

## Parish Sacramental Programme for 2021

Dear parents and carers please put the following dates in your diaries for upcoming Sacraments at our Parish for 2021.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

*Children from Year 3 and above who have made their First Reconciliation.*

**Enrolment Night:** Thursday 3rd June, 2021 at 6.30pm in St Mel's School Hall.

**Wednesday Evening Lessons:** 6-7pm followed by Mass at 7pm.

9th June, 16th June, 23rd June, 14th July

**Family Workshop:** 21st July, 6pm followed by Mass at 7pm

**Rehearsal :** 28th July, at 6pm in the Church followed by Mass at 7pm.

**Reconciliation:** 31st July at 10am in the Church.

**First Holy Communion:** Sunday 1st August 2021 *(for students in Public Schools only)*

### CONFIRMATION

*Children from Year 6 and above who have been Baptised in the Roman Catholic Rite and have received their First Holy Communion.*

**Enrolment Night:** Thursday 6th May at 6.30pm in St Mel's School Hall.

**Wednesday Evening Lessons:** 6-7pm followed by Mass at 7pm.

28th July, 4th August, 11th August, 18th August

**Family Workshop:** 25th August, 6pm followed by Mass at 7pm

**Reconciliation:** 28th August at 10am in the Church.

**Confirmation:** Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 at 3.30pm at St Mary's Cathedral Sydney.

### FIRST RECONCILIATION

*Children in Year 3 and above who are Baptised Catholic.*

**Enrolment Night:** Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 at 6.30pm in St Mel's School Hall

**Sunday Lessons:** 10<sup>th</sup> October, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

**First Reconciliation:** Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 at 7pm at St Mel's Church.

*For further information please contact Diane Daher at the Parish Office on 9787 1582*

### Project Compassion Boxes

If you haven't returned your Project Compassion Boxes we encourage you to bring them and hand them to Tony at masses. Thank you

### Charitable Works Fund Appeal

**1st and 2nd May, 2021**

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 distributed this weekend as you leave the Church. Please return your envelope with your donation next weekend. Your support for this appeal is appreciated.

### 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](http://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 support

### Christian Meditation Day

**Sunday 16 May**

**Where:** St Benedict's Monastery

**Location:** 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia

**Time:** 10am-3pm (including a Mass in the afternoon) No need to register ahead of time.

Donations welcome.

**Enquiries:** Please email Ann Bergman: [anniebergman@hotmail.com](mailto:anniebergman@hotmail.com) or Ann Lomas: [atlomas@bigpond.com](mailto:atlomas@bigpond.com) or 9653 2637.

### St Michael's Belfield

**"Knights of Christ"**

St Michaels' Belfield is hosting an 8 week Catholic Apologetical Bible Study of the Gospel of St Mark, at 7.15pm every Wednesday evening starting on the **21st April, 2021 at Belfield School Hall (just behind the Church)** The presenter is Dr Robert Haddad. Please bring your own Bible, notepad and pen.



## St Mel's Parish

**Est 1915**

**Feast Day: 6th February**

**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

**Weekdays:** 9am Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, (8.30am Rosary)

**Wednesday:** 7pm followed by adoration.

### SACRAMENTS:

**Reconciliation:** 4pm to 4.30pm Saturday.

**Baptisms:** By arrangement, please call Parish Office or download an application from the Parish website at [www.stmelcampsie.org.au](http://www.stmelcampsie.org.au)

**Weddings:** By arrangement with six months notice

**Care for the Sick:** Please call the presbytery.

### DEVOTIONS:

**Rosary:** 8.30am every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

**Adoration:** After Wednesday 7pm Mass.

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

### SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

**Monday 26th April:** St Mark (evangelist)

**Tuesday 27th April:** St Louis Grignion de Montfort (priest)

**Wednesday 28th April:** St Peter Chanel (priest, martyr)

**Thursday 29th April:** St Catherine of Siena (virgin, doctor)

**Friday 30th April:** St Pius V (pope)

**Monday 3rd May:** St Philip and St James (apostles)

**Friday 14th May:** St Matthias (apostle)

**Sunday 16th May:** The Ascension of The Lord (Solemnity)

**Sunday 23rd May:** Pentecost Sunday (Solemnity)

**Monday 24th May:** Our Lady Help Of Christians

**Wednesday 26th May:** St Philip Neri (priest)

**FIRST READING** Acts 4:8-12***A reading from the Acts of the Apostles***

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: ‘Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.’

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

Ps 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29. R. v.22

***(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone***

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in men:  
it is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in princes. **(R.)**

I will thank you for you have given answer  
and you are my saviour.  
The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
I will thank you for you have given answer  
and you are my saviour.  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
for his love has no end. **(R.)**

**SECOND READING** 1 Jn 3:1-2***A reading from the first letter of 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.

