

A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

19 Jul 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.

Taking further parables from Matthew 13, the Lectionary presents us with a rather complex situation in regard to the Gospel. We begin with the parable of the Wheat and the Weeds (13:24-30); then come two shorter parables, the Mustard Seed (13:31-32) and the Leaven (13:33), followed by a reflection (13:34-35), typical of Matthew, indicating how Jesus' use of parables was foreseen in Scripture (Ps 78:2); finally, we have an allegorical application of the Wheat and Weeds parable (13:36-43) along the lines of the similar allegory on the parable of the Sower.

What is the homilist to make of all this? Many may be content to take the shorter option, featuring simply the first parable. Whatever course we take, it is important not to let interpretation of the parable be 'swamped' by the allegory, which somewhat shifts its focus.

KINGDOM OF GOD

Taken by itself, the parable of the Wheat and the Weeds, as with all the parables in the chapter, addresses the nature of the Kingdom of God. If, as Jesus maintains (Matt 4:17; 12:28), the kingdom has already dawned, why such continuing prevalence of evil? Why has God not already intervened to root out evil and establish God's rule once and for all?

To this the parable responds that the onset of the kingdom is not taking place on neutral ground. A powerful opposition is at work, holding human hearts against it. Hence the slowness of its growth.

In Palestine a poisonous weed known as darnel affects wheat crops. In the early stages of growth it looks very like the young shoots of wheat. By the time both plants can be distinguished, the roots are so entwined as to as to make tearing out the darnel very injurious to the wheat.

GOOD AND EVIL CO-EXIST

Likewise, good and evil are at present so inextricably co-existent in the world as to make too ruthless an attempt to eradicate the one fatal to a successful harvest of the other. In the harvest time to come, however, God will deal once and for all with evil, before gathering in 'the wheat' of the kingdom.

The parable can apply to the world as a whole, to the Church, to any smaller community within the Church or even to an individual person's own moral and spiritual life. So often a person's or a community's good qualities spring from the same source as their reprehensible ones. An irascible person may be vigorous in struggling for justice; a laid-back character a good listener – and so on. Christianity's long history of intolerance – the Inquisition, etc. – shows the tragedy and folly of being more zealous to root out evil than to encourage good. Jesus seems to suggest that God can cope for quite a time with the continuing existence of evil in order to preserve or promote a wider good.

The allegorical explanation of the parable pushes its focus strongly in the direction of judgment, with almost exclusive concentration on the negative.

Traditionally, the parable has been interpreted as bearing on the continuing prevalence of evil as well as good in the Church. But the primary identification of the 'field' in the parable is with 'the world' rather than the Church (v. 38b).

The interpretation would, then, address and account for the situation whereby "the children of the kingdom" (= 'the church') continue to suffer at the hands of evildoers. In this case, the final judgment, rather than a threat hanging over members of the Church, will be their vindication; persecution will not last for ever; evildoers will eventually suffer the fate their behaviour deserves.

COMFORT AND CHALLENGE

This complex parable, then, presents comfort as well as challenge to the church. That said, the accompanying imagery (hell-fire, etc.) may need some comment. Literalistic understandings of such features will hardly promote growth in faith and virtue today.

The two shorter parables again address the nature of the kingdom in the interests of encouragement. The kingdom may be unimpressive in its current manifestation in the activity of Jesus. But before long, like the mustard seed, it will have sprouted up into something far greater – a substantial tree to which many, like the birds of the air, will flock.

Leaven, going about its work silently and unobtrusively within measures of flour produces a result totally out of proportion to its size. So too the kingdom, may not have spectacular beginnings but, as proclaimed and enacted by Jesus, it is quietly and effectively working transformation.

MILDNESS IN JUDGMENT

The **First Reading**, from the Book of Wisdom, 12:13, 16-19, projects a rather distant, monarchical image of God. Presumably this extract, has been selected because of its stress at one point at least upon God's leniency and mildness in judgement.

