

A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

The Ascension of the Lord – Year C

1 June 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](https://www.instagram.com/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.

The Ascension presents some difficulties for preachers. While in general I don't think we should let technical matters of interpretation intrude too often into the proclamation of the Word, here is one case where it seems we have to make clear that the biblical accounts – given in the **First Reading** (Acts 1:1-11) and the **Gospel** (Luke 24:46-53) – do not mean that Jesus, at the end of his earthly career, literally ascended in way described.

ASCENSION OF ELIJAH

The very clear parallels with the account in 2 Kings 2:1-18 of the ascension of the prophet Elijah (blessing disciples; promising a share of the Spirit; being carried up to heaven) suggest that St Luke is completing here his characteristic depiction of Jesus in terms of the prophet Elijah. As the prophet's life came to an end without the experience of death – giving rise to the expectation that he would one day return as forerunner of the Messiah – so Jesus, having escaped the bonds of death by rising from the dead and having made his risen presence clearly known to those who are to become key witnesses, now makes a death-less, Elijah-like ascent to heaven, with a similar pledge of Spirit and the promise of an eventual return (Acts 1:11).

What St Luke is basically conveying by this, is the continuity between the ministry of Jesus and that of the disciples who, when empowered with the Spirit at Pentecost, will become eye-witnesses and ministers of the Word. So, the disciples are not dismayed, nor do they lament the departure of Jesus. They have a task to fulfil; they will be equipped for that task; they have Jesus' promise that he will return. So, having worshipped the One they now recognise to be God's Son as well as Messiah, they return to Jerusalem with great joy, to await the promised "clothing with power from on high".

GOD'S RIGHT HAND

Beyond and along with this scriptural depiction of the event, at a more deeply theological level, the feast of the Ascension celebrates the Christian sense of Jesus' exaltation to God's right hand. This motif appears very early in the tradition. We find it in the closing stanza of the remarkable christological hymn quoted by Paul in Philippians 2:

"Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend – in heaven, on earth, and under the earth – and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (2:9-11).

What is envisaged here is the completion of Jesus' messianic work: the subjugation of all powers hostile to God and the ensuing liberation of the entire cosmos for the praise and glory of God. The same sense of enthronement, following achievement of the messianic task, finds expression in the frequent reference in the New Testament to Jesus' sitting at God's right hand – an allusion to Ps 110:1, as in the reading from Ephes 1:17-23 set out for Year A (and optional for Years B and C as well).

ACT OF HOPE

Communicated here is, of course, a vision of the future, an act of hope. The forces hostile to God and to true humanity have by no means yet been fully overcome. The essential blow has been struck in the Paschal victory of Jesus but his messianic work continues as he breathes his Spirit into the Church that carries on his mission. What the Church must understand – what the Ascension assures her – is that accompanying all her labour and suffering is the victory of her risen Lord, who now stands at the right hand of God interceding on behalf of all (Rom 8:34).

In this sense the Ascension is not simply something that happened to Jesus – his departure, physically, from this world. It is the feast that celebrates the hope that his triumph will ultimately be ours as well.

EXALTATION OF THE RISEN LORD

The **Second Reading** (set down optionally for Year C), from Hebrews 9 and 10, considers the "exaltation" of the risen Lord in a somewhat different mode. The background image is that of the yearly entrance of the Jewish High Priest into the innermost sanctuary of the Temple, the Holy of Holies, on the Day of Atonement. On that day the high priest sprinkled the blood of a sacrificial animal over the cover of the ark of the covenant, enacting in this way God's wiping away of the accumulated sins of the people. Jesus, in his obedient suffering, has acted as the final High Priest, making a single act of atonement valid for all time. Unlike the high priests of old, however, he has not gone alone into the sanctuary to meet God. Having purified us and washed us clean with his blood, he has taken us with him through the curtain (constituted by his own body) into the very presence of God.

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.

Thank you, Fr John Iacono!

On behalf of St Joseph's Camperdown parishioners and priests, especially Fr Michael, we would like to thank Fr John Iacono for his generosity in ministering to our parish during this time that Fr Rey and Fr Ruben are away.

Please join Fr John Iacono in celebrating a specially organised Healing Mass this **Sunday 1st of June at 3pm** here at St Joseph's Camperdown.

Come and join!

Sunday 1 June, 3PM *Special Healing Mass* at St Joseph's Camperdown

Readings

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking in the sky? The Lord will return, just as you have seen him ascend, alleluia.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom of Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth'.

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **R**

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R**

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. **R**

SECOND READING

Heb 9:24-28.10:19-23

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 only die once, and after that comes 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



John Singleton Copley (1738–1815), Jesus Ascending to Heaven

SECOND READING (cont.)

Heb 9:24-28.10:19-23

are waiting for him. In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he has opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our minds sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful. Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works. Do not stay away from the meetings of the community, as some do, but encourage each other to go; the more so as you see the Day drawing near.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witness to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I, the Lord, am with you always, until the end of the world, alleluia.



Month of May Mary

Thank you for joining us in praying the Holy Rosary in celebration of the Month of Mary this May.

Thank you also to the Legion of Mary - Camperdown Praesidium who has led this initiative, and to all our parishioners and volunteers who made this possible!

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 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 - -
Next Sunday 7-8 Jun	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	TBC	TBC	TBC
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.

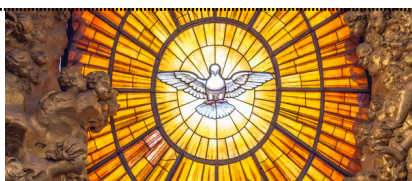


SATURDAY 31 MAY SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

Join our culminating activity for the Month of Mary
6PM Saturday Vigil Mass, followed by the
Scriptural Living Rosary in the church.

Upcoming Feast Days and Solemnities

- 8 Jun Pentecost
- 15 Jun The Most Holy Trinity
- 22 Jun The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)



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	\$ 706.35
2nd Collection	\$ 443.05
EFTPOS Giving	\$ 804.41

Thank you for your generosity and support!



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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

