



# 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,

John the Baptist prepares the way for Jesus. Today's gospel is a kind of prelude for Jesus by John. The gospel opens with a desert scene, with John the Baptist's character planted in the desert surroundings. He calls people to repent. While some Pharisees and Scribes saw him as possessed by demons because of his solitary life, ordinary people flock to him because they saw in him the Prophet of the Lord. It had been so long since the voice of a prophet had been heard in the land of Israel. The people were happy and realized that God was once again speaking to them. So, they went to John the Baptist and received the baptism of repentance.

Today once more we hear the cry of John the Baptist calling for repentance. The spirit of Advent comes to awaken us to the truth of Jesus' coming and to get ready. We feel the need to prepare ourselves to welcome Jesus into our midst. So, like the people in the time of John the Baptist, we have to repent from our old ways of life. It should not be merely in our words, but we need an inner conversion to change our hearts and minds according to the teaching of the gospel. So let us ask the Lord to give us His grace and the power of the Holy Spirit to turn towards God during the season of Advent.

-Neville



### Saints and Feasts:

Mon- St Damasus I Pope

Tues- Our Lady of Guadalupe

Wed- St Lucy

Thu- St John of the Cross

Fri- St Virginia Centurione-Bracelli

Sat- St Adelaide

### 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)**

### Next Weekend Readings:

Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11. 1 Thessa

5:16-24. John 1:6-8. 19-28

### 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, and Shirley Fletcher

### Recent Deaths: Bob Skeyhill.

Anniversaries: We pray for those who died recently & those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Patricia Egan, Lenny Fahey, Margaret Stephenson, Bernie McLeod, Winifred O'Keeffe, Danny Shaw, Brian Reed.

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.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent. Year B. 10/12/2023**

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

**Welcome and Thank you Fr Jim McKay** for celebrating the weekend Masses in our parish. We appreciate your time and willingness to come and celebrate a mass with us. Thank you.

**Christmas Mass Times:**

**24th Sunday Vigil** 600 pm at Timboon, Cobden Vigil – 6.00 pm and Camperdown Vigil – 8.00 pm.

**25th Monday Christmas Day** only at Lismore 8.30 am.

**Reconciliation Rites:** 17th of December at Timboon, 23<sup>rd</sup> of December at Cobden and 24<sup>th</sup> of December Lismore and Camperdown. The Reconciliation Rite will be held during the celebration of the weekend masses.

**Last weekend's Collection:**

I would like to thank everyone for their assistance & support. Last weekend you generously gave to the Parish \$276.00 & Presbytery \$508.20. God bless you and keep you all safe in His Care.

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

**Christmas Cards and Calendars:** SVdP is selling nativity themed Christmas cards and Columban Calendars after Mass. Calendars are \$10 ea. Cards are \$2.50 for a pack of 5 cards.

Andrew O'Flynn for Camperdown Conference of SVdP

**St Vincent de Paul Cobden Christmas Giving Tree:** Please support the Cobden Community Christmas Appeal. Please pick up a card from the Christmas Tree in the church foyer and return the goods by 16<sup>th</sup> of December.

**Ordination to the Diaconate**

Seminarian Cay Trinh (Peter) will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, December 16, 2023, at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10.00am. All welcome to attend.

Thank you to the parish communities of Camperdown, Cobden, Timboon, Simpson, and Lismore of your ongoing prayer and support of our Seminarian Cay Trinh (Peter). If anyone from our Parish community is interested in attending the celebration, Please Contact Gerard Gleeson, 0427 096 493 and Bob Hewitt: 0407 502 213 to book your seat in the bus. Thank you.

**Prayer Vigil for Cay Trinh before Diaconate Ordination**

All are invited to join in prayer for seminarian Cay Trinh, in the lead up to his Ordination to the Diaconate next Saturday, December 16. A special way you might do this will be to join a special Prayer Vigil on Friday, December 15 at 6.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. There will be a Holy Hour for Cay as he prepares for this important step in answering God's call to service, as well as prayer for vocations in our diocese.

