



WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil 5 pm
Sunday 7:30 am; 9 am;
10:30 am & 5 pm

Weekday Masses
Monday – Friday 9:30 am

Adoration
Friday 10 am - 11 am

Reconciliation
Saturday 11 am – 12 pm (with Adoration)

PARISH CLERGY

Fr John Ho PP
Fr Richard Healey AP

CONTACT US

sjec.org.au/hello

25-35 Cordeaux St, Campbelltown
PO Box N203, Campbelltown North 2560

(02) 4625 8044

campbelltown@dow.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

9 am to 3:30 pm (Tuesday to Friday)
Secretary: Michelle Quinn

PRIMARY SCHOOL

(02) 4625 1171
Principal: Paul Moroney
info@sjctdw.catholic.edu.au

Sunday 27, Year A | 4 October 2026

PARISH MISSION & VISION - Celebrating Catholic life since 1822

To know, follow and share Jesus with our neighbours.

To see every neighbourhood transformed by the love and power of Jesus.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven and the
earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are the Lord of all.*

FIRST READING | Isaiah 5:1-7

*The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of
Israel.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 79

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

SECOND READING | Philippians 4:6-9

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

Mass Today

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my
Father. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

GOSPEL | Matthew 21:33-43

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.*

This Week

9:30 am Mass – Mon 5 Oct

9:30 am Mass – Tues 6 Oct

9:30 am Mass – Wed 7 Oct - **Our Lady of the Rosary [Memorial]**

9:30 am Mass – Thurs 8 Oct

9:30 am Mass – Friday 9 Oct

READINGS NEXT WEEK – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Year A

Isaiah 25:6-10; Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20; Matthew 22:1-14

Living on the Vine

In today's Gospel Jesus returns to the Old Testament symbol of the vineyard to teach about Israel, the Church, and the kingdom of God.

And the symbolism of today's First Reading and Psalm is readily understood.

God is the owner and the house of Israel is the vineyard. A cherished vine, Israel was plucked from Egypt and transplanted in a fertile land specially spaded and prepared by God, hedged about by the city walls of Jerusalem, watched over by the towering Temple. But the vineyard produced no good grapes for the wine, a symbol for the holy lives God wanted for His people. So God allowed His vineyard to be overrun by foreign invaders, as Isaiah foresees in the First Reading.

Jesus picks up the story where Isaiah leaves off, even using Isaiah's words to describe the vineyard's wine press, hedge, and watchtower. Israel's religious leaders, the tenants in His parable, have learned nothing from Isaiah or Israel's past.

Instead of producing good fruits, they've killed the owner's servants, the prophets sent to gather the harvest of faithful souls.

In a dark foreshadowing of His own crucifixion outside Jerusalem, Jesus says the tenants' final outrage will be to seize the owner's son and to kill him outside the vineyard walls.

For this, the vineyard, which Jesus calls the kingdom of God, will be taken away and given to new tenants—the leaders of the Church, who will produce its fruit.

We are each a vine in the Lord's vineyard, grafted onto the true vine of Christ, called to bear fruits of the righteousness in Him & to be the "first fruits" of a new creation.

We need to take care that we don't let ourselves be overgrown with the thorns and briars of worldly anxiety. As today's Epistle advises, we need to fill our hearts and minds with noble intentions and virtuous deeds, rejoicing always that the Lord is near.

Scott Hahn - stpaulcenter.com

*In the spirit of reconciliation we acknowledge the Dharawal people as traditional custodians of this land.
We pay our respect to all Elders, past and present, and extend that respect to all First Nations peoples today.*



sjec.org.au/news



StJohnCampbelltown



Today's readings remind us that **everything we have is a gift from God.**

In both Isaiah and the Gospel, God is pictured as the owner of a vineyard. He prepares it carefully, provides everything it needs, and then entrusts it to others. The problem is that the tenants begin to act as though the vineyard belongs to them.

That same temptation can happen to us. We can begin to think: this is my life, my time, my money, my property, my talents. But the Gospel reminds us that **we are not owners; we are stewards.**

God has entrusted many vineyards to our care: our family, our parish, our gifts and abilities, and also the earth, our common home. The question is: **What fruit are we producing?** Are our lives producing kindness, generosity, forgiveness, justice and love? Are we caring for the gifts God has given us, or are we simply taking them for granted?

Care for creation is also part of our Christian responsibility. We can begin with simple actions: wasting less, using resources carefully, avoiding unnecessary consumption, and respecting the world God has entrusted to us. This week, perhaps we can ask ourselves: **What has God entrusted to me, and how can I care for it better?**

Everything is gift. May we receive God's gifts with gratitude, care for them faithfully, and produce the good fruit that God desires.

