



# ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Wall Street Camperdown, PO Box 64, Camperdown VIC 3260  
Ph: (03)55931284 Fax: (03) 55932784 Email: camperdown@ballarat.catholic.org.au



**St. Patrick's Church**  
Camperdown



**St. Brendan's Church**  
67, Curdie St, Cobden



**St. John's Church**  
53, High St, Lismore

**Parish Team:**

Fr Neville Stanislaus

**Parish Office:**

Jordy Muller  
jmuller@mercy.vic.edu.au  
0403511995  
George Swierczek  
Phone: 0439 145 805

**Child Safety Officer:**

Rose Henry,  
Phone: 0407 875 886

**St Patrick's Primary School**

**Principal: Ben van de Camp**

Dimora Ave  
Phone: 5593 1962  
principal@spcamperdown.catholic.edu.au

**Mercy Regional College**

**Principal: Sharon Gillett**

www.mercy.vic.edu.au  
McAuley Campus, Camperdown  
Phone: 5593 2011  
O'Keeffe Campus  
Noorat - Phone: 5592 5353

**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: Timboon: 9.00 am**

Camperdown: 11.00 am

(Lay Assembly – Lismore)

**Reading for the next Sunday**

**1st Reading:** Sir 3:2-6.12-14

**2nd Reading:** Col 3:12-21

**-Gospel:** Lk 2:41-52

Dear Friends,

The gospel story is a visitation of Mary to Elizabeth. It is a picture of happiness. Mary shares her joy with Elizabeth and rejoices in her cousin's forthcoming motherhood. The trip is long and tiresome, but Mary does not mind the inconvenience. What concerns her is the well-being of her cousin. For Mary, the visit is a mission of caring of her cousin. She is bringing God's love and mercy to Elizabeth in her moment of need. Hence, Mary's visit to her cousin calls us to reflect our mission towards the poor and needy. Mary recognizes her cousin's helplessness due to her old age. She offers herself to help without any request. This shows Mary's humility. Though she was chosen by God to be the mother of the long awaited "Messiah" Jesus, she was willing to help Elizabeth in her need. And Elizabeth acknowledges Mary as the mother of the Lord.

Mary's loving concerns is also shown to all of us. She reaches out to us, no matter how distant we are, she is willing to help us. During these coming days, let us reflect Mary, the mother of the Lord, and put into practice the virtue of humility in our life. As we saw that she didn't distant herself with the honour and the title of the "Mother of the Lord". She submitted herself to God and throughout her life she kept her commitment as the handmaid of the Lord. Let us ask the Lord to give us the grace to cultivate the virtue of humility to serve others like Mary our mother.  
-Neville

**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.



**Saints and Feasts:**

Mon- St John of Kanty  
Tues- St Emiliana of Rome  
We- Christmas Day  
Thu- St Stephen 1<sup>st</sup> Martyr  
Fri- St John, the Apostle  
Sat- The Holy Innocents,

**Pray for the Sick:**

Please remember and pray those who are sick: Kristen Pickford and Brian Wain.

(the names here will only appear for a month unless by notice)

**Recent Death & Anniversaries**

We pray for those who died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:  
Bernie McLeod, Sergio Sarto, Michael Molan, Theresa Russell, Betty Eccles, Christopher Fay, Owen Evans, Charlie Absalom.

(The names won't appear automatically Unless by notice)

**Parish Notices:** All notices need to be delivered in writing, emailed, or phoned into the Parish Office by noon Thursday.  
George Swierczek: 0439 145 805

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

**Christmas Mass Times at Camperdown and Timboon parishes:**

24th Tuesday Vigil mass 600 pm at Timboon and Cobden. Camperdown Vigil mass – 8.00 pm.

25th Wednesday Christmas Day only at Lismore 8.30 am.

Reconciliation Rites: 15th of December at Timboon, 21<sup>st</sup> of December at Cobden and 22<sup>nd</sup> of December Lismore and Camperdown. The Reconciliation Rite will be held during the celebration of the weekend masses.

**Christmas Mass times at Our Lady of Mercy Parish (Terang)**

24<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Vigil mass at Terang - 5.00 pm and Mortlake – 7.00 pm

25<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Christmas Day mass at Terang - 9.00 am.

**Bishop Paul's Christmas Message 2024:** Bishop Paul's Christmas Message is available to view on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/bishop-pauls-christmas-message-4>. A hard copy of the message is also available to download from this page.

