

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

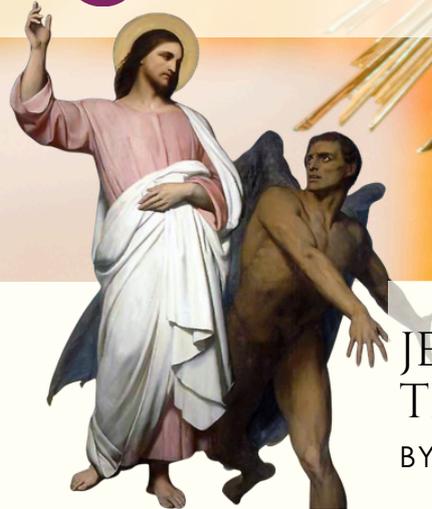
CANBERRA INNER NORTH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

PASTORED BY THE CONGREGATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (SSS)



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR A | 21-22 FEBRUARY 2026



JESUS FASTED AND WAS TEMPTED BY THE DEVIL

BY DON SCHWAGER

www.dailyscripture.net

Are you ready to follow the Lord Jesus and to go with him wherever he leads you? Jesus did not choose his own course or path in life, but followed the will of his Father in heaven. After Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist at the River Jordan, he was led by the Spirit of God to withdraw into the wilderness of Judea - a vast desert wilderness that was mostly uninhabitable and full of danger. Danger from scorching heat by day and extreme cold at night, danger from wild animals and scorpions, plus the deprivation of food and scarcity of water.

Jesus resisted the devil and obeyed the voice of his Father

Jesus now freely enters the wilderness in order to regain Paradise for the lost children of God. Jesus refuses food to show his dependence on the bread of heaven, the word of God, that would sustain him not only in his physical hunger, but in his hour of temptation as well. When Satan tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread, Jesus replied with the words of Scripture, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (quote from Deut 8:3; Mt 4:4).

Where did Jesus find the strength to survive the desert's harsh conditions and the tempter's seduction? He fed on God's word and found strength in doing his Father's will. Satan will surely tempt us and he will try his best to get us to choose our will over God's will. If he can't make us renounce our faith or sin mortally, he will then try to get us to make choices that will lead us, little by little, away from what God wants for us.

How can we overcome sin and gain freedom over our unruly desires and the lies of Satan and the world? The Lord Jesus gives us his Holy Spirit to help us in our weakness (Rm 8:26) and to be our guide and consoler in temptation and testing (1 Cor 10:13). The Lord gives grace to the humble who acknowledge their dependence on him (Jas 4:6) and he helps us to stand against the lies and attacks of our enemy, Satan, who seeks to destroy us (1 Pt 5:8-10; Eph 6:10-18). The Lord Jesus is ever ready to pour out his Spirit upon us that we may have the strength and courage we need to resist sin and to reject the lies and deceits of Satan. God wants us to "fight the good fight of the faith" (1 Tim 6:12) with the power and strength which comes from the Holy Spirit. Do you rely on the Lord for your strength and help?

CHURCHES

ST PATRICK, BRADDON

SUN 8:00 am Mass
TUE-FRI 12:10 pm Rosary
FRI 12:30 pm Mass
11:30 am - Adoration &
12:30 pm 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 - Adoration
11:00 am
5:00 pm - Adoration
8:00 pm
SAT 9:30 am - Adoration &
10:00 am Confession
5:30 pm - Confession
6:00 pm 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 - Adoration
9:10 am (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 - Confession
5:45 pm
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 - Adoration
11:45 am
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.

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 - Confession
4:30 pm
5:00 pm Vigil Mass
FRI 6:00 pm - Adoration
7:00 pm



SUNDAY READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 90: 15-16

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. Now the serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50(51):3-6,12-14,17

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. (**R**)

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. (**R**)

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (**R**)

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. (**R**)

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 90: 4

The Lord will conceal you with his pinions, and under his wings you will trust.



FROM THE OFFICE

- **Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2026.** Project Compassion commences this Lent. Donation boxes and envelopes will be placed in the Church foyers. This Lent, every prayer, action, and donation is an opportunity for us to stand in solidarity with vulnerable communities worldwide. Together, we can bring love, compassion, and change to those who need it most. For more information, email Don Gomez at don.gomez@caritas.org.au
- **International Women's Day Breakfast - Archdiocesan Women's Taskforce.** The event is on Thursday, 5 March from 7:30 am - 9:00 am. For more information: <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/event/international-womens-day-event-archdiocesan-womens-taskforce/>

CARITAS AUSTRALIA
PROJECT
COMPASSION
 Unite Against Poverty this Lent

CENTRAL CANBERRA, BRADDON & DICKSON

- **Stations of the Cross followed by the Eucharist - St Brigid's.** 7:00 pm on all Fridays of Lent.
- **Teens Youth Group - St Brigid's.** The Teens Youth group at the parish hall is back this term! Join us at 7:00 pm every Saturday in the school term for nights of faith, fun and food! Recommencing on Saturday, 28 February.
- **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. Please contact Najib Raya on 0439 581 204 for further details.
- **Craft Group.** All are invited every 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month in St Brigid's Hall from 1:00 pm onwards. For queries, please contact Trish Moore at 0412 324 644.
- **We're Improving St Patrick's.** Our facilities are inadequate, and we need to fund new toilets, and a much needed new organ will arrive in March to enhance our Liturgy. To contribute, please place donation on the second collection or use the dedicated TAP machine opposite the confessional. Every bit helps - Thank you!

