

A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

10 Aug 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Our parish has been advised that the Healing Mass of Fr John Iacono at St Joseph's Camperdown **is cancelled**. (More on p.4)

It is not easy to find a unifying thread running through this Sunday's readings. I suspect the opening statement of the Gospel (Luke 12:32-40) comes closest to it: 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom'. The word order of the Greek actually suggests something stronger: 'Your Father has determined to give you the kingdom'. The implication is that the God whom Jesus proclaims is a God who longs to confer supreme benefits on human beings. Any blockage to the divine generosity comes entirely from the human side. All three readings, in their own ways, deal with this divine-human interaction.

TRIUMPHANT REFLECTION

The **First Reading**, from Wisdom 18:6-9, sounds rather odd when taken out of its wider context which is inevitably the case as it appears in the Lectionary. It comes from the final part of the book, which is a triumphant reflection in midrash style on Israel's Exodus from Egypt.

The particular section seems to picture the Israelites celebrating the Passover just before their liberation. They sing the hymns of praise with great confidence, sure that the promises (literally 'oaths') of freedom that they have received from God would be fulfilled.

In this sense of being "on the way" to salvation not yet arrived, yet confident that, in God's faithfulness, they will arrive they are in a similar situation to that of the faithful as told in the **Second Reading**, Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19.

DEFINITIONS OF FAITH

The reading comes from the long instruction on 'faith' contained in this chapter of the letter. The author gives one of the classic 'definitions' of faith ('the assurance of things hoped for; the conviction of things not seen') and relates this to the story of Abraham. Several times God promised Abraham that the land (the land of Canaan: Palestine) in which he was at that time wandering would be given to him and to his descendants. But Abraham never came into full and complete possession of the land. For his entire life he lived a wandering, 'tent-like' existence in it as a stranger, clinging to God's promise of a true homeland.

The author sees in this a paradigm of Christian life. Through faith in God's promise, believers have a sense that their true homeland is elsewhere something which lends to present life in the world an aspect of being strangers and nomads. Pressed to extremes, as it has been at times in Christian spirituality, this can induce an unhealthy alienation from present life in pursuit of a kind of 'pie in the sky when you die' idea. But that is not the real sense of the biblical text, which is focused rather on the generosity of God. Strangers and nomads can enjoy and treasure the good things of the land through which they are passing. At the same time, they can be so buoyed up by the promise of what lies ahead as to be able to leave a blessing, not disruption, in their wake. They will receive the good things of this world with gratitude, regarding them as tokens and pledges of far greater gifts to come.

TREASURE IN HEAVEN

The rather disparate series of instructions and warnings that make up the **Gospel**, Luke 12:32-48, revolve around a similar theme. The really important 'treasure' is the one in heaven, the one that God purposes to give. The best thing one can do with present wealth is to use it to give alms to the poor. This converts it into heavenly 'credit', literally, 'treasure in heaven', the only credit that survives the barrier of death.

The remaining warnings play upon the familiar theme of watchfulness. Present-day believers hardly share the keen sense of the Lord's return that was so strong in the early days of the Christian movement and has left such a strong impress upon the New Testament. But the sense of life as something for which we are always accountable remains. Like the servants awaiting their master's return, we are responsible and accountable responsible for the welfare of others, especially the poor and disadvantaged, and accountable to God.

GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY

This sense of God as the One to whom we are accountable need not stand in opposition to the sense of God as the One who has 'determined' to give us the Kingdom. It is precisely because such riches are at stake that the responsibility is grave. Without endorsing slavery and above all the kind of punishments that defaulting slaves were accustomed to receive, the biblical text uses examples that its audience would recognise and respond to. We ought not allegorise the text and see in the examples patterns of the way God acts. The divine generosity is not in doubt. What needs to be attended to is the capacity and readiness of human beings to receive what God has in store.

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

Lord, be true to your covenant, forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Rise up, O God, and defend your cause; do not ignore the shouts of your enemies.

FIRST READING

Wisdom 18:6-9

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. **R**

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **R**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-2,8-12

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom. 'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to

return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as



A Sermon on Charity, detail, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54368> [retrieved August 8, 2025]. Original source: Image donated by Jim Womack and Anne Richardson.

GOSPEL (cont.)

Luke 12:32-48

soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be second watch he comes or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.' Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone? The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful. 'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem; he feeds you with the finest wheat.

WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH

Called

A DAY OF REFLECTION & PRAYER
FOR VOCATIONS

TALK | Q&A | HOLY HOUR | MASS

SATURDAY, 30 AUGUST 2025

3PM START | ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN

Scan QR code
to register



Called: A Day of Reflection & Prayer for Vocations

Join us on **Saturday 30th of August at 3pm** to reflect on the different types of vocations and the Essential Elements of Religious Life with Sr Maliya Suen, RSM.

There will also be an opportunity for Q&A with priests and religious, followed by a Holy Hour for Vocations, and the Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass.

Whether you are a parent, parishioner, friend, or discernor -- all are welcome!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Register via scanning the QR code or visiting forms.gle/AxB4MjZR9y6evoRz7

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 9-10 Aug	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Diana V Gigi - Joven	Angela C Menchu - Mark	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - -
Next Sunday 16-17 Aug	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F Rachel - Ricky	Francisco T Leslie - Greg	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		

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
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.



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.

Donate to the Charitable Works Fund Appeal

9-10 Aug 2025

The CWF is the charity of the catholic community in Sydney and your local parish. Together, we bring hope and care to those who need it most.

Your charity needs you.

CWF funds services that help thousands of people every year.



Care for the poor, disabled and vulnerable.



Chaplaincy to the lonely and isolated.



Support for the deaf and hard of hearing.



Training the next generation of priests.



Teaching the Gospel in our schools.



3 Ways to donate:

1) Scan the QR code or visit www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-cwf



2) Complete the parish envelope

3) Phone 1800 753 959

Give generously. Your tax-deductible donation changes lives.

All donations contribute to your Parish target.

Thank you.

CANCELLED EVENT

Healing Mass with Fr John Iacono
on Friday 15 August, 6:45pm
at St Joseph's Camperdown

Dear parishioners and visitors
of St Joseph's Camperdown,

Our parish has been advised that the Friday 15th August 6:45pm **Healing Mass of Fr John Iacono** at St Joseph's Camperdown **is cancelled**.

If you know of anyone who was planning to come, please do pass on this message to them.

Our Weekday Masses are still scheduled to take place at 8am & 8pm as usual.

Thank you very much for your attention.

ANNOUNCEMENT

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	\$ 656.35
2nd Collection	\$ 512.55
EFTPOS Giving	\$ 1,566.88

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

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.



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

