

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

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Fifth Sunday of Easter – Year A

3 May 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](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com)

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

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

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](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.

*Happy Easter!*



*from all of us at St Joseph's Camperdown*

May you have a happy and holy celebration  
with your family and loved ones!



**Again, a rich scriptural offering for this Sunday.** It is not easy to find a discernible theme running across the readings, save the general sense that the focus is moving away from the Resurrection of Jesus to the time of his final return to the Father when the disciples will be without his physical presence.

Taken from the long discourse given by Jesus at the Last Supper, the **Gospel**, John 14:1-10, reflects on this time and the understanding it will require from the disciples, that is, from the Church. In fact, there are two 'departures' of Jesus in view. The actual setting of the supper on the night before Jesus is to die makes it natural to understand the 'going away' of which he speaks as a reference to this imminent departure in death; his 'return', then, would refer to his reappearance, on the third day, as risen Lord. While at one level this is true, the discourse really addresses the more permanent 'going away' of Jesus when he finally returns to the Father following his appearances to the disciples as risen Lord. His 'return' would then be his return at the end of time, a thought otherwise rare in the Fourth Gospel.

### TIME OF CHURCH

On this second level, what Jesus is really addressing in the discourse is not the period between Good Friday and Easter Sunday but the 'time of Church' that will follow – and will in fact extend indefinitely. This will be a time when the disciples will not have the reassurance of his physical presence and will feel that loss keenly ('Do not let your hearts be troubled. ...') What Jesus wants to insist on here, however, is that it will be a 'graced' time, in fact a 'better' time. His departure to the Father will not mean loss but enrichment.

This gives the clue to understanding rightly Jesus' statement about there being 'many rooms' in his Father's house and about his going there to prepare a place for the disciples. In a way that has long provided comfort for many people, the statement, at face value, conveys the impression of heaven as a kind of vast motel to which Jesus is going in order to prepare 'rooms' for the faithful after they die. This does not, however, do full justice to the way the Johannine gospel confronts the problem of death and, in particular, to the richness which the Gospel draws out of the motif of divine 'remaining'/'dwelling'.

John's Gospel presents the entire work of Jesus Christ as nothing less than a fulfilment of a divine project to bring about mutual 'at-homeness' between God and human beings. As heralded in the Prologue, the Word, whose proper dwelling is in eternity 'with God' (1:1-2), has 'become flesh' (1:14).

### DWELLING PLACE

In the human person of Jesus Christ, God has made a dwelling-place – literally, 'has pitched his tent' – among us. The disciples 'have seen his glory' in the sense that the words and actions of Jesus, notably his 'signs' (miracles), have rendered ordinary human life transparent to God's presence and to the gift of 'eternal life' which, through Jesus, God wishes to impart. To 'have eternal life' in this sense is nothing less than to have a share in God's own life, to become 'children of God' (1:12; 11:52), inhabitants of God's 'house' forever. As Jesus explains to Martha, grieving at the death of her brother Lazarus, this is the true response and remedy to human mortality: 'I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even though they die, will live; and whoever lives believing in me, will never die' (John 11:25-26).

What Jesus is attempting to explain to the puzzled disciples in today's Gospel is that this gift of eternal life, and the divine 'at-homeness' that goes with it, can only come about through his 'going away' for a time. His suffering and death are necessary to defeat the grip of sin and death upon the human race and open up the way to life.

### AT HOME WITH GOD

The many 'rooms' or 'dwelling places' which he is going away to prepare are in fact the separate instances of God's 'indwelling' in the heart of each and every believer. As he will say later, 'Those who love me will keep my Word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them' (14:23). The disciples, as Philip so plaintively points out, cannot 'see' the Father. But, Jesus explains, he himself is 'the Way' to the revelation of the Father (the 'Truth'), in which is contained the gift of '(eternal) life' ('the Life'). In relating to him (Jesus), they are becoming 'at home' with God and God with them.

The **First Reading**, Acts 6:1-7, shows the early Church, under the guidance of the Spirit, developing structures of ministry in response to needs that arise as it grows and expands. The **Second Reading**, 1 Peter, 2:4-9, applies to the members of the Church a magnificent set of titles drawn from the patrimony of Israel. Heading the list is the image of the Church as a 'holy building', a precious new dwelling-place for the living 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.

# Readings

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.**

## FIRST READING

ACTS 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R**

For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **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**

## SECOND READING

1 PETER 2:4-9

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!**



Duccio di Buoninsegna (1260-1318). *Jesus appears to the disciples.*

## GOSPEL

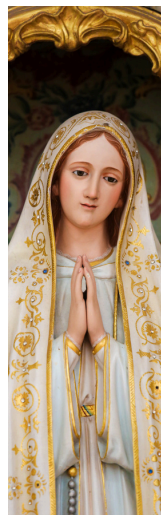
JOHN 10:1-10

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, 'Let us see the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father living in me who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; Believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord; he who lives in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit, alleluia!**

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## Why do we celebrate the Virgin Mary in May?

