



# St Patrick's Catholic Parish

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ABN 39 411 259 534

St Patrick's Church  
Camperdown

St Brendan's Church  
67 Curdie St, Cobden

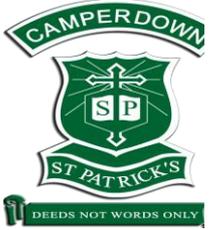
St John's Church  
High St, Lismore

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 Parishioners, Visitors and Friends,  
 As we come closer to the end of this year, we eagerly look forward to celebrating Christmas. No doubt, this year has been a challenging and unsettling year for many of us because of the COVID 19 pandemic. Amidst the many uncertainties and worries, we were able to enjoy a quality of time with our families. With the support of our family members and friends were able to achieve, and have learnt, many things to fight against those challenges and adversities that the year threw at us. Hence, we were able to succeed and achieve our goal through our resilience, commitment and motivation. In the celebration of Christmas we commemorate the mystery of the Incarnation. That is: "Jesus who, though he was in the form of God, emptied himself taking the form of a slave being born in human likeness". Here we see that Jesus came out of his divinity to save us. This pandemic forced us to come out of ourselves to help and care for others. This should be our life over the coming years. Our charitable actions brought joy to the people who have had bad days. All of our colouring memories of this past year brought our faith community stronger than before. We were able to put others before ourselves, like our redeemer. This notion of sacrifice for others should be the consequence and reflection in every area of our lives. Hence we can work for the big picture of our parish and the community at large. Let us strive to open our hearts to others, especially being aware of those who have lost a loved one since last Christmas, or the people who are over-burdened by worries, sickness, family problems or for any other reason. This Christmas, may we reflect on the mystery of Incarnation as God's invitation for us to see Him in our brothers and sisters who are hurting and struggling in their lowliness. Neville



### Mass times next weekend

Sat 6.30 pm Cobden

Sun 9 am Timboon

Sun 11 am Camperdown

Christmas is an opportunity to thank so many parishioners who give their time and talents in making our parish the vibrant, faith-filled community. That it is to say: your active part in some form of ministry or parish activity, letting Christ's light shine in the midst of the struggles and joys. I, thank you for your contribution and collaboration and for all that you do big or small to reveal God's love and care to the people. Let this Christmas be a time of true conversion to imitate God's self-emptying in Christ and his identification with those marginalised people. By this, the Church can truly stand with confidence as the channel of mercy and the sign of hope for all the people who live around us.

May the Lord bless you and your family during the Christmas season and throughout the New Year.

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to wish all the Parishioners a Happy and Holy Christmas.

A special thank you to the volunteers and people who assist in the running and up keep of the Churches – being the cleaners and flowers, grounds and garden people, the readers and special ministers, money collectors and counters, music and power point presenters and to the ones who bring others to mass – is all much appreciated.

Keep safe and God be with you. Paul Dwyer, Parish Chairman

### Bishop's Christmas Appeal

The Bishop commends the Appeal to parishioners. He is aware of the struggle and challenges of COVID19 and of other times during the year we are invited to respond to appeals for worthy causes, but he hopes the Ballarat diocese can continue to support the Christmas Appeal today.

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## First Reading Is 9:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*A son is given to us.*

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this

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

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 95:1-3. 11-13 R. Lk 2:11

**(R.) Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. (R.)
2. Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)
3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, let the sea and all within it thunder praise, let the land and all it  
bears rejoice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the Lord for he comes,  
he comes to rule the earth. (R.)
4. With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth. (R.)

## Second Reading Ti 2:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

*God's grace has been revealed to all people.*

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

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

## Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord .Alleluia!

## Gospel Lk 2:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke - *Today a saviour has been born for you.*

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

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