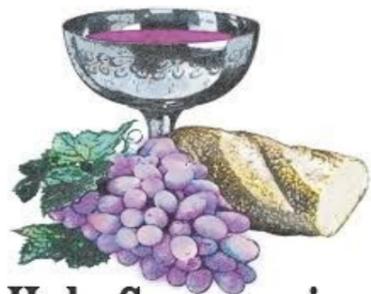


**Charitable Works Fund Appeal
20/21st November**

This 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. A third collection for the Charitable Works Fund will be taken at each Mass this weekend. If you are unable to participate this weekend please ask for an envelope as you leave the Church and you can return it next weekend. **Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and receipts will be issued for the 2021/22 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.

**Lights of Christmas 2021,
St Mary's Cathedral forecourt, 9-25 December**
Join in Sydney's favourite free Christmas tradition, uniting families, locals and tourists with a display of digital storytelling projected onto St Mary's Cathedral.
Find out more: <https://lightsofchristmas.com.au/>



Holy Communion

This weekend and next we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion for our State School and St Mel's School children. Please pray for these children and their families that they continue to grow in faith. Thank you to the teachers at St Mel's School, the Catechists and the Sacramental team who helped prepare the children for this special day.

CONGRATULATIONS!

**ST MEL'S PARISH CHRISTMAS
MASS and CONFESSION TIMES 2021**

WEDNESDAY 15th DECEMBER:

6.30pm Confession
7pm Mass followed by Adoration

FRIDAY 17th DECEMBER:

9am Mass
9.30am Rosary
10am Confession

SATURDAY 18th DECEMBER:

4pm Confession
5pm Mass

WEDNESDAY 22nd DECEMBER:

6.30pm Confession
7pm Mass followed by Adoration

FRIDAY 24th DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS EVE

5pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
12am Midnight Mss

SATURDAY 25th DECEMBER:

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.30am Mass
10am Mass

SUNDAY 26th DECEMBER:

8.30am Mass
10am Mass
5pm Mass

27th and 28th DECEMBER

No Masses

SATURDAY 1st JANUARY, 2022

10am New Years Day Mass
5pm Vigil Mass

A message from the Archdiocese

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at: (02) 9390 5810 or email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

21st November, 2021 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King Of The Universe (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
Sunday: **5pm** (during current COVID restrictions until further notice)
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: Every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday after the 9am Mass.
Adoration: After Wednesday 7pm Mass.
First Friday Adoration: Mass at 9am, followed by Adoration and Rosary. **(restarts 5th NOV)**

SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

Monday 1st November: All Saints (Solemnity)
Tuesday 2nd November: All Souls' Day
Wednesday 3rd November: St Martin de Porres (religious)
Thursday 4th November: St Charles Borromeo (Bishop)
Wednesday 10th November: St Leo the Great (Pope, doctor)
Thursday 11th November: St Martin of Tours (bishop)
Friday 12th November: St Josaphat (bishop, martyr)
Wednesday 17th November: St Elizabeth of Hungary (religious)
Sunday 21st November: Our Lord Jesus Christ King of The Universe
Wednesday 24th November: Sts Andrew Dung-Lac and companions
Tuesday 30th November: St Andrew (apostle)

FIRST READING Dn 7:13-14

A reading from the prophet Daniel

I gazed into the visions of the night.
And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven,
one like a son of man.
He came to the one of great age
and was led into his presence.
On him was conferred sovereignty,
glory and kingship,
and men of all peoples, nations and languages be-
came his servants.
His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty
which shall never pass away,
nor will his empire be destroyed.

WORD OF THE LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 92:1-2. 5. R.v.1

(R.) The Lord is King: He is robed in majesty

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;
the Lord has robed himself with might,
he has girded himself with power. **(R.)**

The world you made firm, not to be moved; your
throne has stood firm from of old.
From all eternity, O Lord, you are. **(R.)**

Truly your decrees are to be trusted.
Holiness is fitting to your house,
O Lord, until the end of time. **(R.)**

SECOND READING Rv 1:5-8

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the First-born from the
dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has
washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of
kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be
glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is com-
ing on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who
pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him.
This is the truth. Amen. ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega’ says
the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Al-
mighty.

WORD OF THE LORD.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mk 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 18:33-37

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

‘Are you the king of the Jews?’ Pilate asked. Jesus replied, ‘Do
you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you
about me?’ Pilate answered, ‘Am I a Jew? It is your own peo-
ple and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what
have you done?’ Jesus replied, ‘Mine is not a kingdom of this
world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have
fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my
kingdom is not of this kind.’ ‘So you are a king then?’ said Pi-
late. ‘It is you who say it’ answered Jesus. ‘Yes, I am a king. I
was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness
to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my
voice.’

GOSPEL OF THE LORD

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

This week marks the end of the liturgical year. Next week, with the first week of Advent, we begin the new li-
turgical cycle. It is fitting that the Church concludes the liturgical year with the celebration of Christ the King.
The conversation between Jesus and Pilate displays a lot of word play on the part of Jesus and quite a lot of
confusion on the part of Pilate. The confusion stems from different perceptions of what it means to be a king.
For Pilate, part of the most powerful political and military rule in the ancient world, the idea of a king was a
threat. Claiming kingship was claiming authority and power that would inevitably lead to challenging the au-
thority and power of Rome and, more directly, its representative in Palestine – Pilate. Jesus, of course, had a
completely different idea about ushering in a kingdom. He does indeed declare that he is a king and that is what
leads us to today’s feast of Christ the King. However, his intention is not to claim a position of power and au-
thority. When we think back to Jesus’ teachings about the kingdom of God, we recall that he declares the peo-
ple of highest status – the first – in the kingdom to be the lowliest of this world. It is the poor, the sick, the out-
cast, the children and the widows who will hold the highest places in the kingdom of God. In a kingdom like
that, what does it mean to declare oneself king? The confusion about what it means to be a king that is captured
in this interaction between Jesus and Pilate is the same confusion that we saw among the disciples as they came
to terms with exactly what it means to be the Messiah.

Gospel Focus – Truth

Jesus says to Pilate that he came into the world ‘to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth
listen to my voice.’ That is where today’s gospel passage finishes but as the gospel continues on, Pilate fa-
mously asks Jesus ‘What is truth?’ and the question is left dangling; unanswered. The truth Jesus has borne wit-
ness to is the truth of his whole life – the revelation of God’s love for humanity. It is for proclaiming this truth
that Jesus is placed on trial and is brought before Pilate.

Have you thought? The Kingdom of God

When Jesus speaks about the Kingdom of God he never gives a particularly clear picture of what he means. He
usually refers to the kingdom with metaphoric language (‘the kingdom of God is like ...’) and often the king-
dom is defined by what it is not. The kingdom is also a real contradiction: it is here and now and yet it is still to
come; it is almost impossible for some to enter the kingdom while others are assured a place; it is within us and
in our hearts and yet is a great banquet to which all are invited.

PRAYER FOR ALL SOULS

Merciful Father,

Hear our prayer and console us.

*As we renew our faith in Your Son, whom You raised from the dead,
Strengthen our hope that all our departed brothers and sisters will share in His
resurrection, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.*

Amen

**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 commun-
ion, 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.