

**Second Sunday of Lent**  
**Sunday 25th February 2018**

**Entrance Antiphon** : Of You my heart has spoken: Seek His face.  
It is Your face O Lord, that I seek; hide not Your face from me.

**First reading** from the book of Genesis. 22: 1 - 2, 9 - 13, 15 - 18..

**Responsorial Psalm** : I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

**Second Reading** from the letter of St Paul to the Romans. 8: 31 - 34.

**Gospel Acclamation** : Glory and praise to You Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud, the Fathers voice is heard: this is My beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to You Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel** : According to Mark 9: 2 - 10.

**Communion Antiphon** : This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him.

**Sydney Archdiocese News**

**Invitation to Clergy, Religious and Parishioners**

Clergy, religious and parishioners are invited to join Archbishop Anthony Fisher, OP and his auxiliary bishops in their Prayers of Forgiveness and Reparation for all people who have been affected, directly or indirectly, by abuse within the Church. Survivors of abuse who feel able to attend this liturgy are warmly welcome. The prayers, centred on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, will be in St Mary's Cathedral, Syd at 6.30 pm on Friday March 2nd, which is an Ember Day of prayer and fasting throughout Australia.

**The Bishop's Blend Breakfast Series:**

Join the Most Rev Bishop Richard Umbers on Tues 27 Feb at 7:00am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Syd for a quarterly breakfast for young professionals. For more information: [bisopsblend@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:bisopsblend@sydneycatholic.org) or go to: <https://thebishopsblendthirdedition.eventbrite.com>

**WYD 2019 in Panama**

The Archdiocese of Sydney is offering a 'fear of missing out' experience leading up to WYD in Panama for young adults aged 18-35.

Date: Tuesday, February 27 2018. 6:30pm – 8.00pm

Venue: Our Lady of the Rosary, Fairfield.

18 Vine St, Fairfield NSW 2165

**St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy**

*We are a community striving for growth, unity, equality,  
love and commitment*

<b>Administrator :</b>	Rev. Fr. Andrew James
<b>Assistant Priest :</b>	Rev. Fr. Thomas Alukka Varghese
<b>Assistant Priest :</b>	Rev. Fr. Nicholas Rynne
<b>Permanent Deacon :</b>	Rev. Mr. Al Salu
<b>Parish Secretary :</b>	Mr. David Moore
<b>Parish Office Hours :</b>	Mon 10.00 am - 3.30 pm Wed 9.30 am - 3.30 pm Fri 9.30 am - 3.30 pm
<b>Address :</b>	195 Heathcote Rd, Holsworthy 2173
<b>Mail :</b>	<u>PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875</u>
<b>Website :</b>	<a href="http://www.stchristophers.org.au">www.stchristophers.org.au</a>
<b>Email :</b>	<a href="mailto:stchris@tpg.com.au">stchris@tpg.com.au</a>
<b>Tel :</b>	(02) 9825 1679
<b>Fax :</b>	(02) 9825 1488



**St Christopher's Catholic School** — *Through faith and love we serve*

<b>Principal:</b>	Mr. Tony Boyd
<b>School Tel:</b>	(02) 9825 3251

**Second Sunday of Lent - (Year B)**

**Sunday 25th February 2018**

Like so many other important events in the Bible, the events of this week's gospel occur on a high mountaintop. Mountaintops were places of special and dramatic encounter with God and the disciples' experience of the transfiguration is clearly no exception! In this instance, the disciples suddenly see Jesus' power fully revealed but they fail to fully understand. One might think how much more obvious could God be about trying to reveal Jesus' identity, but still they don't really catch on. When the great prophets Elijah and Moses appear beside Jesus, Peter understands Him to be part of the line of prophets in the Hebrew tradition. He believes he has had a great insight and is so impressed that he wants to remain on the mountaintop – setting up tents in honour of Jesus, Elijah and Moses. In essence, Peter has still only partially understood who Jesus is. He thinks he is the Messiah, but a Messiah in the same mould as the prophets of the old tradition. He has not understood that Jesus is breaking that mould and creating a new vision, a new tradition, one that is endorsed by the voice of God on the mountaintop. Rather than allowing the disciples to set up tents and remain in the 'high' of this experience, Jesus immediately leads them back down the mountain. This is perhaps the greatest message of this passage: that life is not lived on the mountaintop but back down in the valley. Although the mountaintop experience may have provided some new insight and energy, it is back down in the valley that the real work needs to be done; that the sick and the poor are crying out for God's love and mercy.

