

A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

9 Aug 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

SPECIAL MASSES

1st Fridays

7pm Adoration & 8pm Mass for the Sick and Carers of the Sick

4th Fridays

7pm Adoration & 8pm Mass for Vocations

Eucharistic Adoration

Mon - Fri 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Reconciliation available

Reconciliation

Sat & Sun 5:15 PM - 5:45 PM

Mon - Fri 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM

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.

National Vocations Awareness Week (2-9 Aug) (NVAW)

Thank you to those who attended our **Come and See: Discernment and Religious Life** event at St Joseph's Camperdown. To those who couldn't attend this time, we have another session on **Saturday the 24th of October**. If you or someone you know may be interested, the registration link and more details are included on page 3. Our commemoration of the **National Vocations Awareness Week** will continue with our Adoration and Mass for Vocations on the 28th August, the 4th Friday of the Month beginning at 7pm.

More Sydney Vocation events at www.sydneylvocations.org

The First Reading and the Gospel today both describe a memorable experience of God following violent manifestations of nature. The **First Reading**, 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13, describes the experience of the prophet Elijah when, following his harassment at the hands of Queen Jezebel, he has made a long journey to 'Horeb, the mount of God'. 'Horeb' is an alternative name for Sinai, the place where, generations before, the Israelites had had an experience of God foundational for their existence as a people. On that occasion, while Moses communed with God up on the mountain, the people remained below, witnessing from afar a terrifying manifestation of the divine presence in thunder and lightning, thick cloud and trumpet blast (Exodus 19).

SOUND OF SILENCE

In Elijah's case, things go differently. As before, there is a mighty wind, an earthquake, and 'fire' (lightning). But the Lord is not 'in' any of these. Instead, after the fire comes 'a sound of sheer silence' (so NSRV; the Hebrew original reads literally: 'a voice of thin silence'). Covering his face (lest he look upon the Lord and die), Elijah goes out to the entrance of the cave, where he is addressed by God and given a new mission.

This is one of the great moments of revelation in the Old Testament. What lifts Elijah out of his depression and renews his vocation is a totally new sense of God. The Lord once manifest in terrifying upheavals of nature is now known in something as subtle and gentle as 'sheer silence', a silence that somehow has a 'voice'. The Judaeo-Christian mystical tradition has its foundation here.

The Gospel, Matt 14:22-33, follows on directly from the miraculous provision of food for the multitude, as described in last week's Gospel. Jesus sends his disciples off to cross the lake by boat while he disperses the crowd and goes up the mountain alone to pray. The disciples struggling to make headway in a boat out on the lake are symbolic of the later Church in a situation in which it so often finds itself. In biblical thought wind and water out of control are stock images of chaos and destruction. The scene of the disciples battling a headwind and heavy seas while Jesus remains apart on the mountain evokes a sense of the Church struggling against forces that threaten to engulf it, keenly sensing all the while the physical absence of its Lord.

'IT IS I'

Eventually, of course, Jesus joins the disciples, walking on the sea – in biblical imagery a prerogative of God (Ps 77:19; Job 9:8; Isa 43:16). The phrase with which he identifies himself, 'It is I', evokes the self-identification of God to Moses at the Burning Bush (Exod 3:13-15). The presence of Jesus ('Emmanuel' [Matt 1:23 and 28:20]) is at one and the same time the saving presence of God.

What prompts Peter's bid to come to Jesus across the sea? Love, boldness, bravado? Perhaps all three – but also a measure of faith. Faith in Jesus enables Peter, for a time at least, to tread underfoot the watery forces of destruction. But his faith, like that of all disciples in Matthew's Gospel, is prone to doubt.

Jesus' gentle word of remonstrance, after he has rescued Peter, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?', addresses all members of the Church. Peter 'models' the mixture of boldness and fear, strength and weakness, characteristic of us all. We can make our own his cry for rescue ('Lord, save me') and feel as he felt the Lord's strong hand of rescue reaching out to raise us from the deep.

GREAT COMFORT

Members of the Church, especially perhaps at the present time, can take great comfort from this scene. The Gospel recognises that there will be times of stress and danger when faith will be sorely tested and sometimes fail. But this does not mean that 'Emmanuel' is not with us, swift and sure to rescue, when, like Peter, we cry 'Lord, save us'.

