

A parish with a Heart in our Hands

ST JOSEPH'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

10 November 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.**



From **Monday 11 Nov to Monday 18 Nov**, there will be **NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** at 3PM to 4PM & 8:30PM to 9:30PM owing to the Annual Retreat of the Camillian Fathers. **Daily Masses will continue as scheduled at 8AM and 8PM**, and will be supplied by visiting priests. Thank you!

The link between the First Reading and the Gospel today is that both concern widows who acted with generosity. In biblical society generally widows formed a particularly vulnerable class. They come first in the triad of vulnerable ones to whom the Torah summoned Israel to give particular protection: the widow, the orphan and the stranger in the land.

The wider context of the **First Reading** (1 Kings 17:10-16) is that of universal famine in Israel during the reign of the worthless King Ahab. Elijah the prophet has been fed in the wilderness by the ravens and slaked his thirst in the wadi Cherith. Now, however, the wadi has dried up because of the lack of rain and he has been instructed by God to go the Sidonian town of Zarephath, where a widow will feed him.

When Elijah approaches the widow for food, she points out the extremity of the situation for herself and her son. With the very little she has left, she is about to prepare a final meal before they die of hunger. Elijah, urging her not to be afraid, asks her to prepare a cake for himself, and then for herself and her son, and assures her that jar of meal and jug of oil will not fail until the famine is over. When the woman does so, putting her trust in the prophet's word, she finds that provision is made just as he had foretold.

LESSON IN GENEROSITY The episode illustrates a more widespread biblical pattern. People who act hospitably and generously, trusting in a divine promise in the face of evidence to the contrary, find that the Lord provides with a generosity that is overwhelming (cf. Gen 18:1-15; Mark 6:35-44; 8:1-9). Faith is the channel through which the generosity and power of God flow into the world.

There are two rather different ways of interpreting the corresponding 'widow' scene in the **Gospel** (Mark 12:38-44). If we set aside the part of the text immediately preceding the description of the widow's action, that is, Jesus' condemnation of the scribes for their religious ostentation, then the widow's action provides an extreme example of religious generosity and trust in God. As Jesus points out, it is not the amount that is contributed that counts before God but the totality of personal trust and self-giving that the amount represents. For some it was just what they had left over after making good allowance for their comfortable lifestyle. For the widow, it was absolutely everything: keeping nothing for herself, she could rely now only on the providence of God to whom she had surrendered all. In this way, the widow becomes an example of faith to admire and possibly to emulate according to circumstance and calling.

The alternative view is to interpret what is happening here not as something to admire but in effect to deplore. In his denunciation of the scribes in the immediately preceding verses, Jesus had singled out for critique their taking the places of honour at banquets (where they will be well fed), while 'swallowing the property of widows'.

Immediately, after the scene he will speak of the destruction of the Temple to whose treasury the widow contributes all she has. This wider context suggests that Jesus is interpreting what the widow does as an instance where religious law, as interpreted by the scribes, is inducing 'little ones', such as her, to contribute to the treasury far more than they can afford and, indeed, as in this instance, their total livelihood. The scene would, then, prepare the way for the prophecy about the Temple's destruction with which Jesus' discourse on the future (Mark 13) will commence.

TEMPLE LOSES SIGNIFICANCE In the wider understanding of the Gospel the Temple will in any case cease to be of significance since the function of atonement associated with it will soon be taken over once and for all by the shedding of Jesus' own blood (Mark 10:45; 14:24). The scene then becomes something of a warning against the way in which religion, falsely interpreted and promoted, can serve to oppress rather than liberate the poor and vulnerable, for whose cause and whose life Christ shed his blood on the cross.

We are not necessarily faced with a stark choice between these two interpretations. Both are valid and valuable – in some ways opposite sides of the one coin. We can admire the widow's generosity and faith while remaining critical of the religious system that drove her to such extremes.

The **Second Reading** (Heb 9:24-28) continues the contrast set up last week between the priestly service of the priests of the old dispensation and that of Christ. It stresses the absolute all-sufficiency assurance of Christ's salvific work for the removal of sin since the sacrifice he offered was that of his own life on the cross.

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

Let my prayer come before you, Lord; listen, and answer me.

FIRST READING

1 Kings 17:10-16

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick of two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and ring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel; "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."'

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger. **R**

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 9:24-28

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men



James Tissot (1836-1902), *The Widow's Mite*

SECOND READING (cont.)

Hebrews 9:24-28

only die once, and after the judgment, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 12:28b-34

In his teaching he said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on'.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. In green pastures he gives me rest, he leads me beside the waters of peace.

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PARISH

Advent RECOLLECTION 2024

You are invited to our **Parish Advent Recollection** led by **Fr Hugh Thomas, CSsR** on **Saturday 30 Nov**, beginning at **2PM to 5:30PM**, followed by **Vigil Mass at 6PM**. Light refreshments included. All are welcome!



Guest Speaker

Fr Hugh Thomas, CSsR.

