



ST THOMAS

the APOSTLE

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

16TH AUGUST 2026

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



Great Is Your Faith! Be It Done To You As You Desire

What did Jesus mean by the expression "throwing bread to the dogs"? The Jews often spoke of the Gentiles with arrogance and insolence as "unclean dogs" since the Gentiles did not follow God's law and were excluded from God's covenant and favor with the people of Israel. For the Greeks the "dog" was a symbol of dishonor and was used to describe a shameless and audacious woman. There is another reference to "dogs" in Matthew's Gospel where Jesus says to his disciples, "Do not give to dogs what is holy" (Matthew 7:6). Jesus tests this woman's faith to see if she is earnest in receiving holy things from the hand of a holy God. Jesus, no doubt, spoke with a smile rather than with an insult because this woman immediately responds with wit and faith - "even the dogs eat the crumbs".

Jesus praises a Gentile woman for her faith and for her love. She made the misery of her child her own and she was willing to suffer rebuff in order to obtain healing for her loved one. She also had indomitable persistence. Her faith grew in contact with the person of Jesus. She began with a request and she ended on her knees in worshipful prayer to the living God. No one who ever sought Jesus with earnest faith - whether Jew or Gentile - was refused his help. Do you seek the Lord Jesus with expectant faith?



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

20 AUG

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE RCIA INFORMATION EVENING | Thursday 20th

August at 6pm at the Parish meeting room. This is for anyone who might be seeking to learn more about their Catholic faith or explore the possibility of becoming Catholic.

25 AUG

CRAFT GROUP | The parish craft group meet fortnightly on a Tuesday from 10am - 12pm in the parish meeting room. All are welcome. Contact Trudie 0419 293 190. The next meeting will be 25th August

1 SEP

ST THOMAS YOUNG ADULTS | Mass & Trivia on the first Tuesday of the Month. Join us for Mass at 6pm then for Trivia at the Burns Club 7pm.



We are currently experiencing issues with our phone line at the parish which is preventing calls from coming through. You can, however, still leave voice messages. If you need to contact the parish, please call and leave a message and we will respond as soon as possible. We apologise for this and hope to have this corrected as soon as possible.

KAIROS OUTSIDE | is an ecumenical support and ministry to women who are impacted by having a family member or friend in prison.

Kairso Outside Canberra #22 will be held locally on the weekend of 21-23 August. Please support this with prayers!

You can support this event by taking one or more spots in our **Prayer Vigil to pray for us** during the guest weekend: <https://signup.com/go/ZJwBvsN>

or fill in one of the time spots on the Prayer Vigil roster in the foyer of the Church.

For more details visit kocanberraagape@kairos.org.au or contact Sandy 0421 311 626

ST VINCENT DE PAUL | The great gift we give to the poor is to sit and listen, to seek to understand the nature and conditions of poverty, to offer immediate assistance and to work to address the systemic and attitudinal issues that perpetuate poverty. This is the approach your parish SVDP conference members take with them when conducting home visits for our companions. If this support is of interest to you come and join us on Monday nights in the parish centre at 7:30pm.



CONGRATULATIONS

With gratitude to God we congratulate Brendan Arnel who was Baptised, Confirmed and received his First Holy Communion this week at St Thomas'. Let us keep Brendan and his family in our prayers.



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

- 18 AUG** **GUINNESS AND GOD** | Fr Rob Galea invites young adults aged 18-30 to meet other young adults across Canberra who may be active or inactive in the Church. This is an open invitation to all young adults and those interested are encouraged to bring others along. Join him at King O'Malleys 131 City Walk Canberra, August 18th from 6:30pm to 9:00pm
- 19 AUG** **ORDINATION TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE | MR DOM GOMEZ | 19 August at 5:00pm** | The Archdiocese invites you to the ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Don Mauro Salvador Gomez on Wednesday, 19 August at 5:00pm at St Christopher's Cathedral. Please keep Don in your prayers as he prepares for his ordination and his future ministry in our Archdiocese
- 28 AUG** **HOMECOMING SILENT RETREAT** | The MGL Sisters invite men and women aged 18+ to a weekend retreat from 28th-30th August, Carmel House, Varroville NSW.
Your heavenly Father waits for you to come away with him for a weekend of silently soaking in his great love for you. Embrace this opportunity for encountering deep peace and serenity.
Choose from a weekend retreat or extend your time with a 5 day retreat opt
w/e: www.trybooking.com/DIDBK
extended: www.trybooking.com/DIDBU
- 15 SEP** **'WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?' FORUM** | The Archdiocese invites you to the Cenacle: Institute for Synodal Evangelisation's fourth Formation Forum, "What Do We Believe?" This forum will be an opportunity to reflect on the heart of Christian faith, exploring both the beliefs we share and personal faith journeys. It will be held on Tuesday 15th September from 6-8pm at Haydon Hall, St Christopher's Pastoral Centre. Alternatively, you can join online: us06web.zoom.us/j/87199525802 | Meeting ID: 871 9952 5802. Registration can be done for free at: tinyurl.com/35vs84j7
- 30 SEP** **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. For more information and to register, visit explosionyouth.com.

VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT DINNERS - ALTERNATING BETWEEN A PRESBYTERY AND THE ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE

Vocations Discernment Dinners - alternating between a presbytery and the Archbishop's House. Second Thursday of the month. For men interested in discerning a call to the Priesthood. A hearty meal provided with insightful discussions & prayer. To rsvp please contact vocations director Fr Emil emil.milat@cg.org.au.



CGVocations
CANBERRA • GOULBURN

PARISH ROSTER

22nd / 23rd August	6 PM	8:30 AM	10:00 AM
Acolyte	Wayne Poulton	Andrew Satrapa	John Kennedy
Readers	Kevin C & Susan M	Ringrose-Voase Family	Janell & Warwick
Music Team	Trish Jarzynski	Peter Glynn	Parish Choir
Counters	Tom & Tracey	Cleaners	Strmota's & Ken

First Reading

ISAIAH 56:1. 6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

PSALM 66:2-3, 5-6. 8 R V.4

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)

2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R)

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading

ROMANS 11:13-15, 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel

MATTHEW 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

19

St John Eudes, Priest

20

St Bernard, Abbot, Doctor

21

St Pius X, Pope

22

Our Lady, Mother & Queen