**Lay Led Assembly Resources:** Sunday Assembly of Word and Communion resources for Advent, the Christmas Season 2023 and Sundays 2-6 in Ordinary Time Year B 2024 have been emailed/mailed to contacts. Resource material is also available from the diocesan website members area.

**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).

**Pope's intention for December** – For persons with disabilities: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation. Lord, hear us.

**150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat** - Significant Catholic People from your Parish notice In preparation for the Ballarat Diocese's 150 year Anniversary in 2024, the anniversary committee for the Mass of the Oils are searching for significant Catholics from your parish for a display to be presented in the Hall after the Mass of the Oils on Monday, March 25, 2024. These people could be a well-known person who has achieved success in their chosen field or it could be someone who has left a legacy in your parish, as a benefactor, contributor or historian. Please provide names and supporting information and photo to [jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au) before February 5, 2024.

## **Journey with us this Advent**

Caritas Australia's Advent resources invite participants to journey through the four weeks of Advent, reflecting on Scripture and sharing in the stories of our sisters and brothers around the world. Each resource explores Advent themes of hope, peace, joy and love, with a special focus on justice and the idea of integral ecology that Pope Francis emphasises in *Laudato Si'* (2015) and *Laudate Deum* (2023). Visit [www.caritas.org.au/advent](http://www.caritas.org.au/advent) to find Advent resources tailored to primary schools and families, secondary schools and youth groups, and parishes and individuals.

# **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11

## ***A reading from the prophet Isaiah***

*Prepare the way for the Lord.*

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.

Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

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

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

***(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.***

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**
3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

**Second Reading:** 2 Peter 3:8-14

## ***A reading from the second letter of St Peter***

*We wait for new heavens and a new earth.*

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

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

**Gospel Acclamation:** (*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation*) Luke 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

*Make straight the paths of the Lord.*

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

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

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

John immersed, baptised, his followers in water, symbolising the washing away of the sins of the *past*. But he could not empower people by drenching them in the dynamic life of God. John anticipates 'Someone' (not named!) who *does* have the power to inundate, baptise, people with the Holy Spirit. From the heading of St Mark's Gospel, we know that that 'Someone' is 'Jesus Christ, Son of God' who came to flood our lives with that Divine Power which can effect a completely new *future* for humanity.

That is why St Mark took the term 'gospel' (good news) which was used on inscriptions announcing an Emperor's birth or victory, and used it to describe his inspired rendering of the mission of Jesus Christ, which was to inaugurate the 'Kingdom of God', overcoming the pretensions of all Emperors of any kind throughout history.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the Good News of our being baptised with *water* in the 'Name of the Father and of the Son and of the *Holy Spirit*.'

| 10-December-2023                   | 2nd Sunday of Advent | Reader      | P.O.F.                    | E/Minister |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------------------|------------|
| 6.30pm:                            | Cobden               | T Bricknell | G Kelson                  | N/A        |
| 11am:                              | Camperdown           | M Macaulay  | M Saunders                | C Conheady |
| Counting Team: P & L Hickey        |                      |             | Altar Camperdown: R Henry |            |
| Church Cleaning: S Gillett/N Darcy |                      |             | Altar Cobden: Kate Daffy  |            |
| Marian Statue: P & J Dwyer         |                      |             |                           |            |

| 17-December-2023              | 3rd Sunday of Advent | Reader     | P.O.F.                               | E/Minister |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 6.30pm:                       | Cobden               | G Gleeson  | M McKenzie                           | N/A        |
| 11am:                         | Camperdown           | J Saunders | A O'Flynn                            | S Grinter  |
| Counting Team: M & K McKenzie |                      |            | Altar Camperdown: L Hickey M Larkins |            |
| Church Cleaning: N Powling    |                      |            | Altar Cobden: Kate Daffy             |            |
| Marian Statue: R & M Larkins  |                      |            |                                      |            |

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