

A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year C

25 May 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

📷 @StJosephsCamperdown

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.

Today's Gospel, John 14:23-29, continues the reading from the long discourse that, in the Fourth Gospel, Jesus gives at the Last Supper (John 13:13-17:26). Throughout the discourse Jesus speaks a good deal about "going away" and "returning".

It is important to understand that his talk of "going away" and "returning" operates on two levels. In the context of the final supper "going away" most obviously refers to Jesus' imminent departure from this world in death, while his "return" would refer to his appearance to the disciples three days later as risen Lord.

At a more basic level, however, the "going away" of Jesus refers to his post-resurrection ascension and departure to the Father (see John 20:17), while his "return" would then refer to his return to the world at the end of time (see John 5:27). At this level of reference, the discourse addresses his physical "absence" from the community during this period. This was the time in which the community for whom the Fourth Gospel was written found themselves living. And, of course, it continues to be our own time today.

LOVE, THE SPIRIT AND PEACE

The part of the discourse appearing as today's Gospel is sparked off by a question (v. 22) from Judas (carefully specified by the evangelist as "not the Iscariot"). He wants to know how during this time of Jesus' physical absence the community of believers will have a sense of his presence, even though as far as the rest of the world is concerned he will be simply absent. In response to Judas' query Jesus stresses three things: love, the Paraclete (Spirit), and peace.

First, believers who truly love Jesus have his assurance that he and the Father have made their "home" within them. This is perhaps the most beautiful and most intimate expression of the theme of divine indwelling in the Fourth Gospel. The divine "community" of mutual love constituted by Father and Son sets up house, so to speak – makes itself "at home" – within the hearts of believers and within the community as a whole. It is not just that believers should come to be at home with God; God wants to be at home with them. So, while believers will not, as the original disciples, see and hear and touch Jesus physically, faith will give them a sense of living constantly within this extraordinary "at home-ness" with God.

HOLY SPIRIT

Second, to compensate for the loss of the teaching, guidance, and encouragement under trial that Jesus has provided for them during his earthly life, they will have the presence of the Holy Spirit, here referred to as "the Paraclete". The description of the Spirit as "Paraclete" or "Counsellor" takes its cue from the sense of a powerful and respected friend who stands by you when you are in trouble or under accusation – the sort of person you would like to have by you in court as both attorney and character referee. For the community the Paraclete Spirit will also have a teaching and a "reminding" function. In this way, the teaching Jesus gave them during his earthly life will be kept alive and also adapted to new situations and circumstances confronting the Church.

GIFT OF PEACE

Finally, Jesus will bequeath to the community the gift of peace. This does not mean that there will never be disputes or disagreements but rather that there will be given a capacity for resolving such disputes in such a way that peace is restored or even more deeply secured.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The **First Reading**, from Acts 15, seems to have been included in order to provide an illustration of the post-Easter community of disciples achieving just such a resolution of conflict. It gives a truncated version of the description in Acts of a meeting of the church in Jerusalem to resolve a significant question thrown up by the highly successful mission of Barnabas and Paul to pagans (non-Jews). Before these people could be full members of the People of God did they have to become Jews first, through taking on the ritual provisions of the Mosaic Law, in particular circumcision for male converts? A compromise solution is reached: circumcision is not imposed but only three lesser requirements that will allow believers of both Jewish and pagan origin to live, eat, and associate with each other as one community in peace.

The **Second Reading**, from Apocalypse 21, also addresses the situation of the post-Easter community. Their existence in the great cities of the Mediterranean world under the dominion of Rome may be perilous in the extreme, their loyalty to the state constantly under challenge. But their real "citizenship" is that of the New Jerusalem, a city whose temple and light is provided by the presence of God and the Lamb. This assurance catches up, once again, the sense of divine indwelling communicated in the Gospel.

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.

Upcoming Feast Days and Solemnities

31 May **The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
1 June **The Ascension of the Lord**
8 June **Pentecost**



Readings

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Speak out with a voice of joy; let it be heard to the ends of the earth: The Lord has set his people free, alleluia.

FIRST READING

Acts 15:1-2. 22-29

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. **R**

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. **R**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. **R**

SECOND READING

Revelations 21:10-14. 22-23

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls



Duccio (1260–1318), Christ Taking Leave of the Apostles

SECOND READING (cont.)

Revelations 21:10-14. 22-23

stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

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 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

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SATURDAY 31 MAY

**SCRIPTURAL
LIVING ROSARY**

Join our culminating activity for the Month of Mary

**6PM Saturday Vigil Mass, followed by the
Scriptural Living Rosary in the church.**



Month of May Mary

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

This initiative is led by the Legion of Mary - Camperdown Praesidium

All Saturdays of May,
in the church
after 6pm Vigil Mass

3, 10, 17 & 24 MAY
HOLY ROSARY

31 MAY
**SCRIPTURAL
LIVING ROSARY**

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 <small>If none indicated, the readers</small>
This Sunday 24-25 May	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Diana V Gordon L Nancy T Louise Seras	Louie Sharah Geng F Chris W Suzanne M	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - Marc S, Gordon L
Next Sunday 31 May - 1 Jun	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F The Sisters Philip F Marc S	Francisco T The Sisters Elly W Ricky L	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - -
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 Fr Ruben, Dennis, Gemma
St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir
Sunday 9:30 AM Mass Allen, Ethel | Yani
Sunday Morning Choir
Sunday 11 AM Mass Louise | Dr Peter, Elsa
Chinese Community
Sunday 6 PM Mass Gemma | Teresa
St Joseph's Sunday Evening Choir

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.

St Joseph's Preschool & Long Day Care

OPENING JANUARY 2026!

- Inspiring & comprehensive curriculum
- Caring and nurturing educators



Join Us
for a
Bright Future!



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY

(02) 9568 8628 • scecs@syd.catholic.edu.au

We're excited to announce the opening of our Early Childhood Education and Care service at St Joseph's, Camperdown – opening January 2026!

Families interested in enrolling their child are welcome to **join the waitlist** via scecs.nsw.edu.au/early-learning-childcare/scecs-upcoming-services-coming-soon.

Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful, look favourably on your servant Leo, whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd; grant, we pray, that by word and example he may be of service to those over whom he presides so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.



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.



PASCHAL EUCHARIST

25 MAY

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

REGISTER NOW



A celebration for our New Catholics of the Archdiocese of Sydney. Enjoy Holy Mass and fellowship with Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP



PARISH GIVING

Account Name

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CAMPERDOWN

BSB Number 062-784

Account Number 10000 4825

Parish Collection

1st Collection	\$ 674.95
2nd Collection	\$ 419.05
EFTPOS Giving	\$ 852.98

Thank you for your generosity and support!



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AUSTRALIA

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

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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.



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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.



SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG/WALKWITHCHRIST

FESTIVAL: MARTIN PLACE FROM 1:00PM.

PROCESSION: BEGINS AT 2:30PM SHARP.
CORNER OF MARTIN PLACE AND PITT ST.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY



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

