

# A parish with a Heart in our Hands

# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

1 September 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\*

\* Please see the **Parish Announcement**  
at the Parish News Section on page 3.

### 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

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

At the beginning of 2025, a new schedule for the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take effect. **Please see the full Parish Announcement included in the Parish News Section on page 3.**

**Today's Gospel takes us straight into the rather sensitive issue of Jesus' attitude to the Jewish law.** I say 'sensitive' because it is so easy for Christians to separate Jesus from his Jewish heritage and portray him as 'one of us' and not one of 'them'.

Jesus would have read with pride and appreciation the praise of the Law set out in the **First Reading** (Deut 4:1-2, 6-8), and understood it to be what the Hebrew word 'Torah', which we inadequately translate 'law', really means: not primarily a legal code but 'a light that shows the way'. Like a torch that lights up a path on a dark night, for Jewish people the Torah is a body of wisdom and enlightenment showing how to live as the covenant people of God.

**JESUS' CHALLENGE** It is important then to understand that Jesus is not critical of the Jewish law as such. What he challenges is the addition to it of further prescriptions and customs that were not part of the original revelation and which in his view could sometimes work against its true purpose.

These traditions were particularly preserved and guarded by the Pharisees. Again, let us not be too hard on this group. They were historically a lay group who sought to help the Jewish people live out their vocation to be the 'holy people of God' (Lev 20:26) in the mixed society which was the Palestine of Jesus' day. This sense of 'holiness' was reinforced through a host of washings and other rituals of cleanliness which were obligatory after contact with outsiders in the market and other public spheres. In due course, the rituals of holiness originally intended only for the priests and Levites came to be extended to the people as a whole. Observing them, they could live out their high vocation to be a 'nation of priests' in the world (cf. Exod 19:6).

The intention, then, was good but, as so often happens with religious tradition, attention can be focused on the external rituals to the neglect of the inner conversion of heart central to all relationship with God. When Jesus criticises the Pharisees on this score he is not really bringing something radically new but standing within a firm prophetic tradition, shown by his quotation of Isa 29:13: 'This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me' (v. 6). For him, everything goes back to the heart. No amount of external ritual is of any use if it obscures or distorts the primary truth that holiness is ultimately about conversion of heart.

The body of traditions which the Pharisees had erected around the basic Torah suggested that 'uncleanness' was something that came from outside and threatened to defile the basic holiness of the people of God. Therefore, it had to be warded off by washings and other rituals.

**'CATCHING' HOLINESS** Jesus clearly had a different view of the way holiness 'worked'. Holiness belongs essentially to God. Human holiness came from being in contact with God – something that begins in the heart. Jesus, who was supremely in contact with God, went about touching 'unclean' persons like lepers and associating with 'tax collectors and sinners.' He did not 'catch' uncleanness from them, as though it were a contagious disease. Rather, the 'flow' was the other way round: they 'caught' holiness and healing from him. Drawn into the sphere of holiness constituted by his person, they were restored to full citizenship in the holy people of God.

The Pharisees could do nothing with people considered 'unholy' like this, save try to keep them at a distance. Jesus understood true holiness to be essentially inclusive rather than exclusive. It had to do with God's reaching out rather than withdrawing to a sacred inner space.

So, Jesus insists, since holiness is primarily a matter of the heart if you want to know whether a person is holy or not, see what comes out of their heart. The list of vices towards the end of the reading is a kind of check-list – to which we could probably add a few more examples relevant for our time. By the same token, on the positive side, we could think of virtues that would demonstrate true holiness of heart.

In a sense, James does this in the **Second Reading** (Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27) when he virtually defines 'pure, undefiled religion' as 'coming to the aid of orphans and widows in their distress, and to keeping oneself unstained by the world'. The final phrase may seem a bit at odds with what I have been suggesting about Jesus. But what James means I think is preserving oneself not from contact with people but from an undiscerning acceptance of the values of the world.

