg.org.au)

Website: <https://www.cginnernorth.org.au>

Address: PO Box 900, Dickson ACT 2602

Inner North Office hours:

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 1pm

## The 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year C | 24 August 2025

One of the most important and deep-seated questions humans ask is, 'Will I be saved?' This is expressed in other ways, like 'Is heaven real? How will I enter it? In fact, almost all religions speak of offering salvation.

Who will be saved? Through a parabolic teaching, Jesus, in today's Gospel, warns those who think that entry into the kingdom is through 'ascription', that is, the assignment of status through kinship ties. The Jews may be the chosen people, children of Abraham, but their salvation is far from assured. Jesus' parable of the Narrow Door emphasises that entry into the kingdom is based not on ascription but on performance. The authentic response to Jesus' teaching entails both hearing and doing. The true disciple is one who hears the word of God and puts it into practice, bearing the fruit of repentance and good deeds. To the question of whether only a few will be saved, Jesus pictures a multitude 'from east and west, from the north and the south' reclining at the banquet in God's kingdom. Luke refers to the ingathering of the Jews from the diaspora in the eschatological times (Isaiah 43:5; Zechariah 8:7) and adds the ingathering of the Gentiles to stress the theme of universalism. The coming of the Gentiles is not a rejection of the Jews. But Jesus disabuses the Jews, especially their religious leaders, of the idea that they can rely on their status as children of the kingdom. Salvation is God's gift freely given to the Israelites, and now to the Gentiles. The Jews should welcome the kingdom with gratitude and humility, and not as something due them because of their ties with Abraham.

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 Renoir Oliver SSS—[renoir.oliver@cg.org.au](mailto:renoir.oliver@cg.org.au) - Maria Hicks (Manager) - Phone **02 6239 9806** - Institute of Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS) [ipss@cg.org.au](mailto:ipss@cg.org.au)

Parish Safeguarding Officers—while these email addresses are not available currently please send any concerns to [ipss@cg.org.au](mailto:ipss@cg.org.au)

Blackfriars Parish, Watson: [nicole.watson.safeguarding@cg.org.au](mailto:nicole.watson.safeguarding@cg.org.au)



**BLACKFRIARS PARISH**  
Cnr Phillip Avenue & Antill  
Street,  
Watson ACT  
2602

[www.facebook.com/Holy-Rosary-Parish-Watson](https://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](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephsoconnor)

**ST THOMAS MORE PARISH**  
30 White Crescent  
Campbell ACT 2612  
Fr Anthony Riosa SSS

Facebook:  
[facebook.com/st.thomasmore.campbell](https://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.

**PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is 12 pm WEDNESDAY**

P: 0416 823 447 | 0412 128 038 E: [innernorth@cg.org.au](mailto:innernorth@cg.org.au)

**Entrance Antiphon - Cf. Ps 85: 1-3**

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;  
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

**First Reading - Isaiah 66:18-21**

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 116(117)**

**R: Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News**

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples. **R**

Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever. **R**

**Second Reading - Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13**

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation - John 14:6**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel - Luke 13:22-30**

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir,

will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed. 'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Communion Antiphon - Cf. Ps 103: 13-15**

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;  
you bring forth bread from the earth  
and wine to cheer the heart.

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**INNER NORTH**

**Inner North Assembly – save the date!**

Would you like to meet with others across our inner north Catholic community to pray and discern how to build a sense of belonging and deepen our faith and share it with others? You are warmly invited to take up this opportunity. **When: Saturday, 27 September 2025, 10am – 3.30pm. Where: Australian Catholic University, Watson.**

The assembly will be preceded by 9am Mass at Holy Rosary Church and follows Pope Leo's greetings to Rome and the world on 8 May when he emphasised the need to look for 'ways to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges and encourages dialogue' and to be a synodal Church. Synodality in this context is a 'walking together' that Pope Francis explained as a 'respectful, mutual listening, free of ideology and predetermined agendas'.

