

# A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

# ST JOSEPH'S

# CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

6 October 2024

Welcome to our parish!

## PRIESTS

### Parish Priest

Fr Renante Sentillas MI

### Asst Priest & RPAH Chaplain

Fr Ruben Mandin MI

### Asst Priest & RPAH Chaplain

Fr Michael Gimena MI

## PARISH OFFICE

🕒 **Mon, Thu** 10AM - 4PM  
**Sat** 10AM - 3PM

📍 2 Missenden Rd, Camperdown

☎ (02) 9557 1181

✉ stjocamper@gmail.com

🌐 stjosephscamperdown.org.au

📱 /StJosephCamperdown

## SCHEDULE OF MASS & SACRAMENTS

### Weekend Mass

Saturday 6:00 PM (Vigil)  
Sunday 9:30 AM  
11:00 AM  
6:00 PM

### Weekday Mass

Mon - Fri 8:00 AM  
8:00 PM  
Saturday 8:00 AM

### Adoration

Mon - Fri 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM\*  
after 8:00 PM Mass\*

\* Please see the **Parish Announcement** at the Parish News Section on page 3.

### Reconciliation

Sat & Sun 5:15 PM - 5:45 PM  
Mon - Fri After 8:00 PM Mass

### Anointing of the Sick

Anytime (in hospital, page the Catholic priest on-call)

### Baptism

Usually Sunday (Baptismal instructions are arranged with parents before Baptism)

### Weddings & Funerals

By appointment; 6 months notice required for weddings

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

At the beginning of 2025, a new schedule for the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take effect. **Please see the full Parish Announcement included in the Parish News Section on page 3.**

**The issue of marriage and divorce, which is the common theme between the First Reading and the Gospel today, appears rather intrusively at this point in Mark's Gospel.** Jesus has been instructing his disciples concerning his coming passion. The next issue will be that of the detachment discipleship will require in the matter of wealth. It may be that St. Mark has placed these two issues – radical fidelity in married life and radical detachment in the matter of wealth – one after the other at this point as concrete illustrations of the demands of discipleship. That is, both have to do with areas where the following of Jesus takes on a path that runs strongly counter to prevailing customs and standards – something as valid, of course, in our own day as in the time of Jesus

That said, any pastor would be aware that no Sunday Gospel read out through the year that will require more sensitive handling than this one. Any congregation today will include a considerable number of people in second marriages or people with family members in that situation. In many, if not most cases, the situation will have come about through circumstances beyond their control or from which they cannot now responsibly free themselves. To simply read out the rulings of Jesus in the Gospel without comment or nuance would be to turn Gospel into Law and simply add to a burden of guilt that may already be oppressive.

It does seem clear from the New Testament record that Jesus did rule out divorce and remarriage. This was something that set his community's standards in the matter clearly apart from what prevailed in the Judaism of his day and in the wider Greco-Roman world. That said, we must take into account that life expectancy in the ancient world was less than half that prevailing in developed Western societies today. Moreover, Jesus and the early community lived in the expectation that the world as presently constituted was soon – perhaps in the very same generation – going to pass away (cf. Mark 9:1).

Contemplation of a second marriage in such a situation would have been a very different proposition from what it is in societies where people live much longer and where the sense that the present shape of the world is going to be around indefinitely prevails. Already the "exceptive clause" in the version of Jesus' rulings on divorce in Matthew's Gospel (5:32; 19:9) shows some accommodation to new situations in which believers found themselves. Moreover, the reality is that people make mistakes and relationships fail – something which longer life span and the high premium currently placed upon personal freedom and development make more prevalent. The Church has to find a way to help people grow through failure and find in it an experience of grace and deepened knowledge of God.

