

#### SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER - Year B

5 May 2024

# Welcome to our parish!

#### **PARISH PRIESTS**

Parish Administrator 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	
Saturdau	8:00 AM	

#### Adoration

Addradon	
Mon - Fri	

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM after 8:00 PM Mass

#### 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

The scriptural offerings for today tap some of the richest veins of Johannine literature. A single phrase in the Gospel sums it up: 'Remain in my love.'

The **First Reading** continues selections from the early chapters of Acts (10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48). In this rather truncated excerpt from Peter's interaction with the Roman centurion Cornelius, we find the early Church inching its way towards a new understanding of its identity and mission. It is not simply to be a renewal movement within Judaism but an instrument for the gathering of all nations into one worldwide People of God. As so often in Acts, the Holy Spirit is well 'out in front' of community understanding. The community of believers, hitherto a movement within Judaism, has to catch up with the wider outreach of the Spirit. It does in the person of Peter, who is describing here the deeply moving experiences in connection with Cornelius that have led him, beyond himself and his previous understanding, to grasp the new reality to which the whole Church is being called.

**CENTRALITY OF LOVE** The two remaining readings, from the Johannine literature, bring out the centrality of love as the supreme attribute of God. The **Second Reading**, 1 John 4:7-10, states it baldly: 'God is love.' The 'logic' in this letter often tends to run backwards and has to be unpacked. The statement comes as a foundation for an exhortation to believers to love one another. When believers truly love another, this is a sure sign that they have been drawn into and live within the life of God, which is love. We know this because we experience God in the divine outreach of love shown in the sending of the Son to be our rescue from sin.

Towards the end the writer makes an important clarification: what is being talked about is not our love for God but God's love for us. Thus any ability to love on the part of believers is simply the extension of a great 'chain' of love stemming ultimately from the love of the Father. If our lives are caught up in this great chain, then we truly 'know' God and know that we have been 'begotten' by God. We are living in the community of love that is the 'family' of God.

The same 'chain' of love is central to the exhortation we hear in the **Gospel**. What Jesus is essentially trying to communicate to the disciples as he continues his discourse at the Last Supper is a sense of his own experience of being loved by the Father. He loves them as he has been loved by the Father in order to pass on to them the 'joy' that he experiences in that divine love.

**SHARE THE JOY** There is no joy like that of suddenly discovering we are loved by someone from whom we would very much like to be loved but never dreamed that being loved by that person would ever be a possibility, let alone something that would one day come about. Such love – and the resultant joy in its discovery – is pure gift. Jesus is here insisting that the rationale of his whole life and mission is that human beings should share the joy (of being loved by God) that is his as eternal Son of the Father (cf. John 1:18).

The 'commandments' that the disciples are urged to 'keep' all reduce, in the Fourth Gospel, to the commandment to love the brothers and sisters. Keeping this essential commandment is what is meant by the exhortation: 'Remain in my love.' The Greek word menein, translated 'remain,' has wide resonances in this Gospel, embracing the idea of 'dwell' as well as 'remain'. Thus the fullest sense of the command here is 'come to live, and remain living, within my love.' The thought is close to that we have seen in the First Reading: believers are to realise that they are caught up within the 'current' of a divine communion of love. They should 'remain' within that current by allowing divine love to flow through them to one another.

**SACRIFICIAL QUALITY** The second half of the reading brings out the sacrificial quality of the love in question. The love that Christ is passing on to the disciples involved laying down his life for them as his 'friends.' Despite the vast difference between ordinary human beings and Christ as Son of God, the disciples can think of themselves as his 'friends' rather than servants for two reasons. First, he has made the supreme gesture of friendship by laying down his life for them. Second, he has shared with them the intimacy he enjoys with the Father. They are 'friends' not through their choice of him but because he has chosen them – all part of a vast divine design to communicate God's love (= 'bear fruit') to the world.

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**

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

#### **FIRST READING**

#### Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

And as Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself.

But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said `is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.' While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 97(98):1-4 The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **R** 

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **R** 

#### SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-10

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.



What is the feast of St. Joseph the Worker? While Saint Joseph's primary feast day is March 19th, in 1955 Pope Pius XII added a second day on May 1st, celebrated as the Memorial of St. Joseph the Worker. As a carpenter, St. Joseph worked very hard. His manual labor was difficult, and he is a great example to all of us in our daily work. In addition, he is a powerful intercessor for those who are seeking employment.

What was Joseph's profession in the Bible? St. Joseph was a carpenter, meaning that he would have made various items such as plows and other farm equipment, doors, chests, and furniture. He taught this trade to Our Lord.

#### How did St Joseph serve God?

St. Joseph was unfailingly obedient to God's commands. When the angel told St. Joseph to not be afraid to bring Mary his espoused wife into his home, he obeyed. When he was warned to escape to Egypt, he obeyed. He continually provided for his family and protected them-even in the face of great danger. Even though he was not the father of Jesus biologically, St. Joseph was a devoted father to the Word Incarnate, taking the place on earth of His Father in heaven.



