

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

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

1st Sunday of Lent – Year A

22 Feb 2026

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

📷 @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

For urgent anointing requests in hospital, please contact the Catholic priest RPAH Switchboard 02 9515 6111

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.

Clearly, the theme linking the First Reading and the Gospel today is that of 'temptation', with the Second Reading offering Paul's densely theological contrast between Adam and Christ. It seems to be a standard pattern that when people are called by God for some purpose they soon undergo a period of test. In hearing and following God's call, they may have experienced a great sense of affirmation and freedom. But now comes a 'desert' experience through which, within the context of God's love and acceptance, they must learn far more deeply what it is to be a human being in relationship to God. Stripped of their usual props and comforts, alone simply with that relationship, they come to feel their own powerlessness, sinfulness, and utter dependence upon God. Only with this knowledge can they become effective instruments of God's purpose for the world.

PERIOD OF TEST

The classic instance of this pattern is that of Israel's 40-year wandering in the Sinai desert – a period of testing, where Israel often failed. In the Synoptic tradition Jesus himself undergoes such a period of test, recapitulating the story of his people but also, on a more universal scale, that of humankind itself summed up in the figure of Adam.

Appropriately, then, the **First Reading** (Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7) gives us a somewhat potted version of the second account of creation in Genesis 2. God fashions the first man (Hebrew 'adam') from the clay of the earth and places him, along with his female companion ('Eve'), in a garden setting where all they had to do for nourishment was to stretch out their hands to the fruits surrounding them. The sense is that God's total intent for human beings is to lavish life and gifts upon them. But there is an element of test. The all-important relationship with God cannot develop unless the human pair know God as God and themselves as creatures, greatly gifted by God to be sure but within creaturely limit. Hence, while they may eat from all the trees of the garden, including the tree of life (the source of immortality), there is one tree from which they may not eat: the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The most likely understanding of this mysterious tree is that which sees it as simply a symbol of going beyond creaturely limit, to grasp knowledge and status belonging to God alone.

The test that comes with the serpent's suggestion contains, like all temptations, an element of deceit. The serpent sows a doubt about the trustworthiness and benevolence of God. Is God really loading the human couple with gifts and favours? Or is God craftily keeping something from them so as to preserve divine status for Godself alone?

What follows the lapse into disobedience is a breakdown of relationships in all directions. Previously the human pair had enjoyed a relationship of adult intimacy and freedom with God. Now they run away from the divine approach like naughty children. The nakedness of which they become conscious symbolises the breakdown of intimacy between themselves. Lost, above all, is trust.

GIFT OF GRACE AND ETERNAL LIFE

The Christian tradition has tended to find in Paul's reflection on this episode as it appears in the **Second Reading** (Rom 5:12-19) an instruction about sin and its transmission to the entire race. But the main reason he introduces Adam is to say something with greater emphasis about Christ. He compares and contrasts the two figures in order to bring out the superiority of the gift of grace and eternal life that comes to us in Christ over against the legacy of sin and stemming from Adam. The passage, then, is more a paean to the triumph of grace than an instruction upon the ravages of sin.

Deuteronomy 6-8 provides the essential background to Matthew's account of the testing of Jesus told in the **Gospel** (4:1-11). As God's covenant people, Israel could expect to receive protection and food (manna) from God during her 40-year sojourn in the desert of Sinai before entrance into the promised land. Israel was not to put God to the test by trying to force God's hand in these areas.

The three temptations the devil puts to Jesus take up each area in turn: food, protection, possession of the land (understood now as lordship of the entire world). In all three areas God has allowed the Son to be placed in a situation of test. Citing texts from Deuteronomy, Jesus dismisses the suggestion in each case, displaying complete trust in the goodness and providence of the Father. The lordship of the world, a shortcut to which Satan dangled before him, will in fact be given to him as risen Lord, following his obedient death upon the cross for the redemption of the world (Matt 28:18; see also Phil 2:8-11).

The Lenten liturgy and observance invite Christians to share something of the 'desert' experience of Christ, to go a little beyond our comfort zones in some areas, in order to enter more deeply into the relationship with the Father that is his.

Readings

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls to me, I will answer; I will rescue him and give him honour. Long life and contentment will be his.

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But, of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **R**

My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. **R**

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R**

Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin; for after one single fall came



Philips Augustijn Immenraet (1627–1679). Temptation of Christ.

SECOND READING (cont.)

