



Canberra Inner North Catholic Community

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

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

Second Sunday of Advent | Year A | 7 December 2025

John proclaims the coming of the kingdom - the nearness of God - and the coming judgement. He also urges the necessity of repentance in order to welcome the Lord and to receive a favourable judgement. Repentance is more than sorrow and regret for sin; it is a new way of thinking and being, that is living in fidelity to God. John was a solitary voice; a prophet of great integrity, courage, and fidelity who did not court popularity. He spoke God's message without fear or favour and paid with his life. John was passionate about preparing the people to welcome the judge. To this end, he offered baptism - a cleansing ritual signifying the washing away of sin. When the religious officials came for baptism, John castigated them as a brood of vipers trying to escape retribution. He warned them against the presumption of salvation by claiming descent from Abraham. The only security lies in bearing the fruits of genuine repentance. It is only the good works of love - especially towards the needy and marginalised - flowing out of genuine repentance, that open wide the doors of our hearts, and so prepare the way to welcome the Lord and experience salvation.

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 - Maria Hicks (Manager) - Phone **02 6239 9806** - Institute of Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS) ipss@cg.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Officers –while these email addresses are not available currently please send any concerns to ipss@cg.org.au

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: Noel oconnor.safeguarding@cg.org.au

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



BLACKFRIARS PARISH
Cnr Phillip Avenue & Antill
Street,
Watson ACT
2602
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
Facebook :
www.facebook.com/stjosephsoconnor

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH
30 White Crescent
Campbell ACT 2612
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.

PARISH BULLETIN - DEADLINE for notices is 12 pm WEDNESDAY

P: 0416 823 447 | 0412 128 038 E: innernorth@cg.org.au

Entrance Antiphon -

Cf. Is 30: 19, 30

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

First reading -

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,
a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord
rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel
and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the
Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not
judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity
gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod
that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the
wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,
faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with
the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion feed together, with a little boy to lead
them. The cow and the bear make friends,
their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like
the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse
shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought
out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,12-13,17

***Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of
peace for ever.***

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **R**

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R**

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **R**

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **R**

Second reading -

Romans 15:4-9

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures
was meant to teach us something about hope from the
examples scripture gives of how people who did not
give up were helped by God. And may he who helps
us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be
tolerant with each other, following the example of

Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may
give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each
other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The
reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews
was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the
promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the
pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture
says in one place: *For this I shall praise you among the
pagans and sing to your name.*

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation -

Luke 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel -

Matthew 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached
in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message:
'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he
said: *A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for
the Lord, make his paths straight.*

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with
a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts
and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and
the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as
they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, they
confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of
Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said
to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from
the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant,
produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to
tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father,"
because I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham
from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots
of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce
good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I
baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who
follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit
to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy
Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will
clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the
barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go
out.'

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon -

Bar 5: 5; 4: 36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

INNER NORTH

RECEPTION OF SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Francesca Peric, Mila Sayers

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Maria Basso, Nobby Clark, John Walton, Teresita Navarro, Jean Ghossein, Monica Burnell nee' Dempster, Vera D'Ambrosio, Prof Tony Johns.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Elizabeth 'Lil' Tisdell Helen (Jelica) Zobec, Mary Boyle, Henry Gurney, Doris Mary Grech, Peter Tran, Domenica Laria, Una Ford.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Una Bell, Vivien Arnold, Gwenda Romer(nee Hewitt), Brian Brown, Maggie McKeown, Mateo Sendo, Genevieve Cuddihy, Sally Grant, Brian Brown, Maggie McKeown.

*Prayer intentions will remain
in the bulletin for four weeks.*

ST JOSEPH'S O'CONNOR

St Joseph's Parish Christmas Party - Saturday 20 December - Save the date

This will follow the Vigil Mass (6pm). Sign up in the church foyer to help us plan and cater. Please bring a plate to share if you can.

Monday 8 December - 7.30am Solemnity of the

Immaculate Conception - A special Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph's, O'Connor. Let us give thanks for God's goodness through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

December Events

Saturday 13 December 9-11am - Working bee to prepare the Church and Parish Centre for Christmas.

Sunday 14 December our last Children's liturgy for the year during the 8.30am Mass.

Sunday 20 December 7pm Parish Christmas dinner after the 6pm Vigil Mass - bring a plate to share. RSVP on the clip board in the foyer.

