

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.

URGENT AFGHAN REFUGEE APPEAL

Sydney Catholic Archbishop, Anthony Fisher OP, has launched the Archbishop's Afghan Refugee Appeal. The appeal will raise desperately needed funds and commit the Archdiocese resources of education, health and welfare to Afghan families and individuals fleeing their homeland in the wake of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. The UN and aid agencies are preparing for a Syria scale refugee crisis. The appeal means that those who find their way to Australia will have support and resources waiting for them. These dark times remind all of us that we really are our brother and our sisters' keeper. We urge you to donate here: Archbishop's Afghan Refugee Appeal. For further information go to: <http://justiceandpeace.org.au/> Thank you on behalf of the Archbishop and those most vulnerable people for your support.

Urgent Help needed from CatholicCare

Family Spirit is in urgent need of a Carer for a teenage boy. Do you know someone who could help?

*Joshua is 15 years old but does not have a positive relationship with his birth family and is unable to live with them.

Josh needs a caring home, a stable environment and good role models to assist him to grow and develop into the man he will soon become. Someone who can support him to engage with schooling and to start to make connections within the community again, so he can feel a sense of belonging.

Josh has ASD and a mild intellectual disability and suffers from some anxiety due to his past life experiences, however, he is like any other teenager who enjoys kicking the ball at the park and playing his Xbox. He engages well with others and would enjoy a household that has other teenage children, preferably a little older than Josh, but this is not a prerequisite, he just needs a safe place to live.

A long-term solution would be great for Joshua, but if you know anyone that could help out even in the short-term, we would love to hear from them. **For further information, call CatholicCare's CCareline on 13 18 19.**

29th August, 2021 Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B



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

Friday 3rd September: St Gregory the Great (Pope, doctor)
Wednesday 8th September: The Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast)
Monday 13th September: St John Chryostom (Bishop, doctor)
Tuesday 14th September: The Exaltation Of The Holy Cross (Feast)
Wednesday 15th September: Our Lady of Sorrows
Thursday 16th September: Sts Cornelius (Pope, martyr) and Cyprian (Bishop, martyr)
Monday 20th September: Sts Andrew Kim Thae-Gon and companions (martyrs)
Tuesday 21st September: St Matthew (apostle, Feast day)
Thursday 23rd September: St Pius of Pietrelcina (priest)
Monday 27th September: St Vincent de Paul (priest)
Wednesday 29th September: Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael (Archangels)
Thursday 30th September: St Jerome (Priest, doctor)

FIRST READING Dt 4:1-2, 6-8**A reading from the book of
Deuteronomy**

Moses said to the people: ‘Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, “No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation.” And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?’

WORD OF THE LORD.**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) *The just will live in the presence of the Lord*

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. **(R.)**

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord.

(R.)

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R.)**

SECOND READING Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27**A reading from the letter of St James**

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

WORD OF THE LORD.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Jas 1:18**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,
that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

Alleluia!**GOSPEL** Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark**

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?’ He answered, ‘It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.
The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.’

He called the people to him again and said, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men’s hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.’

GOSPEL OF THE LORD**A Spiritual Reflection**

by Fr Anthony

In this weekend's Gospel the Pharisees continue to analyse Jesus' teaching and his disciples' behavior. Today they questioned that some of his disciples did not observe the purification ritual that was required before eating any meal. For the Pharisees, this was a perfect opportunity to once again criticize Jesus. For the Pharisees, the law always came first. When Jesus was questioned about why his disciples did not adhere to the law, Jesus quoted Isaiah "This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations." Jesus bluntly tells them that you disregard God's commandments and cling to human tradition. He also speaks to the crowd and says "Listen to me, all of you and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean"

Let us ask ourselves today do we judge others because they are not following the law, be that the law of God or that of man? I believe we do. We may not be fully aware that we do this, whatever the reason, let us remember it is not our place to judge others, this is God's work to do. When we feel the urge to criticize another person, stop, breath and pray. Then go about doing your work of the day. You may find your day is lighter and brighter without so much judgement.

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:** Johnny Destefanis, Gloria Baurkot, Michael Samuel, Kenny Yu, Efen Jose, Iole Bordsatto, Gordan Stewart, Amin Nehmeh, Benedict Nguy, Angelica Torri, Margo Tannous, Claire Algie, Hanna Nakhle Gebrael, Kwik Bun Wie, and all those who have died during COVID-19 pandemic, **We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed:** Georges Azzi, Tony Laban, Yvonne Hallo, Semaan Gorges, Francesco Viterale, Jose Da Silva, Eduardo Carreon, Leslie Farhart, Jong Min Na Joseph, Mershed & Wadead Ayoub, Badwiy Dalal, Sam & Mary Fenech, Isidro Lisboa, Jessinia A. Infante, Vitorina Jesus Santos, Luciana Acosta, Romeo Magnom Felicidad Soliveres, Berhane Ogbazghi, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Nadia Green, Annie Samuel, Frank Samuel, Vince Samuel, Ron Coorey, Merchard George, Teresa Nhan Nguy, Giorgio Repice Snr, Fred & Saide Stanton, Zilda Dos Santos, Minerva Matthews, Sam & Mary Fenech, Peter Luu, Sam Ok Chung, **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.