

Churches reopened

www.stmelscampsie.org.au

As you are aware the federal government's 3-step framework states that every religious gathering is now limited to a maximum of **50 people**. As of the 1st July, 2020 these restrictions will be eased which will allow us to have more parishioners attending mass. However, we are still required to comply with the social distancing rule which is 4sqm per person. In line with this requirement on every pew you will find a sticker indicating where you are to sit during masses. We realize that families have indicated that they would like to be seated together however if we allow families to sit as groups we would need to separate people further apart and that would restrict our numbers in the area we have. So out of respect of others we kindly ask if you could adhere to the social distancing rules in place. If you would like to attend mass or know somebody who would like to attend, we ask you first if possible to register at our parish website at:

www.stmelscampsie.org.au

(This website is a work in progress so again we appreciate your patience.)

If you do not have access to a computer or internet call or email the parish office and we will be able to assist you to register for your preferred mass.

We do understand the frustration of not being able to attend mass as usual, however, we ask you to be patient and abide by the current restrictions. **Please note that as you enter the Church you will need to use the side door only, (presbytery side), hand sanitiser is available and is to be used on entering and leaving the Church. You will also notice that the pews have been marked with stickers indicating where you can be seated. These will help us to comply with the social distancing requirements.**

If a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in a parish, every person who has registered as an attendee of the parish will be contacted with further instructions.

Mass attendance from 1 July 2020

Inline with the social distancing laws of **4sqm per person, from the 1st July, 2020** we will be **permitted to have 100 people** in our Church for each weekday and weekend masses. **During the weekend masses only** the front doors of the Church will be open and parishioners will be escorted or advised where to sit. We ask that before you enter the Church to use the hand sanitizers that are provided at all doors of the Church. We still encourage parishioners to register for masses at our parish website.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2020

As previously advised due to the current situation with COVID-19 the Sacrament of Confirmation 2020 has been postponed until 2021. If your child is in **Year 6 and attends a Public School** and would like to register for next year, please contact the Parish Office or check our parish website for updates.

Security Cameras in the Church

Please be advised that for safety and security reasons we have now installed security cameras in and around the Church.

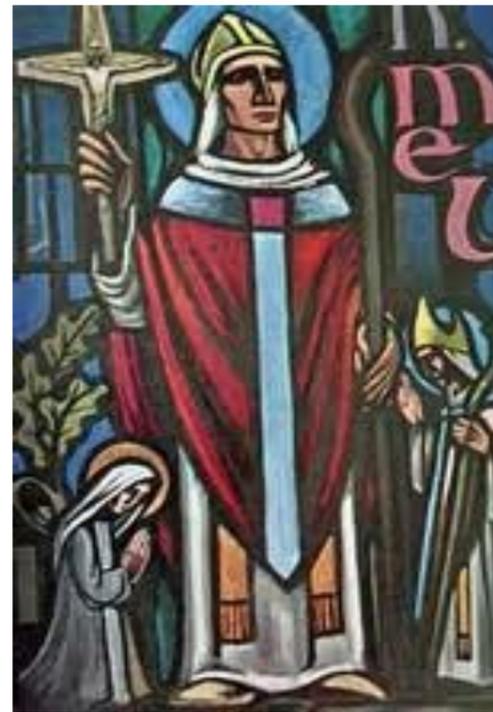
Support Your Parish Online

For any parishioner who wishes support our parish financially you can request to become a member of our envelope giving by either weekly contributions or monthly credit card donations. You can also make a donation online at our parish website at: www.stmelscampsie.org.au and click on the **Support Us** icon and follow the prompts. For further information please call the Parish Office. Thank you for your ongoing support

Prayer Resources during time of Pandemic

The Archdiocese of Sydney has a dedicated webpage with prayers and scriptural reflections to help nurture your faith during these difficult times. Please visit:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>



St Mel's Parish Est 1915

7 Evaline Street Campsie NSW 2194
Ph. 9787 1582

Email: stmelscampsie@bigpond.com

Website: www.stmelscampsie.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Mifsud

Parish Secretary: Diane Daher

Parish Office Opening hours: 9.30am-3pm on
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
Monday & Wednesday office is closed.

St Mel's Catholic Primary School:
9789 3800

PARISH MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 5pm
Sunday: 8.30am & 10am
Weekdays: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 9am
Wednesday: 7pm followed by adoration.

SACRAMENTS:

Reconciliation: Saturday 10am to 10.30am & 4pm to 4.30pm.
Baptismal Preparation: First Tuesday of The Month. Call Parish Office to register.
Baptisms: 11am Sundays
Weddings: By arrangement with six months notice
Care for the Sick: Please call the presbytery.

DEVOTIONS:

Rosary: After weekday masses
Adoration: 9.30am Saturday & first Friday of the month
Italian Prayer Group: Tuesday, 10am - Lower Parish Hall.

SAINTS and FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

FRIDAY 19th June: The Most Sacred Heart Of Jesus
SATURDAY 20th June: The Immaculate Heart Of The Blessed Virgin Mary
MONDAY 22nd June: St John Fischer (bishop, martyr)) and St Thomas More (martyr)
WEDNESDAY 24th June: The Nativity of St John The Baptist
MONDAY 29th June: St Peter and St Paul (apostles)

FIRST READING 2 Kgs 4:8-11. 14-16***A reading from the second book of the Kings***

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

WORD OF THE LORD.**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 88:2-3. 16-19. R. v.2

(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **(R.)**

Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. **(R.)**

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength; it is by your favour that our might is exalted: for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord; our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

SECOND READING Rom 6:3-4. 8-11***A reading from letter of the St Paul to the Romans***

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

WORD OF THE LORD.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** 1 Pt 2:9*Alleluia, alleluia!*

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people.

Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.

*Alleluia!***GOSPEL** Mt 10:37-42***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew***

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

GOSPEL OF THE LORD***We remember in our Masses***

Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish: Max & Theresa Lay, Iris Eagleson, Dyan Rivai, Max Lay, Jerome Evan Carrillo, Joan Karam, Violet El-Kazzi, Elena Lorenzo, George Mattar, Nicholas Galvez Sr, Jeanette Lahood, Michelle & Toufic El-Dib, od, Leila Machaalany, John Duigan, Helena Knox, Maria Morais, Cong Hen Khong, Peter Xu, Flordeliza Gonzales, Joshua & Francesco Frascella, Lisa Santo, Lyn Martin, Irene Antonio, Bill Gaynor, Cindy Williams, John Heirlehy, Francisco De Felipe, Marie Varini, Mary Maney, Chahid Hanna, Joseph Romain, Maura Turija, Betty Williams, Vicky Pineda, Leonardo Hasham, Ampy Bollman, Mark & Merle Batterson, Ramon Alonzo, Rosalie Ferraren, David Sheumack, Claude & Jeanette Chidiac, Made-line Abouzeid,

Lord, we pray for our recently deceased especially: Wiyano Hindarto, Joe Farah, Nancy McAppion, Habib Safi, Youmana Farhart, Rolly Madrona, John James Lee, Maria Di Noia, Antoinette Pace, Habib Safi, Marie Varini, Clara Baet, Yolla Issa Nehme, Juliette Dahdah, Hilda Gelido, Maria Morais, Hind Mouawad, Rosie Diab, Paulette Aouad, Elizabeth Baty, Tannous Nader, Avelina Jimenez, Eddie Doran, Veejay Hernandez, Anna Maria Stergion, Pelagio Purcincula, Norma Navarro, Rosa Teresa Fiore Utro,

We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed: Maria Amelia & Martinho, Maria Jose Ramos, Da Silva family members, Edward Joseph Jacobs, Ena Mary Jacobs, Edwin James Jacobs, Francis Joseph Jacobs, Anne Delores Jacobs, Fred, Saidi, Rose-Dolly Stanton, Hesnay Moses, Joseph Dann, Maria Schembri, Kerry Johnson, Cosmo Forgione & family members, Grazia Carbone & family members, Giovanna Digiambattista, Fayez Safi, Abraham Sabbagh, Rodolfo & Carmelita Constantino, Elma Abdennour, Akel Youssef, Suzanne Daher, Simone Daher, Leodegario Chan, Rosie Samyia, Jose & Maria Da Silva, Francesco Viterale, Sung & Maria Chaird, Nakad Nakad, Mantoura Makhlof, Jose Miguel De Andrade, Maria Morais, Cosmas Hyunhwan Cho, Susanna Kim, Edilberto Cellona, Francis Samia, John & Therese Coorey, Dalel & Najeeb Lahood, Tonious, Jamille & Georgie Stanton, Tony Abouzeid, Joe Joubran, Gebou Peboar, Francesco Viterale, Chafia & Sara Mekbel, Mr & Mrs S.I. Nathan, Leo Manalansang, Leodegario Chan, Heiko Winter, Louie & Adla Elias, Fielencio Dela Rosa, Joseph & Mary Fernandopulle, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, Shirley Gorrie,

We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Miles Navarez, Giorgio Repice, Thomas McAppion, Emaline Basha, Milad Aouad, Badewi Fayad, Minerva Mathewa, Julie Coorey, Shayben Moussa, Conchetta Condello,, Harloun Raad, Ann & Merchard George, Gloria George, Nora Moses, Marie Moses, George & Hortense Sissi, Peter Tien Luu, Peter Barakat, Madaline George, Armando Baqui, Antoun Bakhos Sakr, Jose, Manuel Alapide, Lorenzo Alapide Sr., Marcel Budway, Michael Rizk, Brigida Loschiavo, Paul Favotto, Jose Luis Suarez, Tomasa C.Paragguia, Patricia Samuel, Cosorcio Cellona, **Lord Hear Us.**

Gospel Reflection**by Greg Sunter**

The gospel for today can be a difficult one to hear. It calls us to place our discipleship before our loyalty to family and even before our own life. It is important to place this passage in the broader context of not only the chapter in which it sits, but also within the gospel as a whole.

Today's passage appears at the conclusion of Chapter 10 in the Gospel of Matthew. The entire chapter deals with the commissioning and sending out of the disciples to 'proclaim the gospel, heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy and drive out demons.' (Mt 10:8) The previous chapter concludes with the words, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.' (Mt 9:37-38) Chapter 10 is a response to this call. Jesus sends the disciples to 'work the harvest' through proclamation, healing and exorcism.

At the end of the chapter, having spelt out all the difficulties a disciple must face, Jesus assures them that even the smallest act of welcoming the disciple will be rewarded.

It's also important to understand that the Jewish audience of the Gospel of Matthew found themselves under increasing persecution and there was often division within families between those holding to orthodox Jewish beliefs and those following the new Christian way. For some early Christians, there was the very real choice to be made between following their faith and remaining loyal to family. The Gospel of Matthew repeatedly affirms Jesus as the promised Jewish messiah; as the fulfilment of Jewish prophecy. For early followers of the Christian way, this difficult message about being a follower was in the context of an affirmation that the message of Jesus was deeply grounded in their Jewish faith.

© Greg Sunter

Greg Sunter has worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) for many years, most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He has extensive experience of praying with young people and forming others to lead prayer with young people. He is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.