Jesus' restoration of lifelong fidelity in marriage reclaims the original design of God expressed in the creation story of Genesis 2-3. The **First Reading**, Gen 2:18-24 offers an extract from this to which Jesus makes appeal in the Gospel. What we have in the text is not "history" but an "aetiological narrative": a story cast back in the time of origins to account for what is or what ought to be in the present—here the social institution of marriage. Making no mention of procreation, the text displays a remarkable sense of the companionship, friendship and mutual recognition in love that should surround sexual union. The love expressed in the union of two in one flesh should simply be the most intimate physical expression of a commitment in companionship and intimacy, embracing the totality of life.

The Mosaic law did not "permit" divorce. It simply recognised it as a reality in human life and sought, on "harm minimisation process", to reduce the harsh effects it could have on women. The bill of divorce certified that she was free from any suspicion of having simply abandoned her husband (Deut 24:1-4). Jesus in the **Gospel**, Mark 10:2-12 (13-16), insists that this provision, which he sees as introduced by Moses because of human "hardness of heart," must yield before the initial design of the Creator revealed in the creation story standing at the head of the Bible. The Kingdom of God, the onset of which is the background to all his teaching, seeks to reclaim this original design of the Creator or, better, to bring it to realisation for the first time. The community of disciples, as the "beachhead" of the Kingdom in the world, are called to live out and bear witness to this original ideal.

In the **Second Reading**, from Heb 2:9-11, the idea of God "making perfect through suffering" may need some nuance; biblical thought does not clearly distinguish consequence (operative here) from intention.

Commentary by Fr Brendan Byrne, SJ, FAHA. Fr Brendan taught New Testament at Jesuit Theological College, Parkville, Vic, for almost forty years. He is now Emeritus Professor at the University of Divinity (Melbourne). His commentaries on the Gospels can be found at Pauline Books and Media.



# Readings

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

## FIRST READING

Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate." So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed: "This at last is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man." This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. **R**

You wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **R**

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life! May you see your children's children. On Israel, peace! **R**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 2:9-11

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.



Charles Lock Eastlake (1793–1865), *Christ Blessing Little Children*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love. Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, "Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?" They were testing him. He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" "Moses allowed us" they said "to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce." Then Jesus said to them, "It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide." Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, "The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too." People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

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The celebration begins with **Mass at 9:30AM**, followed by a **multicultural program** featuring the different cultures and backgrounds of our parishioners, and then lunch. **NO 11AM Mass this Sunday 6 Oct.**

You are highly encouraged to wear **clothing from your traditional, cultural, or ethnic background**. You are also most welcome to **bring in a plate to share!**



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

For over two years, our parish has held Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament according to the following schedule: Monday to Friday from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM, and Monday to Friday from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. After careful consideration, several concerns have emerged:

- 1 Our three Camillian priests need to balance their commitment to Religious Community Life with their parish duties, particularly following the 8:00 PM Mass.
- 2 According to liturgical norms, it is more appropriate to hold the Holy Hour before the 8:00 PM Mass rather than after, as it serves as a profound preparation for the Eucharistic celebration.
- 3 The afternoon Exposition from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday to Friday, has consistently low attendance, calling into question the need for its continuation.
- 4 Devotion to the Divine Mercy, such as praying the Chaplet, can still be meaningfully practiced in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, even without formal Exposition, as demonstrated by the daily prayers following the 8:00 AM Mass from Monday to Saturday.

Following the Pastoral Visit of Bishop Danny Meagher on March 22 and 24, 2024, and based on his recommendations, the following changes will then be implemented:

- 1 **The Monday to Friday Holy Hour will be moved to 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM.**
- 2 **The Monday to Friday 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM Holy Hour will be discontinued.**

We, the Parish Pastoral Council, after a thorough discussion and reflection on the matter, hereby support the decision to make these changes as to the Schedule of Holy Hours/Expositions of the Blessed Sacrament in our Parish.

The Parish Pastoral Council has discussed these changes thoroughly and supports them wholeheartedly. We ask for the understanding and cooperation of all parishioners as we implement these changes at the beginning of 2025. Let us continue to pray for a smooth transition.