ST JOSEPH, O'CONNOR

- **Easter Timetable 2026.** A digital version of the Easter Timetable for 2026 can be accessed here: <https://tinyurl.com/St-Josephs-Easter-2026>
- **Stations of the Cross.** After the 9:15 am Mass on all Fridays of Lent.
- **Parish Outreach Summary 2025.** A digital version of the summary can be accessed here: <https://tinyurl.com/St-Josephs-Parish-Outreach>
- **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.
- **Children's Liturgy.** Every Sunday during the 8:30 am Mass. All children are welcome. Children under five years old should be accompanied by a parent or grandparent.
- **Invitation to Join Legion of Mary.** Legion of Mary members are happy to provide more information after the Mass on Saturday, 21 February 2026 at 6:00 pm and also after the Mass on Sunday, 22 February at 8:30 am.
- **Rehearsals for Holy Week Music.** Join us as we prepare the chants, hymns, and motets for the sacred liturgies of Holy Week. New voices are always welcome. Rehearsals are held every Tuesday at 7:30 pm at St Joseph's. For more information and contacts, please scan the QR code
- **Sacramental Program Enrolment 2026.** Reconciliation is for Yr 3 and up with parent and child (P&C) sessions commencing on Wednesday, 25 February. First Communion is for Yr 4 and up with P&C session commencing on Wednesday, May. Confirmation is for Yr 6 and up with P&C sessions commencing on Wednesday, 12 August. Please enrol your child/children using the QR code or email kirstie.buckley@cg.catholic.edu.au for more details.



Holy Week Music



Enrolment

ST THOMAS MORE, CAMPBELL

- **First Reconciliation Preparation.** Registration: Sundays, 15 and 22 February, after the 10:00 am Mass. Important dates can be accessed here: <https://tinyurl.com/StThomasFirstReconciliation>
- **Welcome Mass and Morning Tea.** Everyone is invited to celebrate the start of the school year with a community Mass followed by morning tea on Sunday, 1 March at 10:00 am. New families and parishioners are particularly welcome. Morning tea contributions welcome.
- **It's Working Bee Time!** The school and parish working bee will take place on Saturday, 14 March from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Come and get your hands dirty, make friends and enjoy the beautiful weather!
- **Altar Cloth and Linens - Volunteers.** Inviting anyone to join in caring for our altar cloth and sacred linens. If you're able to help, please speak to Monica Phelan or email her at monphel@icloud.com. Your support helps keep our parish thriving!
- **Seeking Donations for Mass PowerPoints.** The parish is requesting a donation of a laptop. This laptop will be used exclusively for running the PowerPoint slides at Mass. If you have anything suitable, please contact Zane Mason at mazoan75@gmail.com. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated!

BLACKFRIARS, WATSON

- **Ecumenical Lenten Study Groups 2026.** You are invited to take a Lenten journey of self-discovery and growth in one of three study groups organised by the Holy Roundabout Churches (Holy Rosary Catholic Church - Monday, 7:00 pm, beginning 23 February, Holy Cross Anglican Church - Tuesday, 6:30 pm, beginning 24 February and St Margaret's Uniting Church - Thursday, 2:00 pm, beginning 19 February). All welcome. Sign-on form in Holy Rosary Church foyer or email Roger Paul at rpaul2572@gmail.com | <https://tinyurl.com/Lenten-Study-Groups-2026>
- **Song, Silence, Scripture & Prayer in the Style of Taizé.** Everyone is invited to this service every 1st Sunday of the month (except on Easter Sunday - next service will be on 1 March) at Holy Cross Anglican/St Margaret's Uniting, Hackett. <https://tinyurl.com/Watson-Taize-2026>
- **Altar Cloth and Linens - Volunteers.** Inviting anyone to join in caring for our altar cloth and sacred linens. If you can assist; either regularly or occasionally, please contact the parish office or speak with a member of the liturgy team (c/ Jacquie Cortese). Guidance will be provided.
- **The Dominican Library.** The library in the parish centre is open each Saturday (except the first Saturday of the month) from 10:45 am to noon. All welcome.
- **Scripture Reflection.** A reflection on the scripture readings for the following Sunday is held each Wednesday in the parish centre from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. All welcome.
- **ACU.** ACU Masses will resume during semester time (from 2nd March). 12:00 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Signadou Chapel, Ground Floor, Building 302, 223 Antill Street, Watson.

"Nothing great is ever achieved
without much enduring."

~Saint Catherine of Siena



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

WE INCLUDE IN OUR PRAYERS...

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Clare Palmer, Damian Smith, Fr Francis Fuchs PP, Jim Smith, John Walton, Joseph Lucero, Loretta Gallagher, Mary Pavey, Patricia Aileen Sloan, Phillip Collett, Reubin Maraon, Rosa Mangeruca, Rosalinda Salazar and Shelagh Williamson

IN LOVING MEMORY

Alice McDonald, Aniceto Castro Agulto, Bill More, Domenica Maria, Domenico Musolino, Domingo Apolinar, Emilja Klaric, Florina Cabardo, Hazel Petry, Heather Pook, Jack (John Joseph) O'Brien, John Collett, Kevin Tee, Lirio Lukban, Pasquale Laria, Romeo Cabardo, Silvio Rossi, Terry Bird and Tony Boyle

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Brian Brown, Carmela Lubis, Fr Michael Mullen, Genevieve Cuddihy, Maggie McKeown, Maree Catlian, Maree Gallagher, Michael Deane, Paul Thorpe, Sally Grant and Una Bell

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
E: sebastian.luistro@cg.org.au

Fr Anthony "Thonn" C. Riosa, SSS
E: anthony.riosa@cg.org.au



WWW.CGINNERNORTH.ORG.AU

Parish Secretaries:
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P: PO Box 900, Dickson ACT 2602



"BE WHO YOU WERE MEANT TO BE
AND YOU WILL SET THE WORLD ON FIRE"
ST CATHERINE OF SIENA