



# 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](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 friends,

In today's gospel we see that when Peter posed the question of forgiveness, he as usual offered an answer and thought Jesus would be pleased with it. But Jesus comes with the proposition that one must forgive seventy times seven. Here, Jesus makes it clear that there is no limit to giving and receiving forgiveness. He drove the lesson home with a parable about two very different kinds of debts. The first man owed a large sum of money - millions in our currency. In Jesus' time this amount was greater than the total revenue of a province. The man who was forgiven such an incredible debt could not forgive his neighbour who owed him a very small amount which was about one-hundred-thousandth of his own debt. The contrast could not have been greater! If God has shown mercy to us in granting us pardon for our sins, then we, in turn, must show mercy and forgiveness towards every person who has offended us. The willingness to forgive those who offend us is a sacred duty. If we expect God to pardon us and show us his mercy when we disobey his commandments, then we must be willing to let go of any resentment, grievance, we feel towards our neighbour. Jesus teaches us to pray daily for the grace and strength to forgive others in the same measure in which God has forgiven us. If we do not show mercy and forgiveness to our fellow human beings, how can we expect God to forgive us in turn? The Apostle James says that "judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy". Let us ask the Lord to purify our heart so that we may be able to show mercy and loving-kindness to all - and especially to those who cause us grief. -Neville



### Saints and Feasts:

- Mon- Ss John Macias & Joseph of Cupertino
- Tues- St Januarius, Bishop
- Wed- St Andrew Kim Taegon
- Thu- St Matthew, Apostle
- Fri- St Maurice
- Sat- St Pio Of Pietrelcina

### Weekend Mass Times

**Saturday:** 6.30pm Cobden

**Sunday:** 9am 1<sup>st</sup> Sun. Simpson

9am 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Sun. Lismore

9am 3<sup>rd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> 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, Simpson)**

### Next Weekend Readings:

Isaiah 55:6-9. Philippians 1:20-24. 27. Matthew 20:1-16

### Pray for the Sick:

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

### Recent Deaths: Danny O'Leary

**Anniversaries:** We pray for those who died recently & those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Dora Beaton, Joan Park, Herbie FitzGerald, Brian Scouller, Ian Fry, Graham Larkins, Claire Lafferty, Douglas Till, Valda Russell.

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.**

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A. 17/09/2023

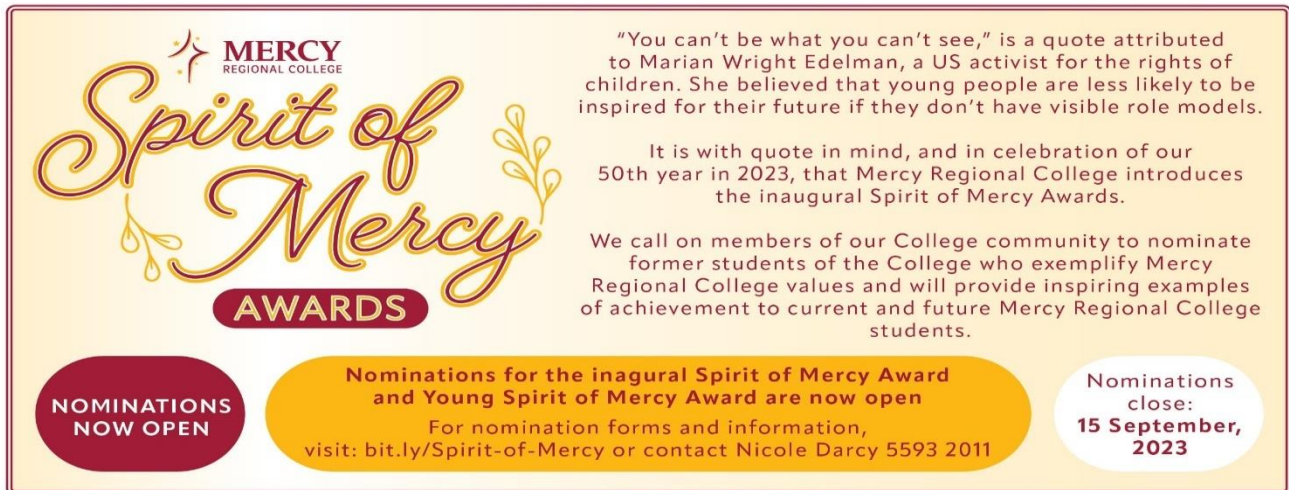
"Our Parish Community wishes to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live, work and **worship Our God.**"

### **MRC Car Raffle 2023**

Our annual major fundraiser is back, and tickets are now available.

1st Prize is a Mazda CX-3 Maxx Sport (demo) and there are 9 more great prizes.

