



## WEEKEND MASSES

**Saturday Vigil 5pm**

**Sunday 7:30am; 9am;  
10:30am & 5pm**

## Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday 9:30am

## Adoration

Friday 10am - 11am

## Reconciliation

Saturday 11am-12pm (with Adoration)

## PARISH CLERGY

Fr John Ho PP

Fr Richard Healey AP

## CONTACT US

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**[campbelltown@dow.org.au](mailto:campbelltown@dow.org.au)**

## OFFICE HOURS

**9am to 3:30pm** (Tuesday to Friday)

Secretary: Marilyn Baert (Tue-Wed)  
& Michelle Quinn (Wed am; Thurs-Fri)

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

**(02) 4625 1171**

Principal: Paul Moroney  
**[info@sjctdow.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@sjctdow.catholic.edu.au)**

# Lent Sunday 1 Year A | 22 February 2026

**PARISH MISSION & VISION - Celebrating Catholic life since 1822**

**To know, follow and share Jesus with our neighbours.**

*To see every neighbourhood transformed by the love and power of Jesus.*

## Mass Today

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*When he calls on me, I will answer him;  
I will deliver him and give him glory,  
I will grant him length of days.*

### FIRST READING | Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

*Creation of our first parents, and sin.*

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 50

**Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

### SECOND READING | Romans 5:12-19

*Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!**

**No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!**

### GOSPEL | Matthew 4:1-11

*Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.*

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.*

## This Week

9:30am Mass - Mon 23 Feb

9:30am Mass - Tues 24 Feb

9:30am Mass - Wed 25 Feb

9:30am Mass - Thur 26 Feb

9:30am Mass - Fri 27 Feb

## READINGS NEXT WEEK – Second Sunday of Lent, Year (A)

*Genesis 12:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:8-10; Matthew 17:1-9*

## Tale of Two Adams

In today's Liturgy, the destiny of the human race is told as the tale of two "types" of men—the first man, Adam, and the new Adam, Jesus.

Paul's argument in the Epistle is built on a series of contrasts between "one" or "one person" and "the many" or "all." By one person's disobedience, sin and condemnation entered the world, and death came to reign over all. By the obedience of another one, grace abounded, all were justified, and life came to reign for all.

This is the drama that unfolds in today's First Reading and Gospel.

Formed from the clay of the ground and filled with the breath of God's own Spirit, Adam was a son of God, created in His image. Crowned with glory, he was given dominion over the world and the protection of His angels.

He was made to worship God—to live not by bread alone but in obedience to every word that comes from the mouth of the Father.

Adam, however, put the Lord his God to the test. He gave in to the serpent's temptation, trying to seize for himself all that God had already promised him. But in His hour of temptation, Jesus prevailed where Adam failed—and drove the devil away.

Still, we sin after the pattern of Adam's transgression. Like Adam, we let sin in the door when we entertain doubts about God's promises, when we forget to call on Him in our hours of temptation.

But the grace won for us by Christ's obedience means that sin is no longer our master.

As we begin this season of repentance, we can be confident in His compassion, that He will create in us a new heart. As we do in today's Psalm, we can sing joyfully of our salvation, renewed in His presence.

Scott Hahn - [stpaulcenter.com](http://stpaulcenter.com)

*In the spirit of reconciliation we acknowledge the Dharawal people as traditional custodians of this land.  
We pay our respect to all Elders, past and present, and extend that respect to all First Nations peoples today.*



**[sjec.org.au/news](http://sjec.org.au/news)**



**StJohnCampbelltown**

## "Listen, Fast, Walk Together"

Dear brothers and sisters,  
Every year Lent comes again — and sometimes we ask:  
What should I do this Lent? Give up chocolate? Eat less? Pray more?

Pope Leo XIV helps us understand Lent in a very simple way.

He says Lent is a journey of the heart through three steps:

**Listen; Fast; Walk together.**

### 1. First: Listen

Before changing our lives, we must learn to listen again. Today our world is full of noise: phones, news, arguments, opinions... We talk much, but we listen little—even to God. Many times God is speaking quietly: in Scripture, in conscience, in the suffering of someone near us. But we are too busy.

So the first Lenten sacrifice is not food—it is silence. Spend a few minutes each day with the Gospel. Let God speak — not us. Because conversion begins not when we decide, but when we finally hear.

### 2. Second: Fast

We usually think fasting means eating less. But Pope Leo reminds us: The most important fasting is fasting from selfishness. Fast from harsh words. Fast from anger. Fast from judging others. Fast from needing to be right all the time. Sometimes one gentle sentence is more pleasing to God than one day without food. Real fasting changes relationships.

