

A parish with a 'Heart in our Hands'

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

6 Sep 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.



May today be a celebration and remembrance of the love, sacrifices, hard work, and inspiration that you share with your family and loved ones.

May God bless you and may St Joseph protect you and guide you!

The theme uniting today's readings seems to be the responsibility members of a community have for the moral well-being of others. It gives some charter for what would subsequently be called 'fraternal correction' – something clearly requiring much sensitivity. Religious history is rife with examples of institutionalised violence in the name of establishing and preserving righteousness.

The prophet who speaks in the **First Reading**, Ezek 33:7-9, sees himself set as 'a sentry to the House of Israel', with a grave responsibility to correct the wrong-doer. Rather than setting the direction for the remaining two readings, this harsh prophetic text has perhaps been chosen to act as a contrastive foil against which the different approach they recommend stands out. Nonetheless, for all its grim tone, the prophet's overall aim is to bring the wrongdoer to life, rather than to the punishment of (premature) death.

ON THE WAY

The **Gospel**, Matt 18:15-20, is a brief extract from the Fourth Discourse of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel, the one regulating life within the community of the Church. In a way that is perhaps particularly comforting at the present time, the discourse recognises that the Church is not a community of the perfect. Allowance has to be made – and structures set in place – for dealing with moral lapses, dissensions and other failings that inevitably occur in a community still 'on the way' to the perfection of the Kingdom.

The community of Israel had structures in place for correcting and disciplining errant members. The procedure enjoined here reflects those structures (esp. Lev 19:17-18 ['you shall reprove your neighbour ... you shall love your neighbour as yourself']; Deut 19:15 [requirement of at least two witnesses]) but with the added sense of the Church as the family of God. The instruction to first try sorting a problem out in private, with a carefully staged progression of increasingly public procedures if that proves unsuccessful, is designed to preserve the dignity of the errant person. 'Going public', so to speak, is a last resort. The goal is not simply to win, but to 'win back your brother or sister', that is, to reach an outcome in a way that will enhance everyone's sense of being a respected and valued member of the 'family'.

If, despite all, the process fails, then there is nothing to be done but 'to treat (the person) like a pagan or a tax collector', that is, to regard them as outside the community (like pagans) or as in the position of those who have set themselves outside the community (tax collectors). Here is a place where Matthew's Gospel, for all its ultimate sense of a mission to the nations and stress upon Jesus' celebration of God's mercy in company with tax collectors and sinners, preserves the language of the Jewish scribal community.

LAST RESORT

What is provided for, as a last resort, is excommunication from the community of the Church, now of course made up of believers of both Jewish and Gentile origin. There comes a point beyond which a community can no longer tolerate members who consistently defy the core values by which it lives.

For a community to take such a step is no light matter. It needs to know that its decisions enjoy heavenly sanction. Hence Jesus' assurance that the 'binding and loosing' authority, conferred personally upon Peter in regard to interpretations of the law binding upon the whole Church (16:19), is also enjoyed by the local community ('you' [plural]) in regard to the exclusion or non-exclusion of errant members. When the church – after serious prayer and reflection – feels obliged to take such momentous step in regard to some person, it should be confident that whatever decision it has made enjoys heavenly ratification.

Once again, we see here the Church being equipped for its ongoing life beyond the death and resurrection of Jesus. The one who at his birth was called 'Emmanuel, God is with us' (1:23) remains equally present as risen Lord (28:20)—not just in solemn assemblies of the entire body but also where 'two or three' are gathered to pray, or to initiate the process of reconciliation as earlier laid down. No gathering or interaction between members of the community is too small or insignificant for it not to be taken seriously by God.

The **Second Reading**, from Rom 13:8-10 provides a fitting complement to this instruction on community living. The redemption from sin and death which God's love has won for us in Christ has created an inexhaustible 'debt' of love. We will never be able to discharge that debt of love owed to God. God wants us to consider it owed to our fellow human beings, deserving or undeserving as they may be.

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, you are just, and the judgments you make are right.
Show mercy when you judge me, your servant.**

FIRST READING

EZEKIEL 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **R**

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **R**

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 13:8-10

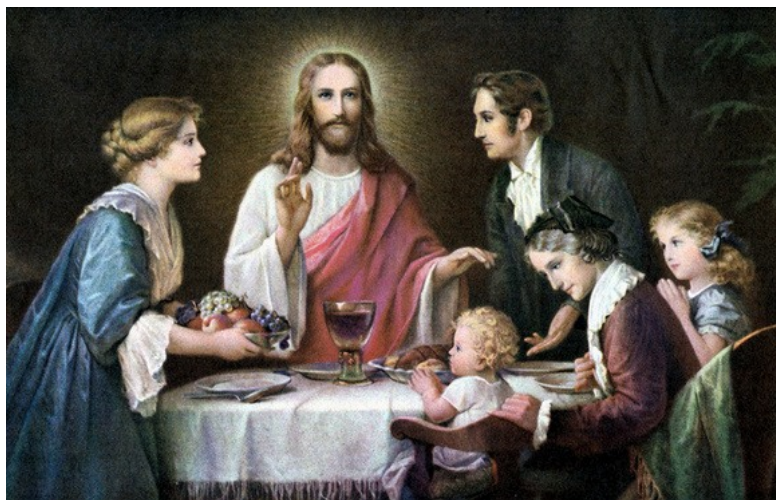
Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

*Solemnity of
Mary, Mother of Mercy*

*Join us for 11am Mass
at St. Joseph's Parish,
followed by lunch
at the convent*



Thursday 24 September 2026



Josef August Untersberger (1864-1933). *In Our Midst*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.'

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God. My soul is thirsting for the living God.

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.

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS AND OFFERINGS

Please pray for the

- **Health and recovery of Raphael Petrazzuolo**

You may use one of the **Mass Intention Envelopes** or email us at stjocamper@gmail.com with your prayer intentions.

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

- 27 Aug** Saint Monica
- 28 Aug** Saint Augustine
- 29 Aug** The Passion of St John the Baptist
- 3 Sep** Saint Gregory the Great
- 8 Sep** **The Nativity of the B. V. Mary**
- 9 Sep** Saint Peter Claver
- 12 Sep** The Most Holy Name of Mary
- 14 Sep** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 15 Sep** Our Lady of Sorrows
- 16 Sep** Saints Cornelius and Cyprian



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 5-6 Sep	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F The Sisters Elizabeth C Edo L	Francisco T The Sisters Agnes W John Renz	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco * *
Next Sunday 12-13 Sep	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F Gigi Sharon K Edo L	Francisco T Menchu John L John Renz	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.

Calling all crafters & creatives!

Share Your Creativity at St Joseph's Camperdown!

As part of our Celebration for the World of Migrants and Refugees, we warmly invite all creative and crafty parishioners to showcase their skills and talents. Bring along your handmade items to display, sell, or give away and be part of this joyful parish celebration of culture, creativity, and community.

Whether you paint, sew, knit, make jewellery, bake, or create in any way – we'd love to see and celebrate your gifts!

Interested? Email stjocamper@gmail.com
Contact Teresa Caxala – 0432 184 914

EUCHARIST28

THIS IS
my body
GIVEN
for you.



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.

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.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters who are currently undergoing Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) in preparation for Easter next year!

PARISH GIVING

Parish Collection

Thank you for your generosity and support!



CADIS
CATHOLIC ASSISTANCE
DISASTER SERVICE
AUSTRALIA

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

To Volunteer, contact
Fr Meng 0424742571



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
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.

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.