



# 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 George Kuruvila (Parish Priest)  
george.kuruvila@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Fr Jim McKay (Visiting Priest)

### Parish Office:

George Swierczek  
Phone: 0439 145 805

### Child Safety Officer:

Rose Henry,  
Phone: 0407 875 886

### St Patrick's Primary School

#### Principal: Darren Llyod

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

### Mercy Regional College

#### Principal: Sharon Gillett

[www.mercy.vic.edu.au](http://www.mercy.vic.edu.au)  
McAuley Campus, Camperdown  
Phone: 5593 2011  
O'Keefe 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: Lismore** 9.00 am

**Camperdown:** 11.00 am

(Lay Assembly – Simpson, Timboon (9:00 a.m.))

## A Word from Fr. George Kuruvila

### Your Parish Priest



Greetings to you all!

Hailing from Kerala, South India, I am a member of The Missionary Society of St. Thomas the Apostle (MST). The above-mentioned Missionary society was founded locally in India and has a strength of nearly 400 priests who are engaged in Mission/Pastoral fields around the globe. We have four priests of the MST working at present in the diocese of Ballarat.

Kerala has a deep-rooted Catholic tradition tracing back to St. Thomas the Apostle, who arrived on the west coast of India in 52 AD. To this day, the Catholic and Christian presence remains strong, very particularly in Kerala.

After completing my high school studies, I joined the Missionary Society of St. Thomas the Apostle to begin my formation for the priesthood.



### Saints and Feasts:

Mon – St Blaise

Tues – St Joseph of Leonissa

Wed - St Agatha

Thu – St Paul Miki & Companions

Fri – St Colette

Sat - St Josephine Bakhita

### Pray for the Sick:

Please remember and pray those who are sick: Kristen Pickford; Brian Wain, Julie Karlsen, Marlo McCarthy, Lilly Cain, Teresa Andrews

### Recent Death & Anniversaries

We pray for Paul Macbeth who died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Rose Scanlan, Audrey Fry, Dorothy Molan, Elizabeth Hickey, Mary Collins, Brian McMillan, Bridget Till, Mary Harper

### Reading for next Sunday

**1st Reading:** Deut 26:4-10

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Romans 10:8-13

**Gospel:** Luke 4:1-13

**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

**Eighth Sunday O.T. Year C 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025.**

I was ordained in 1995 and started my ministry in northern India, serving in regions in the areas of less Christian presence.

In 2000, I embarked on my first overseas mission in Sweden. My assignment in the Arctic Circle was a vastly different experience from anything I had known before. After ten years of Missionary/Pastoral apostolate in Sweden, I returned to India, where I was actively involved in various apostolates.

In 2020, I began my second overseas mission in the Diocese of Ballarat. Just two days before international borders closed due to COVID-19, I managed to reach Melbourne. Upon arrival, I underwent 15 days of quarantine and, like so many others, found myself navigating the challenges of pandemic restrictions. Although my mission began under extraordinary circumstances, I gradually adapted as the situation improved, taking up pastoral responsibilities under COVID-normal guidelines. I served across Edenhope, Casterton, Coleraine, Tarrayoukyan, Balmoral, Harrow, Apsley, Minimay, and Goroke as part of the Western Border Parish ministry.

Now, I am moving to my new ministry district, which includes Camperdown, Timboon, and Hampden parishes. These encompass Catholic communities in Mortlake, Terang, Simpson, Cobden, Timboon, Camperdown, and Lismore, along with our local schools and nursing homes. I look forward to working with you all, supporting you in your faith journey, and collaborating for the spiritual and pastoral well-being of our parish and school communities. In the coming weeks, I hope to meet each of you personally during your local Masses. No matter where I reside, I assure you of my availability and commitment to serving you. To begin with, I will stay in Camperdown.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Neville Stanislaus for his dedicated service as your Parish Priest/Administrator. I wish him every blessing in his new ministry as the Parish Priest of Gariwerd. I look forward to work with Fr Jim McKay who is sharing my ministry in the whole ministry district as visiting priest.

