



# 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  
High St, Lismore

St Joseph's Church  
61 Main Rd Derrinallum

**Parish Priest:** Fr Neville Stanislaus

**Parish Secretary:** George Swierczek

**Parish Child Safety Officer:** Rose Henry Ph: 0407 875 886



## **St Patrick's Primary School**

**Principal Mr Michael McKenzie**

Dimora Ave

Phone: 5593 1962

Mobile: 0409 962 148

email:

[principal@spcamperdown.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@spcamperdown.catholic.edu.au)



## **Mercy Regional College**

**Principal: Sharon Gillett**

Email: [www.mercy.vic.edu.au](http://www.mercy.vic.edu.au)

McAuley Campus

Camperdown - Phone: 5593 2011

O'Keeffe Campus

Noorat - Phone: 5592 5353

Dear Friends,

In today's gospel we see that Jesus gives very high praise of John, "among those born of women", even as he describes the prophet as the man who is to prepare the way for the Lord. Here we note that John is so highly praised by Jesus, who has sent messengers to ask Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come or should we look for another?" In other words, John is undergoing a crisis of faith. Jesus replies by pointing to his saving works, thus reassuring John and asking his messengers to report this back to him.

God allows even his most favoured and most faithful followers to undergo crises in life. The doubts that assail us and the difficulties that test our faith are part of our growing in maturity as believers. Next Sunday's gospel will describe the crisis that Joseph undergoes when he finds out that Mary, his beloved wife, with whom he has not yet lived, is pregnant. He had decided to divorce her before God steps in with the message that the child in Mary's womb is from the Holy Spirit.

So don't be anxious when a crisis confronts you. A crisis is both a danger and an opportunity. While a crisis can make us fall, it can also make us soar. When you are undergoing a crisis, don't keep that crisis to yourself. Talk to a friend or friends or a counsellor. But above all, talk to God. Trust that God will see you through. In our celebration let us ask the Lord to give us the simplicity of faith or child-like faith to put all our worries and crises in God and to walk humbly with God in our daily life.

-Neville



### **Weekend Mass Times**

**Saturday:** 6.30pm Cobden

**Sunday:** 9am 1<sup>st</sup> Sun. Simpson

9am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. Lismore

9am 3<sup>rd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Sun. Timboon

9am 4<sup>th</sup> Sun. Derrinallum

(Lay led assembly will be held on the other weekends)

**Sunday:** 11 am Camperdown.

### **Weekday Mass Times**

Wednesday: 9am Cobden

(2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. 10.30 Lovely Banks)

2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. 10.30 Sunny Side

Friday: 9.30 am Camperdown

When there is a funeral,

morning Mass will be cancelled.

### **Mass times next weekend**

**Sat** 6.30 pm Cobden

**Sun** 9 am Derrinallum

**Sun** 11 am Camperdown

### **Next weekend's Readings**

Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7;

Mt 1:18-24

### **Saints and Feasts:**

Mon – St Adelaide

Tues – St Florian

Wed – St Peter Truat

Thurs – St. Darius

Fri – St. Dominic of Silos

Sat – St. Peter Canisius

### **Pray for the Sick:**

John Ryan, Brian Wain, Fr Denis Dennehy, Vincent Bacha, Brendan Fowler, Wilson Watts, Beth Hose, Kristen Pickford, Devin McKlaren, John O'Brien, Mary Ryan

### **Collections**

I would like to thank everyone for their assistance and support. Last week you generously gave Envelope collection \$460.00 Presbytery collection \$535.25

### **Recent Deaths**

Thomas Baker, Reg McVilly.

### **Anniversaries of Deaths**

Chris Fay,

Betty Eccles,

Brian Reed,

Joan Fitzgerald,

Eileen Clark, Mildred Lourey,

Owen Evans

### **Parish Notices**

All notices need to be delivered in writing, emailed or phoned into the Parish Office by noon Thursday.

George Swierczek 0439 145 805

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Year A – 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## **Plenary Council 2020: National Theme for Discernment December: Prayerful and Eucharistic:**

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Prayerful and Eucharistic? This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who expressed a deep and faith-filled trust in God and a need for lament and healing within the Church, acknowledging the sexual abuse crisis as a turning point for the Church in Australia.

“What does it mean to live a true Christian life?”

“How can we encourage all Catholics to be open to the Spirit working in people in different ways, through different forms of liturgy (traditional and charismatic), different types of worship and different faith responses to the Spirit in individuals and communities?”

“How do we get people to return to prayer when we live in such a fast-paced life?”

“Can lay-led liturgy be made to resemble the Mass more closely in regards to the prayers that are not part of lay-led liturgy but are part of the Mass?”

“How do all the faithful called to prayer and a living relationship with Jesus Christ learn about their faith through the Sacraments, catechesis, ongoing education and following the traditions of the Church in a multicultural society which has become very secular?”

### **What questions do you have about the future of Australia that you would like the Plenary Council to consider?**

**We Welcome Leo Francis Hutt** to our parish in the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

Congratulations to Leo and his parents John and Isabelle.

