

#### OUR PARISH

Contact Parish Pastoral Council via email: [ppc.mhoc@gmail.com](mailto:ppc.mhoc@gmail.com)

#### OUR PARISH MISSION:

"All the Church, all the Gospel, all the people, all the time"

#### OUR PARISH VISION:

All the Church - we will **WORSHIP** with an open heart.

All the Gospel - we will celebrate the **WORD** with joy.

All the People - we will care for the **WELFARE** of all.

All the Time - we will maintain our **WORKS** with integrity.

#### OUR PARISH SCRIPTURE

"Refresh my heart in Christ" - Philemon 1:20b

#### OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT

MHOC Parish & the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn are committed to the care, wellbeing & protection of children, young people & people at risk in our community.

If you need to communicate any concerns, please contact one of our Parish Safeguarding Contacts displayed on the posters on the main church notice boards & our website.

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 Our parish is now supported by CCTV and S1 Security. Smile!

#### THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

The Epiphany of the Lord, Psalter Week 1, Year B/2

**Sacred Heart Church Mass & CS Times:**

**CS=Communion Service.**

**Remember to turn your phones off when in the church, thank you.**

**A prayerful silence is respectfully requested as we gather to celebrate Eucharist.**

Mon: 8.30am **CS** The Baptism of the Lord  
Tue: 10am **Funeral Mass** for Margaret Kelly  
5.30pm **Mass**  
Wed: 8.30am **Mass** Thu: 8.30am **Mass**  
Fri: 8.45am Morning Prayer of the Church  
9.00am Rosary, 9.30am **Mass with Fr Emil**  
5.30pm Evening Prayer & Adoration  
Sat: 6.00pm **Mass**  
Sun: 8.30am & 10am **Masses**

The Pines Living Farrer mass is held at 3pm on the last Thursday of the month.

Goodwin Village, mass is held at 9.30am on the last Saturday of the month.

**RECONCILIATION (Confession): Sat 11am-12pm** (or by appointment).

**BAPTISMS:** Baptism information may be gained through our website or parish office.

**WEDDINGS:** By appointment, at least 6 months notice is essential. Phone the Office for details.

**The BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL** is open daylight hours each day for Adoration & quiet prayer. The chapel is not to be used while Mass is being celebrated. Please do not leave cut flowers or candles in the Chapel.

#### Homilies:

Fr Richard has his weekend homily recorded. To listen, go to our website.

**Live Stream Mass** is still available from our Cathedral : Mon—Sat 12.15pm & Sun 11am:  
<https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>



## Mary Help of Christians Parish South Woden, PEARCE ACT

Parish Priest: Father Richard Thompson VG CSM RAN Rtd ChLJ

Parish Office: 115 Hodgson Cres, PEARCE ACT 2607 Ph: 02 6286 1908

Office Manager: Melanie Kerr

Office Hours: 9am – 3pm Tuesday - Friday;

Parish email address: [wodensouth@cg.org.au](mailto:wodensouth@cg.org.au)

WEBSITE address: [www.mhoc.org.au](http://www.mhoc.org.au)

Sacramental Programmes: Christina Erwin - [wodensouth.sacraments@cg.org.au](mailto:wodensouth.sacraments@cg.org.au)

For information on how to join planned giving or donate to our parish see our website: [www.mhoc.org.au/planned-giving/](http://www.mhoc.org.au/planned-giving/)

*Our parish acknowledges & celebrates the original custodians of this sacred land & we commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.*



### EPIPHANY BLESSING—Marking our homes with blessed chalk for the New Year

This ancient custom of marking the home with blessed chalk on the Feast of the Epiphany is a special house blessing. With the blessed chalk, mark the lintel of you home with:

**20 C+M+B 24**

The letters C, M & B stand for the traditional names of the Wise Men who came seeking Jesus: Caspar, Melchio and Balthasar. The letters also represent the words *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* (*May Christ Bless this Abode*)

#### Words to be said at home:

Peace be upon our (this) house and to all who live here. **Amen.**

Matthew 2:1-2, 10-11

*The wise men from the East came to Jerusalem asking: "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage." When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage.*

