

A parish with a Heart in our Hands

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph – Year C

29 December 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

📘 fb.com/StJosephCamperdown

SCHEDULE OF MASS

Weekend Mass

Saturday 8am, 6pm (Vigil)

Sunday 9:30am, 11am, 6pm

Weekday Mass

Mon - Fri 8am, 8pm

Devotion to the Sacred Heart

Every First Friday 8pm, we celebrate the Mass for the Sick and Carers of the Sick with Anointing of the Sick

Eucharistic Adoration

🕒 Mon - Fri 7:00 PM
Before 8PM Mass; Reconciliation available

Reconciliation

Sat & Sun 5:15 PM - 5:45 PM

🕒 Mon - Fri 7:00 PM
Before 8PM Mass

Anointing of the Sick

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

Baptism, Confirmation / RCIA, Wedding & Funeral

Please enquire via our parish office at stjocamper@gmail.com.

Baptism usually Sunday 12:30pm; Baptismal instructions arranged with parents before baptism.

Wedding Six (6) months notice required.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Please be guided by our updated parish information section reflecting our **Schedule of Mass, Reconciliation & Eucharistic Adoration, effective 1 January 2025.**

📌 **New times are marked with this yellow icon.**

Read the full Parish Announcement on p.3.

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

In respect to the family the New Testament shows a decided ambiguity. Documents that stem from the developed Christian tradition, such as the Pastoral Letters and the excerpt from the Letter to the Colossians included as the Second Reading for today, commend family life in a highly traditional way. The Synoptic tradition, however, with its roots in the teaching and practice of Jesus himself, insists that family ties can be a hindrance to following the call of the Kingdom. Did not Jesus say that no one could be his disciple without 'hating' one's father, mother, wife, children, brothers and sisters' (Luke 14:26)? Of course, such statements need not be taken at face value: Semitic idiom uses 'love' and 'hate' simply to express a preference for one thing over another. Still the ambiguity remains.

But the task of finding some relevance to current family life is at least easier this year when the Year C readings for the feast of the Holy Family have as Gospel reading Luke's account of the loss and finding of Jesus in the Temple when he was twelve years of age (2:41-52). This offers what might seem to be a more realistic view of family life. Though part of the Luke's Infancy Story, it presents Jesus no longer as a passive infant but as a young adolescent beginning to grasp, at this age, his adult identity.

ELEMENT OF MISUNDERSTANDING

Luke tells the story in a way that brings out very strongly the element of misunderstanding between the boy and his parents. Jesus' response to his mother's complaint ('My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been looking for you') reflects adolescent impatience: 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know I must be about my Father's business?' (or 'in my Father's house' but 'business' seems more appropriate). On Mary's lips, 'father' refers to her husband, Joseph. But Jesus is speaking of his Father in heaven. Into their tranquil family life bursts a sharp reminder of his true status as unique Son of God and of the destiny – the Father's 'business' – to which they are going to have to surrender him. This surrender, beginning here and now and culminating at the cross, is the 'sword' that will pierce Mary's heart, as the aged Simeon has prophesied at the Presentation (2:35).

It would be trite simply to say that here we see that the Holy Family was not immune to the trials of children going adolescence – though, of course, some comfort can be drawn from that. The Gospel is bringing out the uniqueness of Jesus as well as his identification with the ordinary human condition. 'His Father's business', which will ultimately involve a very painful destiny indeed, is his mission to draw the entire human race back into a 'family' relationship with God that it had lost through sin.

PICTURE OF GOD

No image of God or of the relationship God wishes to have with us is ever adequate. But we do have to picture God in human terms and the 'family' image is the one that Jesus left us. He taught his disciples to pray, 'Our Father, . . .' (Matt 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4) and, as Paul says, his Spirit comes into our hearts crying 'Abba, Father' (Rom 8:15; Gal 4:6), impelling us, that is, to address God with the familial intimacy characteristic of Jesus – something that impressed the early believers so much that they preserved the address in the original Aramaic.

Jesus said of those who hear the word of God and keep it that they are 'my father and mother and sister and brother' (Luke 8:21). Here, in the truth that Jesus draws us into his own divine family life, lies the foundation for the dignity of all family life. But growing into Christian adulthood is perhaps no easier than growing into human adulthood and no less immune to the trials all growth entails. Each of us is called to discover and 'be about' our Father's business in our own unique way.

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

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Infant lying in a manger.

FIRST READING

Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel since she said 'I asked the Lord for him'.

