



ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Wall Street Camperdown, PO Box 64, Camperdown VIC 3260
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St. Patrick's Church
Camperdown



St. Brendan's Church
67, Curdie St, Cobden



St. John's Church
53, High St, Lismore

Parish Priest: Fr George Kuruvila
george.kuruvila@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Phone: 03 5593 1284

Visiting Priest: Fr Jim McKay

Child Safety Officer:

Rose Henry

Phone: 0407 875 886

St Patrick's Primary School Principal:

Darren Lloyd

Phone: 5593 1962

dlloyd@spcamperdown.catholic.edu.au

Mercy Regional College

Principal: Sharon Gillett

www.mercy.vic.edu.au

McAuley Campus, Camperdown

Phone: 5593 2011

O'Keeffe Campus Noorat

Phone: 5592 5353

Anniversaries: Mattie Adams, Amy O'Donohue, Ricky Robertson, Frederick Eyars, Anastasia Reilly, Maureen Gstrein, Mary Bonner, Leonard White, and Brian Hawkins.

Recently deceased: John Hewitt.

Pray for the Sick: Lilly Cain, Kristen Pickford, Brian Wain, Julie Karlsen, Basil Thornton, Catherine O'Flynn and Marlo McCarthy.

Readings for Sunday 31stAugust:

1st Reading, Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29

2nd Reading, Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

Gospel: Luke 14:7-14

Mass Times:

Every Saturday: 6.30pm -Cobden

Sunday: 09.00 am 1st Sun.-Simpson

09.00 am 2nd/4th Sun. Lismore

09.00am 3rd/5th Sun. Timboon

(Lay-led assembly will be held on the other Sundays)

Every Sunday: 11. 00am Camperdown

Holy Communion to Sick, Elderly or House Bound/Nursing Homes

Any family members who are aware of relatives (or friends) in the above situations who would like to receive Holy Communion at their place of residence. Please advise details to our Parish Office number or please contact Fr George Kuruvila at any time. Ministry will be arranged. If any relatives of you are in the nursing homes, please let us know if they want to be visited or arranged a Mass.

Weekday Masses: Mass will be celebrated on Wednesdays at 10.30am in Terang, First, third and fifth Thursdays in Timboon/second and fourth Thursday in Simpson at 11.00am and Fridays at 09.30am in Camperdown.

Planned Giving – Thank You for Your Support

Dear Parishioners, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone for your generous contributions to the parish and presbytery expenses. Your generosity helps ensure the smooth running and vibrant life of our Catholic communities. Those who contribute through the envelopes are already distributed with the receipts. Receipts of the direct debit will be provided soon. With gratitude, your Parish Priest.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 24 August 2025

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:18-21)

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

(R.) Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples! **(R.)**

2. Strong is his love for us; he is faithful for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13)

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (Luke 13:22-30)

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And

men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

HOMILY by Richard Leonard

Jesus and Satan have an argument as to who is the better computer programmer. This goes on for a few hours until they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge.

They set themselves before their computers and begin. They type furiously for several hours, lines of code streaming up and down the screen.

Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes, taking out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show what he has come up with.

Satan is visibly upset, and cries, 'I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out.'

'Very well, then,' says God, 'let us see if Jesus fared any better.'

Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers.

Satan is astonished. He stutters, 'But how? I lost everything, yet Jesus' program is intact! How did he do it?'

God looks up over his glasses and chuckles, 'Ah you see, Jesus saves.'

Salvation has, rightly, always been the big issue. Who was going to make it, how it was going to happen and when would Christ return in glory have captured the imagination of each generation of believers.

The roots of this thinking can be found in today's Gospel. The earliest Christians, especially the Gentiles, saw that the Jews had been given every opportunity for salvation. They were the Chosen people. They had the Law and the Prophets. They were looking for the Messiah. Jesus, however, did not come as they expected or act as they hoped, so they rejected him and his followers. Within a generation after Jesus' death the Jews were persecuting the Christians and expelling them from the synagogues. The Christians took comfort from saying that in the salvation race the Jews might have started as the favourites, but they had missed the start and were now coming last.

