



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

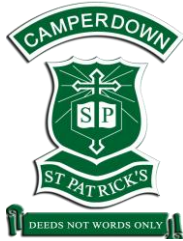
St John's Church
High St, Lismore

Parish Priest: Fr Neville Stanislaus

Parish Secretary: George Swierczek

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

Phone: 0439 145 805



St Patrick's Primary School

Principal: Tim Bourke

Dimora Ave

Phone: 5593 1962

Mobile: 0438334077

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,

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 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 1st Sun. Simpson

9am 2nd/4th Sun. Lismore

9am 3rd/5th Sun. Timboon

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

Next Weekend Masses

Sat: Cobden 6.30 pm

Sun: Timboon 9.00 am

Camperdown 11.00 am.

Next Weekend Readings:

Is 7: 10 – 14; Rom 1: 1 – 7.

Mt 1: 18 – 24.

Saints and Feasts:

Mon- Our Lady of Guadalupe

Tues- St Lucy, Martyr

Wed- St John of the Cross, Doctor,

Thu- St Virginia Centurione-

Bracelli

Fri- St Adelaide

Sat- St Florian

Pray for the Sick:

Please remember & pray those who are sick: Brendan Fowler, Wilson Watts, Kristen Pickford, Devin McClaren, Brian Wain, Mary Hickey, Bernd Menz, Shirley Rohan and Peter Karlsen.

Recent Death: Ian McInnes

Anniversaries:

We pray for those who died recently & those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bernard McLeod, Margaret Stephenson, Winifred O'Keeffe, Danny Shaw, Brian Reed, Sergio Sarto, Michael Molan, Len Fahey

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

We pray for all who are suffering and bereaved. At this time of sorrow, incomprehension, and tragedy, we stand together. In this crisis, we pray for God's mercy and healing for the sick and for health and strength for all who care for them. Amen.

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A. 11/12/2022

Christmas Mass Times: 2022

Saturday Vigil 6:00 p.m. Timboon, Vigil 6:00 p.m. Cobden,

Vigil 8:00 p.m. Camperdown,

Sunday, Christmas Day Mass 8:30 a.m. Lismore.

Reconciliation Rites: Lismore 11th December, Timboon and Camperdown 18th December. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated within the weekend masses.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The time of Advent is the four-week period of preparation for the season of Christmas. Advent begins the cycle of the Liturgical Year and focuses on the coming of the Lord. The first weeks offer a vision of the future, looking to the end of time when Christ will come again. The final weeks point more specifically to the birth of Christ. Christ, the promised one, is awaited with joyful expectation. The First Sunday of Advent follows the final Sunday of Ordinary Time and the season concludes on Christmas Eve.

Advent Resources

Resources to assist with the celebration of Advent 2022 are available from the diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-resources/>

Resources available include the Advent Stations of the Cross, prayers of the faithful for each week of advent and other prayer resources.

Last weekend's Collection:

I would like to thank everyone for their assistance & support. Last week you generously gave to the Parish \$575.00 & Presbytery \$455.30. God bless you and keep you all safe in His Care.

Collection for Catholic Mission: \$657.45. Thank you for your generous support for Catholic Mission.

St Vincent de Paul Cobden Christmas Giving Tree:

Please support the Cobden Community Christmas Appeal. Thank you.

Planned Giving Program.

The current Planned Giving Program will finish at the end of this month. Thank you to those that have contributed to this program for the last three years. Next weekend we will need to re pledge our new contribution for the next three years. Pledge forms will be available in the foyer.

Please take one with you and return the completed form next weekend. Contributions can be made weekly, monthly, quarterly, half yearly, yearly or by direct debit. Please consider your contribution as the parish expenses keep rising like our own home expenses. Ongoing maintenance is necessary for the comfort and safety of all parishioners. The future financial viability of the parish depends on the generosity of all Parishioners. Thankyou. Tony. Planned Giving Co Ordinator.

Praying with Pope Francis

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org. Pope's intention for December: For volunteer not-for-profit organisations: We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development, find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Assembly of the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania 2023

Liturgical resources are available in preparation for the Assembly of the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania in Fiji from February 5-10, 2023. The prayer for the assembly and prayers of the faithful for Sundays leading up to the assembly are available from the diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/federation-of-catholic-bishops-conferences-of-oceania/>

Share joy this Christmas with a gift that can change a life

Global Gifts are Caritas Australia's charitable Christmas cards. The funds raised from these cards go towards supporting vulnerable communities around the globe, including right here in Australia. Whether you purchase your Global Gift for a family member, friend or colleague, each gift reflects real items that will help assist the world's most vulnerable people in their fight against poverty and injustice. Gifts of Education. Gifts of Health. Gifts of Empowerment. The beauty of these Global Gifts is that they bring joy to their recipient and provide someone in need the chance to build a better future. This Christmas please consider buying a gift that changes lives. Visit www.globalgifts.org.au or call 1800 024 413 toll free to browse the range.

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

CatholicCare Victoria Giving Tree Appeal

The last two years of the COVID pandemic have had a devastating impact on low-income families. Unemployment, rent prices, mental and physical health issues are just some of the things which can lead to financial crisis. Please help a family in need this Christmas. To donate go to <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/donate/19/giving-tree-appeal>

Vinnies Christmas Kindness Appeal

Aussie families are struggling to survive the increasing cost-of-living pressures this Christmas. Your generosity can provide urgent relief for a family who's doing it tough this Christmas and give them hope for a better future. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-appeal>

Caritas Australia - Take action on climate change

As climate change damages our homes and land, the impact on our neighbours in the Pacific is extreme. Our voices, together, can get governments and polluters to take action to achieve climate justice and protect our common home. Sign the pledge at <https://www.caritas.org.au/act/climate-change-action/> to support Caritas Australia's climate action campaign.

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.

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

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.

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

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: 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.'

The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

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.

11-December-2022 3rd Sunday Advent	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	T Bricknell	B Hammond		
9 a.m. Lismore	S McLeod	S Bialek		A Bignell
11am: Camperdown	S Grinter	R Henry		J Saunders
Counting Team: M, J & P Conheady		Altar Camperdown: No flowers		
Church Cleaning: H & J Seuren		Altar Cobden: No flowers/KDMP		
Marian Statue: C Wilson				

18-December-2022 4th Sunday Advent	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	J Dwyer	P Dwyer		
9 a.m. Lismore	S Bialek	S McLeod		A Coutts
11am: Camperdown	M Smart	C McCarthy		R Henry
Counting Team: M, J & P Conheady		Altar Camperdown: No flowers		
Church Cleaning: R Henry		Altar Cobden: No flowers/KDMP		
Marian Statue: J Fry				

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