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

**I call to you all day long, have mercy on me, O Lord. You are good and forgiving, full of love for all who call to you.**

## FIRST READING

**Deuteronomy 4: 1-2,6-8**

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalms 14:2-5. R v.1**

**The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? He who walks without fault; he who acts with justice and speaks the truth from his heart. **R**

He who does no wrong to his brother, who casts no slur on his neighbour, who holds the godless in disdain, but honours those who fear the Lord. **R**

He who keeps his pledge, come what may; who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent. Such a man will stand firm for ever. **R**

## SECOND READING

**James 1:17-18. 21-22. 27**

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves. Pure, unspoiled religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

**Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23**

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are



Philippe de Champaigne (1602-1674), Moses with the Ten Commandments

## GOSPEL

**Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23**

also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture: This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**O Lord, how great is the depth of the kindness which you have shown to those who love you.**

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*How may we pray for you?*

Share your **Mass / Prayer intentions** with us via the **envelopes** at the church foyer or **email us at** [stjocamper@gmail.com](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com).



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

For over two years, our parish has held Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament according to the following schedule: Monday to Friday from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM, and Monday to Friday from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. After careful consideration, several concerns have emerged:

- 1 Our three Camillian priests need to balance their commitment to Religious Community Life with their parish duties, particularly following the 8:00 PM Mass.
- 2 According to liturgical norms, it is more appropriate to hold the Holy Hour before the 8:00 PM Mass rather than after, as it serves as a profound preparation for the Eucharistic celebration.
- 3 The afternoon Exposition from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday to Friday, has consistently low attendance, calling into question the need for its continuation.
- 4 Devotion to the Divine Mercy, such as praying the Chaplet, can still be meaningfully practiced in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, even without formal Exposition, as demonstrated by the daily prayers following the 8:00 AM Mass from Monday to Saturday.

Following the Pastoral Visit of Bishop Danny Meagher on March 22 and 24, 2024, and based on his recommendations, the following changes will then be implemented:

- 1 **The Monday to Friday Holy Hour will be moved to 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM.**
- 2 **The Monday to Friday 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM Holy Hour will be discontinued.**

We, the Parish Pastoral Council, after a thorough discussion and reflection on the matter, hereby support the decision to make these changes as to the Schedule of Holy Hours/Expositions of the Blessed Sacrament in our Parish.

The Parish Pastoral Council has discussed these changes thoroughly and supports them wholeheartedly. We ask for the understanding and cooperation of all parishioners as we implement these changes at the beginning of 2025. Let us continue to pray for a smooth transition.

**Signed by the Parish Pastoral Council**  
17 August 2024

## Canonical and Liturgical Considerations

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>1 Timing of the Holy Hour</b> | It is considered more liturgically appropriate for the Holy Hour, or Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, to take place before Mass rather than after. This practice allows for proper spiritual preparation for the Mass, which is the source and summit of Christian life. The current schedule with the Holy Hour after Mass may not align with this principle. |
| 2 Exposition After Mass          |  |
| 3 Attendance and Adoration       |  |

## SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

| Week                                 | Mass Times                             | Commentator & 1st Reader  | 2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful          | Collectors   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| <b>This Sunday</b><br>31 Aug - 1 Sep | Vigil 6 PM<br>9:30 AM<br>11 AM<br>6 PM | Corazon F<br>Rachel S<br>Philip Fan<br>Gemma T  | Francisco T<br>Lesley A<br>Cathy W<br>Maria C | Genalor, Alicia<br>Maria, Francisco<br>-<br>Gemma, Maria |
| <b>Next Sunday</b><br>7-8 Sep        | Vigil 6 PM<br>9:30 AM<br>11 AM<br>6 PM | Genalor F<br>Angeline L<br>Elizabeth C<br>Gemma T   | Alicia B<br>Ricky L<br>Agnes W<br>Corazon F   | Ricky, Marc<br>Maria, Francisco<br>-<br>Corazon, Gemma   |
| <b>Daily Mass</b>                    | Morning<br>Evening                     | Angeline L, Alicia B, Echie, Doris K (Thu only), Garry C, The Sisters, Gemma T (Sat only), Isabelle K (Fri only), Ricky L<br>Corazon F, Josie M (Fri only), Louise S, Genalor F, Maria C, Tim L |   |  |

