

# THE PARISHES OF CAMPERDOWN, TIMBOON AND HAMPDEN

Lismore, Cobden, Mortlake, Camperdown, Terang, Simpson  
and Timboon

**Parish Priest:** Fr George Kuruvila

**E-mail:** [george.kuruvila@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:george.kuruvila@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Visiting Priest:** Fr Jim McKay

**Camperdown:** Walls Street 27, PO Box 64, 3260 Camperdown, Ph: 5593 1284

**E-mail:** [camperdown@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:camperdown@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Hampden:** 1 Lyons Street, P.O. Box 25 Terang 3264 Ph: 5592 1195

**E-mail:** [hampden@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:hampden@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Timboon:** 31 Hamilton Street. PO Box 62, Timboon 3268

**E-mail:** [timboon@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:timboon@ballarat.catholic.org.au) Ph: 5598 3193 Mob: 0439 145 805

## Christmas celebrations in our parishes

### St Joseph's Church, Timboon

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve at 6.00pm

### St John's Church, Lismore

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve at 6.00pm

### St Thomas Church, Terang

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve at 7.30pm

### St Patrick's Church, Camperdown

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve at 7.30pm

### St Colman's Church, Mortlake

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day at 9.00am

### St Brendan's Church, Cobden

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day at 09.00am

### St Andrew's Church, Simpson

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day at 11.00am

### Parish Name Suggestion

Dear Parishioners, just a gentle reminder for naming our parish.

As we move forward in forming our new parish community comprising Timboon, Camperdown, and Hampden, you are invited to propose possible names for our united parish. The name should:

- Reflect our shared Catholic faith,
- Honour our local identity,
- Express the spirit of unity among our three communities, and
- Be inspired by a saint, biblical figure, or a title of Christ or Our Lady, or by something that symbolises the character and heritage of our region.

Find the forms in the foyer of the churches and fill them in and place it in the box provided.

**2nd Sunday of Advent Year A 7th December 2025**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
**Sunday 07 Dec 2025**  
**Second Sunday of Advent Year A**

**First Reading**

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah (Is 11:1-10)**

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7**

**(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.**

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. (R.)

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to the earth's bounds. (R.)

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun.

Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. (R.)

**Second Reading**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (Rom 15:4-9)**

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

**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!

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

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (Mt 3:1-12)

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.’ This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, ‘Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, “We have Abraham for our father,” because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.’

© 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.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Wake up to the poetry

Our Lord loved to unfurl the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah in his local synagogue. The poetic image of swords being hammered into ploughshares reverberated into his renouncing violence against the Roman occupying army in his own time. When will this picture come true for all human beings all time? Only God knows! We don’t know any more than we know when a burglar might target our home. But our ignorance of God’s timetable is no excuse for being fatalistic and sleepy. We have our own span of life providing the timetable for our own contribution to the hammering of swords into ploughshares. Recent Popes, especially St John Paul II, have taken up this theme for our times, teaching more restrictive criteria for using armed force, even dropping the term ‘just war’ to very small print in the Catechism. We could pause for a moment to pray to be awake to our opportunities to shape society in the light of the vision of Isaiah and the practice of Jesus the Prince of Peace. © Fr Michael Tate; [mtate@bigpond.com](mailto:mtate@bigpond.com)

What is happening in our communities this week

First Holy Eucharist and Confirmation: Alisi Tora will be confirmed and will receive her first holy communion during this weekend in Terang. Let us pray for her and her parents and godparents		
Baptism: Simpson is delighted to welcome Arriane Blaire Flores in baptism. Let us pray for this child and her parents and Godparents.		
Camperdown Parish	Timboon Parish	Hampden Parish
Vigil Mass in Cobden on Saturday at 6.30 pm	No service in Timboon	Vigil Mass in Terang on Saturday at 6.00 pm
Sunday Mass in Camperdown at 11.00 am	Sunday Mass in Simpson at 9.00am	Sunday: Mass in Mortlake at 9.00 am
		Sunday: Mass in Terang at 10.30 am
Tuesday: Mass in Sunnyside age care at 10.00am		Tuesday: Mass in Mount View at 1.30pm
		Wednesday: Mass in Terang at 10.30am.
Thursday: Funeral of Michael Fenton at 1.00pm	No weekday Mass in Timboon or Simpson until the end of the year	
Mass on Friday in Camperdown at 9.30 am		



