

# A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

17 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, Wed, Fri** 10AM - 4PM

📍 2 Missenden Rd, Camperdown

☎ (02) 9557 1181

✉ [stjocamper@gmail.com](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com)

🌐 [stjosephscamperdown.org.au](http://stjosephscamperdown.org.au)

📘 [fb.com/StJosephCamperdown](https://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](mailto: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.

**Once again, a very challenging set of readings confronts the preacher today.** The episode told in the First Reading, Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10, occurred when the Babylonians were besieging Jerusalem around the year 588 BCE. The persecution of the prophet Jeremiah stemmed from his opposition to the pro-Egypt policy of powerful advisers of the King Zedekiah.

They sought to gain complete independence for Judah by playing off one leading power (Egypt) against another (Babylon). With prophetic insight Jeremiah saw that this would lead to the destruction of the kingdom at the hands of the Babylonians (which in fact it did). He urged Zedekiah to preserve the nation by coming to terms with the Babylonian king and paying tribute. Adopting this unpopular stance led to his being thrown into the well and left to die there, as described in the reading.

### PROPHETIC

The fate of Jeremiah provides a prophetic precedent and context for Jesus' words in the Gospel (Luke 12:49-53). Ironically, however, while Jeremiah urged a 'peace' policy (with the Babylonians), Jesus – provocatively – states that he has not come to bring peace. This, of course, conflicts with the announcement of the heavenly host to the shepherds on the night of his birth: "Glory to God in the highest and, on earth, peace to those who enjoy God's favour" (2:14). However, even in the same Infancy story of the Gospel, the old man Simeon, in the second part of his oracle, had already foretold that "this child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed, so that that thoughts out of many hearts would be revealed" (2:34-35).

### CONVERSION OF THE HEART

This gives us the clue to resolve the apparent contradiction. The "peace" that Jesus brings is not a facile thing. It only becomes effective in the context of true conversion of heart. Jesus' message does not leave the depths of human beings untouched. Probing beneath a superficial pleasantness and acceptance, it brings deep-seated prejudice, narrowness, and selfishness to the surface, where such negative qualities can be confronted and healed. But many resist challenge and healing at this level. They react negatively – violently even (the scene in the synagogue at Nazareth, 4:16-30, is the perfect illustration). So what should be a message of peace ends up as a violent confrontation.

This pattern is the background to Jesus' words in today's Gospel. The increasing hostility to his message that he encountering will come to a climax as he approaches Jerusalem, the city of destiny. This leads him to see himself as a person who provokes prophetic hostility rather than peace.

It seems best to understand the 'fire' that Jesus says he has come to bring to the earth as the gift of the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist had prophesied that, whereas he himself baptised with water, the coming One would baptise 'with the Holy Spirit and fire' (3:16). And indeed at Pentecost the gathered disciples will receive the Spirit in the visible form of 'tongues as if of fire' (Acts 2:3). But the Spirit cannot be given until Jesus has faced and gone through the destiny that awaits him in Jerusalem.

### PAINFUL DESTINY

This painful destiny Jesus describes as a 'baptism' with which he is stressed until it be 'accomplished'. He is not using the word 'baptism' with reference to the Christian sacrament of Baptism. The Greek word baptizo refers to being dipped in water. Jesus is speaking of 'baptism' according to a biblical usage where being immersed in water out of control is a standard image for being overwhelmed by troubles and hostility (e.g., Pss 42:7; 69:1-2; 88:7, 16-17). 'Baptism', then, refers to the suffering and death that awaits him in Jerusalem.

What we have, then, is a glimpse of the anguish afflicting Jesus at this point of his mission. On the one hand, his passionate desire is to communicate to people a sense of the divine love that drives his mission and which is the essence of the experience of the Spirit. On the other hand, this communication of the Spirit cannot take place until he has personally confronted and overcome, through death and resurrection, the hostility to divine love lurking in the human heart. He is caught in a terrible tension between the reality of God's love and the reality of the world to which, in his own person, that divine love reaches out.

### JESUS' SUMMONS

This tension affects also the hearts of those to whom his summons is directed, reaching back into inter-family relationships as well. Hence the startling message in the concluding words of the Gospel. Families are the best nurturing ground for human beings and indeed for religious values. But families can often hold people in prejudices and captivities resistant to the gospel and the following of Jesus. "Peace" is the fruit of conversion.