Please don't worry too much about my 20-letter-long last name! In my local language, Malayalam, it simply means "thorn bush land." You are welcome to call me by my first name—I typically go by Fr George Kuruvila.

Wishing you God's choicest blessings and a fruitful Lent as we begin this sacred season soon Wednesday.

**Fr. George Kuruvila Koorumullumpurayidam**

#### Notice

**1. Wanted: Cleaners for St Brendan's Church Cobden.**

**2. World Day of Prayer**

7th March... 10 a.m.

St. Brendan's Church

All are welcome to attend

**For more information** contact Juli Dwyer: 0407332820.

**Ash Wednesday Masses:** Cobden: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 6:00 p.m., Timboon: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 9:00 a.m. and Camperdown 5<sup>th</sup> March 11:00 a.m.

**We are a Child-safe, Welcoming and environmentally friendly Parish**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

First Reading: **Sirach 27:4-7**

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

*Do not praise someone before they have spoken.*

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,  
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.

The kiln tests the work of the potter,  
the test of a man is in his conversation.

The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,  
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.

Do not praise a man before he has spoken,  
since this is the test of men.

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

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2**

**(R.)** Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. **(R.)**

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **(R.)**

3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58**

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

*Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.*

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature  
has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is  
swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting?  
Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank  
God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the  
Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

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

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Philippians 2:15-16**

Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of  
life. Alleluia!

**Gospel Luke 6:39-45**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*A person speaks from what is in his heart.*

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both  
will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple  
will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye  
and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother,  
let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in

your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

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

<b>02-March-2025 8th Sunday O.T</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>P.O.F.</b>	<b>E/Minister</b>
<b>6.30pm: Cobden</b>	B Hammond	G Gleeson	J Dwyer
<b>11am: Camperdown</b>	A O'Flynn	M Smart	S Gillett
<b>Counting Team: B &amp; M Hewitt</b>		<b>Altar Camperdown: C McCarthy/ J Delaney</b>	
<b>Church Cleaning: MRC</b>		<b>Altar Cobden: K Daffy</b>	
<b>Marian Statue: B Hewitt</b>			
<b>09-March-2025 1st Sunday Lent</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>P.O.F.</b>	<b>E/Minister</b>
<b>6.30pm: Cobden</b>	A Horan	A Horan	P Dwyer
<b>11am: Camperdown</b>	J Saunders	A O'Flynn	S Grinter
<b>Counting Team: P &amp; J Dwyer</b>		<b>Altar Camperdown: No Flowers</b>	
<b>Church Cleaning: B &amp; M Hewitt</b>		<b>Altar Cobden: No flowers</b>	
<b>Marian Statue: F &amp; C Conheady</b>			

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**Disciples or Mask-Wearers?**

In ancient Greece actors wore masks which concealed the face. One may say they were 'two-faced'. They were called 'Hypocrites', and we derive our word and the idea of 'hypocrite' from that. As did Jesus.

He could always see through the veneer which people (such as you and I) present to the outside world, and his gaze would (and still can) penetrate through to the heart – the core of the personality.

For us, judging the heart of someone is fraught with risk. As Jesus humorously put it, how readily we see the smallest splinter of sawdust in someone else's eye, and in super-critical mode fail to see the plank of wood which impairs and distorts our vision. We should not rush to judgment.

The fact is that only the gaze of God can really penetrate to the heart of someone. We know that the gaze of Jesus, Who is God, is always a loving gaze visualising a heart open to salvation. (Mk 10:17-22)

This is one of the reasons why recent Popes have opposed capital punishment. Time must be given for the heart of the convicted criminal to respond to that loving gaze. And it leaves the Final Judgment, even of the murderer, to God. Listen to the dying moments of Our Lord. His loving gaze penetrated beyond the masks and actions of his tormentors and focused on their hearts. Then he cried out this plea: 'Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.'

We are all conscious of the times we have fallen short of the practice and teaching of our Master despite our praying: 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.'

We could pause for a moment to pray that The Teacher's loving gaze fall upon us to make us whole-hearted disciples willing 'to be formed by divine teaching'

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

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