



St Patrick's Catholic Parish

Wall Street Camperdown, PO Box 64, Camperdown VIC 3260.

Ph: (03) 5593 1284 Fax: (03) 5593 2708 Email: camperdown@ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Patrick's Church
Camperdown

St Brendan's Church
67 Curdie St, Cobden

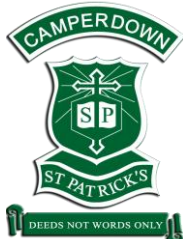
St John's Church
High St, Lismore

Parish Priest: Fr Neville Stanislaus

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

Parish Secretary: George Swierczek

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, Christmas brings the message of joy and peace for those who have a good will. This message is generally articulated openly, as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Do we share the Joy and peace of Christmas around others - namely, family, friends, and neighbours? We normally have a traditional Christmas celebration - the crib, the Christmas tree, the Christmas Carols, the Christmas dinner, and gifts. We tend to keep Christmas much the same way each year. Yet Christmas is all about change - change for the better.

The Lord Jesus came to lift us up from our misery and to make our life a life of joy and peace. We see this in the first Christmas carol that was sung by Angels, as they were praising God and singing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace to the people of goodwill". No wonder we sing, "Joy to the World" at Christmas time. All our hopes, all our joys, all our peace rest in Jesus. So, we celebrate His birth with exceedingly great joy, for He was born to help us change from the old to the new: from greedy to generous, from selfishness to selflessness, from unkindness to kindness and from prejudices to open-mindedness. Whatever may be our suffering, disappointments, with our health, and struggles, let the peace and joy of Christmas fill our hearts. Hence the blessing of Christmas may give us an open mind and heart to make necessary changes for the benefit of our life. Then we can make this Christmas a meaningful and significant one.

May the Lord bless you and your family during the festive season and throughout the New Year. -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: Simpson 9.00 am

Camperdown 11.00 am.

(Lay Assembly - Lismore)

Next Weekend Readings:

Mn 6: 22 - 27; Gal 4: 4 - 7.

Lk 3: 16 - 21.

Saints and Feasts:

Mon- St Stephen, First Martyr

Tues- St John, Apostle

Wed- The Holy Innocents Martyrs

Thu- St Thomas a Becket

Fri- The Feast of the Holy Family

of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sat- St Sylvester I, Pope

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: Maree Newcombe

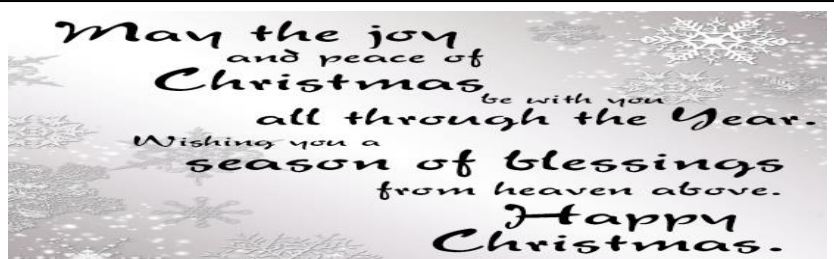
Anniversaries:

We pray for those who died recently & those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Eric Poole and Tom Lee, Christopher Fay, Owen Evans, James Hose, Ted (porky) Howard, Marie McKeown, Gladys O'Neil.

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.



Bishop Paul's Christmas Message 2022

Bishop Paul's Christmas Message is available to view on the diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/bishop-pauls-christmas-message-2/>. A hard copy of the message is also available from this page to download.

The Christmas Appeal 2022:

Our Christmas Appeal 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

There would be a second collection for the Bishop's Christmas Appeal on our Christmas celebration. Collectors, please take a second collection after the Communion. Thank you

Last weekend's Collection:

I would like to thank everyone for their assistance & support. Last week you generously gave to the Parish \$1345.00 & Presbytery \$467.80. God bless you and keep you all safe in His Care.

Thank you for your generous support care for Parish.

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 O'Leary. Planned Giving Co Ordinator.

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study

The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation is a new initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The first Cycle for 2023 begins 9th January. There are 36 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. More information is available on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/> or ph. 5337 7121.

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.

56th World Day of Peace – January 1, 2023: Pope Francis' message for the 56th World Day of Peace, "No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace" is available from <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/20221208-messaggio-56giornatamondiale-pace2023.html>.

St Vincent de Paul Flood Appeal

The St Vincent de Paul Society has established a Victorian Flood Appeal. Contributions can be made by:

- Calling 13 18 12;
- Visiting <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>

You can also:

- make a monetary donation through any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase;
- via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods

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

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.

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

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.

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

Gospel Acclamation: (*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation*) Lk 2:10-11

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.'

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

REFLECTION by Diane Bergant CSA

The Gospel situates the birth of Jesus within Roman rule of the first century. Through the Incarnation, the ordinary becomes transparent and reveals the extraordinary; the divine is known in the child. Only those of humble heart experience this wonder. They behold it and they come to embrace it. In fact, it is the nature of this child, born in history, to reverse the orders of power.

God is portrayed as a valiant liberator who champions the cause of justice and who brings a liberation that reverses history and the ways of war, power and oppression. This reversal is made more shocking by the fact that the one who is the mighty warrior and conqueror of the nations is a child. This child is the weak and voiceless one, the one who has neither power nor legal rights. God's reversal of the long-standing realities of this world is accomplished through the apparently insignificant, through the gift of this child who is given to us in the middle of the night.

Something new has happened: the age of God's fulfilment has arrived. The age of grace and fresh hope, made available to all people of good will, is an era of redemptive presence. Now all people can walk in the newness of life and grace. Yet, while this new age has begun, it is not yet fully realised. We live believing in its presence and awaiting its fulfilment. Although we are celebrating Christmas, we still await the final coming of the Lord.

25-December-2022 Nativity of the Lord	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6:00 p.m: Cobden Christmas Eve	G Gleeson	K Daffy	Noy Family	J Blair
8.00pm: Camperdown	R Henry	P Conheady	Conheady Family	H Hickey
8:30 a.m: Lismore	S McLeod	A Mahony		
Counting Team: R & A Gardner	Altar Camperdown: R Henry A Cunningham			
Church Cleaning: B Hewitt	Altar Cobden: K Daffy M Pekin			
Marian Statue: B Hewitt				

01-January-2023 BVM Mother of God	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	K Daffy	A Horan	K Walsh	
9 a.m. Lismore	L Johnstone	G Keating		M Barry
11am: Camperdown	C McCarthy	M Smart	O'Leary Family	T O'Leary
Counting Team: R & A Gardner	Altar Camperdown: L Hickey M Larkins			
Church Cleaning: M Sinnott	Altar Cobden: Joan Hammond			
Marian Statue: L & J Delaney				

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