The brief extract from Romans 8 making up the **Second Reading** (8:26-27) can provide comfort and encouragement for those experiencing difficulties in prayer.

Readings

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

In my justice I shall see your face, O Lord; when your glory appears my joy will be full.

FIRST READING

WISDOM 12:13.16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgment, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call. Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. **R**

All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. **R**

But you, God of Mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. **R**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 8:26:27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 13:24-43

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'



Johannes Vermeer (1632–1675). Christ in the House of Martha and Mary.

GOSPEL (cont.)

MATTHEW 13:24-43

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through'.

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow even finds a home, the swallow finds a nest wherein to place her young, near to your altars, Lord of hosts, my King, my God! How happy they who dwell in your house! For ever they are praising you.

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

你是否曾經思考過有關神、耶穌、以及生命的意義? 慕道課程(RCIA)是探索天主教信仰的愉快旅程, 你為提供發問和討論的機會。

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

Join us for a monthly Community Lunch

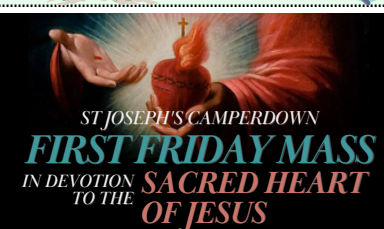
at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Camperdown



Every 1st Thursday

12:30pm to 1:30pm

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



First Fridays

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.



Come & See: Discernment & Religious Life

Saturday 25 July, 9am to 4pm

The Camillian Fathers and the Alma Mercy Sisters invite you to a day of discernment and religious life both to men and women who would like to learn more about their vocation and day to day life. The day will begin with a combined session for men and women, learning about the religious life and community. This will be followed by Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, and Mass. Lunch and activities after will be held separately, tailored to each religious order. This is a **free** event.

Register via
trybooking.com/DKUYG



ST JOSEPH'S PRESCHOOL & LONG DAY CARE CAMPERDOWN

Spacious learning environments, nurturing Educators



Book a Tour today

St Joseph's Preschool & Long Day Care Camperdown

To our dear parishioners: as you may know, St Joseph's Preschool and Long Day Care have opened their doors earlier this year here at St Joseph's Camperdown, welcoming families with children aged 6 weeks to 6 years.

You are invited to explore the newly refurbished St Joseph's Preschool and Long Day Care on a tour, and to meet their experienced educators and hear about their Catholic play based programs.

Government Funded Initiatives available at St Joseph's Preschool & LDC

Book a Tour Today

or call 02 8338 5500



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.



SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors * the 1st & 2nd readers
This Sunday 18-19 Jul	6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Diana V Rachel Sharon K Jimmy T	Angela C Leslie John L Joven	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco * *
Next Sunday 25-26 Jul	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Diana V Lesley Cynthia C Poie	Amy M Rachel 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		

