

A parish with a Heart in our Hands

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

18 August 2024

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, Thu** 10AM - 4PM
Sat 10AM - 3PM

📍 2 Missenden Rd, Camperdown

☎ (02) 9557 1181

✉ stjocamper@gmail.com

🌐 stjosephscamperdown.org.au

📱 /StJosephCamperdown

SCHEDULE OF MASS & SACRAMENTS

Weekend Mass

Saturday 6:00 PM (Vigil)
Sunday 9:30 AM
11:00 AM
6:00 PM

Weekday Mass

Mon - Fri 8:00 AM
8:00 PM
Saturday 8:00 AM

Adoration

Mon - Fri 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
after 8:00 PM Mass

Reconciliation

Sat & Sun 5:15 PM - 5:45 PM
Mon - Fri After 8:00 PM Mass

Anointing of the Sick

Anytime (in hospital, page the Catholic priest on-call)

Baptism

Usually Sunday (Baptismal instructions are arranged with parents before Baptism)

Weddings & Funerals

By appointment; 6 months notice required for weddings

Today's Gospel is the fourth in the sequence of readings taken from John 6. At this stage, Jesus' "Bread of Life" discourse becomes more explicitly Eucharistic. Nonetheless, it remains firmly within the sapiential ("Wisdom") tradition, where the teaching or revelation that Jesus has to offer is identified with the Manna come down from heaven. This means that, along with participation in the Eucharistic sacrament, the language of "eating" and "drinking" continues to refer to absorbing through faith the revelation he has come down from heaven to impart.

For this reason, the choice of a passage from Proverbs, 9:1-6, as **First Reading**, forms a suitable background to the Gospel. "Lady Wisdom" speaks here as a rich mistress of a palatial establishment who invites her friends to a sumptuous feast that she has prepared. The "feast" is the good teaching (wisdom) the Book of Proverbs wishes to commend. "Eating" this "feast" is the way to life.

The **Gospel**, John 6:51-58, "overlaps" a little with the extract from last week by including at the start Jesus' remarkable claim that the "Bread" which he will give for the life of the world is his own "flesh" (v. 51). As I noted in that connection, the primary reference here is to the fact that the supreme moment of revelation will occur when Jesus lays down his life upon the cross. Nonetheless, the remark sparks off a new section of the discourse when those with whom he is in dialogue (once again referred to as "the Jews") take the allusion in a very physical sense and, understandably, balk at the idea of eating someone's flesh. Out of context, it sounds like cannibalism!

SYMBOLIC UNDERSTANDING

In reply Jesus drives still further into the objection by adding to the notion of eating his flesh, the (especially to Jews) even more repugnant idea of drinking his blood. What he is attempting to do is to draw his audience away from a purely literal and physical understanding to the symbolic understanding that runs in the Wisdom tradition concerning the Manna. Here "eating" refers to absorbing the life-giving revelation. Thus to "eat" Jesus' flesh and "drink" his blood in this sense opens the way to eternal life—to a share in the divine life that he has from the Father. What the separate references to "flesh" and "blood" communicate is a closer linkage of that revelation to the passion of Jesus, when his flesh and blood will be separated in the death he will die by crucifixion. This is the ultimate meaning of the "bread that has come down from heaven": the Father has sent his Beloved Son from heaven not simply to become human but to lay down his life in order to give life to the world (John 1:18; 3:16-17). Human beings access that gift of life by grasping in faith (= "eating") that revelation of divine love.

Alongside and together with this primarily sapiential understanding, however, the text invites us to pick up eucharistic overtones that have been sounding ever since the description of the distribution of the loaves at the beginning of the sequence (6:1-14).

Writing to the Corinthians, Paul explicitly ties the celebration of the Eucharist to the commemoration of Jesus' death ("For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" [1 Cor 11:26]), as also do Matthew, Mark and Luke, by locating its institution on the night before Jesus died and by the words said over the bread (Luke [22:19]) and the cup (Matthew [26:28], Mark [14:24], Luke [22:20]). Here the Fourth Evangelist joins this united witness of the early Christian tradition where participation in the eucharistic bread and cup is the means whereby subsequent generations of believers access the saving benefits of Christ's death upon the cross. Participation in the one bread and one cup places believers sacramentally before the cross on Calvary and draws their lives into the rhythm of the sacrificial love that brought Christ to his death.

GOD'S LOVE

The sacrament, then, is a parallel way of accessing the same life-giving revelation of God's love described in the Bread of Life discourse up till this point. In fact, we can say that the openness of the passage to both the sapiential and the sacramental meanings places before the reader or hearer that interplay of Word and Sacrament, of faith and ritual, that has been rediscovered and re-emphasised in Catholic theology since Vatican II. Jesus is "Bread from Heaven" both as life-giving Word of revelation and as "real food" and "real drink" in the Sacrament. Faith is required in both cases and faith draws both together in a mutually enriching way.

Since the primary meaning of "Eucharist" in Greek is "Thanksgiving", the conclusion of the **Second Reading**, Eph 5:15-20, is, appropriately, an exhortation to "live eucharistically."

