

Churches reopened

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

(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.

Charitable Works Fund Appeal

7/8th November

Next weekend we invite you to support the Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Pastoral Appeal. Donations to this appeal help fund 6 agencies, (CatholicCare, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Ephpheta Centre, Seminaries and Chaplaincies). These agencies represent the breadth of the charitable and pastoral missions of the Sydney Archdiocese. Envelopes for this appeal will be handed to you as you leave today. Please take one home and return with your donation next week where will have a third collection. **Any donation over \$2 is tax deductible and receipts will be issued for the 2020/21 financial year.** Donations to this appeal also help our parish meet it's annual Charitable Works Fund quota. Your support to this appeal is greatly appreciated.

Month of November Mass Intentions

(Book Of Remembrance)

November is a special time when we pray for all our deceased family, friends, relatives and all souls in Purgatory.

In preparation for masses during November, we will have our 'Book of Remembrance' which will include all the names of our deceased loved ones whom you would like to pray and offer masses for. In order for us to prepare the Book of Remembrance we invite you to place a November Mass envelope with the names of your deceased loved ones whom you would like mass offered for in the basket that will be placed beside the Altar during the whole month of October. (Envelopes can be found at the back of the Church and at each side entrance of the Church). This will give us enough time to print the names and have the book ready for the **1st November**. The Book of Remembrance will be part of each mass during November and part of the Offertory Procession at weekend masses. **Please note that during the month of November, no separate mass intentions will be mentioned; every mass will be offered for all intentions that are written in the Book Of Remembrance.** It is good to offer mass for all our deceased loved ones, yet it is even more rewarding to attend mass and pray for them yourself.



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 and (5pm mass during COVID-19 restrictions)

Weekdays: 9am 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:

Rosary: After weekday masses

Adoration: 9.30am Saturday & first Friday of the month *(cancelled until further notice)*

Italian Prayer Group: Tuesday. 10am - Lower Parish Hall. *(currently cancelled until further restrictions ease)*

SAINTS and FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

SUNDAY 1st November:

All Saints Day (Solemnity)

MONDAY 2nd November:

All Souls Day

WEDNESDAY 4th November:

St Charles Borromeo (bishop)

MONDAY 9th November:

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

TUESDAY 10th November:

St Leo the Great (Pope, doctor)

WEDNESDAY 11th November:

St Martin of Tours (bishop)

THURSDAY 12th November:

St Josaphat (bishop, martyr)

TUESDAY 17th November:

St Elizabeth of Hungary (religious)

SATURDAY 21st November:

The Presentation of The Blessed Virgin Mary

SUNDAY 22nd November:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of The Universe

TUESDAY 24th November:

Sts Andrew Dung-Lac (priest) and companions, (martyrs)

FIRST READING Rv 7:2-4. 9-14**A reading from the book the Apocalypse**

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.' **WORD OF THE LORD.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 23:1-6. R. see v.6

(R.) Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

SECOND READING 1 Jn 3:1-3**A reading from the first letter of the St John**

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

WORD OF THE LORD.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Mt 11:28**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

Alleluia!**GOSPEL** Mt 5:1-12**A reading from the Holy Gospel according****Matthew**

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

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

Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish: Y.P Ching, Therese Shmely, Iris Eagleson, Dyan Rivai, 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, Cindy Williams, John Heirlehy, Mary Maney, Chahid Hanna, Joseph Romain, Maura Turija, Betty Williams, Ampy Bollman, Mark & Merle Baterson, Ramon Alonzo, Rosalie Ferraren, David Sheumack, Claude & Jeanette Chidiac, Madeline Abouzeid,

Lord, we pray for our recently deceased especially: William Armando Carcia Carcamo, Alejandro Henriquez, Elizabeth Khoury, Celine Haykal, Mervyn Baldwin, Joyce Yip, Antonios Khoury Boulos Constantine, Eileen MaCarthy, Clara Baet, Wiyano Hindarto, Habib Safi, Youmana Farhart, Rolly Madrona, John James Lee, Maria Di Noia, Antoinette Pace, Marie Varini, Clara Baet, Avelina Jimenez, **We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed:** Tony Abouzeid, Joubbran Joubbran, Joe Joubbran, Martinez Salazar families, Safi, Sabbagh, George, Allison, Coorey & McKenzie families, Sr. Fertuna Meskel, Meskel, Letai & Johannes, Concordia Daco, members of the Martinez Salazar families, Flovina Malubag, Rose Giampietro, Leodegario Enting Chan, Francesco Viterale, Maria & Jose Da Silva, Aaron Vidal, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, Shirley Gorie, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Victor Samuel, Therese Nader, Anthony George, Carmel Moses, Antonio Ramos, Vitorina Ramos, Maria Morias **Lord Hear Us.**

GOSPEL REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Saints are sometimes regarded as 'Catholic superheroes'. Stories of miraculous and remarkable deeds abound, though more in the vein of conversions and cures than speeding bullets and tall buildings. But to get caught up on the Saints of the stained glass windows is to overlook the vast majority of saints. You see, a saint is anybody whose soul is in heaven. The Church celebrates a certain number of Saints whose lives provide a glimpse of God for the rest of the Church. But there are many, many more saints whose glimpse of God was only ever experienced by their family, friends and those with whom they worked. The feast of ALL Saints is an opportunity to remember and reflect on the lives of those saints who've been known and loved by just a few and whose sphere of influence was such that they will never be recognised as Saints by the universal Church.

Today's gospel, the Beatitudes, from the Sermon on the Mount describes perfectly those 'lower case s' saints we celebrate in this feast day. The Beatitudes are sometimes referred to in parallel with the Ten Commandments. However, the Beatitudes are not 'rules' or 'instructions' for life as the Commandments are. They are more in line with a strategy that today we would call 'positive reinforcement'. They celebrate those who respond to God's call through particular attitudes towards life and towards others. Jesus presents them to the disciples and the crowd as images to inspire imitation. They're not hard and fast rules for life, but attitudes for life; the Be-Attitudes, so to speak. Those who live with these attitudes in this life are to be celebrated – 'Happy are you' – for they will be saints. They will be welcomed into communion with God in heaven.

Scriptural context – Kingdom Attitudes

Unlike the Ten Commandments, which describe the rules for life on earth for the ancient Jews, the Beatitudes describe the character or attitudes of people of the Kingdom of God. Like the many Kingdom parables that appear later in this gospel (esp. chapter 13), the Beatitudes present an image of what the Kingdom is like without an explicit explanation of the Kingdom. By praising and honouring the attitudes of the Kingdom, Jesus paints a picture of what life could be and should be like if we choose to live in the Kingdom of God.

Living the gospel – Calling on the Saints

Saints play an important role in the devotional life of many Catholic people, but it is a role that causes some confusion for other traditions. Whilst all prayer is directed to God, sometimes that prayer may be directed through one of the Saints or a Saint is called upon to pray on behalf of the petitioner. Images of people kneeling before statues of Saints has led to a misconception that Catholics pray to Saints, rather than to God through the Saint. The Litany of the Saints, with its 'Pray for us' response, calls on the Saints to intercede for us.

Have you thought? – Making Saints

Despite media reports that the Church, or the Pope, has 'made' a person a Saint, the Church is quite clear that what it does is *recognise* a person as a Saint, not *make* them a Saint. This is what happens through the process of canonisation; a person is 'formally recognised' as a Saint by the Church. We might say that it is God who makes Saints, not the Church. The Church formally recognises the saintliness of particular people partly to provide inspiration and example to others. The Church tells the stories of its Saints to keep alive their inspiration.