<b>Anniversaries:</b> <b>Hampden:</b> Basil O'Sullivan, Bill Londregan, Maureen O'Keeffe, Michael McElugunn, Mary Conheady, Bridgie Harris, Beryl Fitzgerald, Brian Glennen and Vin Moloney.	
<b>Camperdown:</b> Robert Skeyhill, Patricia Egan, Stephen Kelly, Leonard Fahey, Margaret Stephenson, Bernard McLeod, Tom Lee, Eric Poole, Francis Pekin, Winifred O'Keeffe and Kevin Kerger	
<b>Timboon:</b> Brian Fleming, Enid Boyle, Shelia Freeman, Toni Lathouwers, Cyril Karo, Sister Christina Madden, Brian Parsons, Dennis O'Connor, Pat Bourke, Harold Craven, Ad Vogels, Ann Dodd, Theodora Vogels, Winnie O'Keefe, Darryn Tregea, Maggie Tregea, Terry McMeel, Reg McVilley, Lilian McCluskey and James McCluskey.	
<b>Recent Deaths:</b> Kath Sinnott and Michael Fenton (Camperdown)	
<b>Pray for the sick</b> <b>Hampden:</b> Mardie O'Sullivan and April Morrissey-Chapon <b>Timboon:</b> Fran Evans, Pat Thornton, Hugo Reidl, Marlene van Nieuwkerk and Maree Leske <b>Camperdown:</b> Kristen Pickford, Brian Wain, Julie Karlsen, Basil Thornton, Catherine O'Flynn and Marlo McCarthy.	
<b>Rosters for Camperdown and Cobden</b> <b>7 December 2025 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Advent</b> <b>Cobden 6.30pm: Reader:</b> B Hammond <b>P.O.F.</b> A Horan <b>E/Minister:</b> J Dwyer <b>Camperdown 11am: Reader:</b> J Gardner <b>P.O.F.</b> S Grinter, <b>E/Minister:</b> G Lucas <b>Counting Team:</b> R & A Gardner <b>Altar Camperdown:</b> R Henry <b>Church Cleaning:</b> C Walsh <b>Altar Cobden:</b> Volunteer <b>Marian Statue:</b> C Wilson	
<b>14 December 2025 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Advent (Cobden and Camperdown)</b> <b>Cobden 6.30pm: Reader:</b> A Horan <b>P.O.F.</b> B Hammond <b>E/Minister:</b> G Gleeson <b>11am: Camperdown Reader:</b> M Smart <b>P.O. F.</b> J Saunders <b>E/Minister:</b> R Henry <b>Counting Team:</b> R & A Gardner <b>Altar Camperdown:</b> M Russell/A Gardner <b>Church Cleaning:</b> Volunteer <b>Altar Cobden:</b> Volunteer <b>Marian Statue:</b> J Fry	
<b>Terang: Rosters for Weekend of 6<sup>th</sup> &amp; 7<sup>th</sup> December</b> <b>Readers:</b> 6.00pm Cate Watt      10.30am Trish Storr <b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b> 6.00 pm Lorraine Meade      10.30am Christina Lee <b>Laptop:</b> 6.00 pm Evelyn O'Keeffe      10.30am Rob Storr <b>Linen for month of December:</b> Carmel Moloney	
<b>Terang: Rosters for Weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> &amp; 14<sup>th</sup> December:</b> <b>Readers:</b> 6.00 pm Jenni Lenehan      10.30am Richard Raju <b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b> 6.00 pm Clare Banks      10.30am Justin Staunton <b>Laptop:</b> 6.00 pm Pam O'Keeffe      10.30am Des Mckinnon <b>Linen for month of December:</b> Carmel Moloney	
Mercy Regional College Principal: Ms. Sharon Gillett	St Patrick's Primary School Camperdown Principal: Darren Lloyd Ph: 5593 1962
McAuley Campus, Camperdown Phone: 5593 2011	St Thomas Primary School, Terang Principal: Mr. Matthew Uzkuraitisp Ph55921925
O'Keeffe Campus Noorat Phone: 5592 5353	St. Colman's Primary School Mortlake Principal: Ms. Janet Cain Ph 55992285

**Pope Leos Prayer intention for the month of 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.

Parish Notices: All notices need to be delivered in writing, emailed or phoned by noon every Thursday. Clare Banks 0427677278 /George Swierczek: 0439 145 805

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