### 3. Third: Walk together

Lent is not a private project between me and God. We walk as a community. So we ask: Who is lonely around me? Who needs a visit? Who needs forgiveness? Who needs encouragement? Faith grows when it becomes love.

**So this Lent is simple:**

*Listen more. Speak more gently. Love more concretely.*

If we do this, Easter will not only come on the calendar—it will happen inside our hearts. Amen.

## Children's Mass— 22 Feb

All children from Year 5 to Year 8 are warmly invited to join our Children's Mass today during 10:30am Mass. After Mass, we will have fun and games in the parish hall, followed by pizza for everyone! If any children are interested in participating in these Children's Masses, please write your name on the sign-on sheet provided in the church foyer. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Beginning of Catechesis at Public Schools

Last Monday at Mass, I prayed for and commissioned our Catechists, recognising the importance of their ministry. They have now begun teaching Scripture and faith lessons to our children in the public schools.

Please keep our Catechists—and the students they serve—in your prayers as they continue this important work.

## Rite of Election 2026

The Rite of Election will be celebrated at **2:00pm on Sunday, 22 February 2026, at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong.**

For the Catechumens, this rite "*marks the beginning of the period of final, more intense preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation, during which the elect are called to follow Christ with greater generosity*" (RCIA 105). This year our parish presents **William Feng** and **Jasmine Feng**.

Please keep them and our many candidates for full initiation in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith toward Easter.



### Joke Spot: True Humility

A guy goes to his priest and says, "Father, for Lent this year, I've decided to give up my bad habit of judging people."

The priest smiles and says, "That's wonderful! A very holy choice."

The guy replies, "I know, right? I'm probably the most humble person in this entire parish now."

## Prayer Intentions

### SPECIAL INTENTIONS & THE SICK

Baby Jack Wheeler, Roslin, Patrick Thompson, Gina Marie Bellon, John Moore, David Jones, Nathan Taylor, Cathy Hurst, John Wagner, Alan Johnson, Allan Marquinez, Carmela Labrador, Karen Milenkovic, Josefino Pangilinan.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Maureen Crosland, Lee Casuscelli, Renate Brown, Francisco Alvarez Eugenio, Evangeline Umipig.

### ANNIVERSARIES & THANKSGIVING

Igmidio & Florentina Reyes, Amelia Madalena, Timothy Morrissey, Matthew Wayne Cockroft, Ampro Laza, Bruce Bland, Gwen Sequeira, Maisie D'Cruze, Nicolo Rudisi, Jamie Sutton.

# Rosters

## Sunday 1 March 2026

### Acolyte

Vigil Michael Norris

7:30 Tom Hunter

9 Joy Kuriakose

10:30 John Hill, Andrei Valderrama

5 Raul Ladera

### Extraordinary Ministers

Vigil Graeme & Roseleen Goldie

7:30 Jean Reid, Ian Star

9 Hazel Vargas, Falakika Nau

10:30 Abilene Barnes, Imelda Landrigan

5 Rowena & Patrick Cooke

### Readers

Vigil Carmel Gorman, Angel Estepa

7:30 Tarek Boulos, Atoni Kaufusi

9 Flor Artus, Wendy Fawbert,

Jyothis Joseph

10:30 Norma McNally, Broone Periera,

Tessie Yaghooti Fam

5 Maria Brookes, Melinda Canete

### Musicians

Vigil Ben McKenzie & John George

9 Glynn Family

10:30 Joe Talamaivao

5 Siervas Musika Choir



## Launch of the International Eucharistic Congress 2028

The Australian Church is setting out on the journey toward the International Eucharistic Congress, Sydney 2028 (Eucharist28), a great time of renewal and transformation centred on encountering the Eucharistic Lord. In preparation, Australian Catholics will enter a Year of Prayer from 1 March 2026, focused on rediscovering Our Lord's love in the Blessed Sacrament. The theme, *This is My Body, Given for You*, calls us to deeper faith, generosity and mission.

Learn more about the way ahead at

**eucharist28.org**



# COMPASSIO Lenten Program 2026

**LAST CHANCE!** This Lent, enter into the heart of Compassion—to “suffer with”—a grace-filled invitation to stand with Christ and with one another. This beautifully designed 76-page, full-colour resource will guide you through daily reflections, Sunday Gospel readings and reflections, spiritual direction, prayers, and group discussion questions—all to deepen your experience of God’s mercy.



## World Day of Prayer

“I will give you rest: come”  
Held at Campbelltown Uniting Church  
on the corner of Allman St & Moore-  
Oxley Bypass at 10:30am on Fri 6 March.



