

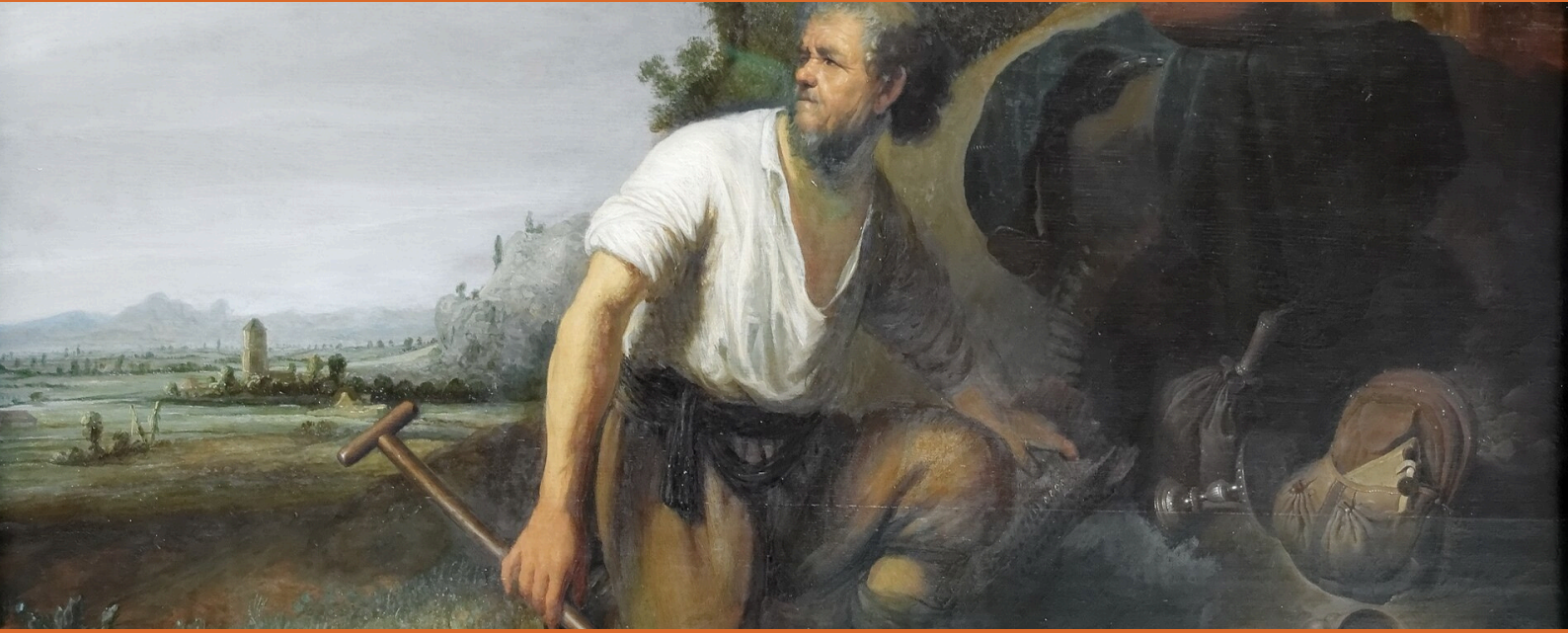


ST THOMAS

the APOSTLE

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A 26TH JULY 2026

"I am the way, the truth, and the life"



For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also

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 (Matthew 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 (Romans 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.

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 (Matthew 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?



SUNDAY MASS

Saturday - 6:00pm (Vigil)
Sunday - 8:30am
10:00am

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday - 6:00pm
Wednesday - 9:30am
Thursday - 9:30am
Friday - 9:30am
Saturday - 9:30am

ADORATION

Tuesday - 5:00pm
Wednesday - 8:30am
Thursday - 8:30am
Friday - 8:30am

CONFESSION

Tuesday - 5:30pm
Saturday - 5:00pm

PARISH NOTICES

29 JULY

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

will be held on Wednesday 29th July at 6pm in the Church. If you have children in year 4 or above who do not attend St Thomas the Apostle Primary, and would like to make their first Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office.

PARISH OFFICE | We welcome Louise Tomelty who will be filling in for Elizabeth in the parish office during Elizabeth's leave. Louise will work Tuesdays and Fridays. Please note the change of office hours until October.

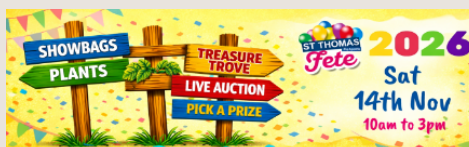
2026 ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE FETE

The countdown to the fete has begun!

Canberra's best fete is only four and a half months away.

We are looking for people who are able to help with this.

- We are looking for sponsorship - get some great advertising for your business!
- Plants for the plant stall
- Lots more to do!
- Contact Elizabeth in the Parish Office if you would like to assist.



