

A parish with a Heart in our Hands

ST JOSEPH'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

22 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.**

As far as the **Gospel** reading (Mark 9:30-37), is concerned we are now at that point of Mark's Gospel where the whole focus lies on Jesus' attempt to educate his disciples about his coming fate in Jerusalem. They now know that he is the Messiah (8:29) but cling to the conventional understanding of the role: a ruler of David's line who would triumphantly restore the fortunes of Israel. They find it very difficult to set that understanding together with Jesus' insistence, heard again in today's Gospel, that he is to be betrayed and put to death. They do not fully understand what he is saying and they are afraid to ask him.

Their fear is not lack of confidence to question Jesus but fear of what he might more plainly reveal. They half know what he is saying and, in an understandably human way, shrink from full knowledge of the unpalatable truth. They prefer to cling to the hopes and exciting prospect for themselves that being close associates of the Messiah as conventionally understood would entail.

This, presumably, has been the subject of their discussion on the road. They have been arguing about which of them would have the top roles and positions of honour in the coming messianic kingdom. Nothing in fact could be more at odds with what Jesus has been attempting to communicate than such disputes about greatness. When, doubtless with some awareness, he questions them about the subject of their argument on the road, they guiltily remain silent; they know – or at least half-know – how inappropriate such talk is.

SERVANT OF ALL So Jesus decides to dramatise the instruction. Insisting that the one who would be first must be last and servant of all, he takes a child from the house and sets it in front of them all. Then putting his arms around the child, he makes an extraordinary statement of self-identification: 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me' (v 37).

To appreciate the full force of Jesus' action, we have to put aside the idealisation of childhood that arose in the 19th century. In the ancient world children were precious, no doubt, to their parents, but had no social status or value whatsoever; until adulthood they were nobodies. For someone outside the family to 'welcome' a child would be to turn prevailing values and social mores upside down; it would require putting aside all one's ideas of self-importance and adult status, and simply meeting the child as an equal, as 'child' to child. That, says Jesus, is what the disciples must practice – because in so doing they will be welcoming him and the Father who stands behind his entire life and mission, which is not one of dominance and being served but one of service, destined to culminate in the supreme 'service' of the cross (10:45).

PRECIOUSNESS OF LIFE Not only, then, does Jesus' gesture challenge the disciples' notion of messiahship. It goes to the heart of their – and our – understanding of God. Is God to be thought of as an extra-terrestrial supreme Ruler to whom nothing but fear and service is due? Or is the God revealed by Jesus a God whose primary gesture towards human beings is that of One who serves, One who comes among us in the guise of a child? Jesus' gesture of hugging the child in front of all shows more powerfully than any words could express the preciousness of each and every human life, no matter how small, how insignificant, in the sight of God. We are all – in our 'littleness' rather than our achievement – hugged by Jesus in this moment.

The challenge to worldly values and estimation that the disciples found so difficult confronts the Church in every age. After the early centuries of persecution the leaders of the Church emerged from the catacombs at the time of Constantine to take on many of the trappings and roles of Roman officials. We are now witnessing the end of that 'Constantinian Church,' the Church where leaders are accorded honours and tributes more reflective of worldly power than the way of Jesus. The sexual abuse crisis hammered the last nail into the coffin of that church. The pain that goes along with this stripping of status and honour is close to that experienced by the disciples of Jesus as they struggled both to hear and to resist what he was saying. Like them, we are all on the way to Jerusalem with Jesus.

The **Second Reading**, James 3:16-4:3, appropriately enough approaches the same issue of power and ambition in the uncompromising language typical of this letter. The **First Reading**, Wisdom 2:12, 17-20, anticipates the mockery and taunting Jesus will hear on the cross.

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 am the Saviour of all people, says the Lord. Whatever their troubles, I will answer their cry, and I will always be their Lord.

FIRST READING

Wisdom 2: 12.17-20

The godless say to themselves, "Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after - we have his word for it."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord upholds my life.

O God, save me by your name; by your power, uphold my cause. O God, hear my prayer; listen to the words of my mouth. **R**

For proud men have risen against me, ruthless men seek my life. They have no regard for God. **R**

But I have God for my help. The Lord upholds my life. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart and praise your name for it is good. **R**