24 December 6:30pm - Children's Vigil Mass: children who want to participate (prayers of the faithful, readers, gifts, carry baby Jesus) please contact Donna @ donna.m.mcdonald3@bigpond.com.

25 December morning tea after 9am Mass. Bring a plate to share.

Important notice re recitation of the Rosary.

The Rosary will continue to be prayed each Sunday morning at 09-30 am before the 10 am mass throughout

BLACKFRIARS, WATSON

Advent. Changes to this arrangement are likely to take place next year and you will be notified of these as soon as possible. Thank you to those few parishioners who

have faithfully supported the leaders, Siobhan Tanzer, Belle Joseph, Jane Schunghamer, Jasmine and Florence Hope and myself, Carmel Lewis in reciting the prayer, by your attendance and responses at this time.

Save the Date for a family BYO picnic and carol singing on 20 December following the 5pm Mass at Holy Rosary Watson. Stay Tuned, more info to follow.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal - The Watson St Vincent de Paul Society is holding its annual Christmas Appeal as a leaving collection at masses next weekend - 13-14 December. You will be able to donate via cash, eftpos machines and online. There will be more information on donation options in next week's bulletin. We look forward to your support for this important appeal to assist families in need in our region.

Christmas Hampers - There is a box for non-perishable food donations towards Christmas hampers at the entrance to the church. As ever, we are unable to accept nut products.

Congratulations

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to **Doctor Belle Joseph** on the publication of her book: *Trauma and Meaning in French Concentration Camp Poetry (1943-1945): Ravensbruck*

CENTRAL CANBERRA, BRADDON & DICKSON

Tickets still available- Christmas Lunch - Saturday, 13 December - St Brigid's Parish Hall - Join us as we celebrate the joy of Christmas together with good food and great company! **Tickets on sale this weekend** More details can be found on the flyer inside the Church foyer. Come **and** share in the festive spirit - all are welcome!

Vinnies Christmas Appeal – St Brigid's

The Watson St Vincent de Paul Conference will hold a Christmas Appeal as a leaving collection at masses at St Brigid's on the weekend of 13-14 December. You will be able to donate via cash, eftpos machines and online. There will be more information on donation options closer to the appeal date. We look forward to your support for this important appeal to assist families in need in our region.

The Campbell Conference of Vinnies will hold a Christmas Appeal as a leaving collection at masses at St Patrick's/ St Thomas Mores on 14 December. You will be able to donate via cash, eftpos machines and online. Christmas is often a struggle for many in our community and your support is sorely needed and much appreciated.

RCIA Meetings - Last meeting for 2025 - **Tuesday December 9, 2025**. Meetings will resume in the new year **on Tuesday 3 February 2026**

Important Notice for Adorers - Please note that the last Adoration before the Christmas Break will be on **Wednesday, December 10, 2025** and will resume **Wednesday, February 4, 2026**.

ST THOMAS MORE, CAMPBELL

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CLERGY & PARISH

St Thomas More's Christmas Eve Outdoor Mass at 6pm

Everyone is welcome to our annual outdoor Mass on Christmas Eve. BYO chair, Christmas cheer, cherubic voices and stay for cheese, chocolate and ch... drinks afterwards. If you'd like to sing in the choir, play an instrument or can think of a synonym for 'drinks' beginning with 'ch' that I should have used in this message contact joannegale28@gmail.com.

There will be a special '**Volunteers are Awesome!**'

Morning Tea after the 10am Mass on Dec 14

to acknowledge the work (seen and unseen) that all the STM volunteers do to keep us a functioning, active, groovy, synodal, caring and bold Parish!

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.

Please kindly call the Parish office for A/C details

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 Tuesday - ACU	5.30pm 12-12.30pm	9.00am	9.15am	12.30pm	11:45am Mass – Every Friday
Saturday	5.00pm (vigil)	9.00am 6.00pm (vigil)	8.30am 6.00pm (vigil)		
Reconciliation					
Friday - **Throughout Advent , during Adoration	After the 5.30pm Mass		8.15 - 9.00am - during Holy Hour	11.30 - 12.30pm	11.00-11.40am Every Friday
Saturday	4.00 - 4.30pm	9.30 - 10.00am 5.30 - 5.50pm	5.15 - 5.45pm		
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament					
Tuesday	ACU - 11– 11.45am		8.15 - 9.10am		
Wednesday		8.00am - 8.00pm			
Thursday					
Friday	6.00 - 7.00pm			11.30am - 12.30pm	11.00—11.45am Every Friday
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 Sunday	9.30am	8.30am	8.15am - Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help		