



Sunday 7 September 2025

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Image: "Christ Carrying the Cross" by Doménikos Theotokópoulos (El Greco), c. 1577–1587, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

El Greco's striking canvas presents Christ alone against a darkened sky, his elongated figure draped in vivid red and blue. With crown of thorns and hands tenderly embracing the cross, Jesus' upward gaze radiates calm resolve and deep surrender. Absent any crowd or background detail, the focus is on Christ's silent acceptance of suffering - inviting His followers to ponder the cost of discipleship. El Greco's luminous colours and spiritual intensity transform this moment of pain into an image of hope, calling each disciple to follow Christ with trust and courage.

PARISH CLERGY

Fr Dave Braithwaite SJ Parish Priest
pp@stcanice.org.au

Fr Dave Ryan SJ Assistant Parish Priest
dave.ryan@stcanice.org.au

PARISH HUB

🕒 Tues to Thurs 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

✉ contactus@stcanice.org.au

☎ +61 2 9358 5229

🌐 www.stcanice.org.au

📍 24 Roslyn Street Rushcutters Bay NSW 2011

LITURGICAL CALENDAR & REMEMBRANCE

Monday, 8 September 2025 The Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast) **No Mass**

Tuesday, 9 September 2025 Tuesday of the 23rd Week in Ordinary Time or St Peter Claver (OM) **Mass 8:00 am**

Wednesday, 10 September August 2025 Wednesday of the 23rd Week in Ordinary Time **Mass 8:00 am**

Thursday, 11 September 2025 Thursday of the 23rd Week in Ordinary Time **Mass 8:00 am**

Friday, 12 September 2025 Friday of the 23rd Week in Ordinary Time or The Most Holy Name of Mary (OM) **Mass 8:00 am**

Saturday, 13 September 2025 Saturday of the 23rd Week in Ordinary Time or St John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor (OM) **Mass 9:00 am**

SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2025 - FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS MASSES:
6:00 PM (SATURDAY VIGIL MASS) SUNDAY
8:30 AM AND 10:00 AM

HYMNS AND MUSIC

Processional Sweet Sacrament Divine (248)

Responsorial Psalm In Every Age, O LORD, You Have Been Our Refuge

Offertory Take Up Your Cross

Memorial Acclamation Save Us, Saviour of the World, for by Your Cross and Resurrection You Have Set Us Free

Communion O esca viatorum, o panis angelorum (Words: St Thomas Aquinas - Trans: O food of men wayfaring, O bread of angels sharing), Soul of My Saviour (245)

Recessional Immaculate Mary (117)

ST CANICE'S - A JESUIT PARISH IN THE HEART OF SYDNEY

ST CANICE'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

We have made it easier for you to make an offering for the needs of our parish and our priests. Please scan the **QR code (see right) to donate**



NEW TO ST CANICE'S?

Please scan the **QR code (see right)** to stay in touch with the various apostolates, services and events in our parish. We would love to keep you in the loop.



**CURIOUS GRACE IS ON AGAIN THIS SUNDAY
7 SEPTEMBER 2025 (FATHER'S DAY) AFTER 10AM
MASS**

Curious Grace provides a safe, creative and welcoming space for anyone in our parish or the wider community. Whether you join for a chat, creative activity or simply a cup of coffee, all are welcome. The Curious Grace movement, which started at St Canice's, encourages belonging, peer support and well-being in both fun and challenging times. Join us for a cuppa, conversation, hand massage, painting and drawing - a wonderful chance to catch up, meet fellow parishioners and welcome new faces from the community. **More information: Sonia +61 414 376 868**

CURIOUS GRACE KNITTING GROUP

The Curious Grace Knitting Group meets in the church hall on the third Thursday of each month (18 September, 16 October, 20 November and 15 January). All are welcome! You may contribute "Curious Grace Love Rugs" by knitting/crocheting 20 x 20cm squares (10 or 8 ply minimum, acrylic yarn) at home or join us for chat, cuppa and cake as we work together. Each rug needs 35 squares, so coordinating colours and patterns with friends is encouraged. All rugs raised go to support Curious Grace and St Canice's Kitchen. **For queries please contact Jen: +61 429 966 492**

IGNATIAN VALUES AT NOSSEF - NOT JUST IDEAS

In recent weeks, two interesting articles have been written about NOSSEF in Railaco, our sister parish and about St Canice's early response to the critical needs in Timor-Leste. Both articles may be of interest to you.

