



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 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 a blind man Bartimaeus call Jesus who was passing through and said: Jesus son of David, have pity on me. Jesus stopped and asked him to come. When he came to him, Jesus asked him: what do you want me to do for you? Master, I want to see, was his reply. He was blind physically but not spiritually. He saw his need for Jesus as his saviour and only hope in life. Hence, he confesses his faith in Jesus. He also recognizes Jesus as the promised Messiah, the anointed one who will bring salvation to his people. He accepts the gift of salvation. Upon receiving his sight, he follows Jesus on the way. In contrast, Jewish people who have good eyes are spiritually blind. They do not recognize Jesus as their Messiah and Saviour. They continually reject his teaching, oppose his miracles, and openly question his ways. We are often blind ourselves. We may be like the people who rebuked the blind man and told him to be silent. Sometimes we keep quiet when someone we know is doing something illegal or immoral. We are blind when we try to silence and discredit someone more effective and more credible than us. If we do not see the goodness of other people but notice only their mistakes, if we remain untouched by another's plea for forgiveness, we are spiritually blind. So, in our celebration this weekend let us ask the Lord to strengthen our faith so that we may be able to demonstrate our faith in our Christian 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: Lismore 9.00 am

Camperdown 11.00 am.

(Lay Assembly – Timboon)

Next Weekend Readings:

Ez 37:12-14 . Rom 8:8-11

Jn 11:1-45

Saints and Feasts:

Mon- St Joseph Spouse of Mary

Tues- St Edna

Wed- St Lea

Thu- St Turibius of Mogrovejo

Fri- St Oscar Romero

Sat- The Annunciation of the Lord

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, Peter Karlsen, Catherine O'Flynn, Gryff Dwyer and Shirley Fletcher.

Recent Deaths & Anniversaries:

We pray for those who died recently & those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bill O'Sullivan, Sheila Power, Ramon Murrhiy, Jessie Westaway, Kathleen James, Olive Bant.

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.

4th Sunday of Lent, Year A. 19/03/2023

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

Project Compassion Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 18 & 19, 2023

Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group, supported by Caritas Australia, supports young women in the community with practical support like housing and helps mentor the next generation of young people. The work of Baabayn involves initiatives such as a Homework Club, a Young Mums and Bubs program and a youth group. They also provide advocacy, counselling services and links to government departments. With your support, the work of Baabayn can continue to work with young mothers at Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation and help them keep their culture strong for future generations. Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. 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/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion> or by calling 1800 024 413.



Congratulations & Best Wishes: to the children who made their Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation last week. They are: Evelyn Barake, Fletcher Hickey, Airley Lucas, Aaron Marshall, Quinn Pekin, Harper Tongs, Willow Wills, Stella Evans, Ruby Glennen, Elliot O'Connor, Emmy Sinnott and Anderson Vallejo.

Lent resources: There are a number of Lent prayer resources available from the diocesan webpage: <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-resources/>

Mass of the Oils 2023

All are welcome to attend the Mass of the Oils to be held on Monday, April 3, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30pm. Supper will follow in the Hall.

Good Friday Holy Land Collection

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place again this year on Good Friday. Parishes will receive via email the following documents:

1. Financial Statement for the Good Friday Collection 2022.
2. Commissary's letter to the people of the Australian Church for Good Friday 2023.

Last weekend's Collection:

I would like to thank everyone for their assistance & support. Last weekend you generously gave to the Parish \$347.00 & Presbytery \$518.05. God bless you and keep you all safe in His Care.

Thank you for your generous support care for the Parish.

St Patrick's Lent Study: Successful meeting last Monday. Books still available. Meeting Mon March 20th, 12.15pm, at St Patricks.

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 March - For victims of abuse: We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church. May they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Türkiye-Syria Earthquake Disaster

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Türkiye and Syria. Over 50,000 people have been killed, with many more injured and left homeless. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs assistance. We must act NOW and help those affected by this catastrophe. Your generous donation means our partners in Türkiye and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy. Visit www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.

ACRATH: Students respond to Pope Francis' call for change makers

With support from ACRATH member Sr Colleen Jackson rsc, Australian and New Zealand Catholic secondary school students are responding to a call from Pope Francis to be the change makers in the struggle against human trafficking. Through contributing to a video made by ACRATH and Talitha Kum, they hope to influence other young people to act and help eradicate forced labour from the production of chocolate, clothing and technology. The video and further information is available at <https://acrath.org.au/videos/our-pilgrimage-for-dignity/>

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: 1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances, but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22 R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading: Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

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

Gospel Acclamation: (*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation*) Jn 8:12

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Jn 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

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

REFLECTION by Fr. Michael Tate

Our Lord, by the power of his word alone, could have healed the dis-ease of this man, blind since birth. Yet, he made a paste with spittle and put it over the eyes of the blind man. Just as God would have moistened the dust of the earth to shape the first human being, for the blind man, it was as though he had been created anew.

God rarely works by telepathy but has a preferred way of working through the elements of creation, especially in the Sacraments. So, with the Anointing of the Sick, pressing olive oil onto the forehead and hands of the sick or dying symbolises the Holy Spirit entering the very pores of the sick person, relieving that person of undue anxiety and giving strength for the next stage of life.

This sacrament is a formal ritual of healing by the Church. But there are a million informal ways, such as putting one's arm around someone who is lonely or unwell, which are sacramental to the world.

We could pause for a moment that we might go into the world like the man healed by Jesus, eyes wide open to see where we might exercise the healing power of the Lord of the Gospel.

19-March-2023 4th Sunday Lent	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	G Gleeson	G Kelson		
9 a.m. Lismore	A Mahony	L Johnstone		M Barry
11am: Camperdown	M Smart	M Saunders		G Lucas
Counting Team: H & J Seuren		Altar Camperdown: No flowers		
Church Cleaning: M & B Brown		Altar Cobden: No flowers/KD		
Marian Statue: J Dikkenburg				

26-March-2023 5th Sunday Lent	Reader	P.O.F.	Offertory	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	K Daffy	M McKenzie		
9 a.m. Lismore	S McLeod	A Bell		L Johnstone
11am: Camperdown	R Henry	C McCarthy		H Hickey
Counting Team: H & J Seuren		Altar Camperdown: No flowers		
Church Cleaning: H & J Seuren		Altar Cobden: No flowers/KD		
Marian Statue: F & C Conheady				

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