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

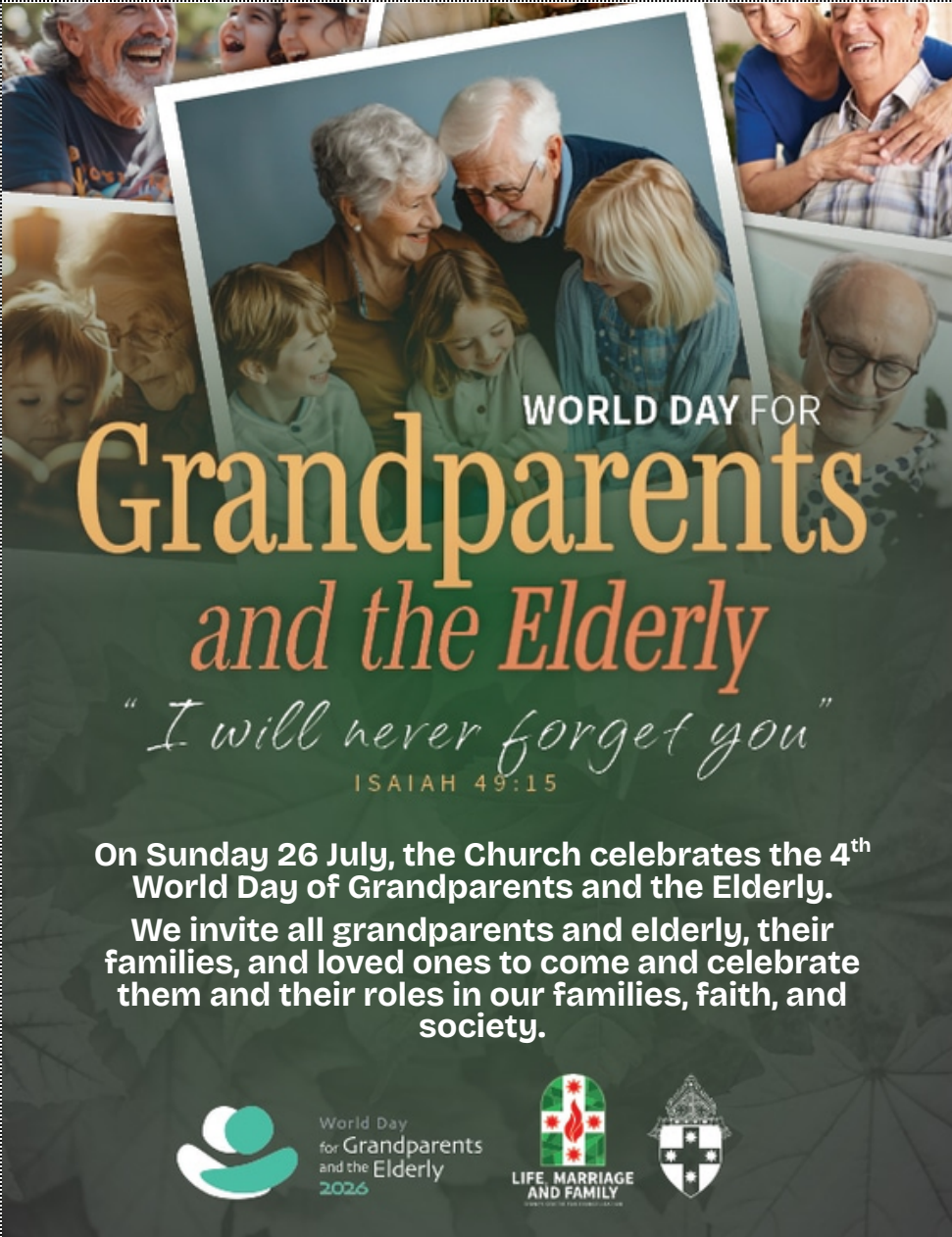
Saturday 6 PM Vigil Mass
St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir Fr Ruben, Dennis, Jack
Sunday 9:30 AM Mass Allen, Jack | Jayda, Yani
Sunday Morning Choir
Sunday 11 AM Mass Louise | Dr Peter, Elsa
Chinese Community
Sunday 6 PM Mass Teresa
St Joseph's Sunday Evening Choir

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.





WORLD DAY FOR

Grandparents and the Elderly

"I will never forget you"
ISAIAH 49:15

On Sunday 26 July, the Church celebrates the 4th World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly.

We invite all grandparents and elderly, their families, and loved ones to come and celebrate them and their roles in our families, faith, and society.



FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

22 July	Saint Mary Magdalene	1 Aug	Saint Alphonsus Liguori
24 July	Saint Sharbel Mahkluf	3 Aug	Saint Dominic
25 July	Saint James	4 Aug	Saint John Vianney
29 July	Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus	6 Aug	The Transfiguration of the Lord
31 July	Saint Ignatius Loyola	8 Aug	SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS

EUCCHARIST28

EUCCHARIST28

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.

PARISH GIVING

Parish Collection

1st Collection	\$	717.00
2nd Collection	\$	367.30
EFTPOS Giving	\$	1,344.85


Thank you for your generosity and support!



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**



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.



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.

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

