

### Churches reopened

[www.stmelscampsie.org.au](http://www.stmelscampsie.org.au)

Even though mass attendance is now unlimited we are still required to **comply with the social distancing rule which is 4sqm per person. This means with the area available in our Church we can only accommodate 100 people per mass.** 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 to register at our parish website at:

[www.stmelscampsie.org.au](http://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 on weekends you will need to enter the Church via the front entrance, and during the weekday you will need to use the side door only, (presbytery side).**

**On entering and leaving the Church you must sanitise your hands using the sanitiser dispensers available.**

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.

### Mary MacKillop Feast Day Mass

**Livestreamed on Saturday 8th August, 2020**  
On the Feast Day of Mary MacKillop Saturday the 8th August, 2020 **Mary MacKillop Place will be closed.**

Mass in the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel will be livestreamed on Saturday 8th August, 2020 at 10am, followed by a time of prayer at the tomb.

All details will be posted on the website:

[marymackillopplace@mmp.org.au](mailto:marymackillopplace@mmp.org.au)

Prayer reflections suitable for prayer at home will also be posted on the website for 3 days, The 6th/7th and 8th August, 2020.

### Solemnity of The Assumption HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

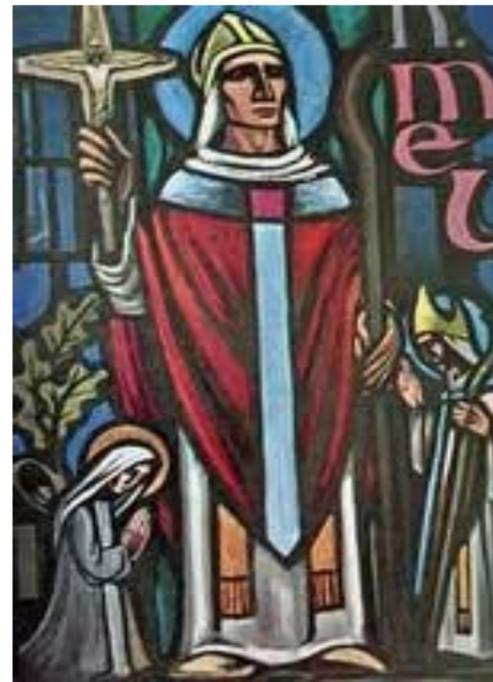
**Friday 14th August: 7pm** Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of The Assumption.

**Saturday 15th August: 9am Mass**  
**PLEASE REGISTER FOR MASS ONLINE**



We have heard from the sculptor Timothy Schmalz and he has advised that hopefully our Padre Pio sculpture should be finished by mid August and he is hopeful to be able to arrange shipment and have it arrive by mid to late September with all going well with the current

global situation. However, we still need to prepare the formwork where the statue will be placed and currently looking into getting quotes. If anyone would still like to donate towards this, please place your donation in the boxes within the Church that are labeled Padre Pio. Or bring your donation to the Parish. We encourage you to return your recyclable 10c bottles which will assist in this project. Thank you.



## St Mel's Parish

**Est 1915**

**7 Evaline Street Campsie NSW 2194**  
**Ph. 9787 1582**

**Email:** [stmelcampsie@bigpond.com](mailto:stmelcampsie@bigpond.com)

**Website:** [www.stmelcampsie.org.au](http://www.stmelcampsie.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 and 5pm mass during COVID-19 restrictions  
**Weekdays:** Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,  
**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: *(currently cancelled until further restrictions ease)*

**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

**SATURDAY 1st August:** St Alphonsus Liguori (bishop, doctor)  
**MONDAY 3rd August:** St Dominic (priest)  
**TUESDAY 4th August:** St John Vianney (priest)  
**THURSDAY 6th August:** The Transfiguration of The Lord  
**SATURDAY 8th August:** St Mary of The Cross (virgin)  
**MONDAY 10th August:** St Lawrence (deacon, martyr)  
**TUESDAY 11th August:** St Clare (virgin)  
**FRIDAY 14th August:** St Maximilian Mary Koebe (priest, martyr)  
**SATURDAY 15th August:** The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary  
**THURSDAY 20th August:** St Bernard (abbot, doctor)  
**FRIDAY 21st August:** St Pius X (pope)  
**SATURDAY 22nd August:** The Queenship of The Blessed Virgin Mary  
**MONDAY 24th August:** St Bartholomew (apostle)  
**THURSDAY 27th August:** St Monica  
**FRIDAY 28th August:** St Augustine (bishop, doctor)  
**SATURDAY 29th August:** The Passion of St John The Baptist (martyr)

**FIRST READING** Is 55:1-3***A reading from the book of Isaiah***

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;  
though you have no money, come!  
Buy corn without money, and eat,  
and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread,  
your wages on what fails to satisfy?  
Listen, listen to me and you will have good  
things to eat  
and rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me;  
listen, and your soul will live.  
With you I will make an everlasting covenant  
out of the favours promised to David.