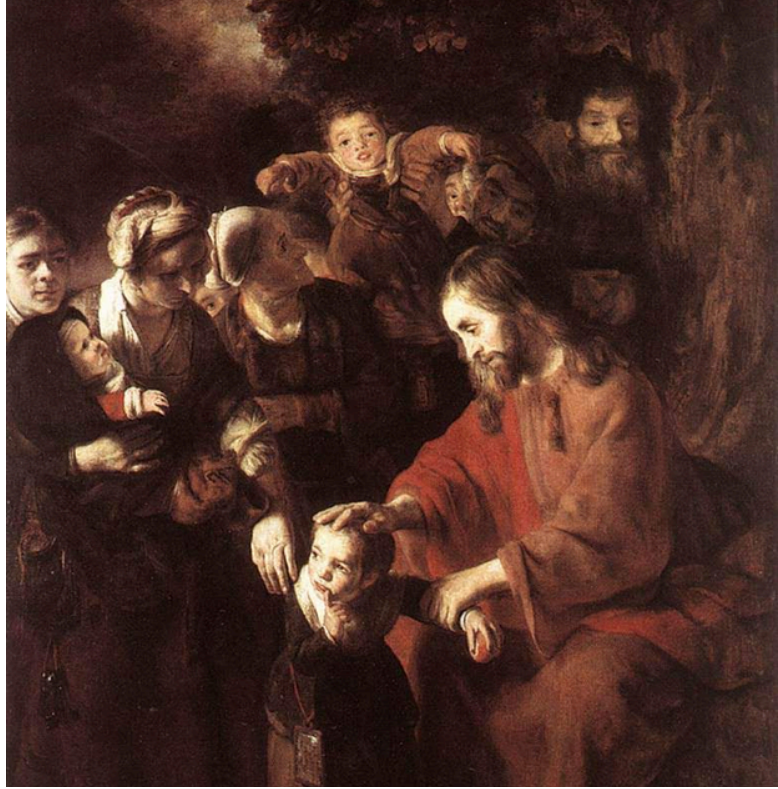
SECOND READING

James 3:16-4:3

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it.

Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.



Nicolaes Maes (1634-1693), *Christ Blessing the Children*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, "The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again." But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him. They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, "If anyone wants to be the first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all." He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, "Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have laid down your precepts to be faithfully kept. May my footsteps be firm in keeping your commands.

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CELEBRATING THE
WORLD DAY OF
MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

**ONE PARISH
JOURNEYING
IN LOVE**

ST JOSEPH'S
CAMPERDOWN

Join us in celebrating this year's **World Day of Migrants and Refugees** and the **Installation of Fr Renante (Rey) Sentillas** as Parish Priest of St Joseph's Camperdown

SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER, 9:30 AM

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

1 Timing of the Holy Hour	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
This Sunday 21-22 Sep	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, Genalor Maria, Francisco - Tim S, Maddi S
Next Sunday 28-29 Sep	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Genalor F Rachel S Philip Fan Tim S	Alicia B Lesley A Cathy W Maddi S	Corazon, Francisco Maria, Francisco - Tim S, Maddi S
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, Josie M (Fri only), Louise S, Genalor F, Maria C, Tim L		

PARISH CHOIR

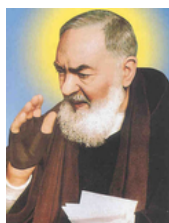
ORGANIST/PIANIST | CONDUCTOR
 Saturday 6 PM Vigil Mass Tim, Dennis
St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir Fr Ruben, Gemma
 Sunday 9:30 AM Mass Allen, Ethel, Tim | Yani
Sunday Morning Choir
 Sunday 11 AM Mass Louise | Dr Peter, Elsa
Chinese Community
 Sunday 6 PM Mass Teresa, Gemma | Michael
St Joseph's Sunday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



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

23 Sep Saint Pius of Pietrelcina
26 Sep Saints Cosmas and Damian
27 Sep Saint Vincent de Paul
28 Sep Saint Wenceslaus;
 Saint Lawrence Ruiz and Companions



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

CELEBRATING THE WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

ONE PARISH JOURNEYING IN LOVE

St Joseph's Camperdown

Join us in celebrating this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees and the Installation of Fr Renante (Rey) Sentillas as Parish Priest of St Joseph's Camperdown
SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER, 9:30 AM

CELEBRATING YOUR TRADITIONS IN ETHNIC DRESSES, SONGS, DANCES, AND FOOD!



PILGRIM MARY & HER HOLY ROSARY HOME VISITATION

The 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. 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.

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

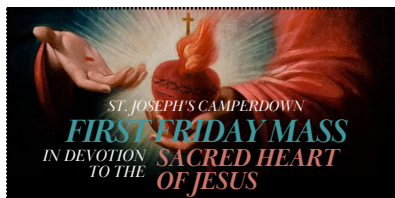
1st Collection	\$ 686.85
2nd Collection	\$ 505.90
EFTPOS Giving	\$ 600.50

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 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

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

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

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 Or complete the parish envelope.



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: Wed, 25 Sep (Capstone) 7:15 - 8:30 PM, doors open at 7:00 pm.
VENUE: St Martha's, 38 Renwick Street, Leichhardt NSW 2040.
Free Admission. To register, visit trybooking.com/events/landing/1257816



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

Donate **Volunteer**

Transfer to CADIS AUSTRALIA LTD
BSB: 032-179
ACCT NO.: 371 579

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



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND
 Your local charity

Support the charitable and pastoral works of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

Donate 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.

Donate Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



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. 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.