



Sunday 4 October 2026

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Red Vineyard, Vincent van Gogh (Dutch, 1853–1890), November 1888, oil on canvas, Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts, Moscow. Public domain.

Vincent van Gogh painted this vineyard near Arles in the last light of an autumn afternoon. The leaves have turned red and gold, the sun hangs low and enormous over the horizon and the ground glows as if the earth itself were on fire.

Women in dark dresses bend to gather the grapes; a cart waits at the edge of the field. Everything speaks of labour and harvest – of a vineyard that has been dug, planted, tended and watched over through a whole season, now yielding its fruit. It is said to be the only painting van Gogh sold in his lifetime.

This Sunday's readings are set in a vineyard too. Isaiah sings a love-song about a friend who did everything for his vineyard – cleared the stones, planted the choicest vines, built the watchtower — and then found only wild grapes. In the Gospel, Jesus tells of a landowner whose tenants seize the harvest for themselves and kill the son sent to collect it. Both stories ask the same uncomfortable question: God has poured such care into us — what are we giving back? Van Gogh's field is full of people working, bringing in a harvest that is not their own to keep. St Paul tells us what the good fruit looks like: whatever is true, honourable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable. The Lord of the vineyard is still looking for it in us. And the psalm gives us our prayer when we fall short: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 5:1-7 • Psalm 79(80):9,12-16,19-20. R: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel • Philippians 4:6-9 • Matthew 21:33-43

Mon 5 Oct: Weekday, 27th Week in OT (St Faustina Kowalska, Virgin (OM))

Tues 6 Oct: Weekday, 27th Week in OT (St Bruno, Priest (OM))

Wed 7 Oct: Our Lady of the Rosary (M)

Thurs 8 Oct: Weekday, 27th Week in OT

Fri 9 Oct: Weekday, 27th Week in OT (St Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs (OM)); St John Leonardi, Priest (OM); St John Henry Newman, Priest and Doctor of the Church (OM))

Sat 10 Oct: Weekday, 27th Week in OT

NEXT SUNDAY: SOLEMNITY OF ST CANICE OF AGHABOE, PATRON OF OUR PARISH

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember our deceased brethren having anniversaries this week and those for whom Mass intentions have been sought.

COLUMBARIUM MASS INTENTIONS

6 October 2008 Marie Josephine Brown [Niche 292]

OTHER MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased and Others who have Died

Baker Athuatika, Kate Coxon, Norma Mary Graham, Mara Separovich, Niksha Zaknich, Cvita Zaknich, Jim Caward, Lisa O'Neil, Stan Duncan and Colleen Toohey
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Sick Vicky Bell, Helene Hussein, Peter and Mary Moloney

Lord Jesus, healer of body and spirit, look with mercy on all who are sick or in pain. Give them courage in suffering and trust that you are close to them. Strengthen those who care for them and grant healing, peace and hope. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS

Holy Baptism 3rd Sunday after 10.00 am Mass

Holy Matrimony To arrange, kindly contact Parish Hub

MASS INTENTIONS AND COLUMBARIUM

Please use the Parish Hub QR Code

THIS WEEK AT ST CANICE'S

Holy Rosary after weekday Mass

Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation)

Sunday 27 Sep 9:30 am - 10:00 am

St Francis of Assisi Sun 4 Oct (not observed liturgically this year as it falls on Sunday) - close of the Season of Creation

David's Place Group Prayer Tue 6 Oct 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm, David's Place Meeting Space

Our Lady of the Rosary (M) Wed 7 Oct

Requiem Mass for Baker Athuatika Friday 9 Oct

COMING UP - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST: SEVEN NIGHT TOUR OF IRELAND, "IN THE STEPS OF ST CANICE"

St Canice's Parish is organising a 7-day tour of Ireland from 9 to 15 May 2027, following the path of St Canice through history, spirituality and stunning landscapes. The tour begins in Clane, Co. Kildare, and ends in Knock, Co. Mayo, taking in Glendalough and the Monastery of St Kevin in the Wicklow Mountains, Kilkenny, the Mass Rock at Stradbally, St Canice's Cathedral and Tower, the River Nore, Ardfert and Tralee, the Cliffs of Moher, Galway, the Aran Islands, Connemara and Knock.

The tour is organised with Fr Paul O'Boyle of the Parish of Clane and Rathcoffey, who will accompany the group alongside our Parish Priest, Fr David Braithwaite SJ. Costs for a group of 20 are being finalised and will include accommodation, ground transport, internal flights and ferries, all breakfasts, some lunches and dinners, and entry fees. International airfares and travel insurance are not included.

To register your interest or ask questions, please contact sonia@stcanice.org.au.

SAVE THE DATE

Solemnity of St Canice (Cainnech) of Aghaboe (515/16-600) - Patron of our Parish
Sunday 11 Oct 2026 — 10:00 am

Join us as to celebrate the feast of our patron saint - St Canice of Aghaboe - abbot, missionary and man of deep prayer - who brought the light of the Gospel to Ireland and Scotland in the sixth century. Further details to follow

CONTACT & MASS TIMES

Parish Hub: contactus@stcanice.org.au

Phone: +61 2 9358 5229

Web: www.stcanice.org.au

Mass Times

Sunday 8:30am & 10:00am

Tuesday to Friday 8:00am

Saturday 9:00am & 6:00pm (Vigil)

Sacrament of Penance (Confession)

Sunday 9:30am

Scan the Parish Hub QR code for Mass intentions, Columbarium enquiries and general contact.



PARISH TEAM

Clergy

Fr Dave Braithwaite SJ Parish Priest

E: pp@stcanice.org.au

Fr Dave Ryan SJ Assistant Priest

E: dave.ryan@stcanice.org.au

Parish Hub

Tuesday to Thursday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

E: contactus@stcanice.org.au

T: +61 2 9358 5229

W: www.stcanice.org.au

Street Address: 24 Roslyn Street, Elizabeth Bay NSW 2011

ONGOING NOTICES

St Canice's Restoration Appeal

St Canice's is undertaking a Restoration Appeal to preserve and enhance our church for generations to come. To learn more or donate, please scan the QR Code.

Holy Communion for the Housebound

If you, or someone you know, is unable to attend Mass due to age, illness or injury and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Stephen Fulham at +61 411 626 262.

Holy Father's Worldwide Prayer Network

October 2026 - For mental health

ministry. Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses. www.popesprayer.va



Please take a copy of the SAVE THE DATE brochure for parish events in the month of October



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 +61 2 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 of Sydney has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.