

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A 25 Oct 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.

The theme uniting today's readings, the unity between the love of God and love of neighbour, goes to the heart of the Christian religion. It seems that the two commandments, existing separately in the Old Testament (see Deut 6:4-5 and Lev 19:18), were brought together by Jesus. But in uniting them he drew directly on the tradition of his people where all commandments regulating behaviour towards others were enclosed within the overall covenant commitment to God.

This can clearly be seen in the **First Reading**, Exodus 22:20-26, which offers a brief extract from the 'Book of the Covenant' (20:22-23:33). The prescriptions mentioned here all have to do with responsibilities towards the vulnerable in the society. First, the familiar triad: 'the widow, the orphan and the stranger in the land'. Since family and kinship ties were the chief and really the only 'safety net' against misfortune, persons in these categories lacked protection and so were particularly exposed to ill-treatment and exploitation. The Lord inculcates a responsible and compassionate attitude towards them by reminding Israelites that once-in Egypt-they were collectively in a similarly vulnerable situation, until God heard their cries of distress and rescued them. That experience should make them understand what it is like to be oppressed. It should also remind them that the Lord who heard their cries and punished their Egyptian oppressors will not fail to hear the cries of the vulnerable in Israel and act in like manner on their behalf.

ON THE SIDE OF THE POOR

We have here a classic instance of the Biblical theme, emerging equally strongly in the teaching of Jesus, that God takes the side of the poor and disadvantaged. In modern parlance, God has a 'preferential option' for the poor. The theme continues in the regulations regarding loans. Taking interest is ruled out – at least as regards fellow Israelites and the poor. And, if a poor man's cloak is taken as surety, it must be returned by nightfall lest he suffer cold during the night – a concrete prescription that powerfully illustrates God's sense of the vulnerability of the poor and identification with their cause.

Against this Old Testament background, the teaching of Jesus in the **Gospel**, Matthew 22:34-40, does not seem all that novel. In Matthew's account (contrast Mark 12:28-34) the question about the chief commandment of the law comes as a further hostile attempt to put Jesus to the test. Throughout this Gospel, he has been at odds with the scribes and Pharisees concerning the proper interpretation of the Law (Torah) of Moses.

Jesus has insisted that he is not setting aside the least commandment of the law (5:17-19). But, in contrast to the 'burden-imposing' interpretation of the scribes (see 23:4), he is authoritatively promulgating a 'burden-lifting' interpretation of the Torah by insisting that it must be interpreted according to 'what God wants' –and what God wants, as indicated in the prophet Hosea (6:6) is 'mercy, before sacrifice' (Matthew 9:13; 12:7).

TWO COMMANDMENTS UNITED

This is why, when faced with a question concerning which of the commandments of the law is the greatest, Jesus has no hesitation in uniting the two commandments concerning love. The second commandment is 'like' the first in the sense that it flows immediately from the nature of Israel's God, who has so identified with the cause and situation of human beings. To love God with all one's heart and soul and mind-an echo of the Shema recited by all Israelites on rising every morning (Deut 6:4-5)-is to love those whom God loves: one's fellow human beings, especially the vulnerable and the poor.

The command 'to love one's neighbour as oneself' occurs already in Leviticus 19:18. Down the ages, there have been many interpretations as to what loving other human beings 'as oneself' might mean. In Biblical terms, as the First Reading suggests, it seems to imply putting oneself-at least imaginatively-in the neighbour's shoes and asking what then would I really want, how would I like to be treated. Better still, perhaps, it means taking pains to find out from the neighbour what exactly their desire might be. This is the point, surely, of all those biblical reminders to Israel of what it was like when they were slaves in Egypt, strangers and wanderers in a foreign land. All truly effective works of charity and justice begin from a similar base, from compassion ('experiencing with') in the deepest sense.

The **Second Reading**, 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10, shows Paul at his pastoral best. At the start of his letters (Galatians is the only exception), before any word of exhortation and warning, he reminds the community he is addressing of how gifted they are, how richly blessed by God, and how rightly full of hope for what still lies ahead. Paul sets a paradigm here for all good pastoral practice.

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

Let hearts rejoice who search for the Lord. Seek the Lord and his strength; seek always the face of the Lord.

FIRST READING **EXODUS 22:20-26**

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call I am saved from my foes. **R**

Long life to the Lord, my rock! Praised be the God who saves me. He has given great victories to his king and shown his love for his anointed. **R**

SECOND READING **THESSALONIANS 1:5-10**

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Prayer Intentions



Please pray for:

Good Health & Recovery of Pope Leo XIV

Repose of the soul of Kingsley Chambers

Do you have Mass intentions you would like our parish to pray for? 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.