In For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission – Final Document (26 October 2024), synodality is explained as 'primarily a spiritual disposition [permeating] the daily life of the Baptised as well as every aspect of the Church's mission' (para 43). A synodal spirituality flows from the action of the Holy Spirit. In Pope Francis's words: 'the Holy Spirit is a sure guide and our first task is to learn how to discern his voice, since he speaks through everyone and in all things'.

Registration and further details to come.

**RCIA meetings**

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) meetings will be held on Tuesday's from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM at St Brigid's Parish Hall. All those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith are warmly invited to attend.

Please help spread the word to anyone who may be interested.

Enquiries: [innernorth@cg.org.au](mailto:innernorth@cg.org.au)

### School of Religion

Our School of Religion will begin soon! Dates will be confirmed shortly.

Parents interested in having their child receive the sacraments (Reconciliation, First Communion, or Confirmation), please contact the Inner North Parish Office. Enquiries: [innernorth@cg.org.au](mailto:innernorth@cg.org.au)

### Adoration & Mass at ACU

Adoration will be held at ACU every Tuesday from 11:00 am to 11:45 am, followed by Mass from 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm. All are warmly welcome to join.

### Teens Youth Group - Saturday Aug 30

Our next teens youth group at St Brigid Dickson will be on once again on Saturday, August 30th at 7pm! As always, we have faith, friendship, games, and pizza for anyone who wants to come along!

Enquiries: [youth.innernorth@cg.org.au](mailto:youth.innernorth@cg.org.au).

### Combined Youth Group - Aug 31

We'll be holding another Inner North youth group at the end of this month at Holy Rosary, Watson, after the 10 am Mass. Families are invited to enjoy the Parish BBQ together while the kids work on creating a banner for the Season of Sustainability.

Enquiries: [youth.innernorth@cg.org.au](mailto:youth.innernorth@cg.org.au).

### Inner North Communio - Aug 31

Join us in St Patrick's Braddon at 3pm for Young Adults adoration! Spend time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, where we have opportunities for communal and personal adoration. Later, join the group at Hopscotch for some wings on us!

Enquiries: [youth.innernorth@cg.org.au](mailto:youth.innernorth@cg.org.au).

### Stand for Life - Aug 27

With the Australian Christian Lobby at the Babies Booties event, between 11.30am - 1:30pm on Wednesday 27th August 2025 at Parliament House in Canberra. This event is highlighting the tragedy of abortion and the many thousands of lives lost each year. Supporting pro-life MPs and Senators will speak at the event. We are praying that abortion legislation in Australia changes to protect the most vulnerable - babies in the womb.

To read more information and/or attend this event, please register your attendance - <https://www.acl.org.au/babybooties/> There is plenty of parking under Parliament House and in the car parks around. Contact for the event is Sarah at ACL - [volunteer@acl.org.au](mailto:volunteer@acl.org.au)

This is the 3rd annual event of this kind with the initial impetus to support the Babies Born Alive Bill.

### Multicultural Mass - Oct 11

Everyone is warmly invited to the celebration of the Pilgrim of Hope Multicultural Mass at St Joseph's, O'Connor, at 5:00 pm. On this day, there will be one Vigil Mass for the entire Inner North. Parishioners are encouraged to wear their national attire. Refreshments provided and you are also welcome to bring a plate to share.

## BLACKFRIARS, WATSON

### The Rosary

We are seeking volunteers to lead the Rosary at 9:30 am

## OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

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

Beryl Keelan, Denis O'Brien, Marie Forner, Fr Raphael Carbone, Bruce Unger, Robin Lees, Frank MacAlleenan, Rita Ross, Peter Cook, Winnie Resulta, Hermie Genove, Jossip Ersck, Rodney Baxter, Tony Senti.

## IN LOVING MEMORY

Betty Collett, Josepha Handoko, Michael Ekpe, Judith Imperial, Ricardo Santos, Anjalee Bowman, Joseph Edith McGeehan, Mary Goh Bie Lan, Sr Veronica Dunphy, Raymond Hawkes, Lirio Lukban, Jose Leal, Edward Kozjak, Alister Perera, Sem Anthony Cabardo, Dorothy Olsen.

## THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Pia Osmond, Monica Phelan, Catherine Demaison, James Tisdell, Denise Bergin, Una Bell, Marjorie Letts, Ewan Letts, Brian Brown, Maggie Mc Keown.

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

each Sunday before the 10 am Mass. The September roster is in the church foyer with details of Mysteries and Intentions. The microphone by the piano is to be used, and booklets can be obtained from Carmel Lewis, the parish office, or the Manuka Catholic bookshop (\$2). Even if you're not leading, please come and join in prayer and responses. Thank you.

## ST JOSEPH'S O'CONNOR

### St Joseph's Getting to Know You

The recent Parish survey revealed Parishioners want more opportunities to come together and to volunteer. As a result we are updating our Parishioner and Volunteer records. Please take a few minutes to fill in the form (scan the QR code below) your support is very much appreciated.



### ♪ Choral Vespers - Sunday SEP 14 4pm

St Joseph's Choristers warmly invite you to a peaceful moment of beautiful sacred music in honour of the Feast of the Holy Cross. Experience the richness of Choral Vespers, featuring sung psalms, hymns, and motets, followed by Benediction. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

### St Joseph's Choristers Weekly Practice: Tuesdays 7:30pm

"Qui bene cantat, bis orat" – He who sings well, prays twice. St Joseph's Choristers warmly welcome new singers to our weekly practice each Tuesday at 7:30pm in St Joseph's Church. Together, we prepare to sing worthily for God in the liturgy while sharing the many blessings of choral singing: refining our voices, learning to read music, building friendship, and deepening our prayer through sacred music. Enquiries and lifts: [stjoseph.oconner.choir@gmail.com](mailto:stjoseph.oconner.choir@gmail.com)

### Short Sayings of Jesus" group - AUG 28

We meet on Thursday 28 August from 11am-12pm in the parish hall at St Joseph's. All are welcome. Enquiries: [Anna.Wierzbicka@anu.edu.au](mailto:Anna.Wierzbicka@anu.edu.au).

## ST THOMAS MORE, CAMPBELL

### Choir Weekly Practice: Saturdays 12pm

*Liturgy is made noble in song (Sacrosanctum Concilium 113).* St Thomas More Parish Choir invites new voices to join our weekly practice each Saturday at 12:00pm in the church. Together, we prepare to lead the congregation in prayerful and uplifting liturgy, growing together in faith, fellowship, and the joy of song. All are welcome.

## CENTRAL CANBERRA, BRADDON & DICKSON

### Renovations at St Patrick's Braddon

All church schedules will continue as usual, but we kindly ask for your patience and understanding during this time. We apologise for any inconvenience—these works are for the greater good of our parish community.

### To contribute to the First Collection \*\*

Account Name: Central Presbytery Fund

Reference: Your parish location, name and intention (eg Campbell Smith 1st collect) Refer to note below regarding banking details.

**Contribute to your parish via the “Qkr!” mobile app or direct deposit:**

**Canberra Central :** A/C Name Canberra Central Parish  
Ref: Name & Giving Number.

**Blackfriars:** A/C Name: Blackfriars Parish Watson  
Ref: Name & Giving Number.

**St Joseph's:** A/C Name: St Joseph's Parish  
Ref: Name & Giving Number.

**St Thomas More:** A/C Name: St Thomas More Parish :  
Ref: Name & Giving Number.

In the best interest of safety with bank account \*\* please kindly call the Parish office for this information.

### MASS, SACRAMENT & DEVOTION TIMES

	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	12.30pm	11.45 <i>1st &amp; 3rd Friday of the Month</i>
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 <i>1st &amp; 3rd Friday Monthly as above</i>
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 - <i>1st Sunday of the month</i>
Saturday			Within 8.30am Mass - 1st Saturday of the month		
Rosary Prayers					
Tuesday to Friday		8.30am	After 9.15am Mass	12.10pm	
Saturday Sunday	9.30am	8.30am	8.15am -Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help		