

A parish with a Heart in our Hands ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

17 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** and will be supplied by visiting priests. Thank you!

As we approach the close of the Church's liturgical year, the Lectionary takes as Gospel the climactic scene from the long instruction Jesus gives his disciples on the future (Mark 13). Texts focused on the future (eschatology), filled as they are with vivid imagery and symbol, pose more than ordinary difficulty for preachers. How are we to make sense of them today? More particularly, how are we to avoid the pitfalls that flow from interpreting the symbolic and mythological language too literally?

It is good in fact that a reading from Daniel (12:1-3) appears today as **First Reading**, since the Book of Daniel really inspired the later biblical literature cast in this mode – especially Revelation (the Apocalypse). The important thing to grasp is that such religious writing usually arises out of a situation of oppression and great difficulty for the faithful. It aims to interpret what is happening and give assurance. The basic message to the faithful is 'Hang in there! Despite all that is happening to you – painful though it may be – the world remains in the hand of God, who will not let evil and oppression triumph forever.

MESSAGE OF ASSURANCE A great reckoning is coming – a great judgment – when those who are oppressing you and the wicked will be cast down, and you will be vindicated and brought into the fullness of life'. The fundamental message, then, to the faithful is not threat but encouragement, comfort and assurance.

The brief extract from Daniel 12 that we have as **First Reading** refers to this moment of judgment and the great upheaval that will precede it. Since Israel lacks an earthly leader, the archangel Michael will be the particular protagonist ('Prince') of the faithful. The text is significant because here for the first time explicitly in the Bible we have a clear reference to the resurrection of the dead. This belief allows for final justice to be done. Those who have lost their lives in the cause of right or who have simply died before the time of reckoning will not lack vindication and reward. They will be raised to everlasting life. Those who have not been faithful and have profited from their cooperation with evil will rise to 'shame and everlasting disgrace.'

Daniel does not elaborate on what this might mean for them. But the prophet does go on to single out for special approbation the learned, like himself, who have 'instructed many in virtue.' In time of oppression faithful leaders and educators would have been particularly targeted for persecution. Now they will 'shine brightly as the stars for all eternity.'

A similar message runs through the discourse on the future in Mark 13. Jesus foresees the destruction of the Temple and the city of Jerusalem, wars and turmoil on an international scale, the persecution of his followers and even betrayal and deceit within the community. When all this happens many will be tempted to give up in despair. Why, granted all this upheaval and suffering, has he not returned as Son of Man to vindicate the faithful and bring in the final Rule (Kingdom) of God? Jesus foresees such sentiment and counters it in advance with a double message: 1. 'Hang in there! the Son of Man will come. But, 2, Don't think you can calculate or know when that will be. The time of his coming is known to God alone.'

TRIUMPH OF THE RESURRECTION The Gospel for today, Mark 13:24-32, features the climactic moment in the discourse when Jesus describes the arrival of the Son of Man. The vivid apocalyptic imagery is there to portray the truth that the One who was crucified and seemingly overcome by evil, is now about to extend the triumph of his resurrection over the entire universe. The events described have their forbidding aspects but it is important to stress that the message for the faithful remains one of assurance and vindication. Things may be dismaying and tough now but the future belongs to God and to the values demonstrated in the life of Jesus, rather than with human forces of death and exploitation. What we do not know is how much longer the struggle must go on. That remains wrapped in God's mystery – even, in Mark's view, for the earthly Jesus ('the Son') himself.

Understood in this way, the Gospel, for all its outward strangeness, addresses fittingly the present uncertain situation of our world and the dismay many experience as a result of it. Jesus knows and has taken into account the way we feel.

The **Second Reading**, Heb 10:11-14, 18, expresses in its own imagery a similar picture. Christ, his work as High Priest concluded once and for all (on the cross), sits in triumph at God's right hand, until the full effects of what he has done work themselves out in the universe.

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

The Lord says: my plans for you are peace and not disaster; when you call to me, I will listen to you, and I will bring you back to the place from which I exiled you.

FIRST READING

Daniel 12:1-13

"At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R** And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. for you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **R** You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:11-14, 18

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!



Michelangelo (1475–1564), *The Last Judgement*

GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-32

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.'

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all those things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

It is good for me to be with the Lord and to put my hope in him.

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PARISH

Advent
RECOLLECTION
2024

Join 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. Invite your family and friends too! 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



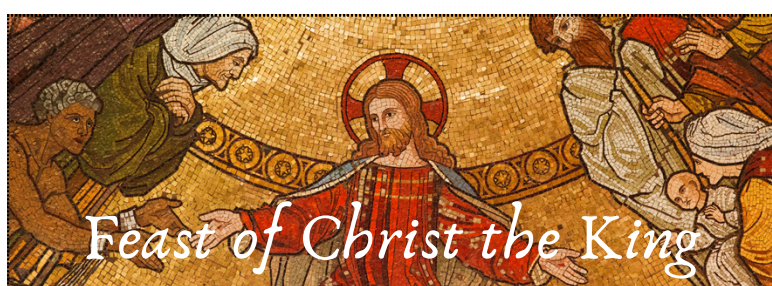
From Monday 11 NOV to Monday 18 NOV 2024:

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 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 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 |
| Next Sunday 23-24 Nov | Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM | Alicia B Marc S Nancy T Tim S | Yvona W Gordon L Sharon K Maddi S | Alicia, Marc Maria, Francisco - Tim S, Maddi S |
| 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



Didasko

Faith Formation



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

- | | |
|--|--|
| 18 Nov Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul | 24 Nov OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE |
| 21 Nov The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary | 25 Nov Saint Catherine of Alexandria |
| 22 Nov Saint Cecilia | 30 Nov Saint Andrew |
| 23 Nov Saint Clement I, Saint Columban | |

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



LAST WEEK'S Parish Collection

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1st Collection | \$ 924.20 |
| 2nd Collection | \$ 478.10 |
| EFTPOS Giving | \$ 1,250.60 |

Thank you for your generosity and support!



CADIS
CATHOLIC AUSTRALIAN 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.



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 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.