**End of Year mass:** This will take place on Tuesday 17th of December @9.30am. All parents and friends are welcome to come along & celebrate the end of the year mass and to wish our grade 6 children & leaving families all the very best.

### **Clinical Pastoral Education 2020**

An opportunity to participate in a part-time Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program will be available February 13 to June 25, 2020. This program is recognised by the University of Divinity if one is enrolled in theological studies. The program requires 10 hours of pastoral practice and one education day per week. Placements for supervised pastoral experience are available at South West Health Care Medical Ward and Community Palliative Care, Warrnambool Hospice Care and St Joseph's Catholic Parish Warrnambool. Other placement possibilities may be arranged as negotiated and approved.

Applications close December 20, 2019. Interviews will be held in January.

For further information and application details contact

Bernadette Wurlod

South West Victoria CPE Centre Director

Clinical Pastoral Supervisor (Association for Supervised & Clinical Pastoral Education)

Adjunct Lecturer University of Divinity

[bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au](mailto:bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au) or phone 0455 033 321

**You are invited to a Service of Nine Lessons & Carols:** This Sunday evening at 7 o'clock in the evening at St Paul's Anglican Church, Church Street, Camperdown. Refreshments will be served in the parish hall at the conclusion of the service.

### **Christmas Mass Times:**

**Tuesday Vigil 6:00 p.m. Timboon, Vigil 6:00 p.m. Cobden, Vigil 8:00 p.m.**

**Camperdown, Christmas Day Mass 8:30 a.m. Lismore.**

**Reconciliation Rites:** Timboon, 15<sup>th</sup> December, Derrinallum and Camperdown 22<sup>nd</sup> December. The Reconciliation Rite will be held during the celebration of the Mass.

### **Christmas Appeal 2019**

Our Christmas Appeal (on or about Christmas Day) is one way by which the diocese can respond to the many communities from near and far who turn to us for assistance.

I commend the Christmas Appeal to you. I am aware that there are many times throughout the year when you are invited to respond to appeals for very worthy causes, but I hope the Ballarat diocese can continue to support this particular appeal.

Paul Bird CSSR Bishop of Ballarat

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

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## **First Reading:** [Is 35:1-6, 10](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*God himself will come and save us.*

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return. They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended

***This is the Word of the Lord***

## **Responsorial Psalm:** [Ps 145:6-10](#). R. [see Is 35:4](#)

***(R.) Lord, come and save us.***

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)
3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

## **Second Reading:** [Jas 5:7-10](#)

A reading from the letter of St James

*You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.*

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord

***This is the Word of the Lord***

## **Gospel Acclamation** (Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation) [Is 61:1 \(Lk 4:18\)](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia

## **Gospel Reading:** [Mt 11:2-11](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?*

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

***This is the Gospel of the Lord***

**REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate *The Right Question***

John was languishing in prison, held captive by the local agent of the Roman Empire. Perhaps he was looking for evidence that Jesus was the One who would throw off Roman despotism. In answer to his questing, Jesus replied that John should rather look at what was happening on the ground in His healing ministry and orientation to the poor. *Those* are the signs that the reign of God has begun. I admire John the Baptist because he was prepared to seek and accept the answer to the question which was crucial to him, even though the answer might upset his preconceptions. He was a true seeker after Truth.

All our activities as a parish in building community, forming faith, serving the poor, participating in the liturgy, should be undertaken so that a seeker after Truth might see and hear the evidence of the presence and mission of the risen Lord Jesus Christ amongst us.

We could pause for a moment to simply pray in the spirit of Advent: 'Come, Lord Jesus' to satisfy the restlessness of the questing heart.

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15-Dec-'19 – Advent 3 (A)	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	J Dwyer	K Daffy	Hammond Family	J Blair A Horan
9 a.m. Lismore Assembly	K Deppeler	K Deppeler		D Halloran
11am: Camperdown	M McKenzie	R Johnstone	Margaret Murrhy	M Russell M Smart M McKenzie
Counting Team: B & M Hewitt		Altar Camperdown: M Lucas G McMillan/No flowers		
Church Cleaning: J Saunders		Altar Cobden: Kate Daffy Mavis Pekin/No flowers		
Marion Statue: J Larkins		Altar Derrinallum: M Barry/No flowers		

22-Dec-19 – Advent 4(A)	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	G Kelson	P Dwyer	Noy Family	J Blair J Hammond
9 a.m. Derrinallum	L Johnstone	K Bell		M Barry
11am: Camperdown	R Johnstone	M McKenzie	D & M Russell	G Lucas C Walsh M Russell
Counting Team: B & M Hewitt		Altar Camperdown: C McCarthy J Delane/No flowers		
Church Cleaning: M Sinnott		Altar Cobden: Kate Daffy Mavis Pekin/No flowers		
Marion Statue: P & L Hickey		Altar Derrinallum: M Gran/No flowers		

We, the Parish community wish to pledge ourselves for our children's safety and well-being