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfill his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there forever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three year old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.' There she left him, for the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

How happy are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts. My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. **R**

They are happy, who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise. They are happy, whose strength is in you; they walk with ever growing strength. **R**

O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer, give ear, O God of Jacob. Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed **R**

SECOND READING

John 3:1-2, 21-24

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what are we to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need to be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit he has given us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were



James Tissot (1836-1902), *Jesus Found in the Temple*

GOSPEL (cont.)

Luke 2:41-52

on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.



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

Beginning 1 January 2025, our Schedule of Masses, Reconciliation, and Eucharistic Adoration will be as follows, in accordance with our notice of changes in the schedule of the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

2025 SCHEDULE OF MASS, RECONCILIATION & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

MASS

Monday to Friday 8AM, 8PM
Saturday 8AM, 6PM (Vigil)
Sunday 9:30AM, 11AM, 6PM

RECONCILIATION

Monday to Friday **7PM - 8PM** (New time)
Saturday & Sunday 5:15PM - 5:45PM

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday to Friday **7PM - 8PM** (New time)
 (Reconciliation available)



First Friday of each month | 8PM
 followed by Eucharistic Adoration and Blessing until 10PM



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.

SCHEDULE OF READERS & COLLECTORS

Week	Mass Times	Commentator & 1st Reader	2nd Reader & Prayers of the Faithful	Collectors If none indicated, the readers
This Sunday 28-29 Dec	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F Gordon L Lisa L Maddi S	Francisco T Marc S Anna T Tim S	- Maria, Francisco - -
Next Sunday 4-5 Jan	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	to be updated		
Daily Mass	Morning Evening	Angeline L, Alicia B, Echie, Doris K (Thu), Garry C, The Sisters, Gemma T (Sat), Ricky L (Fri) Corazon F, Josie M (Fri only), Louise S, Maria C, Tim L, Alexander M		

PARISH CHOIR

ORGANIST/PIANIST | CONDUCTOR
 Saturday 6 PM Vigil Mass
St Camillus & Ave Maria Choir Tim, Dennis, 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.

Christmas

AT ST JOSEPH'S CAMPERDOWN

2024

MON 16 DEC
TO
MON 23 DEC

NOVENA DAWN MASSES

5:00AM, EVERY DAY FROM MON 16 DEC - TUE 24 DEC

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE CONTINUE

MONDAY TO FRIDAY MASSES

8:00AM | 8:00PM

SATURDAY MASSES

8:00AM | 6:00PM (VIGIL)

SUNDAY MASSES

9:30AM | 11:00AM | 6:00PM

TUE 24 DEC

5:00AM NOVENA DAWN MASS (Final)

8:00AM WEEKDAY MASS

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

8:00PM VIGIL MASS

12:00AM MIDNIGHT MASS



WED 25 DEC

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:30AM | 11:00AM | 6:00PM

CHRISTMAS MEALS SERVED AFTER 9:30AM & 11:00AM MASS

SUN 29 DEC

THE HOLY FAMILY

9:30AM | 11:00AM | 6:00PM

2025

WED 1 JAN

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

8:00AM | 8:00PM

SUN 5 JAN

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

9:30AM | 11:00AM | 6:00PM

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

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, CAMPERDOWN 2 MISSENDEN RD, CAMPERDOWN NSW 2050

PILGRIM MARY & HER HOLY ROSARY HOME VISITATION



From 15 Aug 2024 to 15 Aug 2025, our Blessed Mother will be "on a pilgrimage" to our parishioners' homes 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 office at **stjocamper@gmail.com** for assistance.

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 Pope Francis and to encourage our St Joseph's parishioners to pray the Holy Rosary in their homes with their families.

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

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

Account Name

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CAMPERDOWN

BSB Number 062-784

Account Number 10000 4825

LAST WEEK'S Parish Collection

1st Collection	\$ pending
2nd Collection	\$ calculation
EFTPOS Giving	\$ 1,108.03

Thank you for your generosity and support!



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CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS*

- 29 Dec THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH
- 31 Dec Saint Sylvester I*
- 1 Jan SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
- 2 Jan Saint Basil and Gregory
- 3 Jan Friday before Epiphany Most Holy Name of Jesus
- 4 Jan Saturday before Epiphany
- 5 Jan Epiphany of the Lord

THE WAY OF WONDER

WITH BILL DONAGHY

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY FAMILY EVENT

SATURDAY, 18 JANUARY 2025

ST JOACHIM CATHOLIC PARISH | 2 MILLS ST, LIDCOMBE
TIME: 6:45PM DOORS OPEN FOR 7:00PM EVENT START

TRYBOOKING.COM/CWNXL

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@sudneycatholic.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.

Visit our parish website