Gerbrand van den Eeckhout (1621–1674), Vision of Cornelius the Centurion

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

#### Alleluia, Alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: `As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants anymore, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

#### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord. The Father will send you the Holy Spirit, to be with you forever, alleluia.

Used with permission. St Joseph's Parish-Camperdown Licence No 4902. Scripture texts from The Jerusalem Bible, Copyright 1996 by Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd & Doubleday and Company Inc.

Why is St. Joseph the sleeping saint? St. Joseph is sometimes portrayed sleeping. It was, after all, while sleeping that an angel enlightened him regarding the Child Mary was carrying. The image of the sleeping Joseph, therefore, touches many, especially those with troubles.

Pope Francis has explained the personal significance of the image for himself, no doubt thinking of the biblical account.

I have a great love for St. Joseph, because he is a man of silence and strength. On my table, I have an image of St. Joseph sleeping. Even when he is asleep, he is taking care of the Church! Yes! We know that he can do that. So when I have a problem, a difficulty, I write a little note and I put it underneath St. Joseph, so that he can dream about it! In other words, I tell him: "Pray for this problem!" (Apostolic Journey to the Philippines, 2015).

#### What does St Joseph help with?

St. Padre Pio said, "Go to Joseph with extreme confidence, because I do not remember having asked anything from St. Joseph, without having obtained it readily." Since St. Joseph was the foster-father of Jesus, he was continually working for his family, the Holy Family. He provided for them, protected them, and was the head of the family. Now that he is in Heaven, he is a powerful intercessor for us and the patron saint of many different people and places.

Source: EWTN, www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/st-joseph-the-worker-23604



FIRST FRIDAY MASS IN DEVOTION SACRED HEART TO THE **OF IESUS** 

#### First Fridays | 8PM Holy Mass for the Sick and **Healthcare Workers**

followed by Eucharistic Adoration and Blessing until 10PM

We encourage you to invite your families, friends, work colleague, and others.



Eucharistic Adoration Mon - Fri 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. after 8:00 PM Mass

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



### **Calling Volunteers: Readers & Collectors Choir Members**

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer and serve in the parish, please message Angeline 0431 718 137. God bless!

### UPCOMING IN OUR PARISH

**5 MAY** 

Sunday Mass.







#### **12 MAY** Ascension Sunday & Mother's Day

Mass with Bishop Francis

On Sunday 12th of May, as the Church celebrates Ascension Sunday, we also celebrate Mother's Dau. Join us after the 9:30am Sunday Mass with a Mother's Day Sausage Sizzle. All are welcome - and invite your mum, grandmums and all the mums you know!

On Sunday 5 May, let us warmly welcome Most Rev.

Francisco Mendoza de Leon, Bishop Emeritus of Antipolo, Philippines, who is celebrating the 9:30am

### **19 MAY Pentecost Sunday**

Join us in celebrating Pentecost this 19 May; we will also witness the Recognition and Blessing of all our parish volunteers during the weekend Masses. We constantly pray and thank them for their faithfulness in their respective ministries.



#### **25 MAY Scriptural Living Rosary**

May is the Month of Mary. As its culminating activity, we will pray a Scriptural Living Rosary as one parish in front of our parish Church in honour of our Blessed Mother on Saturday 25 May after the 6PM Vigil Mass. All are welcome!



# Lay Camillian Family SYDNEY CHAPTER

The Lay Camillian Family (LCF) is a lay association of the Ministers of the Infirm and therefore shares in the charism and spirituality of the Camillian priests and brothers.

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 LCF and avail of our pastoral services to our suffering parishioners.

### SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors
<b>This</b> Sunday 4-5 May	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F Rachel S Philip F Gemma T	Francisco T Lesley A Cathy W Maria C	Genalor, Amy Maria, Francisco - Amy, Maria
Next Sunday 11-12 May	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Genalor F Angeline L Elizabeth C Gemma T	Louise S Ricky L Agnes W Corazon F	Alicia, Isabella Maria, Francisco - Corazon, Amy
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, Joan E, Josie M (Fri only), Louise S,		

Genalor F, Maria C

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.

### ARISH CHOIR

#### DRGANIST/PIANIST | CONDUCTOR Fr Ruben, Dennis

Saturday 6 PM Vigil Mass **Camillus & Ave Maria Choir** Sunday 9:30 AM Mass Allen, Ethel, Tim I Yani **Sunday Morning Choir** Sunday 11 AM Mass Louise | Dr Peter, Elsa **Chinese Community** Sunday 6 PM Mass Teresa | 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, please don't hesitate to express your interest by approaching our choristers before or after Mass or messaging Angeline 0431 718 137.





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.

cas-events

**ONFERENCE COST** 

to the right, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-

compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.