## PARISH CHOIR

|  | ORGANIST/PIANIST | CONDUCTOR                |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|
| Saturday 6 PM Vigil Mass                 |                  | Tim, Dennis              |
| <b>St Camillus &amp; Ave Maria Choir</b> |                  | Fr Ruben, Gemma          |
| Sunday 9:30 AM Mass                      |                  | Allen, Ethel, Tim   Yani |
| <b>Sunday Morning Choir</b>              |                  |                          |
| Sunday 11 AM Mass                        |                  | Louise   Dr Peter, Elsa  |
| <b>Chinese Community</b>                 |                  |                          |
| Sunday 6 PM Mass                         |                  | Teresa, Gemma   Michael  |
| <b>St Joseph's Sunday Evening Choir</b>  |                  |                          |

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**.



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.

# FEAST DAYS

- 3 Sep Saint Gregory the Great
- 6 Sep Ember Day
- 9 Sep Saint Peter Claver
- 12 Sep The Most Holy Name of Mary
- 13 Sep Saint John Chrysostom
- 14 Sep **The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**



# 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](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com)).

*We're here for you*

# PARISH NEWS



## ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN PILGRIM MARY & HER HOLY ROSARY HOME VISITATION

### 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.

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.

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.

To join this initiative, you may approach the members of the Legion of Mary who assist before the start of Sunday/Vigil Masses or alternatively contact the parish for assistance.

# 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](mailto: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

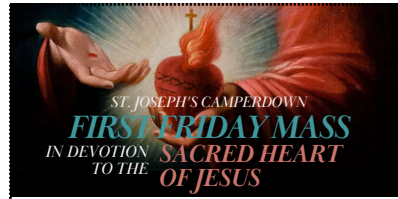
|                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| 1st Collection | \$ 453.80 |
| 2nd Collection | \$ 503.80 |
| EFTPOS Giving  | \$ 598.80 |

*Thank you for your generosity and support!*



## 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](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com) or any members of our Lay Camillian Family and avail of our pastoral services to our suffering parishioners.



**First Fridays | 8PM**  
followed by Eucharistic Adoration and Blessing until 10PM

To see more initiatives within the Archdiocese, visit and subscribe to [gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events](http://gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events)

# CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY



## Donate to the Priests' Retirement Foundation Father's Day appeal

1 September 2024

Our Fathers are there for us in our happy and sad times. When they are sick or retire to lesser duties, it is our responsibility to look after them.

You can show our Fathers they are not forgotten this Father's Day. Donate generously now.

Donate at [www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-prf](http://www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-prf)  
Or complete the parish envelope.



## CADIS CAMILLIAN 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 or 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.



Donate through scanning the QR code or by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



## Fundamentals of Flourishing Parishes

If you're wondering how to share your faith with others, but not sure how, this series is for you. **TIME:** 7:15 - 8:30 PM, doors open at 7:00 pm. **VENUE:** St Martha's, 38 Renwick Street, Leichhardt NSW 2040. **Free Admission.**

**DATES AND TOPICS**  
Wed, 4 Sep: Authentic Invitation and Welcome  
Wed, 11 Sep: Five Tips for Running Effective Parish Events  
Wed, 25 Sep: Capstone

To register, visit [trybooking.com/events/landing/1257816](http://trybooking.com/events/landing/1257816)



Praise and Worship • Teaching by Charbel Raish • Q&A (Question & Answer) • Adoration



Reserve your seat by scanning this QR code  
in collaboration with EASTFEAST PAROUSIA  
HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY  
HOLYTRINITYSYDNEY.ONLINE  
#ShareTheJoy



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 [safeguardinginquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardinginquiries@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.