



ST THOMAS

the APOSTLE

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A 13TH SEPT 2026

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



Catechesis of Pope Leo XIV: The Documents of Vatican Council II. The Mystery of the Eucharist

Dear brothers and sisters, as we continue our series of catecheses on the Second Vatican Council, today we consider the celebration of the Eucharist as presented by the Constitution on the Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*. This sacred mystery is described in the second chapter of the document as "a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, 'a paschal banquet in which Christ is received, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us'". The Constitution also emphasises that at Mass, the faithful are not passive spectators. Rather, all are encouraged to offer themselves in union with Jesus Christ, the spotless victim, to the Father, through the hands of the priest and together with him. Participation in the Eucharistic sacrifice also means being formed by God's word and nourished at the table of the Lord's body. Indeed, these two parts of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the Eucharistic Liturgy, "are so closely connected with each other that they form but one single act of worship" (n. 56). Brothers and sisters, as we seek our nourishment from this abundant source of divine life, let us allow ourselves to be transformed by the mystery we celebrate.

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/audiences/2026/documents/20260624-udienza-generale.html>

This catechesis is particularly timely for us, as this Sunday we celebrate the First Holy Communion of 19 of our young people. Pope Leo reminds us that, in the Eucharistic celebration, we are not passive spectators, but active members of Christ's body, formed and nourished by this abundant source of divine life. This weekend, let us pray in a special way for our candidates and their families, that the Lord may draw them ever more deeply into his divine life.



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

13 SEP **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** | Please join in celebration and prayer as we congratulate the 19 candidates of First Holy Communion. Mass will be followed by morning tea, all are welcome.

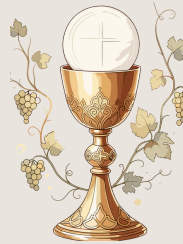
14 SEP **PARISH LUNCH** | 12pm at the Irish Club, Monday the 14th of September. All are welcome

17 SEP **ST THOMAS RCIA** | The next RCIA session is Thursday 17 September at 6pm. The topic this week will be The Bible & Lectio Divina. For more information contact the parish office.

6 OCT **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 on the 22nd of September.

22 SEP **ST THOMAS YOUNG ADULTS MASS & TRIVIA** | First Tuesday of the month, Holy Hour & Mass followed by Trivia at the Burns Club.

Congratulations



Congratulations to all who celebrated their First Holy Communion this weekend. May Jesus remain close to you and guide you in faith, hope, and love.

Lord, bless these children and their families as they continue their journey in faith.



If you or someone you know is interested in free red desk chairs, we have about 25 chairs we'd like to give away-take as many as needed/wanted. Please contact the parish office if you're interested.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL | Members in SVDP Conferences are at the heart of the Society. They form the foundation of our grassroots identity and deep connection with the local community and our parishioners. Our values bind us together and guide our behaviours, our decision making and how we work with each other and our stakeholders. We welcome new members with their valued skills to come and share our loyalty in service to our mission, vision and values.



CONTACT US

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



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM

COMMUNITY NOTICES

19 SEP

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC CHURCH NARRABUNDAH ONE DAY RETREAT | One day retreat held at St Benedict's Catholic Church, 10 Tallara Pkwy, Narrabundah. Admission is free, lunch available at nominal cost. The retreat will run on the 19th of September from 10:30am-3:30pm. RSVP by the 15th September. For any enquiries please contact Parveen: 0439 642 957, Prakash: 0406 381 446, For more information and to register, visit: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/gEhrAB2xkh?origin=lprLink>

20 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.

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.

10 OCT

MT TAYLOR PILGRIMAGE AND ROSARY | Fr Emil invites members of the Parish to join him and neighbouring Parishes for a walk and rosary on Mt Taylor. Mass will be held at 12pm followed by BYO picnic lunch. Kambah Parish to meet at Sulwood drive meeting point. Please note that the walk can be strenuous at times, it is not recommended for anyone with limited fitness or mobility. Minors to be supervised by parent/carer. Email Fr Emil emil.milat@cg.org.au for more information or call 0414 523 036 on the day.

13 OCT

FATIMA DAY PILGRIMAGE | The South Woden Parish, led by Fr Emil Milat has organised a Fatima Day pilgrimage to Penrose Park Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy. It will take place on the 13th of October and will include Rosary, Solemn Mass, Eucharistic procession to the Grotto and confession. A return bus transport is available for \$55pp (no refund policy). For more information, visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1635863> or email: wodensouth@cg.org.au

24 OCT

CURSILLO 60TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION | SAT 24 – SUN 25 OCT, ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH CENTRE, MANUKA |

Calling all Cursillistas! Cursillo has been active in the Canberra-Goulburn Diocese for 60 years and thousands have participated in Cursillo weekends here during that time. To celebrate, a Reunion will be held on Sat 24 and Sun 25 Oct at St Christopher's Parish Centre, Manuka, and all who have participated in a Cursillo recently, or in the long-distant past, are invited to register and come along. Please register before 16 Oct. Contact acgcursillo@gmail.com
More info and registration <https://tinyurl.com/cg60reunion>

PARISH ROSTER

19 / 20th September	6 PM	8:30 AM	10:00 AM
Acolyte	Michael	Wayne	Phil
Readers	Winnie & Prakash R	E/S Shaw & A/V Stewart	Help needed
Music Team	Ester Drew	Ringrose-Voase Family	Bruna Strmota
Counters	Andrew & Cecily	Cleaners	Battisson & Nina B

First Reading

SIRACH 27:30 - 28:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm

PSALM 102:1-4, 9-12, R V8

R. The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Second Reading

ROMANS 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

Gospel

MATTHEW 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'