



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)
NO CONFESSIONS 12 SEPTEMBER

PARISH CLERGY

Fr John Ho PP
Fr Richard Healey AP

CONTACT US

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(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 24, Year A | 13 September 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.

Mass Today

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.*

FIRST READING | Sirach 27:30-28:7

*Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray,
your sins will be forgiven.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 102

**The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger;
and rich in compassion.**

SECOND READING | Romans 14:7-9

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord..

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL | Matthew 18:21-35

*I tell you that you forgive not seven times but
seventy times seven.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the
shadow of your wings.*

Safeguarding Sunday: Love Protects

9:30 am Mass – Mon 14 Sep - **The Exaltation of the Holy Cross [Feast]** **This Week**

9:30 am Mass – Tues 15 Sep - **Our Lady of Sorrows [Memorial]**

9:30 am Mass – Wed 16 Sep - **Sts Cornelius and Cyprian [Memorial]**

9:30 am Mass – Thurs 17 Sep

9:30 am Mass – Friday 18 Sep

READINGS NEXT WEEK – Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Year A

Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20-24, 27; Matthew 20:1-16

The Debt We Owe

Mercy and forgiveness should be at the heart of the Christian life.

Yet, as today's First Reading wisely reminds us, often we cherish our wrath, nourish our anger, and refuse mercy to those who have done us wrong. Jesus, too, strikes close to home in today's Gospel with His realistic portrayal of the wicked servant who won't forgive a fellow servant's debt, even though his own slate has just been wiped clean by their master.

It can't be this way in the kingdom, the Church. In the Old Testament, seven is frequently a number associated with mercy and the forgiveness of sins. The just man sins seven times daily; there is a sevenfold sprinkling of blood for atonement of sins. But Jesus tells Peter today that we must forgive not seven times, but seventy times seven times. That means: every time.

We are to be merciful as our Father in heaven is merciful. But why? Why does Jesus repeatedly warn that we can't expect forgiveness for our trespasses unless we're

willing to forgive others their trespasses against us?

Because, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle, we are the Lord's. Each of us has been purchased by the blood of Christ shed for us on the Cross. As we sing in today's Psalm, though we deserved to die for our sins, He doesn't deal with us according to our crimes. The mercy and forgiveness we show to others should be the heartfelt expression of our gratitude for the mercy and forgiveness shown to us.

This is why we should remember our last days, set our enmities aside, and stop judging others. We know that one day we will stand before the judgment seat and give account for what we've done with the new life given to us by Christ.

So we forgive each other from the heart, overlook each other's faults, and await the crown of His kindness and compassion.

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

Safeguarding Sunday 2026

The Catholic Church in Australia marks **Safeguarding Sunday** (formerly Child Protection Sunday) on the second Sunday of September each year – at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week.

On Safeguarding Sunday, we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by anyone in Church settings and acknowledge the vulnerability of some within our parishes and communities.

We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance.

This year the theme is **Love Protects** and the readings show us that real love is not passive goodwill. Rather it actively shields the vulnerable, tells the truth, and never lets silence stand in for safety.



Upcoming Events

Anointing Mass

10am Sat 7 November

Prayer Ministry

Receive prayer for any need - physical or spiritual 11:30am **TODAY** Sunday 12 Sept.

Children's Mass

10:30am Sunday 27 September

Giving Glory to God

Share Your Answered Prayers!

Has God answered a prayer, brought healing, or granted a blessing in your life—big or small?

In the Scriptures, whenever God moved among His people, they built a monument of stones to remember His goodness (*Joshua 4:6–7*). When we share our answered prayers, it isn't bragging—it gives glory to God and builds up the faith of our entire parish family!

Why Share Your Testimony?

- Glorify God: Praise Him for His active presence in your daily life.
- Encourage Others: Your story gives hope to someone currently going through a hard season.
- Build Expectation: Remind our community at St John's that Jesus Christ is alive and moving in power today!

How to Share:

- Online: Visit therekindleproject.com.au/answered-prayers or scan the QR code below.
- In Person: Fill out a paper slip in the foyer and drop it into the Testimony & Prayer Box. (You may remain anonymous if you prefer).

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



Giving Thanks Through Our Offering

We have ordered another **Tap Machine** for the right-side entrance of the church, making it easier for everyone, especially our young people, to contribute.

Many people today carry a card or phone rather than cash. The Tap Machine offers a simple way to make an offering to God and support the life and mission of our parish. Giving is one way we thank God for the many blessings He has given us.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

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

Antonio Betito, Marco Tapia, Lucinda Coutinho, Roger Hontenosa, Letecia Garcia Lavon.

ANNIVERSARIES & THANKSGIVING

Perfecto Laza Snr, Sybil & Joe Dawson, Nicolo Rudisi, Frank Byron, Margaret & Laurie McGuinness, Desmond James McAuliffe, Reynaldo Puse, Patricia Beard, Brock Bolin, Maryanne Tomarchio.