***WORD OF THE LORD.*****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Jn 10:14***Alleluia, alleluia!***

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep, and mine know me.  
***Alleluia!***

**GOSPEL** Jn 10:11-18***A reading from the holy Gospel according to John***

Jesus said:

‘I am the good shepherd:  
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his  
sheep.  
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd  
and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and  
runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming,  
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;  
this is because he is only a hired man  
and has no concern for the sheep.  
I am the good shepherd;  
I know my own and my own know me,  
just as the Father knows me and I know the Father;  
and I lay down my life for my sheep.  
And there are other sheep I have  
that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well.  
They too will listen to my voice,  
and there will be only one flock  
and one shepherd.  
The Father loves me, because I lay down my life  
in order to take it up again.  
No one takes it from me;  
I lay it down of my own free will,  
and as it is in my power to lay it down,  
so it is in my power to take it up again;  
and this is the command I have been given by my Father.’

***GOSPEL OF THE LORD*****Seminarians Corner  
Discernment**

by Adrian

The Fourth Sunday of Easter, also known as the Good Shepherd Sunday, is a special day of prayer for vocation. In today’s reflection, I would like to share about what I have learnt regarding vocational discernment.

There can be a tendency to think that discerning God’s will is like solving a puzzle. We can be tempted to think that God is trying to hide His plan from us and that it is our task to uncover this plan. This, however, is not what the Gospel tells us. St John tells us that the Good Shepherd calls his sheep by their names (Jn 10:3). From this we learn that Jesus is calling out to us: He wants us to know His plan for us!

Discernment, therefore, is primarily about listening to Christ: it is about being in a relationship with Him. This is why vocational discernment is inseparable from spending time with God. As we spend time with Him, we gradually learn to recognize His voice. It is interesting to see how we can easily recognize the voices of those familiar to us: parents, for example, can easily notice the sound of their children even in a noisy market. Similarly, as we become familiar with God, we too will be able to recognise His voice amidst the noise of the world.

I pray that Christ, the Good Shepherd, may continue to guide us in our lives. In particular, I want to pray for all the young people that are seriously discerning God’s plan in their lives. Finally, may I also ask for your prayers for the seminarians at the Good Shepherd Seminary? May we follow the example of the Good Shepherd as we discern God’s calling in our lives.

***We remember in our Masses***

**Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish:** John Ignatius Hendricks, Y.P Ching, Therese Shmely, Iris Eagleson, Dyan Rivai, Jerome Evan Carrillo, Joan Karam, Violet El-Kazzi, Elena Lorenzo, George Mattar, Nicholas Galvez Sr, 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 Batterson, Ramon Alonzo, Rosalie Ferraren, David Sheumack, Claude & Jeanette Chidiac, Madeline Abouzeid, **Lord, we pray for our recently deceased especially: Margo Tannous, Irene Slattery, Claire Algie, Hanna Nakhle Gebrael, Kwik Bun Wie, Erwin Alapide, Francis E. Texeira, Lucia Palazzotto, Brigida Loshiavo, Enrique Valencia, We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed:** Quintino Ferreira, Michael, Mary, Edward & Joseph George, Mary Sanki, Elias Fahham and members of the Fahham families, Mariano Gunzon, Geoge Azzi, George Melhem, Farid Youssef, Michael Chidiac, Francis Samia, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Francesco Viterale, Jose & Maria Odete Da Silva, Fersan Farhart, Antoun, Nacime & Zakeyey Mrad, Mark Scibberras, **Lord Hear Us.**

**Year of St Joseph  
2020-2021**

To perpetuate the entrustment of the Church to St. Joseph, Pope Francis has established a Year of St. Joseph from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021. A plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful under the usual conditions - sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope’s intentions - who, with a spirit detached from any sin, participate in the Year of St. Joseph by way of the following:

- Recite a legitimate prayer or act of piety in honour of St. Joseph especially on 19 March, 1 May, on the 19th of every month, and on every Wednesday, the day dedicated to the Saint.
- Pray the Holy Rosary in the home, or as an engaged couple, so that the atmosphere of intimate communion, love and prayer that was in the Holy Family, will reside in Christian families also.
- Contemplate the Lord’s Prayer for at least 30 minutes, or participate in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph.
- Entrust their daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph, and invoke the intercession of the Worker of Nazareth so that those seeking work can find employment befitting human dignity

**Prayer to St Joseph**

***Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted His only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil.***

***Amen.***