**Bishop's Christmas Appeal**

The attached information is on the Diocesan Website regarding the Bishop's Christmas Appeal 2024. Collectors, Please take a special collection on Christmas day Masses. Thank you.

**Holy Communion by both species of bread and wine**

**We give out communion under the appearance of bread and wine every weekend.** If you feel unwell or have any symptom of any sickness or feel uncomfortable by receiving communion by both species of bread and wine, feel free to take your alternative means to receive the Eucharist. **The Eucharist ministers who are on the roster every weekend, who are not willing to consume the Blood of Christ at the end of giving out the Communion, please advise the celebrant before the Mass starts.** Thank you for your cooperation.

**A Farewell:**

Gathering for Fr. Neville on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2025 after the 6.30 pm Mass, at St Brendan's Church, Cobden. All welcome.

Paul Dwyer, (The President for the Parish Pastoral Committee)

**58th World Day of Peace – January 1, 2025**

• Pope Francis' message for the 58th World Day of Peace is "Forgive Us Our Trespasses, Grant Us Your Peace". He calls for wealthy countries to cancel the debt of poorer countries and develop a just international financial system, for the death penalty to be abolished everywhere and for, at least, a fixed percentage of armament budgets to be devoted to ending hunger and providing education for a sustainable future. Read the Pope's message at <https://shorturl.at/6DZCp>. There is a bulletin notice below and Pope Francis Prayer for peace.

• Parishes are invited to use the following prayer: For the leaders of all nations, that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit to govern with integrity and justice and offer support to all those who are suffering from the effects of violent conflict. On this World Day of Peace, may their efforts be just and right. God of Peace hear us... God of Peace hear our prayer.

**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).

• Prayer for December - For Christians in areas of conflict: Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope. Lord, hear us.

• Prayer for January – For the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected. Lord, hear us.

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **First Reading:** [Micah 5:1-4](#)

A reading from the prophet Micah

*Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.*

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

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

### **Responsorial Psalm:** [Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4](#)

**(R.) Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

1. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

### **Second Reading:** [Hebrews 10:5-10](#)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*I am coming to do your will.*

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

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

### **Gospel Acclamation:** *(Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)* [Luke 1:38](#)

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

## **Gospel:** [Luke 1:39-45](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?*

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

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

## **REFLECTION** by Nick Brodie

Pope Francis draws our attention to the way that Elizabeth greets Mary with joyful astonishment! He sees this an exemplar of how we should live our faith in this coming festive season. We need to be astonished again!

'To celebrate Christmas in a fruitful manner,' the Pope says, 'we are called to pause in "places" of astonishment.' He offers three examples of what this means.

Firstly, he draws attention to astonished recognition of other people. At a time of year when many of us will reunite with friends and family, we are called to see how 'every face is marked with a semblance to the Son of God.'

The second place of astonishment to which the Pope suggests we turn is 'history'. We need to look beyond markets and finances and see with faith the work of the Lord who exalts the lowly and uplifts the poor. 'The God of Christmas', the Pope quips, 'shuffles the cards' of history. Economics does not rule human destiny, God does.

Thirdly, we should find astonishment in 'the Church'. The Pope longs for us to embrace an understanding of the Church 'that is able to recognise the many signs of faithful love that God continuously sends her.' He hopes that 'Mother Church ... always has her doors open wide, and her arms open to welcome everyone.'

<b>22<sup>nd</sup> December 4th Sunday Advent</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>P.O.F.</b>	<b>E/Minister</b>
<b>6.30pm: Cobden</b>	G Gleeson	G Kelson	G Gleeson
<b>11am: Camperdown</b>	R Henry	A O'Flynn	M Russell
<b>Counting Team: A &amp; N Powling</b>	<b>Altar Camperdown: C McCarthy</b>		
<b>Church Cleaning: N Powling</b>	<b>Altar Cobden: K Daffy</b>		
<b>Marian Statue: L &amp; J Delaney</b>			

<b>29<sup>th</sup> December Holy Family</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>P.O.F.</b>	<b>E/Minister</b>
<b>Cobden</b>	K Daffy	A Horan	J Dwyer
<b>Camperdown</b>	C McCarthy	M Macauley	S Grinter
<b>Counting Team: A &amp; N Powling</b>	<b>Altar Camperdown: L Hickey/M Larkins</b>		
<b>Church Cleaning: R Henry</b>	<b>Altar Cobden: K Daffy</b>		
<b>Marian Statue: M Brown</b>			

The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL)

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