



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



Mercy Regional College

Principal: Sharon Gillett

Email: www.mercy.vic.edu.au

McAuley Campus

Camperdown - Phone: 5593 2011

O'Keeffe Campus

Noorat - Phone: 5592 5353

Dear Friends,

All three readings of today's liturgy speak about the inner joy a true believer feels. In the gospel reading after clearing the doubts of the apostle Thomas, Jesus announces - happy are those who, without having seen the Lord, yet believe in him. What Jesus said was a reflection on our believing in him. In the second reading Peter affirms the happiness which Jesus was saying and says, a believer is happy, because he is sure of the end and his faith looks forward to it, that is, the salvation of God. Through our faith, God's power will guard us until the salvation which has been prepared for us is revealed to us at the end of time, which gives us great joy.

It is this faith which we see in the early Christians as described in the first reading. The joy they felt at the thought of their heavenly reward was so great that they were completely detached from worldly possessions. And this joy was communicable that outsiders, who witnessed their joy, joined their way of life and became believers. While we are reflecting on the resurrection of Jesus in this Easter season, let ask the Lord to strengthen our faith to believe like the apostles and the early Christians did, hence to live the teachings of the gospel in our life as witnesses of his resurrection. - Neville



Saints and Feasts:

Mon – St Marian

Tues – St. Anselm of Canterbury

Wed – Queen of the Society of Jesus

Thurs – Ss Adalbert & George

Fri – St Fidelis of Sigmaringen

Sat – St Robert of Syracuse

Pray for the Sick:

Please remember those who are in ill health: Fr Denis Dennehy, Vincent Bacha, Brendan Fowler, Wilson Watts, Beth Hose, Kristen Pickford, Devin McKlaren, John O'Brien

Anniversaries of Deaths

We pray for Sylvia Moran who has died recently and those whose anniversaries are at this time: Marie Fahey, John McKenzie, Florence Gaut, Robert Wilson, Harry Gatens

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 6.30pm Cobden

Sunday: 9am 1st Sun. Simpson

9am 2nd Sun. Lismore

9am 3rd/5th Sun. Timboon

9am 4th Sun. Derrinallum

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

Sunday: 11 am Camperdown.

As we further experience the restrictions of the coronavirus pandemic, please consider making your planned giving contributions and Sunday collections via bank transfers. This will help running the parish which still needs to cover its costs while the current situation continues.

Parish bank details: **BSB:** 083-561 **Acct No:** 51-571-8126.

Presbytery: **BSB:** 083-561 **Acct No:** 51-571-8142.....Thank you.

A Prayer in This Time of Distress: O God, healer of all our ills, to whom we turn in his time of distress, grant, we pray in the power of faith, eternal rest to the dead and comfort to those who mourn, health to the sick and peace to the dying, strength to medical workers, wisdom to our leaders and a spirit of kindness to us all. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your son who lives and Reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Mass at Camperdown Sunday at 1030 a.m. will be streamed on YouTube. The link to view is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjB-Ird3eRt8u02L0Hut50Q>

Easter Message from Bishop Paul Bird CSsR: Bishop Paul has recorded an Easter message for the people of the diocese. The message can be viewed on the diocesan website

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

A special message to our School Communities from our Principals As we commence Term 2 with the certainty that most students will be learning from home, the Catholic Education Office Ballarat would like to share this special video message with all of our families. Watch the video on the CEOB website www.ceob.edu.au

Matthew's Beatitudes and Catherine McAuley in Dialogue with Earth's Distress Veronica

Lawson RSM recently held a webinar exploring the Beatitudes and Catherine McAuley at this time of the Earth's distress. Watch the video here <https://vimeo.com/404735366>

With Jesus in the Desert: A retreat for a time of isolation. The staff of Jesuit Communications have prepared a 14-day retreat for the use of people who have to isolate themselves for 14 days during the Coronavirus crisis. Of course, other people who may find it helpful are also welcome to use it. The retreat has suggestions for each of the 14 days, though participants are free to follow it through or to pick out particular days. A shorter retreat that keeps the basic pattern could involve days 1, 2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 14. More information at <https://www.pray.com.au/with-jesus-in-the-desert-a-retreat-for-a-time-of-isolation/>

Mercy Connect Ballarat/Bendigo Co-ordinator Mercy Connect is a program within Mercy Works which recruits, trains and supports volunteers to mentor refugee students and their families as they settle in Australia. We are seeking a Co-ordinator of our Ballarat/Bendigo Mercy Connect Education project. The role involves connecting all volunteers with students from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds in existing and potentially new primary and secondary schools across Ballarat/Bendigo. It also includes recruiting and training new volunteers. While providing assistance in the educational setting, the primary focus is one of mentoring and providing ongoing support and training. The Co-ordinator is required to liaise with schools in providing volunteers appropriate to the situation. A key focus will be expanding the project within the Bendigo region. It is a two day a week position and based in Bendigo. For further information <https://www.mercyworks.org.au/job-opportunities/>

Our Diocesan Community

The latest edition of ODC and eNews is now available to read online at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au under "News and Events"

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

- We continue to distribute information regarding the coronavirus as it received. All updates are also on the diocesan website "news" section". As per the latest information from the government, all places of worship are closed, including chapels.
- Also on this page we are updating regularly resources for people to use during the social isolation time, including links to online Masses.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

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

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

This is the Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling but the Lord was my helper. The Lord is my strength and my song; he was my saviour. There are shouts of joy and victory in the tents of the just. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Pt 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls

This is the Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation (Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation) Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled

with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Thomas was granted the gift of seeing the Risen Lord bearing the wounds of His crucifixion. Thomas was invited to touch them. Responding, he simply cries out: 'My Lord and my God.'

Thomas does not declare his belief in the Resurrection as such. That was all too apparent. Rather, he declares his faith in the *identity* of the risen Jesus Christ: 'My Lord and my God.'

Pope Francis says we can *only* join Thomas in this faith by touching the wounds of Christ. Those wounds are to be found in the body of someone wounded. This can be in a myriad of ways.

We have to bend down and touch those wounds in whatever means of healing is available to us. Otherwise we simply engage in philanthropy at a distance. We end up believing in a semblance of God, but not God embodied in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ always bearing his wounds.

Sometimes we struggle with our faith – after all, it is an astounding claim that Jesus of Nazareth is God embodied for us. You, or any other person intrigued by Jesus, are invited to touch the wounds of Christ and let the patience of God take care of the timing of the response of faith.

We could pause for a moment, praying to be counted amongst those who receive the Blessing promised to those who have not seen the Risen Lord as such, but who touch his wounds and proclaim, 'My Lord and my God.'

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Dear Friends, this is a follow up message regarding measures to slow the speed of the Corona virus.

We have been directed by both federal and state governments to close all places of worship. This means the closing of our church doors, not just for the celebration of mass and other liturgies, but for all activities that would involve the presence of a number of people for a period of time. Therefore, I ask that you close the doors of your church and place appropriate signage on doors.

The message could be as follows: in line with government directives aimed at slowing the spread of the Corona virus comma the church will be closed to the public until further notice. Please continue your prayers at home for the health of our community.

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

God bless you always, Bishop Paul.