



ST THOMAS

the APOSTLE

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A 23RD AUGUST 2026

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



Catecheses of Pope Leo XIV on the Second Vatican Council

Dear Friends,

This year Pope Leo XIV began a series of catechesis dedicated to the documents of the Second Vatican Council. He presents this as a valuable opportunity to rediscover the beauty and significance of this ecclesial event. Pope Leo has seen it as a timely teaching moment for us "to get to know it again closely, and to do so not through "hearsay" or interpretations that have been given, but by rereading its documents and reflecting on their content." As Pope Benedict XVI taught, "as the years have passed, the Conciliar Documents have lost none of their timeliness; indeed, their teachings are proving particularly relevant to the new situation of the Church and the current globalized society." (First Message at the end of the Eucharistic Concelebration with the Members of the College of Cardinals, 20 April 2005).

With this in mind, I intend to publish summaries of this catechesis series, together with some reflection questions, over the next few months. This will be an opportunity for us to reflect as a parish, and as members of the Universal Church, on these aspects of the Church's teaching and how they speak to the concrete circumstances of our lives as believers.

God bless,
Fr Eden



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

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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL | Our St Thomas school Mini Vinnies team is a vibrant, student-led initiative that invites primary school children to put compassion into action and make a meaningful difference in their communities. Guided by values such as empathy, respect, courage and service, these young members meet regularly to learn about social justice issues and take practical steps to support those in need, living the Vinnies mission of offering a "hand up" while upholding the dignity of every person.



On Thursday 20 August, as part of the Archdiocesan Assembly Festival, Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Education Limited (CACGEL) officially launched its 2027-2033 Apostolic Action Plan, "Grounded in Faith, Growing in Service". The launch was held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra and was attended by over 1000 students from almost all 56 schools across the archdiocese. Archbishop Prowse celebrated Mass at the start of the event. The Apostolic Action Plan takes inspiration from Pope Leo's 2025 pastoral letter on education, "Drawing Maps of Hope". The plan's two "bold goals" are that "faith oxygenates every subject in the curriculum" and that "every school achieves above expected progress in literacy and numeracy". The logo for the plan is a tree that is spreading its branches (growing in service) and offering an authentic Catholic education ("grounded in faith"). You can find out more about the Apostolic Action Plan at <https://strategy.cg.catholic.edu.au/>



**Grounded in Faith
Growing in Service**

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE RCIA

The St Thomas RCIA has begun. This is a faith formation course for people seeking to become Catholic or wanting to learn more about the Catholic Faith. It runs on a Thursday evening from 6pm-7pm. This Thursday we will be exploring the **Desire for God in the Human Heart**. For more information please email the Parish Office.

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

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

12 SEP

St Vincent de Paul National Capital Orchestra | 03:00 pm

St Vincent de Paul Society and the National Capital Orchestra present a major charity concert at 3.00 pm in Llewellyn Hall. Internationally acclaimed pianist Lucas Krupinski will perform Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 2, followed by Mahler's Symphony No. 1 ("Titan"). Proceeds from the concert will support the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society assisting people experiencing hardship across the Canberra and Goulburn region.

Tickets available from ticketek: <https://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/show.aspx?sh=NCORACMA26>

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

20 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.

30 SEP

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH WANNIASSA 50TH ANNIVERSARY MASS | 09:00 AM

Save the Date: The Archbishop will celebrate the 50th Anniversary Mass at St Anthony's on Sunday 20 September, 9:00am. All past parishioners are invited to attend.

1 NOV

MARIAN PROCESSION | 10:00 AM

The Marian Procession is an ecumenical event hosted by the Goulburn Parish of Sts Mary Queen of Apostles, from the Old Cathedral of Sts Peter and Paul's. This year it will process on All Saints Day, Sunday the 1st of November. Save the date!

PARISH ROSTER

29th / 30th August	6 PM	8:30 AM	10:00 AM
Acolyte	Wayne Poulton	Loia Fotu	Warwick Fulton
Readers	Help Needed	Andrew Satrapa Angela Devlin	Veda & Ana Stewart
Music Team	Parish Choir	Peter Glynn	Bruna Strmota
Counters		Cleaners	McClelland, Fotu, & Nina B

First Reading

ISAIAH 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiyah.
I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.
I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.
I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm

PSALM 137: 1-3, 6, 8 R V.8

R. Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. (R)

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading

ROMANS 33-36

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord?

Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Gospel

MATTHEW 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

24

St Bartholomew, Apostle

27

St Monica

28

St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor

29

The Beheading of St John the Baptist