Original photo credits to
Giovanni Portelli/Catholic Weekly

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



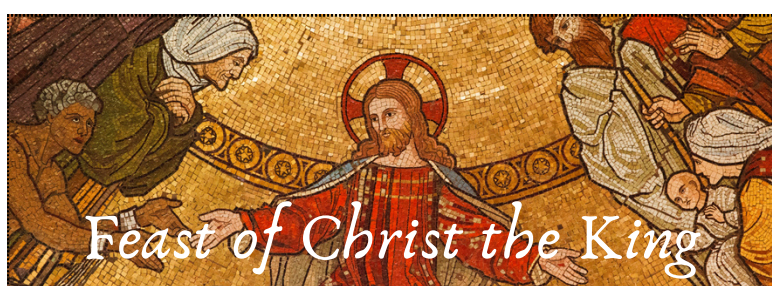
From Monday 11 NOV to Monday 18 NOV 2024:

There will be **NO** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the ff. times:

3PM to 4PM & 8:30PM to 9:30PM

owing to the Annual Retreat of the Camillian Fathers. Daily Masses will continue as scheduled, 8AM and 8PM, and will be supplied by visiting priests.

Thank you!



SAT 23 NOV | 6PM VIGIL MASS

JOHN PAUL SINGERS

We are soon approaching the end of the Church' Liturgical Year B! As you may know, the last Sunday of a Liturgical Year ends with the **Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**, highlighting that Jesus Christ, the King, is the destination of our earthly pilgrimage (Vatican News).

In celebrating this, the **John Paul Singers** are visiting our parish to sing in the **6PM Vigil Mass** on **Saturday 23 November, the Feast of Christ the King.**

John Paul Singers (JPS) were established by Br. Colin Smith to sing for the Papal visits to Australia in 1986 and 1995. The JPS' repertoire is mostly focused on sacred music ranging from plainsong to contemporary works and often featuring compositions by Colin Smith. They work with parish choirs to promote sacred music and choral singing. **Director** Stoyan Assenov | **Secretary/Manager** Christopher Coad | **Organist** Miho Haghigho

SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors
This Sunday 9-10 Nov	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Genalor F Angeline L Elizabeth C Gemma T	Yvona W Ricky L Agnes W Corazon F	Genalor, Marc Maria, Francisco - Corazon, Gemma
Next Sunday 16-17 Nov	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F Rachel S Agnes C Gemma T	Francisco T Lesley A John L Genalor F	Corazon, Francisco Maria, Francisco - Gemma, Genalor
Daily Mass	Morning Evening	Angeline L, Alicia B, Echie, Doris K (Thu only), Garry C, The Sisters, Gemma T (Sat only), Isabelle K (Fri only), Ricky L 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 Tim, Dennis,
St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir Fr Ruben, Gemma
Sunday 9:30 AM Mass Allen, Ethel, Tim | Yari
Sunday Morning Choir
Sunday 11 AM Mass Louise | Dr Peter, Elsa
Chinese Community
Sunday 6 PM Mass Teresa, Gemma | Michael
St Joseph's Sunday Evening Choir

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.**



PARISH NEWS

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.

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).

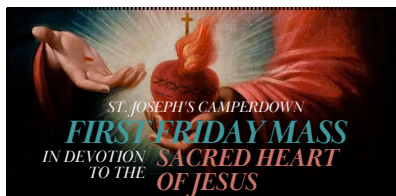
We're here for you 



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 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

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.

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.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

To see more initiatives within the Archdiocese, visit and subscribe to gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events

Life in the Early Church: The Forging of Christian Identity

Dr Kevin Wagner
Thursdays 7, 14, and 21 November,
7:30pm - 8:45pm



Online via Zoom
Cost: \$35 per person (+ BOOKING FEES)
\$100 for Parish Groups, in-person gathering (+ BOOKING FEES)
Register at: gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko



FEAST DAYS

4 Nov Saint Charles Borromeo	11 Nov Saint Martin of Tours	16 Nov Saint Gertrude,
9 Nov The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	12 Nov Saint Josaphat	Saint Margaret of Scotland
	15 Nov Saint Albert the Great	



For the whole month of November, our parish will be praying for all the souls of the faithful departed.

You may use the Mass Intention Envelopes at the foyer of the church or email us at stjocamper@gmail.com with the names of the departed and/or your prayer intentions.



Holy Mass Intentions & Offerings

Do you have Mass intentions you would like our parish to pray for? e.g. sickness, repose of the soul, thanksgiving, birthdays, wedding anniversaries, exams, and other special intentions you may have.

Date: _____ Requested by: _____

Intentions: ☐ Public ☐ Private



PARISH GIVING

LAST WEEK'S Parish Collection

1st Collection	\$ 710.55
2nd Collection	\$ 803.80
EFTPOS Giving	\$ 699.80

Thank you for your generosity and support!



CADIS
CATHOLIC ASSISTANCE
DISASTER SERVICE
AUSTRALIA

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

Donate

Volunteer

Transfer to
CADIS AUSTRALIA LTD
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.



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT COMPASSION
FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

Donate through scanning the QR code or by visiting 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 safeguardinginquiries@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.