St Thomas the Apostle Finances Jan - Jun 2026

Income

Planned Giving/ Second Collection	59,129
Donations/ Bequests	66,956
Sacramental, Chaplaincy & Pastoral Programs	10,100
Other Income	806
Total Income	136,991

Expenses

Administration	11,680
Motor Vehicle Expenses	4,819
Faith Formation Resources	1,068
Salaries & Wages	23,319
Insurances	5,484
Appeals & Donations	4,478
Property Charges	2,591
Repairs & Maintenance	9,589
Interest	3,537
Presbytery Expenses	3,442
Fair Expenses	1,569
Total Expenditure	71,576

Net Surplus / (Deficit) **65,415**

In order to carry out our mission of preaching the Gospel, celebrating the sacraments and accompanying people on their journey to Christ we need support. Thank you to everyone who has contributed financially to our parish this year. May the Lord bless your generosity.

This year we received a very generous bequest from the Late Norma Steele which we are very grateful for, this has enabled us to begin some much needed repairs and maintenance to the church. We are currently in the process of upgrading the confessional to meet compliance standards as well as plumbing work in the Church.

If you would like further information on the parish finances this please contact the parish office or Deb Poulton.

CONTACT US

**St Thomas the Apostle
Catholic Church**
37 Boddington Cres
Kambah ACT 2902

Parish Priest:

Fr Eden Langlands
Eden.Langlands@cg.org.au
6231 9219

Parish Office:

Ms Louise Tomelty
kambah@cg.org.au
6231 9219
Tue & Fri - 9 am - 12 pm
kambah.org

St Thomas the Apostle Primary School:

39 Boddington Cres Kambah
6231 4144

Acting Principal:

Mrs Susan McRedmond

Religious Education Coordinator:
Mrs Jacinta Housler

For any safeguarding concerns,
please contact
ipss@cg.org.au

Safeguarding Volunteer:
Mrs Bruna Strmota.
kambah.safeguarding@cg.org.au

For Baptism, Marriage,
Funeral or RCIA enquiries
please contact the Parish
Office



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM

COMMUNITY NOTICES

26 JULY **WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY** | 11am Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral, 12pm, light refreshments in the Haydon Hall, children's activities. Come and see how you and your family can connect with others across our Archdiocese. For catering purposes, please register for this FREE event by visiting <https://bit.ly/cgcatholic-event>

6 AUG **VOCATIONS HOLY HOUR** | for vocations on the Feast of the Transfiguration Thursday 6 August 7:30pm to 8:30pm St Christopher's Cathedral for Vocations Awareness Week (2-9 August). All welcome to come along and spend a quiet Hour in Prayer for Vocations. Contact Fr Emil Milat.

8 AUG **ARCHBISHOP'S ST MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE** | Saturday, 8 August 2026
This year marks the 10th annual pilgrimage to Eden, honouring Australia's first saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, and her enduring connection with our Archdiocese. Pilgrims are warmly invited to join Archbishop Christopher for this special day of prayer, Mass and fellowship.

11 AUG **BE RADIANT! ST CARLO ACUTIS EUCHARISTIC NIGHT** | Calling all youth and young adults!! As the St Carlo Acutis Relic makes its pilgrimage around Australia and reaches Canberra, we invite you to join us for a night of games, testimonies and fun! On Tuesday 11 August 5-8:30pm, starting with a Holy Hour with the relic in St Christopher's Cathedral, then moving to Haydon Hall from 6pm for many exciting programs, including a session on the Eucharist by Fr Paul Nulley. Register via the QR code provided or through Instagram @jycanberra.

3 OCT **EXPLOSION YOUTH CONFERENCE** | Registrations are now open for Explosion 2026, a Catholic youth conference for students in years 7 to 12. Hosted by the Disciples of Jesus Covenant Community, Explosion will be held at St Clare's College, from September 30 to October 3, offering inspiring speakers, powerful prayer and worship, and the opportunity to build lasting friendships while growing in faith. Early bird pricing available until August 8. For more information and to register, visit explosionyouth.com.

The Marriage Course | Whether you have been married six months or 40 years, whether you're in a good place or struggling, The Marriage Course offers practical support to strengthen your relationship. 7 Sessions | 7pm - 9pm Thursdays beginning 6th August
For more general info visit <https://www.marriagecourse.org.au> or contact cathy.madsen@cg.org.au

Scan QR code to REGISTER NOW



PARISH ROSTER

1st / 2nd August	6 PM	8:30 AM	10:00 AM
Acolyte	Michael de Raadt	Loia Fotu	John Kennedy
Readers	Cheryl May & Ferns	Angela Devlin Elizabeth & Matt Moroney	Trudie Riley Kim Marshall
Music Team	Trish Jarzynski	Church Choir	Julie Spencer
Counters	Kim & Trish	Cleaners	School Team

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, '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 numbers 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.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)

2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. (R.)

3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. (R.)

4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. (R.)

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 that 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

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

Gospel

MATTHEW 13:44-52

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.'

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

29

Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus

31

St Ignatius Loyola, Priest

1

St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor