

A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

ST JOSEPH'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Second Sunday of Easter | Divine Mercy Sunday – Year C

27 Apr 2025

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

📘 fb.com/StJosephCamperdown

SCHEDULE OF MASS

Weekend Mass

Saturday 8am, 6pm (Vigil)

Sunday 9:30am, 11am, 6pm

Weekday Mass

Mon - Fri 8am, 8pm

Devotion to the Sacred Heart

Every First Friday 8pm, we celebrate the Mass for the Sick and Carers of the Sick with Anointing of the Sick

Eucharistic Adoration

📅 Mon - Fri 7:00 PM
Before 8PM Mass;
Reconciliation available

Reconciliation

Sat & Sun 5:15 PM - 5:45 PM
📅 Mon - Fri 7:00 PM
Before 8PM Mass

Anointing of the Sick

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

Baptism, Confirmation / RCIA, Wedding & Funeral

Please enquire via our parish office at stjocamper@gmail.com.

Baptism are usually scheduled Sunday 12:30pm; Baptismal instructions to be arranged with parents before baptism.

Weddings require six (6) months notice.

Happy Easter!

May you have a happy and holy celebration with your family and loved ones!

from all of us at St Joseph's Camperdown



It is understandable that the Church should celebrate the octave of Easter by reading as the Gospel the appearance 'eight days later' of the risen Lord to Thomas (20:19-31). It is important, however, not to neglect the highly significant events that take place on the earlier occasion, late on Easter Sunday.

In his long discourse at the Last Supper on the night before he died, Jesus promised the disciples that they would receive 'another Paraclete' (the Spirit) to be their guide, enlightener and comforter for the time when he would no longer be physically with them. Now on this Easter Sunday evening he makes good that promise in what is really the 'Johannine Pentecost'.

REASSURANCE

The disciples are fearful, huddling behind closed doors. Jesus comes among them and reassures them: 'Peace be with you'. He shows them the physical reality of his hands and his side to guarantee his identity and continuity with the Lord they had known. Their fear now turned to joy, he announces that they are to be a new link in the chain of mission that he has from the Father: as the Father has sent him into the world – to be the embodiment of divine love in the world – so he now sends them, to be in their turn and through their mutual love for one another, the embodiment of that same divine love (13:34-35; 17:17).

Jesus then imparts the Spirit to the disciples by breathing on them (the same Greek word *pneuma* serves for both 'breath' and 'spirit'). He explains this gift of the Spirit in terms of the power to forgive – and correspondingly to retain – sin. We might well ask why he specifies the gift of the Spirit in this way. Basically, it has to do with reconciliation: the reconciliation of the human race to the Father, which is the essential work of Jesus. John the Baptist had pointed him out as 'the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world' (1:29, 35). Jesus had died on the cross as the (Paschal) Lamb whose bones were not broken (19:36). Now the gift of the Spirit is empowering the Church to take up that reconciling mission for the time ahead when Jesus will no longer be physically present.

THOMAS' DOUBTS

Thomas is one of the most clearly defined characters in the Fourth Gospel. Born loser, realist, pessimist, he has missed out on the Easter night appearance of Jesus. He won't believe in the resurrection simply on the other disciples' claim 'we have seen the Lord'. He lays down his explicit, highly 'physical' conditions.

With the divine 'courtesy' that seems to be a feature of the risen Lord in all the appearance stories of the gospels, eight days later Jesus is prepared to meet Thomas' conditions exactly. But, at the sight of Jesus, Thomas abandons them. Instead he, the late-comer, the obtuse one, makes the most exalted act of faith contained in the gospel: 'My Lord and my God!'. The confession takes us back to the Prologue: '... the Word was with God and the Word was God' (1:1); 'No one has ever seen God; it is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known' (1:18). At this climactic moment of the gospel it is Thomas, the hesitant, the doubter, who brings out the full identity of Jesus.

But that is not the end. Jesus adds a comment that brings us into the picture too. Thomas has believed because, like Mary Magdalene and the other disciples present in the room, he has seen the risen Jesus. Others – succeeding generations of believers – will not see Jesus. Unlike Thomas, they have to believe simply on the report handed down in the Church's preaching: 'We have seen the Lord'. On them – that is, on us – Jesus pronounces a blessing: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe".

BLESSED THE BELIEVERS

Why 'blessed'? Because from them/from us a faith greater than that of Thomas and the others will be required: the greater the faith the more scope for the power of God.

So the first 'edition' of the Gospel (chapters 1-20) ends with this solemn assurance that believers of all subsequent generations are in no way at a disadvantage compared to the original disciples who saw and heard and touched the Lord. The written gospel imparts to those prepared to believe all the knowledge necessary for a life-giving encounter with the Lord.

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS

The **First Reading**, Acts 5:12-16, jumps ahead rather of the setting of the Gospel to describe how the apostles, empowered with the Spirit, were now able to healing and exorcising ministry previously conducted by Jesus.

The **Second Reading**, Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19, is notable towards the end for the splendid self-description of the risen Lord, introducing himself to the seer, John.

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

Like newborn children you should thirst for milk, on which your spirit can grow to strength, alleluia.

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12-16

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' **R**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **R**

O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord grant success. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; the Lord God is our light. **R**

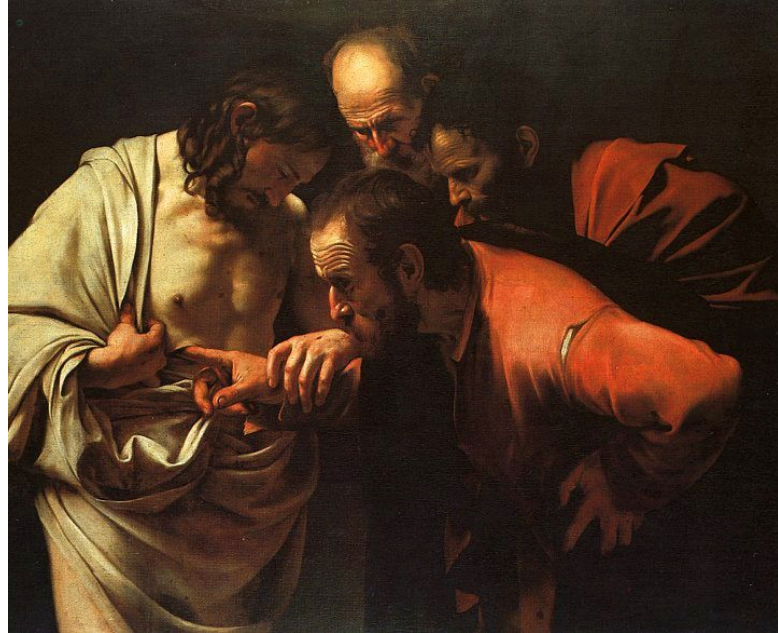
SECOND READING

Revelation 1:9-13,17-19

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One, I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are all still to come.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia. You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!



Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1571-1610), *The Incredulity of Saint Thomas*

GOSPEL

John 8:1-11

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your fingers here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him; 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jesus spoke to Thomas: Put your hand here, and see the place of the nails. Doubt no longer, but believe, alleluia.

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The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

A - Ask for His Mercy.

God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

B - Be merciful.

God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

C - Completely trust in Jesus.

God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH



Month of May Mary

Let us pray the Holy Rosary in honour of our Blessed Mother

All Saturdays of May
after 6pm Vigil Mass

3, 10, 17 & 24 MAY
HOLY ROSARY

in the church
after 6pm Vigil Mass

31 MAY
SCRIPTURAL
LIVING ROSARY

in front of the church
after 6pm Vigil Mass



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CAMPERDOWN 2 MISSENDEN RD, CAMPERDOWN NSW 2050

PILGRIM MARY & HER HOLY ROSARY HOME VISITATION



The Pilgrim Mary Home Visitation commemorates 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 at stjocamper@gmail.com for assistance.



Follow us on Instagram to keep updated with parish activities!
[@StJosephsCamperdown](https://www.instagram.com/StJosephsCamperdown)



Meet and chat over food and a cuppa! All are welcome!