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

God, our protector, keep us in mind; always give strength to your people. For if we can be with you even one day, it is better than a thousand without you.

FIRST READING

Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom has built herself a house, she has erected her seven pillars, she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine, she has laid her table.

She has despatched her maidservants and proclaimed from the city's heights:

'Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.' To the fool she says, 'Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared! Leave your folly and you will live, walk in the ways of perception.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33(34):2-3, 10-15

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. **R**

Revere the Lord, you his saints. They lack nothing, those who revere him. Strong lions suffer want and go hungry but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing. **R**

Come, children, and hear me that I may teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is he who longs for life and many days, to enjoy his prosperity? **R**

Then keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn aside from evil and do good; seek and strive after peace. **R**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:15-20

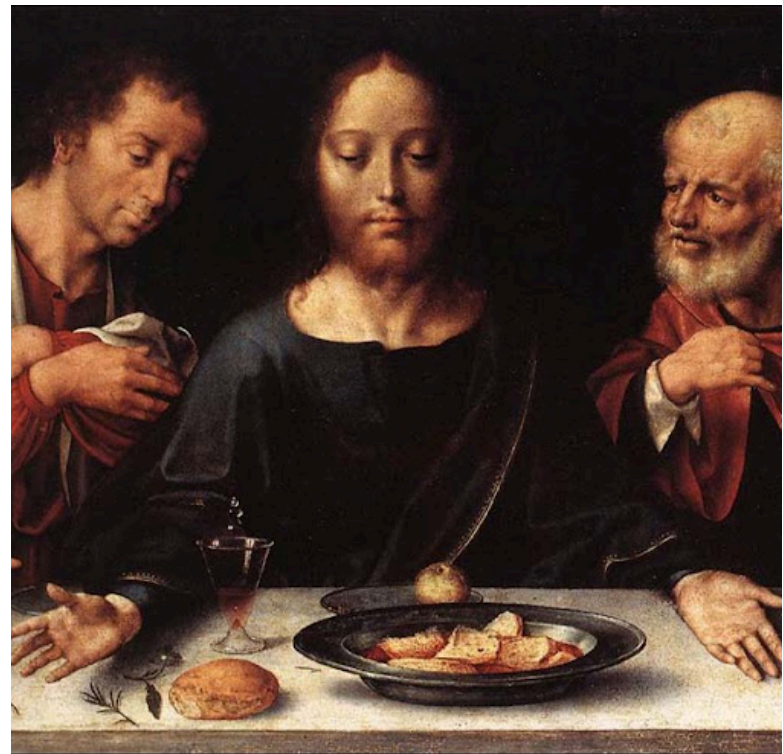
Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but recognise what is the will of the Lord.

Do not drug yourselves with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit.

Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! All who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them, says the Lord. Alleluia!



Joos van Cleve (1485 – 1540/1541), *The Last Supper*

GOSPEL

John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowd: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever."

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

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HOLY MASS INTENTIONS AND OFFERINGS

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, and other special intentions you may have.

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: _____

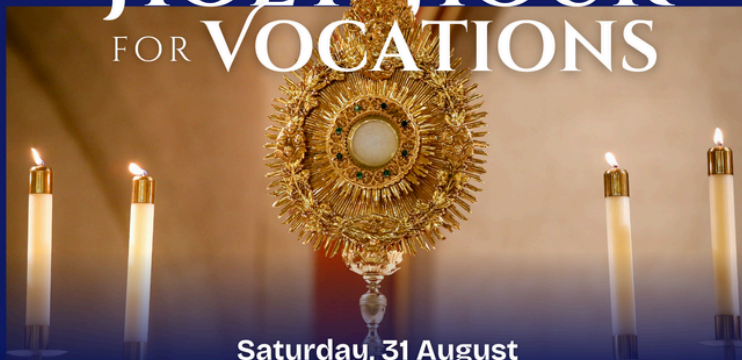
Intentions:

Public Private



ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN
PRESENTS

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS



Saturday, 31 August
5pm Holy Hour | 6pm Vigil Mass

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

31 August (Sat) | 5PM Holy Hour | 6PM Vigil Mass

As a culminating activity of our Parish Vocation Month, we call all Parish Volunteers, including:

- Readers & Collectors
- Greeters & Ushers (Legion of Mary)
- Choir & Music Ministry Members
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Acolytes & Sacristans
- Events Ministry Members
- Martha Ministry Members
- Lay Camillian Family Members
- Parish Pastoral Council Members, and
- Parish Finance Council Members

to join in our **Holy Hour for Vocations** this coming **31st of August (Saturday)**.

Join us in this Holy Hour for Vocations beginning at 5pm, then shortly followed by the 6pm Vigil Mass.

We continue to pray for Vocations as a parish:

Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that You inspire young people whom you call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will.

Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fundamentals of Flourishing Parishes

If you're wondering how to share your faith with others, but not sure how, this series is for you. We will dive deeper into the natural and supernatural skills to speak about Christ in everyday life and as a parish community. Come along to any or all workshops!