**Signed by the Parish Pastoral Council**  
17 August 2024

## Canonical and Liturgical Considerations

### 1 Timing of the Holy Hour

### 2 Exposition After Mass

### 3 Attendance and Adoration

The norms stipulate that it is generally not appropriate to expose the Blessed Sacrament immediately following the celebration of Mass unless it is for a more extended period of adoration, and even then, certain conditions must be met. Specifically, if adoration is to continue, the final blessing and dismissal of the Mass are typically omitted to maintain liturgical coherence. However, this practice is quite regulated and is not commonly recommended.

## SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors
This Sunday 5-6 Oct	Vigil 6 PM	Corazon F	Francisco T	Genalor, Alicia
	9:30 AM	Angeline L	Ricky L	Maria, Francisco
	11 AM	=== NO 11AM MASS ON SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER ===		
	6 PM	Gemma T	Maria C	Corazon, Santa
Next Sunday 11-12 Oct	Vigil 6 PM	Alicia B	Genalor F	Corazon, Francisco
	9:30 AM	Sr Maliya	Gordon L	Maria, Francisco
	11 AM	Agnes C	John L	-
	6 PM	Gemma T	Corazon F	Corazon, Francisco
Daily Mass	Morning	Angeline L, Alicia B, Echic, Doris K (Thu only), Garry C, The Sisters, Gemma T (Sat only), Isabelle K (Fri only), Ricky L		
	Evening	Corazon F, Josie M (Fri only), Louise S, Genalor F, Maria C, Tim L		

Thank you very much for your generosity in volunteering as mass readers and collectors in our beloved parish. **Anyone wanting to volunteer, please ring or text Angeline 0431 718 137.** God bless.

## PARISH CHOIR

ORGANIST/PIANIST | CONDUCTOR

Saturday 6 PM Vigil Mass  
**St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir** Tim, Dennis,  
Fr Ruben, Gemma

Sunday 9:30 AM Mass Allen, Ethel, Tim | Yani

**Sunday Morning Choir**

Sunday 11 AM Mass Louise | Dr Peter, Elsa

**Chinese Community**

Sunday 6 PM Mass Teresa, Gemma |

**St Joseph's Sunday Evening Choir** Michael

If you would like to serve in the parish through singing or playing instruments such as piano/organ/guitar/etc., please don't hesitate to express your interest by **approaching our choristers before or after Mass** or messaging Angeline **0431 718 137**.





## FEAST DAYS

**7 Oct** Our Lady of the Rosary  
**9 Oct** Saints Denis and companions,  
 Saint John Leonardi  
**11 Oct** Saint John XXIII  
**14 Oct** Saint Callistus I  
**15 Oct** Saint Teresa of Jesus

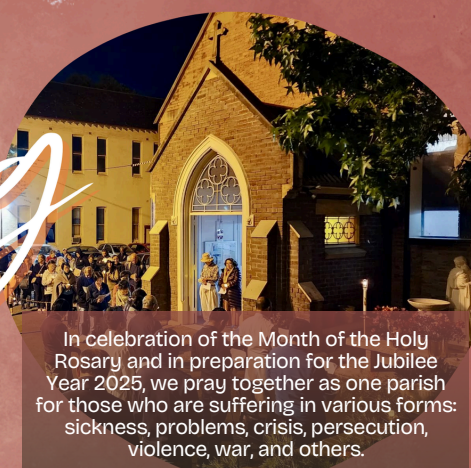
**16 Oct** Saint Hedwig, Saint Margaret  
 Mary Alacoque  
**17 Oct** Saint Ignatius of Antioch  
**18 Oct** Saint Luke  
**19 Oct** Saints John de Brébeuf and  
 Isaac Jogues, Saint Paul of the Cross

## RPAH CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

Seeking solace during illness or hospitalisation at RPA Hospital? Our Catholic Chaplaincy offers comforting visits, pastoral care, and sacraments. Contact us via the Hospital Switchboard (02 9515 6111) or via our parish office (02 9557 1181 or [stjocamper@gmail.com](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com)).

