

A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'
**ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

19 Oct 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

🌐 stjosephscamperdown.org.au

📘 [fb.com/StJosephCamperdown](https://www.facebook.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.

The theme that links the First Reading, from the Book of Exodus (17:8-13) and the Gospel (Luke 18:1-8) today is clearly that of perseverance in prayer. The Gospel in fact expresses this clearly when it has Jesus introduce a parable about 'the need to pray at all times and not lose heart'.

The episode told in the First Reading, Exod 17:8-13, occurred, according to the Book of Exodus, early in the desert wandering of Israel following the deliverance from Egypt. The climax of that deliverance came when Moses, on God's instruction, lifted up his staff over the sea. At this the waters parted, allowing the Israelites to escape. When they were safe on the other side, Moses again lifted up his hands and the waters returned to engulf the pursuing Egyptians.

In the present episode Israelite confronts another enemy, the Amalekites. The victory is gained in a similar way. When Moses lifts up his staff, God fights for the Israelites and they prevail. But when he wilts and his hands droop, the fortunes of battle reverse. So, Aaron and Hur support Moses, holding up his hands until, as the sun is setting, Joshua gains the victory for Israel.

PERSEVERANCE IN PRAYER

In the Christian tradition the episode has always been taken as a symbol of perseverance in prayer: when people pray they open themselves up to the power of God; when, through weariness or discouragement, their prayer begins to wilt, they move away from that source of strength. The assistance Aaron and Hur render to Moses shows how believers must support each other in prayer – especially as persevering in that exercise can often be a trial of faith.

The parable making up the Gospel appears to commend praying to God with the kind of persistence displayed by the widow in her dealings with the judge. But it hardly means to suggest that God needs to be worn down like the judge. Basically, it commends an attitude of trust in God that would motivate such persistence in prayer – even when the answer seems a long time coming.

As is sometimes the case in Jesus' parables (see especially that of the Rogue Steward from Luke, chapter 16 that we heard as the Gospel four Sundays before), the action revolves around a rather unsavoury character.

A judge who fears neither God nor fellow human beings takes no action in defence of a widow who had appealed to him. Lacking the support of a husband and possibly adult sons, widows were particularly dependent on the smooth and fair working of the institutions of justice. Hence the plight of this woman, whose entreaties the judge so long ignores.

LAZY JUDGE

As Jesus tells the story, the lazy judge stirs himself on her behalf only when he suspects that her verbal entreaties are about to give way to actual physical violence. Translated literally, what he says to himself is 'lest she come and give me a black eye' (The Greek expression is at home in the boxing arena).

As with the Rogue Steward, the judge moves against his own previous inclination because he realises that a stage has been reached where to take no action may incur serious loss. The force of the parable emerges on an a fortiori kind of logic. If the unjust judge at long last – albeit through base and self-interested motives – moves to grant justice to the woman, how much more certainly and readily will the God of all goodness move to grant justice to chosen ones who make entreaty day and night.

FAITH IN GOD

Since the parable is ultimately about the character of God, it is understandable that its final comment has to do with faith. Faith in God, displayed in prayer that is both trusting and calm as well as constant and persistent, is the right attitude for the present time – a time of waiting and hope, rather than possession of the Kingdom.

In a world where so much injustice prevails and where the poor, such as the widow, continue to cry out for justice day and night, the challenge of the parable is sharp. Those whose actions or inertia allow the world to remain for the majority an unjust and inhospitable place must reckon with the truth that God proclaimed in the Gospel is a God aligned with the cause of the poor. How long can such a God allow the situation to go on without redress?

A similar warning in view of the accountability to come emerges from the instruction given to church leaders, in the person of Paul's protege Timothy, in the Second Reading, 2 Tim 3:14 4:2. It also contains a valuable early reflection on the role and function of scripture in the life of the community of faith. Those, in particular, who would aspire to leadership must take care to equip themselves with this resource.

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

I call upon you, God, for you will answer me; bend your ear and hear my prayer. Guard me as the pupil of your eye; hide me in the shade of your wings.