DATES AND TOPICS

Wed, 21 Aug: The Art of Christ-Centred Conversation

Wed, 28 Aug: Sharing Your Faith Without Fear

Wed, 4 Sep: Authentic Invitation and Welcome

Wed, 11 Sep: Five Tips for Running Effective Parish Events

Wed, 25 Sep: Capstone

TIME: 7:15 - 8:30 PM, doors open at 7:00 pm

VENUE: St Martha's, 38 Renwick Street, Leichhardt NSW 2040

Free Admission. For more information and to register go to

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/I257816>

FUNDAMENTALS OF
Flourishing
PARISHES

Dive deeper into the skills that will build your confidence and strengthen your parish as an invitational, vibrant, and Christ-centred community. Come to any or all workshops!

WEDNESDAYS 7:00 - 8:30 PM

The Art of Christ-Centred Conversation	21 AUG
Sharing Your Faith Without Fear	28 AUG
Authentic Invitation and Welcome	4 SEPT
Five Tips for Running Effective Parish Events	11 SEPT
Capstone	24 SEPT

ST MARTHA'S
38 RENWICK STREET, LEICHHARDT
REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL. PLACES ARE LIMITED.
gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events

GO MAKE DISCIPLE



SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors
This Sunday 17-18 Aug	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Alicia B Sr Maliya Agnes C Gemma T	Marc S Gordon L John L Genalor F	Amy, Corazon Maria, Francisco - Corazon, Francisco
Next Sunday 24-25 Aug	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F Rachel S Nancy T Tim S	Francisco T Lesley A Sharon K Maddi S	Alicia, Amy Maria, Francisco - Santa, Corazon
Daily Mass	Morning Evening	Angeline L, Alicia B, Echie, Doris K (Thu only), Garry C, The Sisters, Gemma T (Sat only), Isabelle K (Fri only), Ricky L Corazon F, Joan E, Josie M (Fri only), Louise S, Genalor F, Maria C		

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	Tim, Dennis
St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir	Fr Ruben, Gemma
Sunday 9:30 AM Mass	Allen, Ethel, Tim Yani
Sunday Morning Choir	
Sunday 11 AM Mass	Louise Dr Peter, Elsa
Chinese Community	
Sunday 6 PM Mass	Teresa, Gemma Michael
St Joseph's Sunday Evening Choir	

If you would like to serve in the parish through singing or playing instruments such as piano/organ/guitar/etc., please don't hesitate to express your interest by **approaching our choristers before or after Mass** or messaging **Angeline 0431 718 137**.



FEAST DAYS

- 19 Aug Saint John Eudes
- 20 Aug Saint Bernard
- 21 Aug Saint Pius X
- 22 Aug The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 23 Aug Saint Rose of Lima
- 24 Aug Saint Bartholomew



RPAH CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

Seeking solace during illness or hospitalisation at RPA Hospital? Our Catholic Chaplaincy offers comforting visits, pastoral care, and sacraments. Contact us via the Hospital Switchboard (02 9515 6111) or via our parish office (02 9557 1181 or stjocamper@gmail.com).

We're here for you 

PARISH NEWS



ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN

PILGRIM MARY & HER HOLY ROSARY HOME VISITATION

This Pilgrim Mary Home Visitation is facilitated to commemorate the Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025 as we are called to do so by our Holy Father Pope Francis and to encourage our St Joseph's parishioners to pray the Holy Rosary in their homes with their families.

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Thursday 15th August 2024 8pm Mass, marks the beginning of our year-long Pilgrim Mary & Her Holy Rosary Home Visitation.

From 15 August 2024 to 15 August 2025, our Blessed Mother will be "on a pilgrimage" to our parishioners' homes, with each visit lasting for a week.

Parishioners are to reserve a week by entering required details in the booking form available at the foyer of our church. These parishioners will be Our Blessed Mother's "caretakers" each week.

By the end of a parishioner's booking reservation, the **Pilgrim Mary Home Visitation Kit** will be handed over from the previous caretaker to the next during the Sunday 9:30am Masses.

If any of the parishioners cannot attend the 9:30am Sunday Mass, they should have a representative to hand over or receive the kit on their behalf.

To join this initiative, please ask help from the members of the Legion of Mary who are assisting before the start of Sunday Masses.

What's included in the Kit?

A statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, some rosaries, and prayer booklets to assist you in praying while she visits your homes.

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.

Would you like to be a catechist and teach children about Jesus and the scriptures?

For queries, please contact our Parish Catechist Coordinator, Alicia Buxton 0412155967.



PARISH GIVING

LAST WEEK'S Parish Collection

1st Collection	\$ 752.75
2nd Collection	\$ 473.10
EFTPOS Giving	\$ 840.00

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
ACCT NO.: 371 579



To Volunteer, contact
Fr Meng or **Robert and Maria**
0424742571 0469898620



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.



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.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

JOIN THE NETWORK OF CATHOLICS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE



The **Catholic Weekly**

Available at the foyer of the church

To see more events and initiatives within the Archdiocese, visit and subscribe to gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events



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.

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or email safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.