PARISH MORNING TEA
2nd Sundays after 9:30am Mass

You are welcome to bring a plate to share! If you would like to **regularly contribute** to our **Parish Morning Tea**, contact our parish office at stjocamper@gmail.com.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.



First Fridays at St Joseph's

7PM Eucharistic Adoration
8PM Mass for the Sick and Healthcare Workers with Anointing of the Sick



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.

SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors If none indicated, the readers
This Sunday 26-27 Apr	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Diana V Rachel S Nancy T Louise Seras	Louise Sharah Leslie A Chris Wong Suzanne M	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - Marc S, Gordon L
Next Sunday 3-4 May	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F The Sisters Philip F Marc S	Francisco T The Sisters Elly W Gordon L	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - Louie Seras, Suzanne M
Daily Mass	Morning Evening	Angeline L, Alicia B, Echie, Doris K (Thu), Garry C, The Sisters, Gemma T (Sat), Ricky L (Fri) Corazon F, Josie M (Fri only), Louise S, Maria C, Tim L, Alexander M		

PARISH CHOIR

ORGANIST/PIANIST | CONDUCTOR

Saturday 6 PM Vigil Mass
St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir

Fr Ruben, Dennis,
Gemma

Sunday 9:30 AM Mass
Sunday Morning Choir

Allen, Ethel | Yani

Sunday 11 AM Mass
Chinese Community

Louise | Dr Peter, Elsa

Sunday 6 PM Mass
St Joseph's Sunday Evening Choir

Gemma | Teresa

Have you got the heart to volunteer in the music ministry?

Come and join our parish choir! You can contribute in singing, playing an instrument, or operating the slides.

We would love for you to join
-- beginner or not!

To join, please approach one of our choir members before/after mass or email our parish office at stjocamper@gmail.com.



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.

WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH

St. Faustina's Prayer for Sinners

O Jesus, eternal Truth, our Life, I call upon You and I beg Your mercy for poor sinners. O sweetest Heart of my Lord, full of pity and unfathomable mercy, I plead with You for poor sinners. O Most Sacred Heart, Fount of Mercy from which gush forth rays of inconceivable graces upon the entire human race, I beg of You light for poor sinners. O Jesus, be mindful of Your own bitter Passion and do not permit the loss of souls redeemed at so dear a price of Your most precious Blood. O Jesus, when I consider the great price of Your Blood, I rejoice at its immensity, for one drop alone would have been enough for the salvation of all sinners. Although sin is an abyss of wickedness and ingratitude, the price paid for us can never be equalled. Therefore, let every soul trust in the Passion of the Lord, and place its hope in His mercy. God will not deny His mercy to anyone. Heaven and earth may change, but God's mercy will never be exhausted. Oh, what immense joy burns in my heart when I contemplate Your incomprehensible goodness, O Jesus! I desire to bring all sinners to Your feet that they may glorify Your mercy throughout endless ages (Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, 72).

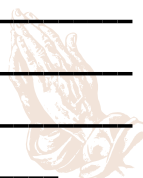
Read more: The Divine Mercy | thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS AND 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.

You may use one of the Mass Intention Envelopes at the foyer of the church or email us at stjocamper@gmail.com with the following information.

Date: _____ Requested by: _____
☐ Public ☐ Private



WHAT'S ON IN THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Grace & Truth

An evening of prayer, formation, and fellowship

St Mary's Cathedral, 5-9PM
WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL 2025

Sr Elena Marie, OP

Virtue, vocation and self-gift as keys to human flourishing:
 Insights from theology, philosophy, and psychology

Fr James Baxter, OP

The virtue of charity as human and divine friendship

Register now:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CZZFZ>



SYDNEY CATHOLIC YOUTH

JOIN THE NETWORK OF CATHOLICS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S NETWORK

MAXIMUS MEN'S MINISTRY NETWORK

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

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.



PARISH GIVING

Account Name

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CAMPERDOWN

BSB Number 062-784

Account Number 10000 4825

Parish Collection

1st Collection

To be posted on next week's bulletin

2nd Collection

EFTPOS Giving \$ 1,524.82

Thank you for your generosity and support!



CADIS
 CAMILLIAN 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

Donate

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

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



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 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.

Visit our parish website