## Breakfast in the Park

**Back by popular demand!**

Join us for a relaxed and joyful morning outdoors with your parish family!

📍 Where: Koshigaya Park

📅 When: Saturday 28 February 2026

🕒 Time: Drop in anytime between 8:00–10:00am

Bring along your own breakfast, drinks, chairs, picnic rugs, plus any games or musical instruments you’d like to share. We’ll be gathering under a shelter—just look for the RED balloons! 🎈🎈

🌟 Fun for all ages — kids, grandkids, friends and neighbours are all welcome. Wear something **RED** so we can spot our St John’s family together. A perfect way to connect, relax, and enjoy community fellowship in the fresh air.

Everyone is welcome — we can’t wait to see you there! ☀️☕

## Prayer Ministry

If you would like prayer for any intention, come along Sunday 8 March at 11:30am in the Church.

Is there  
more to  
life than this

Alpha

## Alpha returns for 2026

**Our mission at St John’s is to know, follow and share Jesus with our neighbours!**

Many people have not met Jesus, or wish to reconnect to the Church, while others have feelings of doubt about their faith. These people need Alpha!

*We ask for your help by praying for our Alpha guests and Alpha team. We rely on the Holy Spirit to power everything we do and we need your prayers!*

Contact Philip Dean [alpha@sjec.org.au](mailto:alpha@sjec.org.au) for further details.

## Alpha Team Gathering

If you have ever been involved in any way with Alpha at St John’s over the past 8 years, please come along to a meeting in the Parish Hall this **Thursday 26 February** from **7pm-8:30pm**. We want to hear your experiences, learn from your wisdom, and thank you for your involvement.

*We want your wisdom as we reboot Alpha in our parish...*

## Formation Pathway | Hospitality

**No one ever left a parish because it was too welcoming.** Ever wondered why some people walk into a parish and never come back—while others feel at home almost immediately? It’s rarely about the music or the homily. More often, it comes down to welcome. As part of the Formation Pathway, this formation explores hospitality as more than being friendly or polite. We’ll look at how the experience people have when they arrive shapes parish culture, lowers barriers to encounter, and influences whether someone feels safe enough to stay, return, and take a next step. After all, if people don’t feel welcome, they’ll never stay long enough to hear the Gospel. This session is for anyone who cares about parish life and wants to help create a parish where people truly belong.

CAMPBELLTOWN Tuesday 3 March 7-9pm WOLLONGONG & ZOOM

Wednesday 4 March 7-9pm To register: [dow.sh/fpmar2026](https://dow.sh/fpmar2026)

## News from the Diocese

### A vocation view

*Like Jesus, be led by the Spirit into the adventure of trust. Resist shortcuts; choose worship. Persevere, and the Father will reveal your path and purpose.*

If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact Fr Duane Fernandez, the diocesan vocations director, [vocations@dow.org.au](mailto:vocations@dow.org.au)

### Men’s Prayer Breakfast

Friday 13 March 2026 | 6:30am-8am  
Tom Kadmon - “Reading Scripture is central to our relationship with Jesus. Xavier Conference Room, 38 Harbour St, Wollongong. Enjoy a breakfast buffet, prayer and inspiring guest speaker input. Be supported and inspired by other men, seeking to be authentic disciples on mission. Cost only \$20. Book [dow.sh/MPB26](https://dow.sh/MPB26) by Tues 10 March

### Vocaris: Love & Responsibility

Young Adults of the Diocese! Come and discover Saint John Paul II’s teaching exploring how to live and love well in every vocation. Drawing on John Paul’s teachings in Love and Responsibility, we’ll explore the single life, dating, marriage, religious vocations, and how chastity is life giving when lived in truth and love! The night will include Eucharistic Adoration, with optional Reconciliation available. Saturday 28 Feb (6pm to 9:30pm) St Mary’s Towers, 415 Douglas Park Drive, Douglas Park. Register to grab your spot now: [dow.sh/VocarisLR](https://dow.sh/VocarisLR)

### Please donate to support our parish

**Use the new tap machine to donate \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 or other amount (\$1 - \$99).**

We know that less people are carrying cash, so the **DoW App** exists to allow you to donate on a one off or regular basis.

Visit [parishgiving.dow.org.au](https://parishgiving.dow.org.au) to register to setup a donation for **Campbelltown Parish**—it takes only **30 seconds** to register and setup. All donations made are safe and secure—you need to enter your card details and then confirm your information before any payments or donations are processed. You can also change or edit your giving at any time in the app.







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