



CANBERRA INNER NORTH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

PASTORED BY THE CONGREGATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (SSS)

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A | 17-18 JANUARY 2026



BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD!

BY DON SCHWAGER

www.dailyscripture.net

John calls Jesus the Lamb of God and thus signifies Jesus' mission as the One who redeems us from our sins. The blood of the Passover Lamb (Exodus 12) delivered the Israelites in Egypt from slavery and death. The Lord Jesus freely offered up his life for us on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins (1 Corinthians 5:7). The blood which he poured out for us on the cross cleanses, heals, and frees us from our slavery to sin, and from the "wages of sin which is death" (Romans 6:23) and the "destruction of both body and soul in hell" (Matthew 10:28).

John points to Jesus' saving mission - to offer up his life as the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

It is significant that John was the son of Zachariah, a priest of Israel who participated in the daily sacrifice of a lamb in the temple for the sins of the people (Exodus 29). John recognised that Jesus was the perfect unblemished lamb offered by the Father in heaven as the one and only sacrifice that could cancel the debt of sin, and free us from death and the destruction of body and soul in hell.

The Holy Spirit reveals who Jesus truly is - the Son of God and Saviour of the world.

When John says he did not know Jesus (John 1:31,33) he was referring to the hidden reality of Jesus' divinity. But the Holy Spirit in that hour revealed to John Jesus' true nature, such that John bore witness that this is the Son of God. How can we be certain that Jesus is truly the Christ, the Son of the living God? The Holy Spirit makes the Lord Jesus Christ known to us through the gift of faith. God gives us his Spirit as our helper and guide who opens our hearts and minds to receive and comprehend the great mystery and plan of God - to unite all things in his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:10).

Do you want to grow in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ? Ask the Lord to pour his Holy Spirit upon you to deepen your faith, hope, and love for God and for the plan he has for your life.

ST PATRICK, BRADDON

SUN	8:00 am	Mass
TUE-FRI	12:10 pm	Rosary
FRI	12:30 pm	Mass
	11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Adoration & Confession

ST BRIGID, DICKSON

SUN	8:30 am	Rosary
	9:30 am	Mass
	5:00 pm	Vietnamese Mass (1st and 3rd Sundays)
TUE-SAT	8:30 am	Rosary
	9:00 am	Mass
WED	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	Adoration
SAT	9:30 am - 10:00 am	Adoration & Confession
	5:30 pm - 5:50 pm	Confession
	6:00 pm	Vigil Mass

Anointing of the Sick takes place after the Mass on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

ST JOSEPH, O'CONNOR

SUN	8:30 am	Mass
TUE-FRI	8:15 am - 9:10 am	Adoration (Confession during Adoration every Friday.)
	9:15 am	Mass
SAT	8:15 am	Novena to Our Lady of the Perpetual Help
	8:30 am	Mass
	5:15 pm - 5:45 pm	Confession
	6:00 pm	Vigil Mass

Anointing of the Sick is within the Mass at 8:30 am every 1st Saturday of the month.

Recitation of the Rosary takes place after the 9:15 a.m. Mass, Tuesday to Friday.

ST THOMAS MORE, CAMPBELL

SUN	10:00 am	Mass
FRI	11:00 am - 11:45 am	Adoration*
	11:45 am	Mass*

Confession is every Friday, 11:00 am to 11:40 am * Anointing of the Sick takes place every 1st Sunday of the month at 11:15 am.

*Will recommence in February 2026

HOLY ROSARY | BLACKFRIARS, WATSON

SUN	9:30 am	Rosary
	10:00 am	Mass
	5:00 pm	Mass
TUE-FRI	5:30 pm	Mass
SAT	4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Confession
	5:00 pm	Vigil Mass
FRI	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Adoration

SUNDAY READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIphon

cf. Ps 65: 4

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

FIRST READING

Isaiah 49:3,5-6

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 39(40):2,4,7-10

R: Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. (R)

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. (R)

In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. (R)

Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. (R)

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1:14, 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 1:29-34

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

COMMUNION ANTIphon

Cf. Ps 22: 5

You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

WE INCLUDE IN OUR PRAYERS...

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Amparo Sugay, Bob Jones, Kathleen Coyle, Maria Perre, Maria Basso, Nobby Clark, Noel Isaac Y Cristobal, John Walton, Patricia Aileen Sloan, Clare Palmer, Maria Mangeruca, Fr Francis Fuchs PP, Phillip Collett

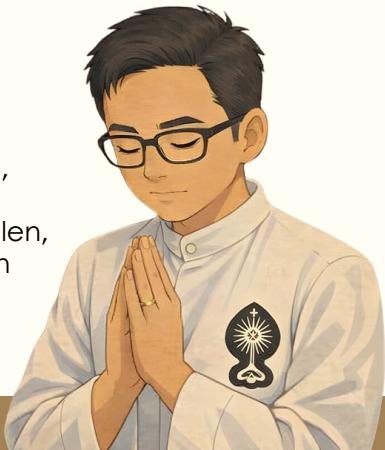
IN LOVING MEMORY

Paula Savas, Gabriel Savas, Petronila Rico, Labeb Jazrawi, Bill Olsen, Bill McManus, Tran Van Thanh, Nissanka Peiris, Helen (Jelica) Zobec, Mary Boyle, Aniceto Castro Agulto, John Collett, Florina Cabardo, Bill More

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Paul Thorpe, Brian Brown, Maggie McKeown, Una Bell, Vivien Arnold, Don Gomez, Gwenda Romer (nee Hewitt), Mateo Sendo, Sally Grant, Genevieve C. Fr Michael Mullen, Jim Smith, Shelagh Williamson

Prayer intentions will remain in the bulletin for four weeks.