Upcoming Events

Anointing Mass

10am Sat 7 November

Prayer Ministry

Receive prayer for any need—physical or spiritual—11:30am Sunday 11 Oct.

Children's Mass

10:30am Sunday 25 October

Praise God! Our Testimony & Prayer Ministry is Bearing Fruit

Over the past two months, our parish family has been intentional in giving God the glory He deserves—and the Lord has been faithful! Parishioners sharing testimonies at Mass has deeply touched our community, and through the foyer box and website, we see the Lord moving powerfully among us.

Celebrating Answered Prayers

We give thanks to God for His extraordinary grace! Together, we celebrate:

- **Restoration & Healing:** Prayers answered for physical health, peace during illness, and rapid unexpected recoveries.
- **Provision & Peace:** Heavy burdens lifted, jobs provided, and houses sold.
- **Family Reconnections:** Broken relationships reconciled and families reunited.

Lifting Up Our Community's Needs

As we praise God for His blessings, we continue to carry one another's burdens in prayer (*Galatians 6:2*). Please join us in praying at this time for:

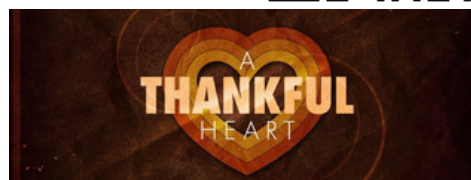
- Family members struggling with addiction and personal health concerns.
- Family members battling cancer and babies on the way.
- Reconciliation in relationships, and for children and loved ones to return to the Church.

Keep Sharing & Praying!

Whether you have a breakthrough to celebrate or a need for prayer, please reach out.

- **In Person:** Fill out a paper slip in the foyer and drop it into the Testimony & Prayer Box (*anonymously if preferred*).

Let's build an altar of praise together and give thanks for all the good things God is doing!



Prayer Intentions

SPECIAL INTENTIONS & THE SICK

Guadalupe Jordan, Fr Ross Naylor, Craig Moores, Felisa Orca, Phillip W, Sean Logan, Joan Samuel, Helen Barnes, Ronald Elliott, Jack Wheeler, Roslin, John Moore, David Jones, Nathan Taylor, Cathy Hurst, John Wagner, Alan Johnson, Allan Marquinez, Carmela Labrador, Karen Milenkovic, Josefino Pangilinan.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Alex Silveira, John Rhodes, Dolores Malihan, Maureen Connolly, Michael Kos, Kate Grbavac.

ANNIVERSARIES & THANKSGIVING

Graham Thompson, Gerry & Jovito Gatpatan, Keith Percival, Des Chapman, George Thomas Thurn, Mauro Puse Jr II, Eduardo Jose, Augustina Alcantara, Elmer & Santiago Munoz.

Rosters Sunday 11 October

Acolyte

Vigil Raul Ladera

7:30am Tom Hunter & Manusamoa

9 Brian Thompson & Nathan Cox

10:30 Joy Kuriakose & Andrei Valderrama
5 Tom Hunter

Extraordinary Ministers

Vigil Marie Cassar & Abilene Barnes

7:30am Mary Ellen Bland & Volunteer

9 Diana & John Hill

10:30 Falakika Nau, Maria Aliifa'alogo
5 Jean Reid, Sam Nour

Readers

Vigil Vicky Horgan, Juliet Manalastas

7:30 Jim Mutton, Trevor Williams, Mary Johns

9 Ken Fernandes, Cherima Lucilo

10:30 Sinisita Filitoga, Hazel Vargas,
Christina Tatola

5 Sofia de Zilva, Sean Donovan,
Precious Parcardo

Musicians

Vigil Ben McKenzie & John George

9 Glynn Family

10:30 Joe Talamaivao

5 Siervas Musika Choir

Volunteers needed.

We are looking for parishioners who can help look after the **Parish Piety Store** before and after the **Vigil Mass, 10.30am Mass and 5.00pm Mass.**

If you are able to help, please speak to **Fr John**. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

The **2027 Columban Calendar** is now available for purchase from the Piety Store for **\$11 each**.

St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage

Friday 23 October 2026

Come and join us on this wonderful Pilgrimage to Mary MacKillop Place Museum, Mount Street, North Sydney. Travel this journey together in friendship and fellowship. Enjoy 12pm Mass with Fr John at St Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel. This is a day of prayer and the remembrance of our Australian Saint. Meet on the train (City via Airport) departing from any of the following stations: Macarthur 8:53 am; Campbelltown 8:56 am Leumeah 8:59 am. Pick up the Flyer with the full day's itinerary from the Church foyer. On site visit: Memorial Chapel, Tomb of Mary MacKillop, Museum Galleries;, Reconciliation Garden, Alma Cottage: the final residence of Mary MacKillop: and the Café and Gift Shop. No registration is needed so Just turn up! Come and join us for a wonderful day!