***WORD OF THE LORD.*****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

***(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us: He answers all our needs***

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. ***(R.)***

The eyes of all creatures look to you  
and you give them their food in due time.  
You open wide your hand,  
grant the desires of all who live. ***(R.)***

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
call on him from their hearts. ***(R.)***

**SECOND READING** Rom 8:35. 37-39***A reading from letter of the St Paul to the Romans***

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

***WORD OF THE LORD.*****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Mt 4:4

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

No one lives on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
***Alleluia!***

**GOSPEL** Mt 14:13-21***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew***

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

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

**Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish:** 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, Leila Machaalany, John Duigan, Helena Knox, 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, Madeline Abouzeid,

**Lord, we pray for our recently deceased especially:** Eileen MaCarthy, Clara Baet, Wiyano Hindarto, Nancy McAppion, Habib Safi, Youmana Farhart, Rolly Madrona, John James Lee, Maria Di Noia, Antoinette Pace, Habib Safi, Marie Varini, Clara Baet, Avelina Jimenez, Eddie Doran, Veejay Hernandez, Anna Maria Stergion, **We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed:** Maround & Rose Diab, Amin Lay, 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, Hesnay Moses, Joseph Dann, Maria Schembri, Kerry Johnson, Rodolfo & Carmelita Constantino, Leodegario Chan, Jose & Maria Da Silva, Francesco Viterale, Mantoura Makhoulf, Jose Miguel De Andrade, Maria Morais, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, Shirley Gorrie, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Vince Samuel, Isabelo Corpus, Sarkis Karam, Ane Khong, Ron Coorey, Mary Miles Navarez, **Lord Hear Us.**

**Gospel Reflection** by Greg Sunter

The response of today's psalm is an excellent summary of the theme that runs throughout today's readings: *The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.* The compassion of God is foremost in these readings – recognising need within the people and responding with an overflowing abundance. In the gospel, the abundant response of God is the miraculous feeding of more than five thousand people with twelve baskets full of leftovers.

As it became late in the day, the disciples wanted Jesus to send the people away to the nearby villages so that they could buy food for themselves. But Jesus is moved with compassion for the people. He knows that as it is now evening they probably won't be allowed to enter any of the local villages and, even if they were, they probably didn't have money with which to buy food. So it is compassionate care that moves Jesus to act. Remember, he had tried to get away from the crowds to spend some private time mourning the death of John the Baptist. He was entitled to be frustrated and angry with them for intruding on his grief. Instead, when they tracked him down, he went ashore and healed them and taught them. When it came to the evening he went one step further in his compassion and made sure that all were fed.

At the time of writing, the gospel writer knew that his audience would be familiar with the Eucharistic meal. The words and actions of Jesus in this miraculous feeding event foreshadow the events of the Last Supper: he *took* the bread and fish, *gave thanks*, *broke* the bread, and *gave* it to the disciples to distribute. This event is a Eucharistic one just as much as the Last Supper.

**Scriptural context – Food for all**

This miraculous feeding is the first of two such accounts in the gospel of Matthew. (It also appears twice in Mark and once in both Luke and John.) In this account, there are twelve baskets of leftovers. These baskets represent the twelve tribes of Israel. It is a metaphor for Jesus as the one who provides nourishment and satisfaction for the entire Jewish population. The imagery in the second story (Mt 15:32-39) emphasises that Jesus also feeds and satisfies the gentile people. Between them, the two accounts present Jesus as the one who provides spiritual food for all.

**Living the Gospel – Grieving John**

The passage begins with Jesus receiving the news that his cousin, John the Baptist's death. In response, Jesus immediately withdraws to a lonely place where he can be alone with his disciples. His response to this terrible news is to take time out. He wants to go away to a quiet, lonely place to pray and grieve. He doesn't just take the news in his stride and carry on regardless; he steps back from the busy-ness of life to mourn. It's a lesson for us in times of stress and grief: the response Jesus models is to take time to grieve the loss.