Romans 5:12-19

judgment with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and the angels appeared and looked after him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH

LENT & EASTER

AT ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN 2026

18 FEB WED	ASH WEDNESDAY MASS 8AM 8PM IMPOSITION OF ASHES
FRIDAYS OF LENT 20 & 27 FEB, 6, 13, 20 & 27 MAR	LENTEN REFLECTION FRIDAYS 6PM LENTEN REFLECTION @ CHURCH 7PM WAY OF THE CROSS 8PM MASS <i>NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION DURING WAY OF THE CROSS</i>
10 MAR TUE TO 18 MAR WED	NOVENA MASSES <i>IN HONOUR OF ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i> 8AM 8PM
19 MAR THU	PARISH FEAST DAY SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH 8AM 8PM
28 MAR SAT	PARISH LENTEN RETREAT 3PM to 7PM <i>Retreat Talk, Reflections and Vigil Mass</i>
29 MAR SUN	PALM SUNDAY 9:30AM 11AM 6PM
2 APR THU	HOLY THURSDAY 10:30AM CHRISM MASS @ ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL 8PM MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION UNTIL MIDNIGHT <i>NO MORNING MASS CELEBRATED ON HOLY THURSDAY</i>
3 APR FRI	GOOD FRIDAY 10AM LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS 10AM SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION UNTIL 12 NOON 3PM COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD <i>NO MASSES CELEBRATED ON GOOD FRIDAY</i>
4 APR SAT	HOLY SATURDAY <i>NO MORNING MASS CELEBRATED ON HOLY SATURDAY</i>
4 APR SAT	EASTER VIGIL 8PM CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
5 APR SUN	EASTER SUNDAY 9:30AM 11AM 6PM <i>EASTER LUNCH SERVED AFTER 9:30AM & 11:00AM MASSES</i>

SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors <i>* the 1st & 2nd readers</i>
This Sunday 21-22 Feb	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 * *
Next Sunday 28 Feb - 1 Mar	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon The Sisters Philip F Joven	Francisco T The Sisters Elly W Mark	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 St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir	Fr Ruben, Dennis, Jack
Sunday 9:30 AM Mass Sunday Morning Choir	Allen, Jack Jayda, 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.



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.



PILGRIM MARY & HER HOLY ROSARY

HOME VISITATION

The statue of our Blessed Mother is continuously on a pilgrimage to our parishioners' homes each week. To **join this initiative** or the Legion of Mary, you may approach the **members of the Legion of Mary** who assist before the start of Sunday/Vigil Masses, or contact the parish office at stjocamper@gmail.com.



You are invited to our Community Lunch

Every First Thursday of the Month

12:30pm to 1:30pm

St Joseph's Camperdown PRESBYTERY GROUNDS

This event is for **FREE!** Lunch will be provided.

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.

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.



RPAH CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

Seeking solace during illness or hospitalisation at RPA Hospital? Our Catholic Chaplaincy offers comforting visits, pastoral care, and sacraments. For **emergency visit requests**, contact us via **RPA Hospital Switchboard (02 9515 6111)** and page the Catholic priest on call. For **non-urgent requests**, you may call our parish office **(02 9557 1181)**.

We're here for you

CATECHISTS' CORNER

Thinking of becoming Catholic?

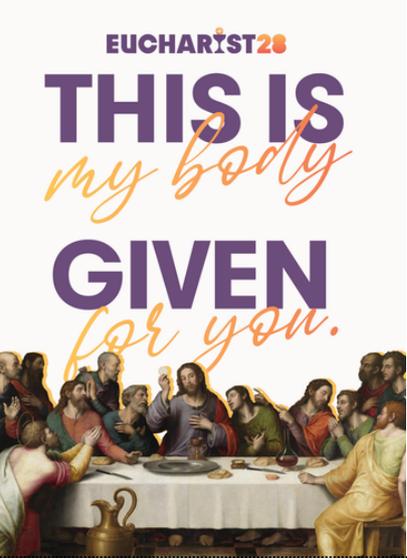
We're happy to accompany you through your journey of faith. Send us a message at stjocamper@gmail.com.

PARISH GIVING

Parish Collection

1st Collection	\$	743.50
2nd Collection	\$	511.55
EFTPOS Giving	\$	3351.00

Thank you for your generosity and support!



EUCHARIST28
Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

Grant us the grace to receive you reverently, worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed.

By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us, so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us, we too may offer our lives to God and to others.

Inspire and help us to serve you in those who are in need, especially the defenceless and homeless, the lonely and lost.

Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may truly become what we have received, the Body of Christ. Amen.

CADIS
CAMILIAN DISASTER SERVICE AUSTRALIA

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

Transfer to **CADIS AUSTRALIA LTD**
BSB: 032-179
A/N: 371 579

To Volunteer, contact **Fr Meng** or **Robert and Maria**
0424742571 0469898620



Where is God calling you to?

Contact our Vocation Director Fr Renante Sentillas, MI

camillianvocationaustralia@gmail.com

(02) 9557 1181

St Joseph's Catholic Church - Camperdown
2 Missenden Rd, Camperdown NSW 2050

PREACH THE GOSPEL. HEAL THE SICK. [Read more](#)

CWF
CHARITABLE WORKS FUND
Your local charity

Support the charitable and pastoral works of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible and can be credited to your local parish.

Caritas AUSTRALIA

Donate through scanning the QR code or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

PROJECT COMPASSION
FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

THE 54TH INTERNATIONAL **EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028**
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

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