

Support Your Parish Online



Dear Parishioners, even though we do not have the opportunity to celebrate Mass as a Parish community during these COVID-19 restrictions, please know that everyday I celebrate Mass and I take you all with me and ask Our Lord to not only heal our world from this disease but also to pour His blessings on you and keep your families safe and healthy. This is one way which I believe that I am supporting you spiritually during these uncertain times. I ask you to continue to pray for me and ask the Lord to guide, protect and keep me safe as well.

May I take this opportunity however, to ask you to also find a way in which you can help support your parish financially.

You can do so by one of the following:

- You may already be a current envelope giver. We ask that when we are able to re-open you return your weekly contributions.
- You may choose to become a credit card giver.

Credit card donations are still processed monthly during this time.

If you are an envelope giver and would like to change to credit card, please contact the parish office and leave a message and we will get back to you.

- You can choose to make a donation online at our parish website at: www.stmelscampsie.org.au and click on the **Support Us** icon and follow the prompts.

Once again I take this opportunity to thank those who have been donating to the Parish online, your support is greatly appreciated.

For further information please call the Parish Office. God Bless.

RECONCILIATION DURING LOCKDOWN RESTRICTICONS

Any parishioner who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during COVID-19 restrictions can call the Parish Office to set up a appointment with Fr Anthony. If the office is unattended please leave a message your name and phone number and Fr Anthony will get back to you.

Recycling Bottles

Even though we are unable to celebrate masses as a parish community due to COVID-19 restrictions, may I encourage you to continue collecting your recyclable 10c bottles and bring them to the parish once we resume celebrating mass. The money raised from the collections of these bottles will hopefully fund other initiatives in the future for the benefit of our parish. Thank you for your support of our Parish.

Double Sided Electronic LED Sign for our Parish

For your information our Parish has applied for a Local Government grant to assist in the purchase of an electronic LED sign to replace the existing sign at the front of the Church. (similar to St Michael's Belfield and St Joseph's Belmore) We have received quotes from 2 different companies regarding the sign and both companies have quoted approximately \$30,000.

Currently we are waiting the response of the grant application before we make decision.

Sacramental Program for 2021

Sadly, due to the current COVID-19 restrictions ALL sacraments for children have been postponed for 2021.

In the meantime, may I suggest at least on Sundays to gather together as a family watch a livestream mass,

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/>

Pray with your children and maybe do some spiritual readings together.

Once we have further details of new dates for the Sacraments we will be in contact with all parents and cares.



St Mel's Parish

Est 1915

Feast Day: 6th February

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: 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.stmelscampsie.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.
First Friday Adoration: Mass at 9am, followed by Adoration and the Rosary.

SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

Tuesday 3rd August: St Dominic (priest)
Wednesday 4th August: St John Vianney (priest)
Friday 6th August: The Transfiguration of The Lord (Feast)
Sunday 8th August: St Mary of The Cross (virgin)
Tuesday 10th August: St Lawrence (deacon, martyr)
Wednesday 11th August: St Clare (virgin)
Saturday 14th August: St Maximilian Mary Kolbe (priest, martyr)
Sunday 15th August: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)
Friday 20th August: St Bernard (abbot, doctor)
Saturday 21st August: St Pius X (pope)
Tuesday 24th August: St Bartholomew (apostle)
Friday 27th August: St Monica
Saturday 28th August: St Augustine (bishop, doctor)

FIRST READING Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10**A reading from the book of the Apocalypse**

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened, and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it.

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

WORD OF THE LORD.**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 44:10-12. 16. R. v. 10

(R.) *The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold*

The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words: forget your own people and your father's house.

(R.)

So will the king desire your beauty: He is your lord, pay homage to him. They are escorted amid gladness and joy; they pass within the palace of the king. **(R.)**

SECOND READING 1 Cor 15:20-26**A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order; Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

WORD OF THE LORD.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Alleluia, alleluia!*

Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy. *Alleluia!*

GOSPEL Lk 1:39-56**A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke**

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said:

'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly.

The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy – according to the promise he made to our ancestors – of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home. **GOSPEL OF THE LORD**

A Spiritual Reflection by Fr Anthony

God revealed to Mary that she was to become the Mother of the Son of God, Jesus. Elizabeth, was also chosen my God and therefore as soon as she saw Mary, her greeting was done in such a way, that Elizabeth acknowledged that fact. She knew that Mary was carrying a very special child. Elizabeth knew that this child that this child would be her Lord.

May I suggest that you read this Gospel once again at some stage during this weekend, meditate on it and then ask yourselves do we take the coming of Jesus into the world for granted? Or are we amazed and filled with joy that Our Lord came to earth as small fragile baby boy.

Remember also that Jesus will come to us today. Are we going to be ready for Him? Most likely He will appear to us when we least expect Him. He may come disguised as a friend, or in the helping had of a stranger. Maybe, when we are silent and at peace.

Be always alert. We may encounter Jesus several times and others may meet Jesus through us.

We remember in our Masses

Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish: Frederick Schinkel, Elizabeth & Les Rapmund, John Ignatius Hendricks, Y.P Ching, Therese Shmely, Iris Eagleson, Dyan Rivai, Jerome Evan Carrillo, Joan Karam, Elena Lorenzo, George Mattar, Nicholas Galvez Sr, Michelle & Toufic El-Dib, John Duigan, Helena Knox, Cong Hen Khong, Peter Xu, Flordeliza Gonzales, Joshua & Francesco Frascella, Lisa Santo, John Heirlehy, Mary Maney, Chahid Hanna, Betty Williams, Mark & Merle Batterson, Ramon Alonzo, Rosalie Ferraren, David Sheumack, Claude & Jeanette Chidiac, Madeline Abouzeid, **Lord, we pray for our recently deceased especially:** Kenny Yu, Leo Wanigaratnam, Efren Jose, Iole Bordsatto, Gordan Stewart, Amin Nehmeh, Benedict Nguy, Angelica Torri, Margo Tannous, Claire Algie, Hanna Nakhle Gebrael, Kwik Bun Wie, **We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed:** Francesco Viterale, Jose Da Silva, Eduardo Carreon, Leslie Farhart, Jong Min Na Joseph, Mershed & Wadead Ayoub, Badwiy Dalal, Sam & Mary Fenech, Yvonne Hallo, Isidro Lisboa, Jessinia A.Infante, Vitorina Jesus Santos, Luciana Acosta, Peter & Saidie Barkett, Romeo Magnom Felicidad Soliveres, Berhane Ogbazghi, Quintino Ferreira, Mariano Gunzon, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Giorgio Repice Snr, Fred & Saide Stanton, Tony Karam, Zilda Dos Santos, Minerva Matthews, Sr Anna Rosa Nguy, Sr Teresa Nguy, Sam & Mary Fenech, Peter Luu, Thomas and Nanacy McAppion, Sam Ok Chung, Hans Smit, Berhane Ognazghi, Leslie Rozario, Antoin Bakhos Sakr, **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.