The Holy See's Directory of Popular Piety says the following in No. 191: ... since the month of May largely corresponds with the fifty days of Easter, the pious exercises practiced at this time could emphasize Our Lady's participation in the Paschal mystery (cf. John 19, 25-27), and the Pentecost event (cf. Acts 1, 14) with which the Church begins: Our Lady journeys with the Church having shared in the novum of the Resurrection, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The fifty days are also a time for the celebration of the sacraments of Christian initiation and of the mystagogy. The pious exercises connected with the month of May could easily highlight the earthly role played by the glorified Queen of Heaven, here and now, in the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

Source: EWTN, [www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/why-do-we-celebrate-the-virgin-mary-in-may-21896](http://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/why-do-we-celebrate-the-virgin-mary-in-may-21896)

# WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH

CURIOUS ABOUT FAITH?

信仰之路 - 永恒的生命



CHINESE CATECHISM CLASS

Have you ever wondered about God, Jesus, or the meaning of life?

你是否曾經思考過有關神、耶穌、以及生命的意義？

The Catechumenate (RCIA) is a welcoming place for you to explore the Catholic faith.

慕道课程(RCIA)是探索天主教信仰的愉快旅程,你为提供发問和讨论的機會。

Contact 請联系

English  
Fr Rey or Simon Chan  
(02) 9567 1181  
stjocamper@gmail.com

华语和粤语

Mandarin & Cantonese  
Dr Peter Wong  
黄肇强医生  
请留言 0418281293

## PARISH MORNING TEA

Every 2nd Sunday after 9:30am Mass

You're welcome to bring a plate to share!



ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN  
**FIRST FRIDAY MASS**  
IN DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

### First Fridays

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



## Join us for a monthly Community Lunch

at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Camperdown

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday  
12:30pm to 1:30pm

Lunch will be provided for **FREE!** All are welcome!



### 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.

DISCERNMENT & RELIGIOUS LIFE  
**COME & SEE**



ORDER OF THE MINISTERS OF THE INFIRM CAMILLIANS



THE RELIGIOUS SISTERS OF MERCY OF ALMA MICHIGAN



2026 SESSIONS  
25 JUL & 24 OCT  
9AM AT ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN

FOR MEN

FOR WOMEN

CAMILLIAN FATHERS

ALMA MERCY SISTERS

Register via [trybooking.com/DKUYG](http://trybooking.com/DKUYG)



## PILGRIM MARY & HER HOLY ROSARY HOME VISITATION

The statue of our Blessed Mother is 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 contact the parish office at [stjocamper@gmail.com](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com).



## SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors * the 1st & 2nd readers
This Sunday 2-3 May	6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Cora F The Sisters Philip F Joven	Francisco T The Sisters Elly W Mark	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco * *
Next Sunday 9-10 May	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Diana V Gigi Elizabeth C Joven	Angela C Menchu Agnes 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  
Fr Ruben, Dennis, Jack  
Saturday 6 PM Vigil Mass  
**St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir**  
Sunday 9:30 AM Mass  
Sunday Morning Choir  
Allen, Jack | Jayda, Yani  
Sunday 11 AM Mass  
Louise | Dr Peter, Elsa  
**Chinese Community**  
Sunday 6 PM Mass  
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.



The **FEAST** of **OUR LADY** of  
**FATIMA**

Saturday 16 May 2026

Vigil Mass at 6pm followed by Marian Procession

Walk with Our Lady of Fatima in a candle-lit procession from St Mary's Cathedral as we pray for the needs of the Church and the world.



For more information, visit [sydneycatholic.org/our-lady-of-fatima-procession](http://sydneycatholic.org/our-lady-of-fatima-procession)

**FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS**

- |               |                                     |               |                              |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| <b>13 May</b> | <b>Our Lady of Fatima</b>           | <b>26 May</b> | <b>Saint Philip Neri</b>     |
| <b>14 May</b> | <b>Saint Matthias</b>               | <b>31 May</b> | <b>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY</b> |
| <b>17 May</b> | <b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b>    | <b>1 Jun</b>  | <b>Saint Justin</b>          |
| <b>24 May</b> | <b>PENTECOST</b>                    | <b>3 Jun</b>  | <b>Saint Charles Lwanga</b>  |
| <b>25 May</b> | <b>OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS</b> | <b>5 Jun</b>  | <b>Saint Boniface</b>        |

**EUCCHARIST28**  
*Prayer*

**THIS IS**  
*my body*  
**GIVEN**  
*for you.*



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.

**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](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com).

**PARISH GIVING**

**Parish Collection**

1st Collection	\$	821.90
2nd Collection	\$	528.75
EFTPOS Giving	\$	1,278.48

*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.

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

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



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.



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.



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