

**Twenty– First Sunday in Ordinary Time      27th August 2017**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

**First Reading from the prophet Isaiah 22: 19-23**

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

**Second Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 11: 33-36**

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my church the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia

**GOSPEL: According to Matthew 16: 13-20**

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

*Saints of the Week*

St Augustine (Mon 28/8)    The Passion of St John the Baptist (Tues 29/8)

**Parish Collections**

20/8/2017 **First:** \$945.55 **Second:** \$796.05

**Parish News:**

**Sacrament of Baptism** is held on the 2nd & 3rd Sunday of the Month following the 9.30am Mass. Godparents are examples of faith to the child. They must be confirmed and practicing Catholics, at least sixteen years old. There must be at least one Catholic Godparent, a non-Catholic may act as a Christian witness. Parents must attend a pre-baptismal instruction, which is held on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month at 11.00am in the Parish Hall. Please contact the parish office 9825 1679 regarding the Baptismal form.



**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION** Next Sunday 3rd September our candidates will receive this Sacrament at St Mary's Cathedral. Please keep these children and their family in your prayers.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** If your child is in Year 2 or above and has been Baptised Catholic, he/she is eligible to enrol for this Sacrament. Enrolments are available to be downloaded from the parish website [www.stchristophers.org.au](http://www.stchristophers.org.au) and there are enrolment forms in the church foyer from Thursday 24th Aug -14th Sept 2017.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PHOTOS** can now be downloaded. All official photos can be downloaded from this site. The coupon code system has now been activated and ready. <http://giovanniportelliphotography.zenfolio.com/fl27206437>

**Mt Carmel Retreat Centre September day retreat**

Presenter: Fr Paul Maunder

Where: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville, NSW, 2566

When: September 2 (Pick-ups from Minto train station at 9.45am and 10.00am. Please remember to bring your own lunch). Cost: \$25.00 Phone: 02 8795 3400

email: [\\_retreats@carmelite.com](mailto:_retreats@carmelite.com) [www.carmeliteretreats.com.au](http://www.carmeliteretreats.com.au)

**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  
**Assistant Priest:** Rev Nicholas Rynne  
**Permanent Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Al Salu  
**Secretary:** Mrs. Anne Bennell  
**Parish Office Hours** Mon 10.00am—3.30pm  
Thurs, Fri 10.00am—3.30pm  
**Address:** 195 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173  
**All correspondence to:** PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875  
**Website:** [www.stchristophers.org.au](http://www.stchristophers.org.au)  
**Email:** [stchris@tpg.com.au](mailto:stchris@tpg.com.au)  
**Tel:** (02) 9825 1679  
**Fax:** (02) 9825 1488



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

**Principal:** Mr. Tony Boyd  
**School Tel:** (02) 9825 3251  
**School Mail:** 205 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173

**Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A**  
**Sunday 27th August 2017**

Jesus had a sense of humour! Simon, son of Jonah, was far from being a rock solid supporter of Jesus. So Jesus gave him the nickname 'Rocky' which in the Greek is Petros.



Jesus puns with the nickname: 'You are Rocky and upon this rock I will build *my* church.' The natural personality of shifting sands was being transformed by the blessing just given (the only blessing bestowed upon an apostle by Jesus).

Notice that Jesus only makes promises about '*my* church', not a church shaped by human imagination, e.g. modes of Roman Imperial rule or with a Eurocentric mindset.

Fortunately, we have a successor of St Peter responding to our Risen Lord's command to St Francis of Assisi, 'Rebuild *my* church'.

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Risen Lord showers the 265th successor of St Peter with every blessing so that the Church of Jesus the Christ continues to prevail over the forces of death which threaten humanity.

*Fr. Michael Tate ©*

**ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH FETE Saturday 15th September 2017**

There will be a meeting for all volunteers in the church hall on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm** to plan for the number of people required to help with each stall.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE AN INVALUABLE PART OF THE SUCCESSFUL RUNNING OF THE FETE AND WE CANNOT DO IT WITHOUT YOU.**

There is still time to put your name on the Volunteer's Register in the foyer of the church and it would be appreciated if you could nominate the time you are available on the sheet in the foyer. At least a further 15 more volunteers are needed.

This week there will be a container in the church foyer for all those busy people who have been making things for the **CRAFT STALL**.

We thank all who have contributed to the **CHOCOLATE WHEEL and the TRASH and TREASURE** requests. Keep up the good work. We are also looking for **books, children's games, CD's and DVD's**.

We still require new quality gifts for the chocolate wheel. Perhaps you know someone who works for a retail company. Gift vouchers are also appreciated.

This week we are asking parishioners to deliver advertising flyers in the local areas. **The flyers will be inside a plastic sleeve with a highlighted map attached of the area you wish to deliver in.** Any leftover flyers please return to the foyer of the church.

To assist with our **Cake and Coffee stall** cake trays will be handed out at all Masses on the weekend **9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> September** to be returned with cakes, cookies or slices on them on either the **15<sup>th</sup>** (day before the fete) or on the day (**16<sup>th</sup>**).



Donations of **PLANTS** to be left near the steps of the hall from **15<sup>th</sup> Sept.** The fete committee will be available to collect the above on the **15th**.



The rides for the children will go on sale after the weekend Masses **2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> September** and **9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> September**. Tickets will also be sold at the school in the afternoon two Fridays before the fete, **8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September**.

Cost of tickets for unlimited rides will be:

Pre-purchased tickets - \$25 and \$35 purchased on the day. Single tickets are also available for purchase on the day.

The rides will be available from **10.00am -3.00pm**

For further information please contact Helen Carter on **9824 1773** or **0418 403 842**

Thank you for your continued support



**Mass Intentions**

Saturday 26th Aug 5.30pm.....Gino Iacovella (RIP) & Vernon Pereira (RIP)  
Sunday 27th Aug 8.00am .....Special Intention  
Sunday 27th Aug 9.30am.....Parish Intentions  
Monday 28th Aug 9.15am.....For the Sick  
Tuesday 29th Aug 9.15am.....Special Intention  
Wednesday 30th Aug 9.15am.....Vocations  
Thursday 31st Aug 9.15am.....Souls in Purgatory  
Friday 1st Sept 9.15am .....Australian troupes serving overseas  
Saturday 2nd Sept.....**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.**

**MASS & ADORATION**

**First Friday of the month**

**Friday 1st September 7.00pm**



**Our Mother of Perpetual Help** the next monthly Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help will be on Wednesday 6th September from 6:30pm to 7:00pm

**Thank you** to St Christopher's School for the paved footpath that leads from the school to the church . The school children now have a safe path to walk on.

**Church Repairs & Maintenance**

Parishioners you will notice that there has been concreting done in the church grounds, this has been a Work Health & Safety issue. Thank you to the volunteers who prepared the ground work and the concreting.

**We Pray For The Sick :** Cyril Ferriere, Arthur Aguilar, Mark Cronin and Kerry Stark



**Recently deceased:**

**Anniversaries:** Gino Iacovella & Vernon Pereira

**Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them May they rest in peace. Amen.**