

# A parish with a Heart in our Hands

# ST JOSEPH'S

# CATHOLIC CHURCH

CAMPERDOWN NSW, AUSTRALIA

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

26 January 2025

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](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com)

🌐 [stjosephscamperdown.org.au](http://stjosephscamperdown.org.au)

📘 [fb.com/StJosephCamperdown](https://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](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com).

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

**Wedding** Six (6) months notice required.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Read the full Parish Announcement on p.3.

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** 🟡 .

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

It happens all the time. Jews do it. Muslims do it. Christians do it. A group of people, gathered to worship the living God, have someone read to them from an old book. Their reasons are the same: the ancient writings speak of how their ancestors in the faith experienced the One who started and sustains the world and who took initiatives to make them a people. Further, they acknowledge that they are still in living relationship with that God, who deserves their thanks, listens and responds to their petitions, and takes profound interest in what they do with their lives. People read the old book to know who they are and what they are doing.

The First and Third Readings for this Sunday highlight that recurring situation. We have the priest Ezra, addressing the people of Judah some eighty years after the return from the Babylonian captivity, still working to restore a common life around a reconstructed Temple and Holy City. He is reading an updated version of the people's constitution—the Law, or Torah. In the Gospel reading we hear the voice of Luke himself introducing his version of the story of Jesus, a fresh edition required by the community of his day (which will include a “part two”—the Acts of the Apostles—telling the story of the early Church). Further, one of the episodes Luke chooses for special treatment is the scene of Jesus' homecoming in the synagogue of Nazareth, where Jesus himself, paralleling Ezra, reads from Scripture and asserts its relevance for “today”—the present moment of his community of listeners, and, for Luke, the present moment of his readers, then and now.

This is one of those occasions when Scripture speaks of Scripture, when the Bible becomes a kind of user's manual about itself.

*The life of the Spirit that the Church shares makes it an organism analogous to any other living body.*

The scene in Luke is stunning. A well-known member of this small village (population, archeologists estimate, around 150), a craftsman, returns with a reputation for healing and acting like an old-time prophet. He shows up at the synagogue, opens the scroll of Isaiah to the place we call chapter 61, reads the first-person statement of a prophetic figure claiming to be anointed and sent by the Lord for a work of liberation and healing, and boldly applies that passage to himself.

Thus Ezra, Jesus, and Luke—each in his own way shows us what our Bible reading at liturgy is all about: we read the ancient writings because they speak to us of our relationship to God and to one another—today.

Then there is the passage from Paul. He wrote a letter addressing the needs of a particular Greek community in the 50s of the first century. The unity of the Christian community in Corinth was threatened in several ways—by rivalries, by dualistic thinking, by neglect of the poor. Paul responded to this particular set of crises so eloquently that this “occasional” letter eventually became recognized as inspired Scripture, capable of addressing any community, any time, about the essentials of Christian unity.

In the passage read today, we hear the famous body image. The life of the Spirit that the Church shares makes it an organism analogous to any other living body. Like the limbs and organs of a human body, the members of the body of Christ (the Church) each have a special and needed role to play, whose purpose is to build up that body. Apart from that body, the particular member is as significant as a 165-pound eye sitting in the grass, splendid to behold but connected to nothing.

Paul's image of Church as body helps us think about the Church's current call for a “preferential option for the poor.” That is a reflection of what happens in nature all the time. Recently, for example, when I had an infected thumbnail, my body spontaneously and consistently favored that small member; I didn't have to be persuaded to make a “preferential option” for my thumb.

If we are tempted, in the context of both Church and state, to neglect the poor among us, it may be because we have lost touch with the ways in which we are in fact one body. Restoring the sense of connection may have something to do with the mission of liberation and healing that Jesus would continue through us.

Thus Paul joins Ezra (and the Chronicler who writes of Ezra), Jesus and Luke in teaching us why we read old writings when we gather to worship (even at times when “Water Gate” [Neh 8:1] does not have a special, accidental, resonance).

Copyright © 2001, Dennis Hamm, SJ All rights reserved. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce for personal or parish use. Fr. Hamm was emeritus professor of the New Testament at Creighton University in Omaha. He published articles in The Catholic Biblical Quarterly, The Journal of Biblical Literature, Biblica, The Journal for the Study of the New Testament, America, Church; and a number of encyclopedia entries, as well as the book, The Beatitudes in Context (Glazier, 1989), and three other books.

# Readings

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Sing a new song to the Lord! Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Truth and beauty surround him, he lives in holiness and glory.**

## FIRST READING

**Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10**

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people - since he stood higher than all the people - Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen, Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah - His Excellency - and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.**

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. **R**

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. **R**

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. **R**

May the spoken words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart, win favour in your sight, O Lord, my rescuer, my rock! **R**

## SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 12:12-30**

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor, and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!**



*James Tissot (1836-1902), Jesus Unrolls the Book in the Synagogue*

## GOSPEL

**Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21**

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen'.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Look up at the Lord with gladness and smile; your face will never be ashamed.**

## 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](mailto: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
<b>This Sunday</b> 25-26 Jan	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Angeline AL Rachel S Nancy T Tim S	Ricky L Lesley A Chris W Maddi S	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - Tim S, Maddi S
<b>Next Sunday</b> 1-2 Feb	Vigil 6 PM 9:30 AM 11 AM 6 PM	Corazon F The Sisters Philip F Gemma T	Francisco T The Sisters Elly Wong James	Acu, Santa Maria, Francisco - c/ Gemma
<b>Daily Mass</b>	<b>Morning</b> <b>Evening</b>	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.



## Martha Ministry

We are looking for parishioners who can help with the regular upkeep of our church, e.g. vacuuming the inside of the church including the choir loft and cleaning the toilets, ideally every Saturday to prepare the church for the Sunday Masses.

Having multiple volunteers will help to divide the tasks and form a roster.

If you would like to help, please send us an email at [stjocamper@gmail.com](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com) or you may approach one of our priests. Thank you!

*Your help is very much appreciated!*

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*

## 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

### Account Name

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CAMPERDOWN

BSB Number 062-784

Account Number 10000 4825

### Parish Collection

Figures for parish collections will be published on 2nd Sunday of February, upon the return of our parish communications coordinator. Thank you for your kind understanding!

*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.

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Volunteer

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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

Donate

Donations of \$2 or more are tax-deductible and can be credited to your local parish.

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



**PROJECT COMPASSION**  
FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

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.

Donate

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



## PILGRIM MARY & HER HOLY ROSARY HOME VISITATION



The Pilgrim Mary Home Visitation commemorates 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.

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](mailto:stjocamper@gmail.com) for assistance.

## CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

[gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events](http://gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events)

## PARENTS NIGHT OUT

STORIES, WISDOM, AND ENCOURAGEMENT

## MATT & CAMERON FRADD 2025

WEDNESDAY 7:00PM-9:00PM  
5TH FEBRUARY

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH HOLSWORTHY

[SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG/LMF](http://SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG/LMF)



SCAN FOR MORE INFO



## FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS\*

- 12 Jan **The Baptism of the Lord**
- 13 Jan St Hilary
- 17 Jan St Anthony
- 20 Jan St Fabian, St Sebastian
- 21 Jan St Agnes
- 22 Jan St Vincent
- 24 Jan St Francis de Sales
- 25 Jan The Conversion of St Paul
- 27 Jan Sts Timothy and Titus
- St Angela Merici
- 31 Jan St John Bosco
- 2 Feb **The Presentation of the Lord**
- 3 Feb St Ansgar, St Blaise

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](mailto: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