Rosters

Sunday 20 September

Acolyte

Vigil Michael Norris

7:30 Tom Hunter

9 Pauloleono Aukusitino

10:30 Joy Kuriakose, Andrei Valderrama

5 Volunteer please

Extraordinary Ministers

Vigil Vicky Horgan, Sam Nour

7:30 Shirley Moretti, Ian Star

9 Ken Fernandez, Falakika Nau

10:30 Ioana Brunt, Faalu Faamau

5 Jismin Jio, Alexander Wojcik

Readers

Vigil Jolene Gonzales, Elizabeth Javier

7:30 Lucas Alcantara, John Lloyd,

Mary-Ellen Bland

9 Michael Willis, Reiltin Bullock,

Nathan Cox

10:30 Ancy Mathews, Kate Delmo,

Roslyn Williams

5 Kerrie McDonald, Kimberly Sumang

Musicians

Vigil Ben McKenzie & John George

9 Glynn Family

10:30 Joe Talamaivao

5 Siervas Musika Choir

RENEWED & SENT

LAST CHANCE!

Bishop Brian Mascord invites you to the Renewed & Sent Parish Renewal Summit at St Gregory's College, Gregory Hills, from 1–3 October 2026.

Join parishioners, clergy and ministry leaders from across the Diocese for inspiring talks, practical workshops, prayer and fellowship. Come and be encouraged with new ideas to help our parishes grow in faith, mission and community.

For the full program and registration, visit renewedandsent.com.au.

Senior Ladies

St John's Community

Get together Lunch – 12 noon

Campbelltown Catholic Club –

Friday 18 September 2026

For all senior/retired ladies and friends.

A nice way to catch up on “old” and meet new friends.

Enquiries Kay 0413 931 596

or Jan 02 4625 4455.

St Carlo Acutis Relic and Display coming in September

Our diocese is excited to be hosting the International Carlo Acutis Major Relic Pilgrimage between 14-21 September 2026.

The relic will visit the parishes of **Oran Park (Mon 14)**, **Rosemeadow (Tue 15)**, with opportunities for veneration of the first-class relic of St Carlo, participating in the sacraments, and visiting St Carlo's own Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition. Everyone, but especially students and young adults will be amazed and drawn into a deep experience of faith in encountering St Carlo's story, relic and the display.

Go to stcarloaustralia.com for more information.

NSW Rally Against Abortion Up to Birth

A pro-life rally is to be held **outside NSW Parliament House, at 6pm on Tuesday 15 September** in support of a bill banning the practice of sexselective abortion. A show of significant numbers will greatly help this cause as we advocate for the protection of all unborn children and particularly our baby girls who are especially vulnerable.

They have no voice but ours. Your presence matters. This will be a family friendly event. More information can be found at: drjoannahowe.com.au

Marriage Enrichment Weekend

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 9 – 11 October at a Marriage Encounter Weekend at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville – a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney. Book online at wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

ST JOHN'S JOKES CORNER

Why did the unforgiving servant bring a calculator to Mass?

Because he was still trying to work out how many times he had to forgive!

A man goes to confession and says, "Father, I have trouble forgiving my neighbour." The priest asks, "How many times has he wronged you?" "Well, none yet," the man admits, "but I like to be prepared."

Sausage Sizzle & The Chosen

Saturday 19 September

Join us after the Vigil Mass on Saturday 19 September for a sausage sizzle and screening of Episode 1 of The Chosen, Season 6.

We are seeking monetary donations towards the cost of the sausages, as well as donations of 150 buns, ready-made salads, fruit and sweets.

If you can help, please add your name and donation to the sheet provided.

If you are attending, please also write your family name and number attending on the attendance sheet so we can cater appropriately.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote that "charity and mercy demand that the Church, like a good mother, be near her children who feel themselves estranged from her."

The Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney, which has an Office in the Diocese of Wollongong, is a service of the Church to assist with the pastoral care of Catholics and non-Catholics who are civilly divorced, and who are seeking to remarry or who want clarification of their standing in the Church.

The Tribunal also assists remarried persons seeking to have their current marriage recognised in the Church, and remarried persons wishing to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church. Any divorced person, or a divorced and remarried person is welcome to contact the Wollongong Office of the Tribunal to obtain further information, or to have their status within the Church clarified. Brochures are available at the back of the church.

The Wollongong Office of the Tribunal is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Contact the Tribunal on 4222 2409 or tribunal@dow.org.au or visit www.tribunal.dow.org.au

A vocation view

Like the forgiven servant, we are debtors set free. Live your vocation by passing on mercy: forgive quickly, love boldly, and let others taste the freedom you've received. (Matthew 18:21-35)

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

Begin in your pocket

Our parish mission—"To know, follow and share Jesus with our neighbours"—comes alive when we stop counting and start forgiving. To know Jesus is to know ourselves as forgiven. To follow Jesus is to walk the way of mercy. To share Jesus is to offer neighbours the same release we've received.

This week, let the Jubilee begin in your pocket. Delete the "justice list". Pray for the person you've been avoiding. If it's safe, reach out. If not, release them before the Lord. ***Mercy is contagious. Let it spread.***

Compass Catholic Family Camping Weekend

Registrations are now open for our next CCFC Weekend planned for Friday 16 - Sunday 18 October. Join with families from across the Diocese for a relaxed weekend of family fun, faith and food! For more information and to register go to: dow.sh/familycamping26

Please donate to support our parish

Use the new tap machine 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.





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