



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, Jesus commands his disciples to go beyond the Torah of Moses for their purposes. Jesus knew the moral law and its intention better than any legal expert could imagine. He quoted from the oldest law in the Old Testament: If any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe (Exodus 21:23-25). Such a law today seems cruel, but it was meant to limit vengeance as a first step towards mercy. This law was not normally taken literally but served as a guide for a judge in a law court for assessing punishment and penalty.

Here, Jesus does something quite remarkable and unheard of - He transforms the law of revenge to grace and loving kindness. Jesus also makes clear that there is no room for retaliation. We must not only avoid returning evil for evil, but we must seek the good of those who wish us evil. Let us ask ourselves: how can we possibly love those who cause us harm or evil? With the grace of God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and griefs. Only the cross of Jesus can free us from evil and gives us the courage to return evil with good. Let us ask the Lord to give us the heart and mind of Jesus to love and forgive those who do us harm and evil.

-Neville



Saints and Feasts:

- Mon- Sts Jacinta & Francisco Marto
- Tues- St Peter Damian
- Wed- Chair of St Peter
- Thu- St Polycarp
- Fri- Bld Luke Belludi
- Sat- Bld Sebastian of Aparico
- Sun- St Maria Bertilla Boscardin

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: Lismore 9.00 am

Camperdown 11.00 am.

(Lay Assembly – Timboon)

Next Weekend Readings:

Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7, Rom 5:12-19,

or Rom 5:12,17-19, Mt 4:1-11

Pray for the Sick:

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

Recent Deaths & Anniversaries:

We pray for those who died recently & those whose anniversaries occur at this time: David Halloran, Geoff Daffy, Monica McDonald, Charles Kelly, John O'Leary, Kevin Suhan, Lorna Mirtschin, Ellen Hinkley, Kevin Delaney, Rene Walsh, Nell Pekin, Patrick Mahony.

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.

"Our Parish Community wishes to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live, work and worship Our God."

Parishes of St Patrick's, St Brendan's & St John's Sacramental Program

We are currently in the process of setting up our Sacramental Programs for 2023 which includes the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist. If you are interested or have any questions, we kindly ask that you please contact Tarryn at St Patrick's Primary School on 5593 1962.

Last weekend's Collection:

I would like to thank everyone for their assistance & support. Last weekend you generously gave to the Parish \$676.00 & Presbytery \$590.85. God bless you and keep you all safe in His Care.

Thank you for your generous support care for the Parish.

Lent Study: "Ashes to Hope" There are still seven places. Day and time yet to be negotiated. Talk to Andrew O'Flynn after Mass or phone 0499 306211.

Shrove Tuesday: St Paul's Anglican is inviting us For Shrove Tuesday on 21st of Feb 2023, at 11.30 am until 2.00 pm, St Paul's Church in Church Street. \$10.00 per head. Enquiries Simcox 0419 372 469. Thank you.

Ash Wednesday –22nd February Mass Times: Cobden (Tuesday 21st) 6.30 pm.

22nd Wednesday – 9.00 am Timboon and 11.00 am mass at St. Patrick's Church at Camperdown.

Thank you to those who contributed to the Cobden Community Christmas Appeal 2022

World Day of Prayer: St Mary's Anglican Church Cobden Friday 3rd March 2:00 p.m. All Welcome.

Pray for Peace in Ukraine on February 24, 2023: A message from +Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR, Eparch for Ukrainian Catholics in Australia, New Zealand and Oceania: February 24, 2023 will be the first anniversary of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia which has killed tens of thousands of soldiers and civilian population, as well as major infrastructure damage in many cities around Ukraine. The Ukrainian Catholic Church around the world will organise many actions to support our nation in its efforts to defend the freedom of its people and the sovereignty of its borders. I warmly invite you to organise a special day of prayer for peace in Ukraine. Let us unite together in prayer for peace in Ukraine!

Mission: Change their lives ... and yours.

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. RING: 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567. WEB: www.palms.org.au

Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand.

Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know

Project Compassion Sunday: February 19, 2023

On Sunday, February 19, 2023, Bishop Paul will be launching Project Compassion 2023, "For All Future Generations" at St Patrick's Cathedral during the 5.00pm Mass.

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and *For All Future Generations*. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2023 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. As St Pope John Paul II said, "The future starts today, not tomorrow." Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *For All Future Generations*. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion> or by calling 1800 024 413.

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock Final Mass

An invitation to people of the diocese to attend the Final Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock on Saturday, March 18, 2023. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and Fr Anthony Nagothu, Parish Priest, will celebrate Mass at 3.00pm. Following Mass there will be a gathering at the Patchewollock Community Centre.

Please bring food to share and drinks of your choice. Flyer is on the Ouyen Parish webpage

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ouyen/>

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Lv 19:1-2, 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

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

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13, R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)
4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading:

1 Cor 3:16-23

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

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

Gospel Acclamation: (Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation) 1 Jn 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

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

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

'Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect.' Is Jesus advocating rather static fault-less-ness? Not very appealing! No, the Greek word is closer to the idea of a perfect wine – one that has matured and has reached its full potential. So, Our Lord is saying, 'Be a person who is everything you are capable of being.'

Our Lord gives a striking example of the challenge. God does not withhold life-giving sun and rain from people because they are bad or dishonest, nor extinguish the life of human beings because they are evil, because they are enemies.

What are the implications for Church teaching on capital punishment or warfare? Note that Jesus' command: 'You must be ...' is directed to *You* in the plural. It is communal, social. The Church community must listen. Is the Holy Spirit moving us in a direction not experienced since its first three centuries?

We could pause for a moment to pray on behalf of those who want to do us harm, the better to hear: 'Blessed are the peacemakers.'

19-February-2023 7th Sunday O.T.	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	G Kelson	B Hammond	J Dwyer	
9 a.m. Lismore	A Bell	S Bialek		S McLeod
11am: Camperdown	M Saunders	J Seuren	Conheady Family	M Macaulay
Counting Team: Smart Family	Altar Camperdown: L Hickey M Larkins			
Church Cleaning: H & J Seuren	Altar Cobden: Gayle Kelson			
Marian Statue: T & T O'Leary				

26-February-2023 1st Sunday Lent	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	B Hammond	P Dwyer		
9 a.m. Lismore	L Johnstone	A Coutts		A Bignell
11am: Camperdown	S Gillett	M Lucas		M Russell
Counting Team: Smart Family	Altar Camperdown: No flowers			
Church Cleaning: R Henry	Altar Cobden: No flowers			
Marian Statue: J Larkins				

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