FIRST READING

Exodus 17: 8-13

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains: from where shall come my help? My help shall come from the Lord who made heaven and earth. **R**

May he never allow you to stumble! Let him sleep not, your guard. No, he sleeps not nor slumbers, Israel's guard. **R**

The Lord is your guard and your shade; at your right side he stands. By day the sun shall not smite you nor the moon in the night. **R**

The Lord will guard you from evil, he will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your going and coming both now and for ever. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:2

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work. Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

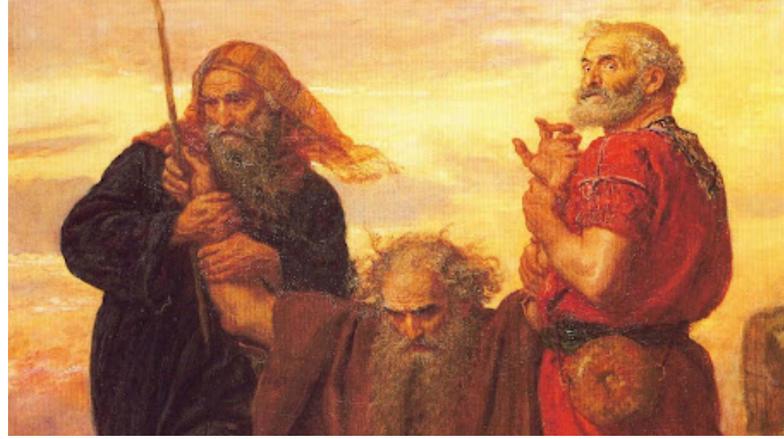
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 18: 1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of



John Everett Millais (1829-1896). Moses holding up his arms during the battle, assisted by Aaron and Hur.

GOSPEL (cont.)

Luke 18: 1-8

God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.'" And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

See how the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those who hope in his love, that he may rescue them from death and feed them in time of famine.

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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: _____ Requested by: _____

for publishing not for publishing



FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

*November Mass Intentions
Praying for our Departed
Brothers and Sisters*

For the whole Month of November, our parish will be praying for all our departed brothers and sisters.

You may write the names of your departed loved ones in the envelopes provided at the foyer of the church or send us an email at stjocamper@gmail.com.



WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH

SCRIPTURAL *Living* ROSARY

**SATURDAY
25 OCTOBER**
6PM VIGIL MASS
FOLLOWED BY THE
SCRIPTURAL LIVING ROSARY

*Let us come together as one
parish in prayer during the
month of the Holy Rosary*



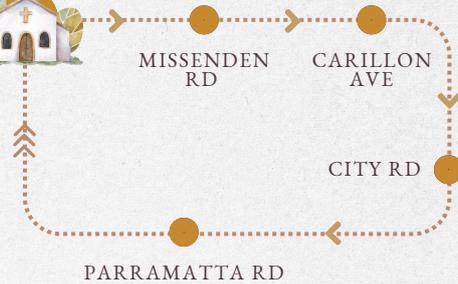
FEAST OF OUR LADY

Health of the Sick PROCESSION

SUNDAY 16 NOV 2025
4PM PROCESSION | 6PM MASS



PROCESSION BEGINS AND ENDS AT
ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN



On Sunday 16th of November, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady Health of the Sick at St Joseph's Camperdown. Join us as we process through the grounds of Camperdown. Procession will begin at 4pm at St Joseph's Camperdown, and onto Missenden Rd, Carillon Ave, City Rd, Parramatta Rd, and making our way back to St Joseph's. During the procession, we will be praying for our sick brothers and sisters, local healthcare institutions, healthcare workers, and our sick, homebound, and elderly 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 18-19 Oct	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Diana V Rachel Sharon K Tanya	Angela C Leslie John L James	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - -
Next Sunday 26-27 Oct	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Diana V Rachel Cynthia C Poie	Angela C Leslie Chris W Raymond	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - -
Daily Mass	Morning Evening	Mon Garry, Tue Etchie, Wed Amy, Thu Doris, Fri Ricky, Sat Gemma 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, Jack
St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir
Sunday 9:30 AM Mass Allen, Ethel, Jack | 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.

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.

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.



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.



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

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

Parish Collection

1st Collection	\$	582.40
2nd Collection	\$	403.95
EFTPOS Giving	\$	1,266.58

Thank you for your generosity and support!

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events



SISTERS of LIFE

ADVENT RETREAT

No Longer Forsaken: the Lord Delights in You - Isaiah 62

Preparation for the season of Advent!

Be filled with Hope in this Jubilee year. Join us for an afternoon of reflection and retreat as we await the light of Christ.
1PM - 5PM | SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2025 | ST JOACHIM'S PARISH, LIDCOMBE



SISTERS OF LIFE



TO REGISTER!
trybooking.com/DFBJT

Join the Sisters of Life this Advent for an afternoon of prayer and reflection under the theme "No longer forsaken: the Lord delights in you" (Isaiah 62).

The afternoon will include a time of reflection and prayerful silence. Light refreshments provided. Come and be renewed in the joy and hope of Advent to be reminded that you are deeply loved, and He delights in you. Saturday 29 November 2025 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM at St Joachim's Catholic Church - 2 Mills Street, Lidcombe NSW 2141



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.



Donations 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