*The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Say:**

1. **"The Three Wise Men"** and then mark with chalk **C M B** (Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar)

2. **"Followed the light of the star to find Jesus, the Son of God, who came to live among us"**

3. **"Two thousand and twenty four years ago"** and then mark **20** before the 'C' and **24** after the 'B'

4. **"May Christ bless our home today and"** and then mark **+** between the 'C' and 'M'

5. **"Remain with us throughout the year"** and then mark **+** between the 'M' and 'B'

Let us pray: God of mercy, fill our home with the light and love of Christ that it may be place of hospitality and welcome. May Christ be our shelter when we are at home, our companion when we are away, and our welcome guest when we return. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

#### A farewell message from Fr Richard Thompson:

Further to the last 'thank you' notice I put in the bulletin, the following people do need to be especially acknowledged:

The Archdiocesan Chancery & support staff; Melanie & Christina in the Office; the Parish & Finance Council members; the volunteers & paid employees who have helped maintain the grounds; all the volunteers who have provided their time & energy to maintaining our church & liturgies; my neighbours & friends who have fed, watered & kept a watchful & prayerful eye on me over the last 10 years.

**Homilies:** I sincerely thank all who have complimented me on my homilies where I have tried to allow the Holy Spirit to help lead us all into a deeper knowledge & relationship with our Church & its Head, Jesus Christ. I intend to continue to put my homilies on line at [https://soundcloud.com/fr\\_thompson\\_homilies](https://soundcloud.com/fr_thompson_homilies). Thank you all for your support which I now ask you to offer Fr Emil as he begins leading this parish into the next stage of its journey. God bless you all. Mary Help of Christians, pray for us.  
*Please pray for me. Fr Richard*



#### Monthly Morning Teas

Please join us this weekend in the Church Hall for a hot cuppa after the 8.30am & 10am masses for our monthly morning teas.

*This is also an opportunity to say farewell to Fr Richard.*



There will be another opportunity to farewell him, when the holiday season has finished.

### ROSTERS FOR PARISH MINISTRIES FOR THE SUNDAY OF 13/14 January 2024

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B/2

**Commentators and Lectors**

6.00pm S Short & A Kaushal

8.30am G Joseph & M Supple

10am B Usback & R Coggan

**Extra-ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist**

6.00pm M-A Kitchen

8.30am P Collins

10am R Usback

**Acolytes:**

6.00pm A Smith

8.30am P Collins

10.00am M McAppion

**Music Ministry:**

6pm Volunteer please

8.30am Volunteer please

10.00am Volunteer please

**Altar Servers:**

Trained servers please volunteer at Mass

**Church Linen January:** S de Silva

**Welcome Ministry:**

6.00pm P Verdon

8.30am N Hately

10.00am L Henshaw

**Altar Care (January 8):** S Topp



**Please note** the Parish Office is closed Tue 9 Jan & will reopen Wed 10 Jan. Please hand Mass intentions directly to Fr Richard prior to or after mass. Thank you.

#### Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

Sacramental Program enrolments are now open for children baptised Catholic in year 4 & above. The program/s start Wed 7 Feb. See the MHOC website for details: <http://www.mhoc.org.au/sacraments/first-holy-communion/>



#### Please remember all of our faithful departed:

**Recent deceased:** Margaret Kelly,

Rathesh Fernando & Demetrio La Face.

**Anniversaries:** Rustam Tantri,

Juliana Campos, Fr John Briscoe & Fr Patrick

Lanigan. We also pray for the souls of the Askander & Shano Families. May they all rest in peace.



#### School of Religion Enrolments are open for Term 1, 2024 (Primary).

The first session will be Wed 7 Feb from 4-5pm in the Hall & Church. Please see our website for more program information & for details on how to enrol via Qkr!

<http://www.mhoc.org.au/ministries/school-of-religion/>

Our parish welcomes Kelly Munstermann being received into the Catholic Church, Hudson Munstermann for his First Holy Communion, Iliana & Luca Tozzi receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation & Joseph Pace being baptised this weekend.



May they all be richly blessed with God's presence & feel the support of our Parish & their families.