\$10 per ticket, or 6 for \$50, 13 for \$100. Tickets online at [shop.mercy.vic.edu.au](http://shop.mercy.vic.edu.au), the MRC office (5593 2011), or several local shops. Drawn at the MRC 50th Jubilee Dinner on 25 November (Tickets for the dinner also available via online shop or MRC office)



The poster features the Mercy Regional College logo at the top left. The main title 'Spirit of Mercy AWARDS' is written in a large, elegant, gold-colored script font. To the right, there is a quote: "You can't be what you can't see," is a quote attributed to Marian Wright Edelman, a US activist for the rights of children. She believed that young people are less likely to be inspired for their future if they don't have visible role models. Below the quote, it says: "It is with quote in mind, and in celebration of our 50th year in 2023, that Mercy Regional College introduces the inaugural Spirit of Mercy Awards." Further down, it reads: "We call on members of our College community to nominate former students of the College who exemplify Mercy Regional College values and will provide inspiring examples of achievement to current and future Mercy Regional College students." At the bottom, there are three call-to-action boxes: a red oval on the left saying 'NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN', a yellow oval in the center saying 'Nominations for the inaugural Spirit of Mercy Award and Young Spirit of Mercy Award are now open' with a link 'visit: bit.ly/Spirit-of-Mercy or contact Nicole Darcy 5593 2011', and a white oval on the right saying 'Nominations close: 15 September, 2023'.

### **Last weekend's Collection:**

I would like to thank everyone for their assistance & support. Last weekend you generously gave to the Parish \$285.00 & Presbytery \$543.15. God bless you and keep you all safe in His Care.

**Ballarat Clergy Support Fund's** Collection is \$895.75.

Thank you for your generous support & care for the Parish.

### **Diocesan e-News**

The latest edition of e-News has been published. Scan or click the QR code to access. You can subscribe to receive future e-News editions straight to your email address at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/>

### **Migrant & Refugee Sunday – September 24, 2023 – updated notice from last week**

The theme of Pope Francis' Message for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees is, "Freedom to choose whether to migrate or stay." The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office (ACMRO) has created online resources including the Migrant and Refugee Kit 2023, a liturgy for primary and secondary schools, homily notes and prayers of the faithful, to help celebrate this special day. Resources available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/109th-world-day-of-migrants-refugees-sunday-september-24-2023/>

### **Season of Creation: September 1 - October 4, 2023**

Every year from September 1 - October 4, Catholic Earthcare Australia (Caritas and the Australian Bishops Conference) joins with Christian communities globally to celebrate the Season of Creation, to celebrate the gift of our common home. The theme for 2023 is "Let Justice and Peace Flow" drawing on the river imagery of in Amos 5:24. It challenges us to act for ecological justice, creating change and speaking out with communities most impacted by rising sea levels, biodiversity loss and other consequences of climate change. Resources for the Season of Creation are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2023/>

### **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](http://www.thepopevideo.org).

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

**Pope's intention for September** – For people living on the margins: We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions. May they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance. Lord, hear us.

**Synod on Synodality: Room for everyone in our Church**

The Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform, Yarra Theological Union and Garratt Publishing present “Synod on Synodality: Room for everyone in our Church” to be held on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 7.00pm via zoom. Leading the discussion is one of the ACBC’s representatives at the Synod, Shane Mackinlay, Bishop of Sandhurst. For more details and to register, scan or click the QR code. This a free event. The convocation will be recorded and made available the week following the event. You must be registered to receive the link to the video.

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading:** Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

***A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus***

*Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.*

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook the offence. The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 102:1-4, 9-12. R. v.8

**(R.) *The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.***

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. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever.  
He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults **(R.)**
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. **(R.)**

**Second Reading:** Romans 14:7-9

***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans***

*Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.*

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

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

**Gospel Acclamation:** *(Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)* John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

## Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.*

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

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

### REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

I don't like the phrase: 'Forgive and forget'. Remembering can be an important part of healing. Forgiving is about giving up the desire 'to get even', making sure that the 'punishment fits the crime'. It is that sort of forgiveness which we dare to ask of God for ourselves. But here's the catch: it is that sort of forgiveness which we must practise towards others.

When we don't, we are like the principal debtor in Jesus' story. In harshly dealing with a minor debtor, he refused to share his king's quality of forgiveness. If we don't pass on this aspect of God's life to others, then we are warned that we will end up in a hellish situation unable to share in the fullness of Divine life.

It is easy to talk 'Big Picture' forgiveness. It is much harder within the family or circle of acquaintances. It seems impossible to simply will it. But we have to ask for the grace to do it.

We could pause for a moment to pray: 'Our Father who art in Heaven . . . forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.'

17-September-2023 24th Sunday O.T.	Reader	P.O.F.	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	K Daffy	B Hammond	N/A
11am: Camperdown	A O'Flynn	M Saunders	H Seuren
Counting Team: P & A Burke		Altar Camperdown: R Henry	
Church Cleaning: M & J Saunders		Altar Cobden: Juli Dwyer	
Marian Statue: P & L Hickey			

24-September-2023 25th Sunday O.T.	Reader	P.O.F.	E/Minister
6.30pm: Cobden	G Kelson	P Dwyer	N/A
11am: Camperdown	M Macaulay	R Henry	M Macaulay
Counting Team: P & J Dwyer		Altar Camperdown: L Hickey M Larkins	
Church Cleaning: R Henry/A Wynd		Altar Cobden: Helen Hickey	
Marian Statue: J Dikkenburg			

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