This way of thinking had a strong effect on the Church. While we have always believed in the mercy and love of God, at different times we have been hostile to other religions, other denominations and the secular world. We have often needed to express this in absolute terms about who was going to be saved and, more importantly, who was not!

The Second Vatican Council, however, reflected on the Church's experience of working side by side with religious people and secular humanists throughout the world who were as committed as we are to justice, love and freedom. In the 'Declaration on the relationship of the Church to non-Christian religions', the bishops thought more generously about how God has a relationship with all people who in turn relate to God, even if they do not name it in the same way we are able to. The Council did not resile from believing that Jesus is the way to the Father, but they also affirmed that God can work in an infinite number of ways to assist people to salvation. It is Church teaching now that our relationship to all people who share the best of our values must be characterised by acceptance, collaboration, dialogue and charity.

This does not make salvation any less important. It just clarifies for us that it is God, not us, who does the saving and the judging. Christian salvation marks us out as people who

know who we are following, where we are going, how we are getting there and why this world, and the next, matters to us. Salvation gives our lives meaning, direction and purpose. The way we live out this salvation should be irresistible to others. As the folk hymn sings, 'They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.'

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MINISTRY ROSTER

24-August-2025 .21st Sunday OT	Reader	P.O.F.	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	B Hammond	P Dwyer	G Gleeson
11am: Camperdown	S Grinter	M Smart	T O'Leary
Counting Team: A & N Powling		Altar Camperdown: C McCarthy/J Delaney	
Church Cleaning: C Walsh		Altar Cobden: M Walsh	
Marian Statue: J Fry			

31-August-2025 22nd Sunday OT	Reader	P.O.F.	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	A Horan	P Dwyer	J Dwyer
11am: Camperdown	J Gardner	R Henry	H Hickey
Counting Team: A & N Powling		Altar Camperdown: T O'Leary	
Church Cleaning: D Cheslett		Altar Cobden: M Walsh	
Marian Statue: B Hewitt			

Caritas Australia - Relay of Hope



The Relay of Hope is a symbolic gesture on a global scale proposed by Caritas Internationalis as part of the Turn Debt into Hope campaign for the 2025 Jubilee. Inspired by the Olympic torch, this candle-lighting activity reflects our shared mission to spread light, life and hope. Rooted in the official Jubilee theme of *Pilgrims of Hope*, the *Relay of Hope* will connect communities worldwide and symbolize our unity and solidarity in calling for debt and economic justice. This gesture was chosen because light represents hope that the Jubilee principles will inspire much-needed change. The relay signifies the Caritas family and wider global community journeying collectively to spiritual and social transformation. Each lit candle represents a call to action for debt justice and turning debt into hope. Although it can be done at any time in the *Jubilee Year*, we are invited to especially organize a *Relay of Hope* during the Season of Creation between Monday, September 1 and Saturday, October 4, 2025. This will contribute to a wave of action around the world, forming a symbolic chain of unity and solidarity. Resources are available at <https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/parish-materials/tdih-relay/>

Sacred Heart College Class of 1965 – 60-Year Reunion

We warmly invite past students from the Class of 1965 to join us for a special weekend to reconnect, reminisce and celebrate on Saturday 18 October 2025 at 11.00am at the Damascus College Events Centre, 1412 Geelong Road, Mt Clear. \$40.00 per person – includes drinks and lunch. The day will begin with drinks on arrival, an archive display, and live piano music, followed by a seated lunch and campus tour. The Sunday Gathering details will be provided upon booking. Bookings via www.trybooking.com/DDJJN

Parish Notices: All notices need to be delivered in writing, emailed or phoned by noon every Thursday. George Swierczek: 0439 145 805.

Praying with the Holy Father: Prayer for August – For mutual coexistence: *Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons. Lord, hear us.*

"OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WISHES TO RESPECTFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LANDS ON WHICH WE LIVE, WORK AND WORSHIP OUR GOD."

We are a Child-safe, Welcoming and environmentally friendly Parish