

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA AND GOULBURN

CANBERRA INNER NORTH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY (CINCC)

PASTORED BY THE CONGREGATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (SSS)

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A | 25-26 JULY 2026



THE SURPASSING TREASURE OF GOD'S KINGDOM

BY DON SCHWAGER

www.dailyscripture.net

What do you treasure the most and how do you keep it from being lost or stolen? In a peasant community the best safe was often the earth. The man in the parable (Mt 13:44) "went in his joy" to sell everything. Why? Because he found a treasure worth possessing above all else he had. He did not, however, have enough to buy the treasure. Fortunately, he only needed enough to buy the field. In a similar fashion, God offers his kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy (Rm 14:17) as incomparable treasure at a price we can afford! We can't pay the full price for the life which God gives us; but when we exchange our life for the life which God offers, we receive a treasure beyond compare.

Obtaining the greatest possible treasure

The pearl of great price also tells us a similar lesson. Pearls in the ancient world came to represent the supremely valuable. Jesus remarked that one should not cast pearls before swine (Mt 7:6). Why would a merchant sell everything for a peerless pearl? No doubt because he was attracted to what he thought was the greatest treasure he could possess. Discovering God's kingdom is like stumbling across hidden treasure or finding the one pearl of great price.

When we discover the kingdom of God we receive the greatest possible treasure - the Lord himself. Selling all that we have to obtain this incomparable treasure could mean many things - our friends, job, our "style of life", what we do with our free time. Treasure has a special connection to the heart, the place of desire and longing, the place of will and focus. The thing we most set our heart on is our highest treasure. In this parable what does the treasure of the kingdom refer to? It certainly refers to the kingdom of God in all its aspects. But in a special way, the Lord himself is the treasure we seek for. If the Almighty is your gold and your precious silver, then you will delight yourself in the Almighty (Job 22:22-23). Is the Lord the treasure and delight of your heart?

BUILDING A "COMMUNITY OF COMMUNITIES" **Consultation Survey | 10-30 July 2026**

All parishioners are warmly invited to share their reflections through a short survey. Your responses will help us honour the identity, gifts, traditions, and pastoral needs of each of our communities, while strengthening our shared mission in faith as a "community of communities".

tinyurl.com/InnerNorth2026

PARISH BULLETIN - THE DEADLINE FOR NOTICES IS 12:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY.

CHURCHES

ST PATRICK, BRADDON

SUN	8:00 am	Mass
	10:00 am	German Mass (1st and 3rd Sundays of the month)
TUE-FRI	12:10 pm	Rosary
	12:30 pm	Mass
FRI	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 of the month)
		Maronite Mass (Last Sunday of the month)
TUE-SAT	8:40 am	Rosary
	9:00 am	Mass
WED	8:00 am -	Adoration
	11:00 am	
	5:00 pm -	Adoration
SAT	8:00 pm	
	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	

READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

cf. Psalm 67:6-7,36

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5,7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its number cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118(119):57,72,76-77,127-130

R: Lord, I love your commands.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44-52 (Long version)

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds.

When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

cf. Psalm 102:2

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Norma Pridgeon, John Kenna, Amanda Johansson, Beverley Nelson, Fr Troy Joseph Bobbin PP, John Mowbray, Fr Tony McGlynn SJ, Fr Ross Morrow SJ, Fr Peter Douglas SJ, Fr Michael Kennedy SJ,

IN LOVING MEMORY

Jose Rico, Hamish Macgowan, Anna Armillei, Patricia Zorzi, Michael Newn, Rodney Baxter, Zelma McManus, Betty Collett, Peter (Des) Nelson,

*"Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon
them. May the souls of the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God, rest
in peace. Amen."*



SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Cecily Ferguson, Maggie McKeown, Peter Catlin, Flora Wu, Dinesh Nair, Maura Crotia, Ana Jacobs, Loc Bui, Celeste Matilda Erlic, Thanksgiving from a St Brigid Parishioner, Peter Evans, Sally Grant.

Prayer intentions will remain in the bulletin for two weeks.

FROM THE OFFICE

- **"Be Radiant!" St Carlo Acutis Eucharistic Night – 11 August 2026, 5:00 pm - 8:30 pm.** As the relic of St Carlo Acutis arrives in Canberra, join us for an evening of prayer, games, testimonies, and fun. Holy Hour at St Christopher's Cathedral at 5:00 pm, Program, including a talk on the Eucharist by Fr Paul Nulley at the Haydon Hall at 6:00 pm. Register on Instagram www.instagram.com/jycanberra/
- **Archbishop's St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage – Saturday, 8 August 2026 – Eden.** Join the 10th annual pilgrimage to Eden, celebrating St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and her connection to our Archdiocese. All are welcome for a day of prayer, Mass, and fellowship. Please contact Bernadette Wood, Chair of the Pambula Parish Pastoral Council for more information: 0429 774 119