October – The Month of the Holy Rosary

October is traditionally dedicated to the **Holy Rosary**, a beautiful prayer that helps us to contemplate the life of Jesus through the eyes of Mary.

The Rosary is not only about repeating Our Fathers and Hail Marys. At the heart of the Rosary is **Jesus**. Through each mystery, we reflect on his life, ministry, suffering, death and resurrection. Mary takes us by the hand and leads us closer to her Son.

We live in a world filled with worries—wars, violence, family difficulties, sickness, loneliness and uncertainty. We also carry our own personal concerns. The Rosary invites us to bring all these things before God and to trust in his loving care.

This October, I invite our whole parish to take up a simple challenge: pray at least one decade of the Rosary each day.

Let us offer that decade for peace in our world, for our families, for those who are suffering, and for the needs of our parish community. If possible, gather as a family and pray together. Even five quiet minutes offered faithfully to God can become a beautiful habit of prayer.

Perhaps by the end of October, the Rosary will not simply have been something we prayed for one month, but a prayer that has found a new place in our daily lives.

May Our Lady of the Rosary help our parish to grow in **prayer, faith and love**.

Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.

First Reconciliation – Parent Information Night

Is your child in **Year 3 or older** and has **not yet received the Sacrament of Reconciliation**? Parents are invited to an Information Night about preparation for First Reconciliation.

Wednesday 21 October 2026 | 7:00 pm
St John's Church, Campbelltown

At least one parent is required to attend this Information Night.

We look forward to supporting your family as your child prepares for this important sacrament.

Living the Gospel

The Macarthur Social Justice Network
guest speaker series

In their Social Justice Statement, "Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division" the Australian Catholic Bishops call us to reject dehumanising language, overcome polarisation, and "choose encounter over division."

To help us live out this gospel call, we are hosting Paul Power, Co-CEO of the Refugee Council of Australia, on Saturday 10 October, from 2pm to 4pm in the Penola Room at St Mary MacKillop Parish, Oran Park. This vital talk moves past political headlines to explore how we can stand in solidarity with marginalized migrants and refugees. For catering, email secretary@msjn.org to register.

Faith & Fries – Campbelltown

Wed 14 October | 4:30pm–6:30pm, Grill'd Macarthur Square. Calling all high school students! Faith & Fries is a relaxed afternoon bringing together teenagers from across the Diocese of Wollongong for good food, new friendships and honest conversations about faith and life. Grab dinner at Grill'd, hear a real-life faith story and join a live Q&A panel, the topic for the night is Dating & Relationships. Whether you're involved in your faith, just curious or somewhere in between, you're welcome! Free to attend, with a special \$15 burger and chips deal available to purchase. **Register by 5 October to go into the draw for our giveaway!** (More details via the CYMDOW instagram) Bring your mates, youth group or others from your school. Register: dow.sh/fries

News from the Diocese

A vocation view

The Lord planted a chosen vineyard and invites us to yield fruits of justice and peace. Listen attentively to his call, and cultivate your unique role in his Kingdom. (Matthew 21:33-43)

If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact Fr Duane Fernandez, the diocesan vocations director, vocations@dow.org.au

SANCTUS Rosemeadow

Join us for Sanctus Summit at Our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow on Wednesday 14 October 2026 starting at 6.30pm. Sanctus Summit is a monthly adoration night, bringing together young adults from different parts of the Diocese! Eucharistic Adoration from 6.30 - 7.30pm (Reconciliation will be available), followed by dinner at Ambarvale Hotel. Come along to pray before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and connect with other young people from the area!

24 Hour Fight Against Cancer

24 Hour Fight Against Cancer Macarthur is on the weekend of **10 - 11 October 2026** at Campbelltown Stadium. If you are interested in participating or want more information please contact Mark Wallington on 0407350030 or if you wish to make a donation, please follow the link below.

mycause.com.au/page/404133/j-walkers

Please donate to support our parish

Use the 3 tap machines to donate \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 or other amount (\$1 - \$99).

We know that less people are carrying cash, so the **DoW App** exists to allow you to donate on a one off or regular basis.

Visit parishgiving.dow.org.au to register to setup a donation for **Campbelltown Parish**—it takes only **30 seconds** to register and setup. All donations made are safe and secure—you need to enter your card details and then confirm your information before any payments or donations are processed. You can also change or edit your giving at any time in the app.



ST JOHN'S JOKES CORNER

A parishioner was proudly showing the parish priest around his backyard garden. He had turned a scrubby, weed-infested patch of ground into a stunning garden full of vegetables and lush grapevines. The priest smiled warmly and said, "It's truly amazing what the Lord and human hands can accomplish together!" The parishioner nodded and replied, "That's very true, Father, but you should have seen the state of it when the Lord had it all to himself!"



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