As Jesus and Peter get into the boat, the wind subsides and the disciples 'worship' him saying, 'Truly, you are the Son of God?' Like Elijah at Horeb, they have come to a new awareness of God's saving presence among them. The Gospel suggests that such new awareness can be the outcome of crises in which the Church experiences weakness, failure, and faltering of faith.

The **Second Reading**, Rom 9:1-5, has no connection with all this but gives important testimony to Paul's sense of the ancient and abiding privileges of the Jewish people. The last sentence may be one of the rare places in the New Testament when Jesus is described as 'God' (see John 1:1, 18; 20:28; Titus 2:13). More, likely, however, Paul is concluding the list with a traditional doxology.

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

Lord, be true to your covenant, forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Rise up, O God, and defend your cause; do not ignore the shouts of your enemies.

FIRST READING

KINGS 19:9.11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **R**

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **R**

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **R**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 9:1-5

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ - it is the truth - my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. Alleluia!



François Boucher (1703-1770). Saint Peter Attempting to Walk on Water.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 14:22-23

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God'.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem; he feeds you with the finest wheat.

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CAMINO OF ST JOSEPH 2026

The Camino begins with **9pm Mass on Friday 21 August at St Patrick's Church Hill**. The Camino will conclude with **6.00am Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 22 August** followed by a celebration in fellowship with hot breakfast & drinks.

Camino Stops (Each stop features a reflection on St Joseph, time in Eucharistic Adoration, and the Rosary in faith-filled brotherhood.)

1. St Patrick's, Church Hill - Opening Mass;
2. St Brendan's, Annandale;
3. **St Joseph's Camperdown;**
4. St Benedict's, Broadway;
5. St Peter's, Surry Hills;
6. St Canice's Elizabeth Bay;
7. St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney - Closing Mass

Cost: \$35 per person

Register today! trybooking.com/DLJWC



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

黃肇强医生

請留言 0418281293

Come for some fellowship over a cuppa

PARISH MORNING TEA



Every 2nd Sunday after 9:30am Mass

You're welcome to bring a plate to share!



Come & See: Discernment & Religious Life

Saturday 24 October, 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



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.

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 8-9 Aug	6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F Gigi Elizabeth C Edo L	Ricky L Menchu Agnes W John Renz	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco * *
Next Sunday 15-16 Aug	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Diana V Rachel Sharon K Jimmy T	Angela C Leslie John L Amy M	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 Fr Ruben, Dennis, Jack

St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir

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

St Joseph's Sunday Evening Choir 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.



CELEBRATING THE
WORLD DAY OF
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

ONE PARISH JOURNEYING IN LOVE

@ ST JOSEPH'S
CAMPERDOWN

SUN 27 SEP, 9:30AM

OUR CELEBRATION BEGINS
WITH MASS, FOLLOWED BY
A CULTURAL PROGRAMME,
AND A FESTIVE LUNCH



wear your traditional
or cultural attire!

You are invited to our annual celebration of the **World Day of Migrants and Refugees** on **Sunday 27 September, 9:30am**. **Come in your traditional or cultural attire!** We also invite you to bring a plate (or more!) of a traditional dish or dessert unique to your place that you would like to share with others during our festive lunch. For any queries, you may email us at office@stjosephscamperdown.org.au.

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

1 Aug	Saint Alphonsus Liguori	10 Aug	Saint Lawrence
3 Aug	Saint Dominic	11 Aug	Saint Clare
4 Aug	Saint John Vianney	14 Aug	Saint Maximilian Kolbe
6 Aug	The Transfiguration of the Lord	15 Aug	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
8 Aug	SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS		

EUCCHARIST28

THIS IS
my body
GIVEN
for you.



EUCCHARIST28

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.

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	\$	476.30
2nd Collection	\$	412.15
EFTPOS Giving	\$	n/a



*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.



THE 54TH INTERNATIONAL
EUCCHARISTIC 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.

SAFEGUARDING | If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, or if you are worried about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, please know that you are not alone and that help is available. The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is available to listen, support you, and provide guidance about reporting options. You can contact the office on (02) 9390 5800 or at safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also wish to speak with your Parish Priest, who can offer pastoral care and assist you in taking the next step. The Archdiocese takes all safeguarding concerns seriously and is required to report criminal matters to police. If there is an emergency or someone is in immediate danger, please contact NSW Police on 000.