The most recent Jesuit Newsletter from Timor-Leste, reports that "*Through formation programs and Ignatian values, NOSSEF has helped students to grow not just in academics but in leadership, compassion and care for others.*" See "**Serving the School Community**"

<https://timorlestejesuits.org/serving-the-school-community/>.

Paul Cleary, St Canice parishioner and journalist, has written an article for the National Catholic Register about the commitment of Australian Catholic parishes, schools and communities to our brothers and sisters in Timor-Leste. Paul describes St Canice's as an "early responder," outlining the programs St Canice's and our donors have supported for over 20 years. See "**Australian Catholics Have Kept Faith With the Church in East Timor**"

<https://www.ncregister.com/features/australian-catholics-have-kept-faith-with-the-church-in-east-timor>

PRAYERS SOUGHT

Recently Deceased John Prescott, Tony Yeldham, Jose Henrique Dardis, Dorothy Furhagen, Dennis Philips, Paul Gusses, Vitauts Adamsons, Twinning Cruz and all the recently departed.

Mass Intentions

Leslie Patrick Musgrave and Catherine Mary Alexander, Irene (Timmy) Harding, Dennis O'Brien, Xavier Sedger. Unwell: Wendy Fothergill.

We especially remember...

Matthew Slade-Smith, Giulia Lombardo

Congratulations to newly weds

Kathy Tanevska & Guiliana Pessotto (9/08/2025)

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by St Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect www.popesprayer.va

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (RECONCILIATION)

Sunday 9.30am

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (FIRST FRIDAYS)

You are warmly invited to spend time in the peaceful presence of Jesus during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the First Friday of each month. **Next Adoration Evening: Friday, 3 October 2025 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm**

CONTACT ST CANICE'S PARISH HUB

To contact St Canice's about:

- St Canice's Columbarium
- St Canice's Sanctuary Guild
- St Canice's Altar Service
- Anointing of the sick
- Deceased anniversaries
- Prayers for an ill friend or family member
- Mass intentions
- David's Place
- Curious Grace @ St Canice's
- St Canice's Kitchen
- Railaco Timor Leste
- Colombière Social Enterprises
- Holy Communion for the housebound
- Sharing God's Word at St Canice's
- St Canice's Op Shop
- St Canice's Bequests



please scan the Parish Hub QR code

LADY CHAPEL TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Our beautiful Lady Chapel will be closed for the next 2-3 weeks while renovation works are carried out. Thanks to the generosity of one of our parishioners, we are undertaking a restoration of the Lady Chapel and the chapel altar area. You will notice that the painting of Our Lady of the Angels has been removed to be restored offsite. The marble and tiled floor will be cleaned and new lighting will be installed. Once finished, it will be even more beautiful! AMDG

ST CANICE'S KITCHEN - VOLUNTEER DELIVERY DRIVERS NEEDED

(No special licence required – Tarago van provided) St Canice's Kitchen depends on the generosity of our volunteers, corporate partners and suppliers to help serve over 50,000 meals each year. Three of our wonderful suppliers - Harris Farm, OzHarvest and Bakers Delight - provide weekly bread, pastries, fruit and vegetables. We urgently need volunteer drivers to help collect and deliver these donations to our kitchen.

Bread Delivery – Sundays (fortnightly)

When: Fortnightly on Sunday, pick-up around 5.30 pm
From: Bakers Delight (Rose Bay)
Duration: Approx. 1.5 hours
Requirements: Able to lift at least 5kg.
Transport: Use our Tarago van (pick up from St Canice's) or your own van

Fruit and Vegetables Delivery – Monday to Saturday

When: Pickups at 11.30am, Monday to Saturday
From: Woolworths (Kings Cross) and Harris Farm (Potts Point)
Duration: Less than 1 hour
Requirements: Able to lift at least 10kg
Transport: Use our van or your own vehicle

Regular weekly shifts or more frequent help welcome
Interested? Please get in touch with Ollie at ollie@stcanice.org.au or +61 426 659 524

Thank you for helping us feed our community with dignity, care and love.

SUBSCRIBE TO ST CANICE'S ON YOUTUBE

Subscribe to the St Canice's YouTube channel for more content from our Parish



DAVID'S PLACE

David's Place offers spirituality and community to Sydney's homeless and marginalised. For 19 years, it has provided a space for prayer, pastoral care, Mass, and fellowship. **Website: www.davidsplace.com.au**
Visitors always welcome

MAKE A NOTE! FEAST OF ST CANICE 12 OCT 2025

Our parish will celebrate the Feast of St Canice on Sunday 12 October 2025 with Mass followed by morning tea. Please invite your families! Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will attend, so mark your diaries and follow parish socials for details.

