

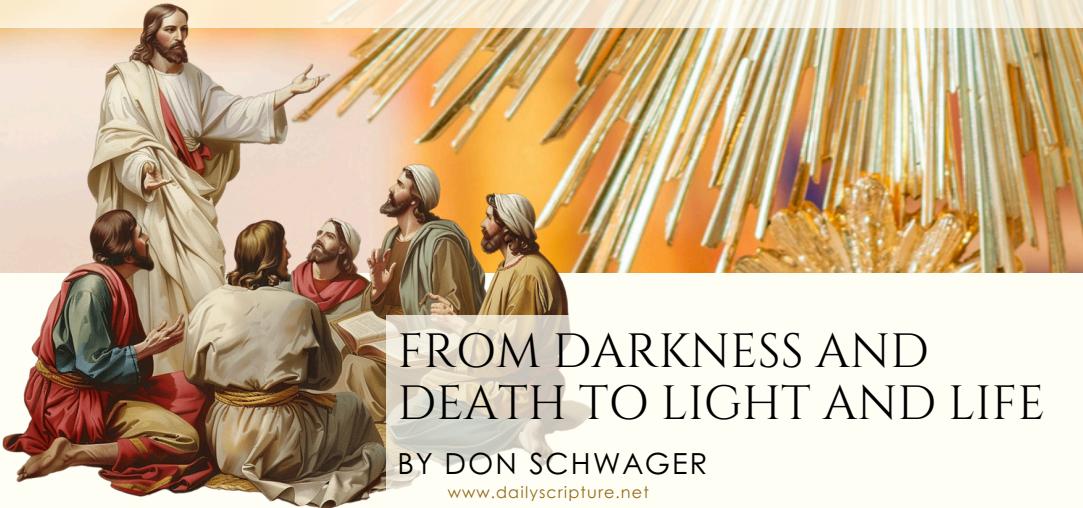
CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

CANBERRA INNER NORTH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

PASTORED BY THE CONGREGATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (SSS)

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A | 24-25 JANUARY 2026



FROM DARKNESS AND DEATH TO LIGHT AND LIFE

BY DON SCHWAGER

www.dailyscripture.net

Do you know the joy and freedom of the good news (Gospel) of the kingdom of God? John the Baptist's enemies had sought to silence him, but the good news of God's kingdom of salvation cannot be silenced. As soon as John had finished his testimony Jesus began his in Galilee. Galilee was at the crossroads of the world and much traffic passed through this little region. It had been assigned to the tribes of Asher, Naphtali and Zebulum when the Israelites first came into the land (cf. Jos 9). For a long time it had been under Gentile occupation (non-Jewish nations).

Jesus brings the light and truth of salvation to the world

The prophet Isaiah foretold that the good news of salvation would reach Jews and Gentiles in the "land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations" (Is 9:1). Jesus begins the proclamation of the Gospel here to fulfill the word of God. The Old Testament prophets spoke of God's promise to send a Redeemer who would establish God's rule. That time is now fulfilled in Jesus who brings the light and truth of the Gospel to the world.

The Gospel demands a response of faith and obedience to God's gift of salvation

In announcing the good news, Jesus makes two demands: *repent and believe!* Repentance requires a change of course - a turning away from sin and disobedience and a turning towards the Lord with faith and submission to his word of truth and righteousness (right living according to God's truth and moral goodness). The Holy Spirit gives us a repentant heart, a true sorrow and hatred for sin and its bad consequences (*the wages of sin is death* - Rm 6:23), and a firm resolution to avoid whatever would lead us into sin. The Holy Spirit gives us grace to see our sin for what it is - rebellion and a rejection of the love of God. God's grace helps us to turn away from all that would keep us from his love.

Do you want to grow in the knowledge of God's love and truth? Ask the Holy Spirit to renew in you the gift of faith, the love of wisdom, and the heart of a disciple who desires to follow the Lord Jesus and his will for your life.

CHURCHES

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	9:30 am	Mass
	5:00 pm	Vietnamese Mass (1st and 3rd Sundays)
TUE-SAT	8:40 am	Rosary
	9:00 am	Mass
WED	8:00 am - 11:00 am	Adoration
	5:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Adoration
SAT	9:30 am - 10:00 am	Adoration & Confession
	5:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Confession Vigil Mass

Healing Service 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 95: 1, 6

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 8:23-9:3

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations. The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor – these you break as on the day of Midian.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 26(27):1,4,13-14

R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? (R)

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. (R)

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! (R)

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ.' Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-17

Hearing that John had been arrested, Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled: 'Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.' From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

COMMUNION ANTIphon

Cf. Ps 33: 6

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

WE INCLUDE IN OUR PRAYERS...

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Damian Smith, Shelagh Williamson, Rosalinda Salazar, Rosa Mangeruca, Jim Smith, Amparo Sugay, Bob Jones, Kathleen Coyle, Maria Perre, Maria Basso, Nobby Clark, Noel Isaac Y Cristobal, John Walton, Patricia Aileen Sloan, Clare Palm, Fr Francis Fuchs PP, and Phillip Collett

IN LOVING MEMORY

Tony Boyle, Hazel Petry, Heather Pook, 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, Alice McDonald, Jack (John Joseph) O'Brien, Domenico Musolino, Pasquale Laria, and Domenica Maria

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Paul Thorpe, Brian Brown, Maggie McKeown, Una Bell, Vivien Arnold, Gwenda Romer (nee Hewitt), Mateo Sendo, Sally Grant, Genevieve C., and Fr Michael Mullen

*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.

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.

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
- Legion of Mary Adoration.** Everyone is invited to adoration every 1st Friday of the month from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm in the Parish Centre. It will recommence in February.
- 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.
- Choral Vespers.** Everyone is invited to join! Start your Sunday evening with a peaceful hour of beautiful sacred music, featuring psalm, hymns, and motets, followed by Benediction. Afternoon tea will be served afterwards in the hall. New voices are always welcome! Rehearsals are held every Tuesday at 7:30 pm in the Church. For more information, please scan the QR code.



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.
- Vinnies Conference.** The Watson Vinnies Conference extends a huge thank you to all parishioners for the donations to the 2025 Christmas Appeal. With the assistance of St Brigid's parishioners, donations reached over \$15,000 - the best return ever for either the Christmas or Winter appeal in the parish! This incredible generosity will make a difference for the needy families in our region.
- Hamper Donations.** With the support of parishioners and the Holy Rosary School community, we are able to assist almost 40 families with Christmas Hampers in December. Please see the story from online version of the Catholic Voice for further details: [Small box, big blessing: Christmas hampers spread joy - Catholic Voice](#)
- Rosary Volunteers.** Those who want to lead in the 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.

In 2026, Archbishop Christopher Prowse has named "**GET UP!... LISTEN!... GO!**" to be the pastoral intent for the Archdiocese, helping us focus on the Encounter, Discipleship, Mission meaning of Evangelisation in our Catholic Tradition. From this pastoral focus, the Archbishop points to the ministry of Jesus, who calls people out of paralysis and passivity (John 5:8) into freedom and action—commanding new life and restoring dignity through His divine authority.



"Some people come in our life as blessings.
Some come in your life as lessons."



~Saint Mother Teresa

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
E: renoir.oliver@cg.org.au

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.



WWW.CGINNERNORTH.ORG.AU

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