

A parish with a 'Heart' in our Hands'

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

First Sunday of Advent – Year B 29 Nov 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.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Starting on the **1st January 2027**, please be guided by some changes to our church opening times & parish office location and operational hours.

Full Parish Announcement is available on page 4 of this bulletin.

Advent is the time when the Church longs for the coming of the Lord. In this longing the Church looks in two directions. Backward to the Lord's first coming as a child born to Mary in Bethlehem; forward to his second coming at the end of time.

What makes the Church focus on the second coming of the Lord is the keen sense – arising out of the condition of our world – that the longed-for messianic salvation is far from complete. In the saving events of Christ's death and resurrection, we have indeed been reconciled to God. In this renewed relationship we already enjoy the essentials of salvation. But as far as the outward conditions of present existence go we still have much to long for. The world in which we live is a world captive to forces hostile to God and the achievement of a decent human existence for the majority of human beings alive today.

LONGING FOR THE SAVIOUR

So, despite our belief that the Messiah has come and our awareness of all the gifts we enjoy as a result, we can identify with the people of the Old Testament who longed for the coming of a saviour. We long for the (second) coming of the Saviour as they longed for the first. In the words of the prophets and the psalms, we can find an expression of our own longing that the work of salvation is made complete.

Not that we take the New Testament allusions to the future coming of Jesus in a literal sense – as though Jesus were suddenly one day to appear on a cloud, summoning the world, with a trumpet blast, to judgment. We leave that understanding to fundamentalist sects. What the statements about the Lord's coming, in all their richness of imagery and symbol, communicate is the truth that our lives and indeed the whole of history stand under the eventual judgment of God and that the Crucified One, now risen Lord, remains the criterion of what true human existence should be. His grace and his power continually knock at the door of our lives, seeking to move us along his way. It is this sense of the Lord's coming that the Advent season proclaims and celebrates.

The readings for the First Sunday of Advent this year begin with a passage from the final part of the **Book of Isaiah** (63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8). The passage expresses strongly a longing for salvation yet to be achieved. The return of Israel from Exile in Babylon had been far from the expectations aroused by prophecies found earlier in the Book (chapters 40-55). At the beginning and also at the end, the text calls upon God as 'Father', an address to God unusual in the Old Testament. The sense is primarily that of God as responsible for Israel's very being-hence the concluding image: as the potter can refashion the clay, so God can refashion Israel's fortunes (cf. Jer 18:1-6).

SALVATION HAS 'COME DOWN'

Halfway through the passage (64:1), we hear a strong Advent plea: 'O, that you would tear open the heavens and come down'. The Synoptic accounts of Jesus' baptism offer a clear response to this plea. As he emerges from the water, 'the heavens' are 'torn apart' (Mark 1:10) and the Spirit descends in the form of a dove, and he hears the Father's voice, 'You are my Son, the Beloved' (v. 11). The longed-for salvation has begun to 'come down'.

The **Second Reading**, from the beginning of Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, 1:3-9, gives perfect expression to Christian hope for the second coming of the Lord. We should not miss the 'trinitarian' cast to this expectation. During the time of 'waiting' the experience of the Spirit assures believers of God's love (Rom 5:5). The Spirit is also active in a variety of gifts that serve to build up the community and equip it for mission (1 Corinthians 12-14). Despite his physical absence, believers enjoy 'communion' with the risen Lord. (Communion more accurately expresses the sense of the Greek word koinonia than the weaker term fellowship.) This koinonia presently involves sharing Christ's sufferings. Through the faithfulness of God the Father, it will eventually become a sharing of his glory (cf. Rom 8:17).

The **Gospel**, Mark 13:33-37, features a brief parable – really simply an extended image – from the end of the long discourse on the future that Jesus gives to his disciples just before his Passion. The householder who goes on his travels gives instructions to all his servants, but the focus of the parable lies on the one charged to watch the door.

ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT

The master expects to be welcomed when he returns. Everyone else may sleep, but this servant must stay awake at night, always on the lookout for the master's coming. Believers are like that servant: 'gatekeepers' for the coming of the Lord. The rest of the world may 'sleep', but we are 'children of light and of the day/ (1 Thess 5:5), our lives bathed in the dawning light of the risen Lord and enriched by the hope of his final coming.

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

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

FIRST READING **ISAIAH 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8**

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down - at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And, yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help **R**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted **R**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name **R**

SECOND READING **1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9**

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.



Helen McLean. Christ in Glory

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL **MARK 13:33-37**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

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.

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

November Mass Intentions

Praying for our Departed Brothers and Sisters

For the whole Month of November, our parish will be praying for all our departed brothers and sisters.

You may write the names of your departed loved ones in the envelopes provided at the foyer of the church or send us an email at stjocamper@gmail.com.

5AM 16 DECEMBER TO 24 DECEMBER NOVENA DAWN MASSES TO Christmas

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, CAMPERDOWN

Sponsor a Morning Tea or offer a Mass Intention

FOR ONE OF THE DAWN MASSES

Approach our priests or contact our parish office at **stjocamper@gmail.com**

EMAIL US

Full Christmas Schedule at St Joseph's Camperdown will be available soon on our social media platforms.