FROM THE OFFICE

- As January is a quiet month, we will be available for you to visit on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.
- The funeral of Fr Francis (Frank) Fuchs is available livestream through this link: <https://streamout.live/fuchs/>
- **National Day of Mourning.** Thursday, 22 January 2026. After the Bondi terrorist attack, the Prime Minister has called for a day of mourning. All flags will be flown at half-mast, and a special mass intention may be offered on this day.

RCIA

- The RCIA meeting will recommence on Tuesday 3 February 2026.

CENTRAL CANBERRA, BRADDON & DICKSON

- **Unfolding the Mystery of the Bible.** Everyone is warmly invited every Thursday evening at 6:45 pm, to attend the special presentation of a DVD series that explores the richness of the Bible. This program will recommence on Thursday, 5 February 2026. Please contact Najib Raya on 0439 581 204 for further details.
- **Christmas Appeal.** Watson Vinnies Conference extended its thanks to the parishioners for all the donations of over \$1200 to the annual Christmas appeal. These donations have helped make the 2025 Christmas Appeal our most successful ever and will make a difference for needy families in the region.

ST JOSEPH, O'CONNOR

- **Saturday Vigil Mass Readers/Acolytes/Collectors.** Please talk to Fr Thonn after Mass if you would like to join the February-April roster to read, serve or take up the collection at the vigil Mass on Saturdays.
- **A Joyous Morning Tea.** Everyone is invited to help celebrate the contribution that Andrew Italiano has made to the parish and pray for his vocation as a future priest at morning tea after the 8:30 am mass, Sunday, 18 January. Please bring a plate to share.
- **Legion of Mary Adoration.** Everyone is invited for adoration every 1st Friday of the month from 5:00 pm to 10:00pm in the Parish Centre. It will recommence in February.
- **Men of St Joseph.** Meeting every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall, followed by fraternity. Please contact Andrew Italiano on 0422 929 536 for further details.
- **Children's Liturgy.** All children are welcome. It will begin again on Sunday, 8 February 2026, during the 8:30 am Mass. Those under five years old should be accompanied by a parent or grandparent.

ST THOMAS MORE, CAMPBELL

- **Forum Lecture.** Save the date! Friday, 26 June 2026. Cardinal Mykola Bychok will be the guest presenter for the forum. Since 2020 Cardinal Bychok served as Eparch of Sts Peter and Paul of Melbourne for Ukrainian Catholics in Australia, New Zealand, and Oceania.

BLACKFRIARS, WATSON

- **Acolytes, Altar Servers and Special Ministers of the Eucharist.** All current and new members of the ministry are encouraged to attend this formation on Saturday, 31 January 2026, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Those who are interested in these roles are also encouraged to join. Please register your attendance or apology by emailing the parish office: innernorth@cg.org.au by noon on Wednesday, 28 January.
- **Rosary Volunteers.** Those who want to lead in recitation of the Rosary 30 minutes before Mass, please approach Fr Renoir. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.
- **Weekend Retreat.** Single adults, ages 18-35, are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters for a weekend retreat at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park, NSW from 13-15 February 2026. For further details visit <https://www.trybooking.com/DHJBL> and see flyers at the foyer.

**God blessed you with so many gifts!
Share the gifts you have through volunteering
in your respective parish and community!
Please approach any volunteers or
the priest-in-charge of your Parish.**



"Pray, hope, and don't worry."
~Saint Padre Pio

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Canberra Inner North Catholic Community (CINCC) acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, the Traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

YOUR MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS COUNT A LOT...

First Collection

(Supporting all the priests of the Archdiocese)

A/C Name: **Central Presbytery Fund**, BSB: 062-786 and Bank Account: 00029248

Reference: Your parish location, name and intention (e.g., Campbell Smith 1st collect)

Second Collection

(Maintenance/upkeep of the Churches, staff salaries, liturgical needs, insurance, etc.)

~ **Central Canberra, Dickson & Braddon:** A/C Name **Canberra Central Parish**

BSB: 062-786, A/C: 00013150, Ref: Name & Giving Number

~ **St Joseph, O'Connor:** A/C Name: **St Joseph's Parish**

BSB: 062-786, A/C: 00012798, Ref: Name & Giving Number

~ **St Thomas More, Campbell:** A/C Name: **St Thomas More Parish**

BSB: 062-786 A/C: 00014869, Ref: Name & Giving Number

~ **Blackfriars, Watson:** A/C Name: **Blackfriars Parish Watson**

BSB: 062-786, A/C: 00013341, Ref: Name & Giving Number

BE a PRIEST!
BE a BROTHER!
BE a member
of the SSS!

Please approach or
contact any of the
Blessed Sacrament priests
or the office.



PARISH SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT

The Canberra Inner North Catholic Community (CINCC) is 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 center of all of our thinking and action.

Parish Safeguarding Officers:

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

St Joseph, O'Connor: Noel | OConnor.Safeguarding@cg.org.au

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

Blackfriars, Watson: Nicole | Watson.Safeguarding@cg.org.au

While the abovementioned email addresses are not available currently, please send any concerns or enquiries to: Maria Hicks, Manager Institute of Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS), at ipss@cg.org.au or 02 6239 9806.

CONNECT WITH US...

Moderator: Fr Renoir Jr. Z. Oliver, SSS
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Community Superior: Fr Sebastian A. Luistro, SSS
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Fr Anthony "Thonn" C. Riosa, SSS
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How do you feel about our new bulletin format? Please feel free to send us your comments and feedback until the end of January 2026.



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