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## **Parish Collections : 18th February 2018**

**First:** \$1,116.25      **Second:** \$1,056.85

## **Parish News:**

### **Sacramental Program 2018**

Information for parents & caregivers regarding this year's sacramental program is available at the back of the Church and on the Parish website at [stchristophers.org.au/](http://stchristophers.org.au/)

### **Ladies Weekend Gathering 02 - 04 March, 2018**

An invitation is extended to women of all parishes to attend a weekend retreat of prayerful, relaxed time out. This is an opportunity to refresh yourself, both spiritually and physically, in the company of other women in a prayerful environment. Details:

Mt Carmel Retreat centre, St Andrews Rd Varroville. Cost \$225 person. For info contact Ann-Marie Green 0416 051 206 or [amtg4@hotmail.com](mailto:amtg4@hotmail.com)

### **Fundraising**

The Fete / Fund Raising committee would like to advise that due to the possible building of a new parish / school hall, we will be unable to hold a Fete this year. After successfully raising enough funds to cover air conditioning in 2017 it was hoped that another Fete could help achieve our new goal of updating the sound system and installing an overhead screen in the church. Notwithstanding this setback, our goal remains unchanged and fund raising will continue in the Parish. We currently have the 200 Club running and future fund raising includes:

- \* Bunnings Bankstown Airport BBQ's booked for Sat 14th April and Sat 5th May. In trying to keep our costs down we are asking Parishioners if they might donate cartons of soft drinks eg Coke, Solo, Lemonade etc?
- \* Family Bingo Day and BBQ in the Parish in July. Date T.B.A.
- \* Further cake stalls
- \* Possible major Raffle in Aug & drawn at the Christmas Carols in Dec.
- \* Possible Cabaret with dinner and dancing later in the year.

Any assistance Parishioners could give would be greatly appreciated. Please direct enquiries to Helen Carter on 9824 1773 or 0418 403 842.

### **Sacred Music Workshop**

On Saturday 3 Mar (2.00pm—5.30pm) the Aust Sacred Music Assoc. is conducting the 1st of a series of workshops in Sacred and Church music. You will learn about the history and spirituality of Gregorian Chant, Sacred Polyphony, English Chant & hymns. All forms of Sacred Music will be discussed, including its performance and use in the liturgy. These workshops are not limited to the choir but to any parishioner with a musical interest, even if you'd just like to improve your singing during Mass. Each workshop is \$10 per person. All welcome.

## **Mass Times / Intentions**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24th Feb 5.30 pm</b>	Parish Intentions
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25th Feb 8.00 am</b>	Special Intentions
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25th Feb 9.30 am</b>	Mass Intentions
Monday	26th Feb 9.15 am	Thanksgiving Mass
Tuesday	27th Feb 9.15 am	Parish Intentions
Wednesday	28th Feb 9.15 am	Vocations
Thursday	1st Mar 9.15am	Valentine Vamadevan
Friday	2nd Mar 9.15 am	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	3rd Mar 11.00 am	Latin Mass

**Reconciliation : Saturdays : 4:30 pm. // Vigil Mass : 5:30 pm.**

**Baptisms :** Second & Third Sunday of the month after 9:30am Mass. By appointment only.

### **Syro - Malabar Liturgies:**

Wednesday Mass	: 7.00pm
Thursday Mass	: 7.00pm followed by Adoration (in English)
Friday Mass	: 7.30pm (except on the First Friday of the Month)
Saturday Mass	: 9.30am
Sunday Mass	: 11.30am (Third Sunday is held in the School Hall)

**The Samoan Community** celebrates Mass in the Church on the 3rd Sunday of the Month at 11.30am.



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be held during Lent in the Church on Friday evenings at 7pm.

## **Saints of the Week / Feasts**

**Friday 2nd Mar - Autumn Ember Day**

**Catholic Schools Week** commences on Sunday 4 March. St Christopher's Catholic Primary School will hold an Open Day for **NEW FAMILIES** on **Friday 16 March**.

<b>8.40-9.00</b> Prayer	<b>Liturgy &amp; Performance</b>
<b>9:30-1:00</b>	<b>Stalls, tours &amp; open classrooms</b>
<b>10:40</b>	<b>Picnic morning tea in playground</b>

*We Pray For The Sick :* Peter Wanchalerm Srirattana,  
Brian Cooney, Cyril Ferriere

*Recently deceased:* Mrs. Chris Hodgins  
*Anniversary:* Valentine Vamadevan,



Anointing of the sick.