



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

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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 25, Year A | 20 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

*I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.*

FIRST READING | Isaiah 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 144

The Lord is near to all who call him.

SECOND READING | Philippians 1:20-24, 27

For me to live is Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

GOSPEL | Matthew 20:1-16

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*You have laid down your precepts to be
carefully kept; may my ways be firm in
keeping your statutes.*

9:30 am Mass – Mon 21 Sep – **St Matthew, apostle, evangelist [Feast]** **This Week**

9:30 am Mass – Tues 22 Sep

9:30 am Mass – Wed 23 Sep – **St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest [Memorial]**

9:30 am Mass – Thurs 24 Sep

9:30 am Mass – Friday 25 Sep

READINGS NEXT WEEK – Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Year A
Ezekiel 18:25-28; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32

First and Last

The house of Israel is the vine of God, who planted and watered it, preparing the Israelites to bear fruits of righteousness.

Israel failed to yield good fruits, and the Lord allowed His vineyard, Israel's kingdom, to be overrun by conquerors. But God promised that one day He would replant His vineyard and its shoots would blossom to the ends of the earth.

This is the biblical backdrop to Jesus' parable of salvation history in today's Gospel. The landowner is God. The vineyard is the kingdom. The workers hired at dawn are the Israelites, to whom He first offered His covenant. Those hired later in the day are the Gentiles, the non-Israelites, who, until the coming of Christ, were strangers to the covenants of promise. In the Lord's great generosity, the same wages, the same blessings promised to the first-called, the Israelites, will be paid to those called last, the rest of the nations.

This provokes grumbling in today's parable. Doesn't the complaint of those first laborers sound like that of the older brother in Jesus' prodigal son parable? God's ways, however, are far from our ways, as we hear in today's First Reading. And today's readings should caution us against the temptation to resent God's lavish mercy.

Like the Gentiles, many will be allowed to enter the kingdom late—after having spent most of their days idling in sin.

But even these can call upon Him and find Him near, as we sing in today's Psalm. We should rejoice that God has compassion on all whom He has created. This should console us, too, especially if we have loved ones who remain far from the vineyard.

Our task is to continue laboring in His vineyard. As Paul says in today's Epistle, let us conduct ourselves worthily, struggling to bring all men and women to the praise of His name.

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

From Comparison to Gratitude

Have you ever looked at what someone else received and thought, “That’s not fair”?

We can be happy with what we have—until we start comparing ourselves with others. That is exactly what happens in today’s Gospel. Some workers begin early in the morning, while others arrive much later. Yet the landowner gives them all the same wage. Those who worked all day complain, but he replies: “**Why be envious because I am generous?**”

Jesus is teaching us about **God’s generosity and mercy**. Salvation is not a wage we earn; it is a gift of grace.

The early workers were satisfied until they saw what the others received. **Comparison turned gratitude into jealousy**. The same can happen in our families, workplaces, and parish.

The First Reading reminds us: “*My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways.*” God’s way is generosity.

Our Parish Action This Week: Notice someone doing good and encourage them. Thank someone for their service, welcome someone new, or rejoice in another person’s blessing. Instead of asking, “Why did they receive more?” let us say:
“**Thank you, Lord, for blessing them—and thank you for all you have given me.**”

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.

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!



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 27 September

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

Ivan Cusack, Antonio Betito, Lucinda Coutinho, Roger Hontenosa.

ANNIVERSARIES & THANKSGIVING

MaryAnne Borg, Rodolfo Ligot, Perfecto Laza Snr, Sybil & Joe Dawson, Margaret & Laurie McGuinness, Desmond James McAuliffe, Reynaldo Puse.

Rosters

Sunday 27 September

Acolyte

Vigil Brian Thompson

7:30 Tom Hunter & Manusamoa

9 Joy Kuriakose

10:30 Gavan Hill, Andrei Valderrama

5 Jason De Guzman

Extraordinary Ministers

Vigil Graeme & Roseleen Goldie

7:30 Karen Schneider, Ken Fernandez

9 Diana & John Hill

10:30 Norma McNally, Imelda Landrigan

5 Rowena & Patrick Cooke

Readers

Vigil Marie Cassar, Sheila Fonseca

7:30 Jean Reid, Cathy Porter, Ian Star

9 Marie Joseph, Nathan Cox,

Cherima Lucilo

10:30 Martin Shields, Ella Talamaivao,

Children (Universal Prayers)

5 Tess Valesini, Val Alcantara

Musicians

Vigil Ben McKenzie & John George

9 Glynn Family

10:30 Joe Talamaivao

5 Filipino Choir

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“You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.”

Matthew 20:4

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

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

ST JOHN'S JOKES CORNER

A priest was walking past a local orchard during harvest time when he noticed a young man sitting under a tree, eating a large, stolen apple.

The priest walked over, shook his head, and said, “Son, don’t you know that the Lord sees everything you do?”

He’s watching you right now!”

The young man looked up, took another bite, and replied, “That’s fine by me, Father. He knows how hard it is to get good fruit at the supermarket these days—and besides, I’m just helping with the harvest of the vineyard!”

Vocaris Youth October 2026

Do you have a high school-aged young person who you would love to see grow in their faith, discover the beauty of the Catholic faith and make like-minded friends? Then they won’t want to miss VOCARIS Youth - a free, fun and faith-filled day for students in Years 7-12 **on Saturday, 31 October, 10:00am-3:00pm at Wilton Community Centre**, featuring a Cookie Station, Sausage Sizzle Lunch and Ice Cream Topping Bar! For more information or to register, visit <https://dow.sh/VocarisYouth> or scan the QR code.

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

Wednesday 14 October | 4:30pm – 6:30pm, Grill’d Macarthur Square, 200 Gilchrist Street Dr 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

God calls workers to his vineyard at every hour, not only at dawn. However late you think it is, there is still work for you. (Matthew 20:1-16)

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

Jubilee of St Francis

Warrawong and Thirroul parishes warmly welcome pilgrimage groups to visit them during the Jubilee Year of St Francis. A plenary indulgence is available, under the usual conditions, to all the faithful “who, with a heart detached from sin, participate in the Year of Saint Francis by visiting, in the form of a pilgrimage, any Franciscan conventual church or place of worship anywhere in the world dedicated to Saint Francis” (Decree, 10 January 2026). Both parishes will be celebrating the Feast of St Francis with special Mass on Sunday 4 October 2026. Please contact the parish/es to arrange a time for your group’s visit.

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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