Rudolf Yelin d. Ä. (1864–1940). Discourse on the Mountain.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them. Alleluia!

GOSPEL **MATTHEW 22:34-40**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

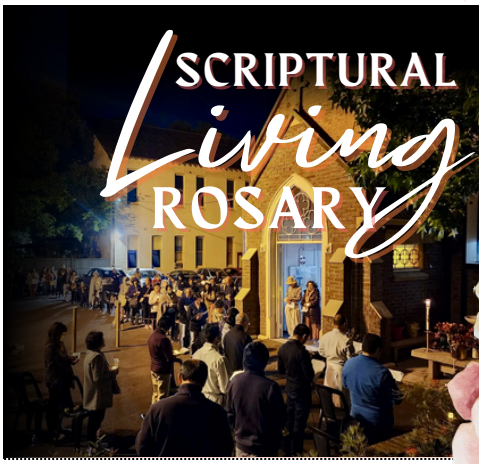
We will rejoice at the victory of God and make our boast in his great name.

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FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS



WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH



SATURDAY 31 OCT 2026

6PM VIGIL MASS

FOLLOWED BY THE SCRIPTURAL LIVING ROSARY

Let us come together as one parish in prayer during the month of the Holy Rosary

FEAST OF OUR LADY Health of the Sick PROCESSION



SUNDAY 8 NOV 2026

4PM PROCESSION
6PM MASS

PROCESSION BEGINS AND ENDS AT
ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN

FOR OUR SICK, HOMEBOUND, AND ELDERLY PARISHIONERS, FOR OUR LOCAL HEALTHCARE AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND WORKERS

ACN RED NOVEMBER

During the month of November, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) invites everyone around Australia and New Zealand to remember and pray for Christians who suffer persecution for their faith.

REGULAR IN OUR PARISH



1st Friday for the Sick & Healthcare Workers; Sacred Heart of Jesus

4th Friday for Vocations

Join us for a **monthly**
Community Lunch
at **St Joseph's Catholic Church, Camperdown**

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday
12:30pm to **1:30pm**

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

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!

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, please contact the parish office or approach the members of the Legion of Mary who assist on Sunday/Vigil Masses.

SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors * the 1st & 2nd readers
This Sunday 24-25 Oct	Vigil **6 PM** **9:30 AM** **11 AM** **6 PM**	**Diana V** **Tanya** **Cynthia C** **Poie**	**Angela C** **Gordon** **Chris W** **Beng**	**Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco** * *
Next Sunday 31 Oct - 1 Nov	Vigil **6 PM** **9:30 AM** **11 AM** **6 PM**	**Corazon F** **Tanya** **Lisa C** **Raymond**	**Francisco T** **Gordon** **Anna T** **Amy M**	**Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco** * *

Daily Mass	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat (8am)
Morning	Gary	Etchie	Amy	Doris	Ricky	Gemma
Evening	Cora	Marissa	Cora	Jimmy	Josie	-

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 **Sunday Morning Choir**	Allen, Jack | Jayda, Yani
Sunday 11 AM Mass **Chinese Community**	Louise | Dr Peter, Elsa
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**.



CATECHISTS' CORNER



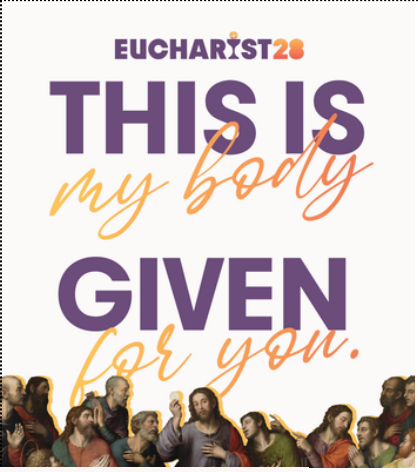
Have you ever wondered about God, Jesus, or the meaning of life? The Catechumenate (RCIA) is a welcoming place for you to explore the Catholic faith.

你是否曾經思考過有关神、耶穌、以及生命的意義? 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 请联系

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
请留言 0418281293



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.

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

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.

PARISH GIVING

Parish Collection

1st Collection	$	547.30
2nd Collection	$	286.15
EFTPOS Giving	$	1,151.21

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.

To **Volunteer, contact Fr Meng** 0424742571

CWF
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.

Caritas AUSTRALIA
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.

St Joseph's Preschool & Long Day Care Camperdown

.Tour the St Joseph's Preschool and Long Day Care; Meet their educators and know more about their Catholic play based programs. Government Funded Initiatives available at St Joseph's Preschool & LDC. Welcoming families with children aged 6 wks to 6 yrs.

Book a Tour Today
or call 02 8338 5500

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.**