

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time—Year A

5th February 2017

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading from the prophet Isaiah 58: 7-10

Responsorial Psalm: A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Second Reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 2: 1-5

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: According to Matthew 5: 13-16

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Saints of the Week

St Paul Miki and companions (Mon 6/2)

St Jerome Emiliani & St Josephine Bakhita (Wed 8/2)

St Scholastica (Fri 10/2) Our Lady of Lourdes (Sat 11/2)



**SISTERS OF CHARITY
OUTREACH**

COMPASSION IN ACTION

The Sisters of Charity Outreach is a community service organisation committed to providing assistance to families in need across New

South Wales through the active participation of trained volunteers and staff. Outreach supports the vulnerable in our society, with an emphasis on women and families, offering services that are professional, flexible and responsive to emerging community need. Volunteers are needed to assist our mission. There are flyers in the church foyer should you wish to know more. Or visit their website www.sistersofcharityoutreach.com.au

Happy Lunar New Year the year of the Rooster.

Best wishes of Happiness, Faithfulness and Success to everyone.



St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy

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

Administrator:	Rev. Andrew James
Assistant Priest:	Rev Thomas Alukka Varghese
Permanent Deacon:	Rev. Mr. Al Salu
Secretary:	Mrs. Anne Bennell
Parish Office Hours	Mon 10.00am—3.00pm Tues & Thurs 9.00am—3.00pm
Address:	205 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173
All correspondence to:	<u>PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875</u>
Website:	www.stchristophers.org.au
Email:	stchris@tpg.com.au
Tel:	(02) 9825 1679
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St Christopher's Catholic School—*Through faith and love we serve*

Principal:	Mr. Tony Boyd
School Tel:	(02) 9825 3251
School Mail:	195 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173

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Today, when we describe a person as being the 'salt of the earth' it's generally meant in a way that says the person is hard working, straight talking and pretty down to earth. It's usually meant as a compliment but sometimes can come across as a bit condescending when used inappropriately. When Jesus tells the disciples that they are salt of the earth and the light of the world he is really saying 'You are to *be* the salt of the earth; you are to *be* the light of the world.' It is more of a directive than an affirmation of them.

Today's first reading from Isaiah helps to shed light on Jesus' meaning in the gospel passage: 'Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn.' It sounds a lot like the message from the last judgment in Matthew 25 when the king says 'whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' It's a message of justice and right relationship not only with God but with one another also.

To be salt of the earth and light of the world means to be the one who puts their hand up and steps forward to speak for, work for and act for those who are the least in this world. To have the potential and resources to be a force for good in the world and not act on it is to be like salt that's used for salting the streets or a lamp that's under a tub.

Fr. Greg Sunter

Parish Collections

29/1/2017 **First:** \$959.35 **Second:** \$1,110.10

St Christopher's Parish news:

Can anyone volunteer: Kevin Ogle lives in Holsworthy is blind, intellectually disabled and would like to come to Mass on Sundays. If you can be of assistance in driving him to and from Mass, please contact the parish office for more details.

The next **Catechist Meeting** will be this **Monday 6th February at 10am** in the parish hall. We have vacancies in the following state schools:

Hammondville PS—Kinder, Year 1 & Year 4 Holsworthy PS—Kinder
Wattle Grove PS—Year 5 & Year 6. If you would like to support this Ministry please contact the parish office 9825 1679 for further details, or come along to this meeting.

Farewell Mr Danny Miscamble who has been the groundsman for St Christopher's school for many years is retiring. We sincerely thank him for his kindness in assisting the parish with the mowing of the grounds in his own time, and wish him improved good health for the future.



CAKE STALL The Parish Fund Raising Committee are holding a Cake stall on the 25/26 February after the weekend Masses. With your support we can make this a great success. The baking ladies are in need of donations of Self Raising Flour, sugar, butter, eggs, dates, walnuts, crushed pineapple & Philadelphia cream cheese. Donations can be left in the church foyer no later than Thursday 23rd February 2017. We thank you.

Think SAFETY

Rear to kerb when

parking in the Church Grounds.

Parishioners and new school parents of St Christopher's school for the safety and security of our children, when entering the church & school grounds please drive to the speed limit 10KL. When parking your car in the Church grounds, please reverse & park **rear to kerb** and upon leaving use the loop road via Heathcote Rd exit gate. *Thank you.*

Fr. Andrew is the Administrator of both St Christopher's Holsworthy & St Joseph's Moorebank Parishes, following the retirement of Fr. Graham McIntyre. This will continue until a replacement is named for Fr. McIntyre at Moorebank.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4th Feb 5.30pm.....Eric Lockett (RIP)
Sunday 5th Feb 8.00amParish Intentions
Sunday 5th Feb 9.30amAlan Burton (RIP)
Monday 6th Feb 9.15am.....Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday 7th Feb 9.15am.....Mark Dooley (RIP)
Wednesday 8th Feb 9.15am.....For the Sick
Thursday 9th Feb 9.15amVocations
Friday 10th Feb 9.15am.....Pat Foldes (RIP)
Saturday 11th Feb**Reconciliation : 4:30 PM // Vigil Mass :5:30PM**

Syro-Malabar Liturgies:

Wednesday Mass at 7.00pm

Thursday Mass at 7.00pm followed by Adoration (in English)

Friday Mass at 7.00pm **except on the First Friday of the Month**

Saturday Mass at 9.30am

Every Sunday Mass at 11.30am **on the Third Sunday of the Month** this will be conducted in the School Hall.

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

ARCHDIOCESE NEWS:

CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY - THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW.

This program offers a reflective insight into the Gospel with a view to living its message in our daily lives. It will focus particularly on how the Church had traditionally approached the reading of the Scriptures. **DATES:** Tuesday Nights – 28 Feb, 07, 21 & 28 March & 04 April. **TIME:** 7:00pm. **COURSE COST:** \$10 per night. **Presenter:** Bishop David Walker DD, Emeritus Bishop of Broken Bay. **To register ring or email:** Sally 9398 2211 or sally@thecentre.com.au.

CONSIDERING A ROME PILGRIMAGE? Free Information Seminars Available.

Domus Australia in conjunction with the Sydney Archdiocese is running a number of tours to Rome all throughout the year. Find out more about these competitively priced tour packages (inclusions, itinerary, dates, etc) at one of two complimentary seminars (no obligation) to be held on Level 8 at Polding Centre: **Wednesday, 1 February 2017** (5:30-7pm), and **Friday, 24 February 2017** (11am-12:30pm). Complimentary pilgrimage kits are available for attendees (plus a chance to **WIN a trip for 2 to Rome** joining one of the Rome Pilgrimages or Encore Rome Pilgrimages of your choice!). All welcome to attend at no obligation. To book your place please **RSVP** by phoning **1800 753 959** or email pilgrimage@sydneycatholic.org. Thank you and we hope to see you there. **DOMUS AUSTRALIA ROME PILGRIMAGES | CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY www.romepilgrimages.com**

We Pray For The Sick : Cyril Ferriere & Peter Sidgreaves.

Recently deceased: Gregory Sweeney

Anniversaries: Mark Dooley, Eric Lockett, Pat Foldes & Alan Burton