Who was St Canice? St Canice (also known as Cainnech of Aghaboe or St Kenneth) was a 6th century Irish abbot, missionary and founder. Born in County Derry, he trained with various saints and worked closely with St Columba, spreading Christianity in Scotland before founding the influential monastery at Aghaboe, Ireland. He is honoured as one of the 12 Apostles of Ireland.

HOLY COMMUNION VISITS

If you, or someone you know, is housebound due to age, illness, or injury and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, we have a parishioner who is available to visit.

Please contact Stephen Fulham on +61 411 626 262 to arrange a suitable time

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT RAILACO

We encourage you to consider supporting Railaco with monthly donations, covering more than half of our annual support. By supporting education at Escola Secundária Católica Nossa Senhora de Fátima (NOSSEF), you can help to build a stronger, more self-reliant Timor-Leste. If you would like to help transform the lives of these rural Catholic families, please consider donating. Your donation, managed by Jesuit Mission Australia, is tax-deductible and goes directly to Railaco.

To donate, kindly scan the QR code (see below right)



PARISHIONER PETER DODDS AND RAILACO

Our 10am Sunday Mass stalwart, Peter Dodds, first travelled to East Timor with the St Canice's immersion group back in 2019. Peter has recently returned from his fourth visit. On the occasion of his first visit to NOSSEF with fellow parishioners, Peter shared his personal thoughts:

I was struck with intermingled feelings of a simple, shared joy; a deep personal sense of gratitude just for being there; and a strong sense of being part of something truly good. Out of the blue, a thought popped into my mind, the opening line of a hymn I am fond of: "Here in this place a new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away."



MEDITATION FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Whoever does not carry the cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple. ... None of you can become My disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

Introduction

Enter into the quiet presence of the LORD, letting go of familiar attachments and ambitions. Listen for the LORD’s call in the Gospel - a call not to comfort, but to courageous faith, sacrificial love and wholehearted discipleship. Prepare to hear what JESUS asks: to follow Him above all else and to set aside anything that keeps one from His path.

Sign of the Cross

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

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Come, HOLY SPIRIT, wellspring of courage and wisdom. Show me where I cling to comfort, fear and security. Strengthen my willingness to follow CHRIST with all my heart, to embrace the crosses I am asked to carry and to love without counting the cost.

Act of Contrition

LORD, forgive me for placing other loyalties and comforts before You. Pardon my reluctance to accept sacrifice and to let go of what I own or love most. Make my heart undivided, ready to walk Your way and open to the radical demands of Your Gospel.

Reading of Sacred Scripture – Luke 14: 25–33

Read slowly, allowing JESUS’ words to challenge and encourage:

“Whoever comes to Me and does not hate father and mother, spouse and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be My disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple. ... So therefore, none of you can become My disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

Meditatio (Reflection)

- What are the “possessions” or attachments in my life that pull me away from trusting JESUS fully?
- In what ways is the LORD inviting me to deeper faithfulness and a willingness to make difficult choices for His sake?
- What crosses am I called to carry?
- What fears or hesitations do I need to entrust to Him?
- Recall a time when surrendering something for CHRIST’s sake led to unexpected joy or peace.

Oratio (Prayer)

“LORD JESUS, guide me to follow You with an undivided heart. Grant me strength to carry my cross, courage to let go of what holds me back and love that reaches beyond my own circle. Shape me into a true disciple, free to serve and bless others. May those who feel burdened find hope in Your way and may I always be ready to give everything for Your Kingdom.”

Offer to God the burdens, fears or relationships needing surrender and pray for all who struggle to follow JESUS’ challenging call.

Contemplatio (Contemplation)

Rest in silence before GOD. Picture CHRIST carrying the cross, walking ahead and inviting you to walk with Him. Sense His compassion, His invitation to share in His mission and His promise that life’s greatest treasure is found in letting go.

Conclusion

Our Father...

JESUS, faithful teacher and friend, mould my life according to Your Gospel. Grant that, with humility and steadfast love, I may persevere as Your disciple and one day share the joy of Your eternal banquet. Through CHRIST our LORD, Amen.



A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Child abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you—or anyone you know—have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.