CENTRAL CANBERRA, BRADDON & DICKSON

- **Christmas in July Function on Saturday, 25 July 2026. Venue: St Brigid's Parish Hall.**
- **RCIA program facilitated by Fr Vergel SSS commencing on Thursday, 6 August at 6:00 pm. Venue: St Brigid's Parish Hall.** Adults who are interested about learning the Catholic Faith or desire to be Catholic may enlist themselves for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) by contacting our email innernorth@cg.org.au
- **Altar Server Training at St Brigid's & St Patrick's.** St Brigid's and St Patrick's are seeking new altar servers. A three-night training course will be held on Mondays, 7, 14 and 21 September at 6:30pm. Attendance at all sessions is required for induction and rostering. To register your interest, email Hugh at hajones1981@outlook.com.
- **Canberra Central – Volunteer Availability (1 August – 1 November).** We are updating our volunteer roster for this period. Please let us know your availability. New volunteers are welcome interested individuals can contact Trish Moore at trish@mooreinvestments.com.au. Thank you for your support.
- **Cana Youth (Years 7–12) – Saturdays, 25 July, 8 August, and 5 & 19 September, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm following the Vigil Mass. Venue: St Brigid's Parish Hall.**
- **In preparation for the International Eucharistic Congress 2028 in Sydney, Fr Sebastian will present two talks on the Eucharist and Eucharistic Adoration on Thursday, 30 July, from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. All are welcome.**

ST JOSEPH, O'CONNOR

- **St Joseph's Primary School 70th Anniversary Open Day – Saturday, 15 August, 9:30 am-1:00 pm.** All current and former students, families, and alumni are invited to this celebration. Enjoy school tours, a welcome address, guided tours led by Year 6 students, a sausage sizzle, and a coffee van throughout the day.
- **Junior Schola Cantorum – Rehearsals every Saturday 9:30 am from Saturday, 25 July.** Choral Training & vocal formation for students aged 8 to 16 in the Church's treasury of sacred music, in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress in Sydney (2028). The Programme follows the Royal School of Church Music and Jubilate Deo programmes. Morning teas served after rehearsals. sign up and find out more information and to register, please visit: <https://linktr.ee/stjoseph.choristers>
- **Choral Vespers – Sunday, 23 August 4:00 pm.** Join St. Joseph's Choristers for an hour of sacred choral music with Benediction, followed by afternoon tea. Come and Sing Session at 3 pm. RSVP here <https://linktr.ee/stjoseph.choristers>
- **Morning Tea for the Feast of St Peter Julian Eymard – After the 8:30 am Mass on Sunday, 2 August.** Parishioners are warmly invited to a morning tea in the Parish Centre. Please bring a plate to share.
- **Morning Tea for the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady – After the 8:30 am Mass on Saturday, 15 August.** Parishioners are warmly invited to a morning tea in the Parish Centre. Please bring a plate to share.

BLACKFRIARS, WATSON

- **The Eucharist in the Life of the Church – Monday, 27 July, 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm. Venue: Parish Centre.** Online presentations on The Eucharist in Systematic Theology. Register at innernorth@cg.org.au. For more information, contact Roger Paul at rpaul2572@gmail.com | <https://tinyurl.com/EucharisLifeChurch2026>
- **The Craft Group.** Offering friendship, company and cuppa on Wednesdays (except 3rd Wednesday) from mid-day in the parish centre. All welcome!
- **Scripture Reflection** for the following Sunday is held each Wednesday in the parish centre from 7:30 pm to 8.30 pm. All welcome.
- **ACU Noon Masses.** Starts with adoration at 11:15 am every Tuesday and Wednesday at the Signadou Chapel (during Semester period)
- **Cana Kids (Years 4–6) – Sundays, 26 July, 9 August, and 6 & 20 September, from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm following the 10:00 am Mass. Venue: Parish Centre.**

FROM THE OFFICE

- **Planned Giving Envelopes.** Please note that your new box is available for collection in the foyer of your church.



Please note that on SATURDAY, 1 AUGUST 2026, there will be only ONE VIGIL MASS in the Inner North Parishes at 6:00 pm. Adoration begins at 5:00 pm at St Brigid's Catholic Church, Dickson.
*Please bring a plate to share.

- **ONE VIGIL MASS, 1 AUGUST.** Please join our choir and servers for our Adoration and Mass. Kindly contact the office for those interested.

"Your God is ever beside you.
Indeed, He is even within you."

~Saint Alphonsus Liguori



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

You are all invited!

Ordination to the
Permanent
DIACONATE
of
DON GOMEZ

by Archbishop Christopher Prowse
5:00 p.m. | Wednesday, 19 August 2026
St Christopher's Cathedral, Canberra



PARISH SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT

The 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 | 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

Please send any concerns or enquiries to the above parish email addresses. You may also contact Maria Hicks, Manager of the Institute of Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS), at ipss@cg.org.au or 02 6239 9806.

CONNECT WITH US...

Fr Renoir Jr. Z. Oliver, SSS (Moderator)

E: renoir.oliver@cg.org.au

Fr Sebastian A. Luistro, SSS (Community Superior)

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Fr Anthony "Thonn" C. Riosa, SSS

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Fr Vergel M. Dalangin, SSS

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WWW.CGINNERNORTH.ORG.AU

Parish Secretaries:

Kathie Guillester and Cerisse Gomez

E: innernorth@cg.org.au

M: 0416 823 447 or 0412 128 038

P: PO Box 900, Dickson ACT 2602



**ARCHDIOCESAN
ASSEMBLY
2026**

Saturday, 22 August 2026

cgevangelisation.org.au/assembly/

The 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.