*We're here for you* 

## PARISH NEWS



**SCRIPTURAL**  
*Living*  
**ROSARY**

**SATURDAY | 26 OCT**  
 AFTER THE 6PM VIGIL MASS

AT ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN  
 2 MISSENDEN RD, CAMPERDOWN NSW 2050

In celebration of the Month of the Holy Rosary and in preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025, we pray together as one parish for those who are suffering in various forms: sickness, problems, crisis, persecution, violence, war, and others.

## PILGRIM MARY & HER HOLY ROSARY HOME VISITATION

The Pilgrim Mary Home Visitation is facilitated to commemorate the Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025 as we are called to do so by Pope Francis and to encourage our St Joseph's parishioners to pray the Holy Rosary in their homes with their families.

From 15 Aug 2024 to 15 Aug 2025, our Blessed Mother will be "on a pilgrimage" to our parishioners' homes each week. To **join this initiative**, you may approach the members of the Legion of Mary who assist before the start of Sunday/Vigil Masses or alternatively **contact the parish office** for assistance.

## CATECHISTS' CORNER

### Thinking of becoming Catholic?

We're happy to accompany you through your journey of faith. Send us a message at [stjocamper@gmail.com](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com).

### Would you like to be a catechist and teach children about Jesus and the scriptures?

For queries, please contact our Parish Catechist Coordinator, Alicia Buxton 0412155967.



## PARISH GIVING

### LAST WEEK'S Parish Collection

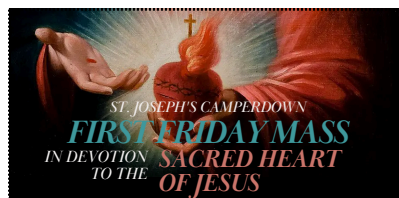
1st Collection	Last week's 1st and 2nd collection figures will be posted in next week's bulletin release. Thank you!
2nd Collection	
EFTPOS Giving	\$ 723.50

*Thank you for your generosity and support!*



## Lay Camillian Family SYDNEY CHAPTER

If you happen to have **homebound, sick, handicapped, elderly, and frail family members and friends** who want to be visited and given Holy Communion on Sundays, please inform our parish office [stjocamper@gmail.com](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com) or any members of our Lay Camillian Family and avail of our pastoral services to our suffering parishioners.



**First Fridays | 8PM**  
 followed by Eucharistic Adoration and Blessing until 10PM

## CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

To see more initiatives within the Archdiocese, visit and subscribe to [gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events](http://gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events)



**"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU, TO GIVE YOU HOPE & A FUTURE."**

**Thursday 12th - Sunday 15th December 2024**

### CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS

iWitness is an annual young adults conference hosted in Sydney. The long weekend provides participants with a spiritually transformative experience, creating a space in which each person can grow in their love of God.

**Venue** The Ranch, 352 Cobbitty Rd, Cobbitty NSW 2570  
**Tickets** [www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1290910](http://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1290910)

**For more details, scan QR code**



**CADIS**  
 CAMILLIAN DISASTER SERVICE AUSTRALIA

Your contribution to CADIS helps provide food and services to disaster survivors, homeless, and refugees.

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 BSB: 032-179  
 ACCT NO.: 371 579

To Volunteer, contact  
 Fr Meng or Robert and Maria  
 0424742571 0469898620



**CHARITABLE WORKS FUND**  
 Your local charity

Support the charitable and pastoral works of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

**Donate** Donations of \$2 or more are tax-deductible and can be credited to your local parish.



**PROJECT COMPASSION**  
 FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

Donate through scanning the QR code or by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

**Donate** Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land, on which St Joseph's Camperdown stands, for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

**Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes 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 email [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto: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.**