# Readings

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.**

## FIRST READING

Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10

The leading men of Jerusalem spoke to the king. 'Let this man be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Lord, come to my aid!**

I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. **R**

He drew me from the deadly pit, from the miry clay. He set my feet upon a rock and made my footsteps firm. **R**

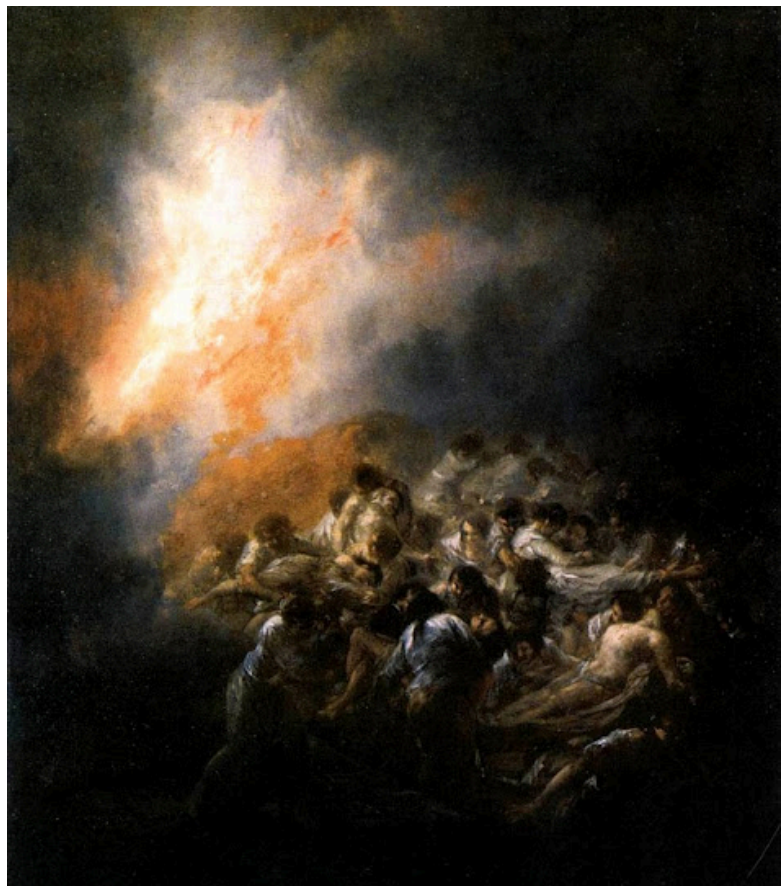
He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. Many shall see and fear and shall trust in the Lord. **R**

As for me, wretched and poor, the Lord thinks of me. You are my rescuer, my help, O God, do not delay. **R**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:1-4

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulness of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood up to such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.



Francisco Goya (1746-1828), *Incendio, fuego de noche - Fire at Night*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over! 'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.**

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## 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:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Intentions:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

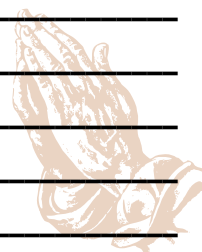
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**Requested by:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ For publishing ☐ Not for publishing





# 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](https://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](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com) for assistance.



Follow us on Instagram to keep updated with parish activities!  
@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](mailto: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](mailto: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
<b>This Sunday</b> 16-17 Aug	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F Rachel Sharon K Ricky	Francisco T Leslie John L Greg	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - -
<b>Next Sunday</b> 23-24 Aug	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Alicia B Tanya Cynthia C Poie	Ricky L Gordon L Chris W Raymond	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - -
<b>Daily Mass</b>	<b>Morning</b> <b>Evening</b>	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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://scecs.nsw.edu.au/early-learning-childcare/scecs-upcoming-services-coming-soon).

## CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

[gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events](http://gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events)

# CALLED & GIFTED

DISCERNMENT PROCESS

Mon 8 Sept - Mon 24 Nov 2025

[gomakedisciples.org.au/called-gifted-discernment-process/](http://gomakedisciples.org.au/called-gifted-discernment-process/)



**RESCHEDULED**

# CAMINO of ST JOSEPH

AN OVERNIGHT WALKING PILGRIMAGE FOR MEN IN HONOUR OF ST JOSEPH

**5 - 6 SEPTEMBER 2025**  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
**NEW DATE**



**REGISTRATIONS  
NOW OPEN**

FOR MORE INFO: [SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG/MAXIMUS](http://SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG/MAXIMUS)

OPEN TO MEN AGES 16+. ADULT SUPERVISION IS STRICTLY REQUIRED FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS OLD.



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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
2nd Collection	\$ To be posted
EFTPOS Giving	\$ 1,734.24

*Thank you for your generosity and support!*



**CADIS**  
CATHOLIC AUSTRALIAN DISASTER SERVICES  
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.



Donate through scanning the QR code or by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://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](mailto: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

