

A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

23 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 emergency anointing requests in RPA Hospital, please contact the Catholic priest via the 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.

Today the focus of the readings is on the Church. In fact, the text chosen for the **Gospel**, Matt 16:13-20, is one of only two places in all the four Gospels where the word 'church' occurs (the other being Matt 18:15-17).

The community of disciples is being equipped with authority and structures that will enable it to function during the time when Jesus will no longer be with them in the human form they have known.

FORESHADOWS PETER'S APPOINTMENT The **First Reading**, from Isa 22:19-23, telling of the replacement of Shebna as master of the royal palace by a new official, Eliakim, appropriately foreshadows the appointment of Peter in the Gospel.

It seems to have contributed to some of the language in which that appointment is made: notably, the hand-over of keys – and also perhaps the sense that what the new appointee determines ('opening' and 'closing') will have a definitive higher sanction, not lightly overthrown. Linking the two readings also is the sense of being responsible for a community seen as a 'building': while in charge of the palace, Eliakim is to be a 'father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem' just as Peter will be the 'rock' upon which Jesus will 'build' the community of his church.

In regard to the Gospel itself, what is important to notice is how what is said about the Church (the ecclesiology) flows from what is said (by Peter) about Christ (the Christology). The Church is only what it is because of its perception of who Jesus is. Everything the Church has to say begins and ends with its God-given knowledge of Jesus, the inexhaustible treasure which it holds in trust for the world.

When Jesus questions his disciples about popular perceptions of his identity, their report shows that people can only place him in categories that are familiar and well-worn. The reality requires a much greater leap in imagination and faith.

SIMON PETER RESPONDS In the person of Simon Peter, the disciples do rise to such heights. Simon's response, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God', conveys awareness that, beyond being Israel's Messiah as conventionally understood (a virtuous and effective ruler of David's line who would restore the fortunes of Israel), Jesus is related to God in a unique way. In his company, the disciples are being drawn into a fellowship with the divine never before imagined or foreseen.

Peter has conferred a title on Jesus. Now Jesus confers, first a blessing, then three roles on him. Simon is 'blessed' not because he is virtuous or otherwise deserving but because God has graciously revealed to him a knowledge that no amount of human understanding ('flesh and blood') could achieve. On this Christological insight, the entire faith of the Church will rest.

The first role Simon receives is indicated by a new name: 'Rock'. The identity between 'Peter' and 'Rock' – masked in English, more evident in Greek (petros, petra) – is perfect in Aramaic, the language Jesus actually spoke: 'You are Kepha ("Rock") and on this kepha (rocky ground) I will build my church'.

INSIGHT OF FAITH Peter is not 'rock' because of personal qualities of steadfastness or reliability. The Passion will further expose (26:69-75) his already demonstrated tendency to falter (14:31). He is 'rock' because of the insight of faith which God has communicated to him. Built on this 'rock', the Church will be a community of life. 'Gates of the underworld' is a biblical expression for the realm of the dead as the inevitable destination of all human beings. Its 'gates' will not prevail against the Church either in the sense that, built upon a 'rock', it will survive all attempts to destroy it or, more likely, in the sense that its members, even though they die physically, will not be held confined within the realm of the dead but will burst through its 'gates' in resurrection (see 27:52-53).

AUTHORITATIVE TEACHING The gift of keys does not, as commonly thought, make Peter the gatekeeper of heaven, letting in whoever he deems worthy. It, along with the subsequent reference to 'binding' and 'loosing', has to do with authoritative teaching: the power to declare in particular circumstances whether a commandment of the Torah is or is not applicable.

Jesus, the Interpreter of the Torah par excellence (Matthew 5-7) leaves his community with a structure of interpretation and assures it of 'heavenly', that is, divine ratification. In this way, the Church, as both expression and foretaste of God's reign (the 'Kingdom of Heaven') on earth, is equipped to discern and live God's will in the changing circumstances that will, in the course of history, confront it.

Happily, this text functions less in polemics between Christian denominations than in times past. While it does certainly underwrite much of the Catholic tradition, Catholics need not read it triumphalistically but, along with other Christians, find in it above all an assurance that for all its human weaknesses and failings, the Church guards a supreme treasure and enjoys a divine guarantee.

Readings

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Listen, Lord, and answer me. Save your servant who trusts in you. I call to you all day long, have mercy on me, O Lord.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. **R**

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. **R**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. **R**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God - how deep his wisdom and knowledge - and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.



Raphael (1483-1520). Christ's Charge to Peter.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, others Jeremiah or one of the prophets'.

'But you', he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God'. Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So now I say to you:

You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Lord, the earth is filled with your gift from heaven; man grows bread from earth, and wine to cheer his heart.

Licensed copy. Unauthorised copying prohibited. Used with permission. St Joseph's Parish - Camperdown Licence No 4902. Scripture texts from the Jerusalem Bible, Copyright 1996 by Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd & Doubleday and Company Inc.

FOURTH FRIDAYS FOR VOCATIONS

Every Fourth Friday of the Month
7pm Eucharistic Adoration
8pm Mass for Vocations

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

22 August
The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS AND OFFERINGS

Please pray for the

- Health and recovery of Raphael Petrazzuolo

Do you have Mass intentions you would like our parish to pray for and include in the bulletin? e.g. sickness, repose of the soul, thanksgiving, birthdays, wedding anniversaries, exams, etc.

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: _____

Intentions: _____

☐ Public ☐ Private



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

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

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 22-23 Aug	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 * *
Next Sunday 29-30 Aug	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon Tanya Philip F Jimmy T	Francisco T Gordon Elly W 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
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.



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

10 Aug Saint Lawrence
11 Aug Saint Clare
14 Aug Saint Maximilian Kolbe
15 Aug **THE ASSUMPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

20 Aug Saint Bernard
21 Aug Saint Pius X
22 Aug The Queenship of the Bl. V. Mary
24 Aug Saint Bartholomew
27 Aug Saint Monica

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	\$	697.55
2nd Collection	\$	462.50
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.



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.**