WHAT'S ON IN OUR PARISH



2026

WED 16 DEC TO THU 24 DEC

NOVENA DAWN MASSES
5:00AM, *EVERYDAY FROM TUE 16 DEC - WED 24 DEC WITH BREAKFAST SERVED AFTER MASS*

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE CONTINUES *EXCEPT* FOR WED 24 DEC*

THU 24 DEC *
5:00AM NOVENA DAWN MASS (Final)
8:00AM WEEKDAY MASS



CHRISTMAS EVE
6:00PM CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS*

* *To give way for the 24th Dec Christmas Eve Mass times, there will be **NO** 7PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confession, and the usual 8pm Weekday Mass.*

11:30PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS
12:00MN MIDNIGHT MASS CELEBRATING THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

FRI 25 DEC *



CHRISTMAS DAY
9:30AM | 11:00AM | 6:00PM
CHRISTMAS MEALS SERVED AFTER 9:30AM & 11:00AM MASS

* *There will be **NO** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confession, and the usual 8am & 8pm Weekday Mass.*

SUN 27 DEC
THE HOLY FAMILY
9:30AM | 11:00AM | 6:00PM

2027

FRI 1 JAN
MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
8:00AM | 8:00PM

SUN 3 JAN
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
9:30AM | 11:00AM | 6:00PM

A Peaceful Christmas and a Health-loving New Year to all!



First Fridays
7PM Eucharistic Adoration
8PM Mass for the Sick and Healthcare Workers with Anointing of the Sick

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.



This Thursday!

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!

Every 2nd Sunday after 9:30am Mass

PARISH MORNING TEA



You're welcome to bring a plate to share!

SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors * the 1st & 2nd readers
This Sunday 28 - 29 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** * *
Next Sunday 5 - 6 Dec	Vigil **6 PM** **9:30 AM** **11 AM** **6 PM**	**Corazon F** **The Sisters** **Phillip F** **Edo L**	**Francisco T** **The Sisters** **Elly W** **John Renz**	**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**.



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

To uphold the safeguarding policies of the Archdiocese of Sydney, we would like to notify our parishioners of the following:

Starting on the 1st January 2027,

- **St Joseph's Camperdown will be open until 10pm daily.**
- **Dogs and other animals are not permitted inside of the church**, with the exception of companion or guide dogs.

We would also like to inform all parishioners that the **Parish Office** will be located in **Level 1 of our Parish Centre** starting on the **1st January 2027** and will be open on **Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9am to 2pm**.

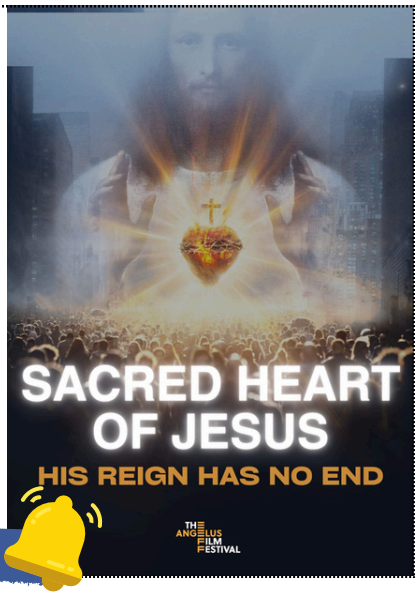
Access the Parish Centre via the wooden stairs in our church parking lot, on the other side of the Childcare Centre entrance.

We thank you for your attention, continuous support, and patronage.

Sacred Heart of Jesus: His Reign Has No End

Join us for a movie night! Discover the inspiring story of St Margaret Mary Alacoque and the revelations of Jesus' Sacred Heart. A moving docu-drama celebrating His endless love, mercy and transforming power.

Location: St Joseph's Camperdown, Parish Hall
Date: Saturday 28th November
Time: After the 6pm Vigil Mass
Fees: FREE!



This Saturday!

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

		Cash	EFTPOS
1st Collection	$	n/a	1,360.13
2nd Collection	$	n/a	906.75

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

Caritas AUSTRALIA
PROJECT COMPASSION FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

Donate through scanning the QR code or by calling 1800 024 413 or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Donations of $2 or more are tax deductible.

CATECHISTS' CORNER



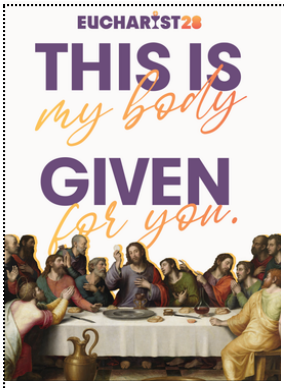
Have you ever wondered about God, Jesus, or the meaning of life? The Catechumenate (RCIA) is a welcoming place for you to explore the Catholic faith.

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.

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.**