



WEEKEND MASSES
Saturday Vigil 5pm
Sunday 7:30am; 9am;
10:30am & 5pm

Weekday Masses

Monday - Thursday 9:30am; Friday 8am

Adoration

Friday 8:30am - 10:30am
Stations of the Cross 6pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 11am-12pm (with Adoration)

PARISH CLERGY

Fr John Ho PP
Fr Richard Healey AP

CONTACT US

sjec.org.au/hello
25-35 Cordeaux St, Campbelltown
PO Box N203, Campbelltown North 2560
(02) 4625 8044
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

Lent Sunday 3 Year A | 8 March 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

*My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.*

FIRST READING | Exodus 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 94

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

SECOND READING | Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

*The love of God has been poured into our hearts by
the Holy Spirit which has been given us.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst
again.**

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL | John 4:5-42

*The water that I shall give will turn into a spring
of eternal life.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord,
the water I shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life.*

This Week

9:30am Mass - Mon 9 Mar
9:30am Mass - Tues 10 Mar
9:30am Mass - Wed 11 Mar
9:30am Mass - Thur 12 Mar
8am Mass - Friday 13 March

Please Note:

Mass on Friday 13 March will be at 8am

READINGS NEXT WEEK – Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Striking the Rock

The Israelites' hearts were hardened by their hardships in the desert.

Though they saw His mighty deeds, in their thirst they grumbled and put God to the test in today's First Reading—a crisis point recalled also in today's Psalm.

Jesus is thirsty, too, in today's Gospel. He thirsts for souls. He longs to give the Samaritan woman the living waters that well up to eternal life.

These waters couldn't be drawn from the well of Jacob, father of the Israelites and the Samaritans. But Jesus was something greater than Jacob.

The Samaritans were Israelites who escaped exile when Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom eight centuries before Christ. They were despised for intermarrying with non-Israelites and worshipping at Mount Gerizim, not Jerusalem.

But Jesus tells the woman that the "hour"

of true worship is coming, when all will worship God in Spirit and truth.

Jesus' "hour" is the "appointed time" that Paul speaks of in today's Epistle. It is the hour when the Rock of our salvation was struck on the Cross. Struck by the soldier's lance, living waters flowed out from our Rock.

These waters are the Holy Spirit, the gift of God.

By the living waters the ancient enmities of Samaritans and Jews have been washed away, and the dividing wall between Israel and the nations is broken down. Since His hour, all may drink of the Spirit in Baptism.

In the Eucharist, the Lord now is in our midst—as He was at the Rock of Horeb and at the well of Jacob.

In the "today" of our Liturgy, He calls us to believe: "I am He," come to pour out the love of God into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. How can we continue to worship as if we don't understand? How can our hearts remain hardened?

Scott Hahn - 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.



Come to the Well

“Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did.” (John 4:29)

The Samaritan woman did not expect anything special that day. She simply came to draw water, hoping to avoid the eyes and whispers of others. She carried her water jar — and perhaps also her shame, regrets, and loneliness. Yet it was there, in the heat of the day and in the ordinary routine of life, that she met Jesus.

What strikes me most is this: Jesus knew everything about her. He knew her broken relationships, her past, her struggles. But He did not reject her. He did not shame her. Instead, He spoke with kindness and offered her **“Living Water.”** She experienced something new — to be fully known and still fully loved. Isn't that what we all long for?

We, too, come to the well each day carrying our own jars — our worries, disappointments, weaknesses, and hidden burdens. Sometimes we try to fill our thirst with success, possessions, or the approval of others. But these things never fully satisfy the deeper longing of the heart.

Lent is a time to return to the well. Jesus waits patiently for us. He does not come to condemn, but to refresh and renew. When we allow Him to enter our story, we discover that He alone can quench our deepest thirst.

May we have the courage this week to sit with Him, listen to Him, and allow His Living Water to bring us peace.



Prayer Ministry

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

SPECIAL INTENTIONS & THE SICK

Helen Barnes, Ronald Elliott, 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

Patricia Spackman, Maureen Crosland, Peter Chittendon, Lee Casuscelli, Renate Brown.

ANNIVERSARIES & THANKSGIVING

Josephine George, Marlene Salisbury, Ernest Lopez, Francisco Carmona, Herbert G Norris, Igmidio & Florentina Reyes, Amelia Madalena, Simon Castillo, Grecila Gajo.

Thirsting for More

We are invited today to reflect on our deepest longings. In the desert, the Israelites' thirst led them to question God's presence, yet God responded with compassion, providing water from the rock. Paul reminds us that God's love is poured into our hearts, not because we deserve it, but because Christ died for us while we were still sinners. In the Gospel, Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at the well, offering her “living water”—the gift of the Spirit and new life.

Her story is one of transformation. She moves from isolation and shame to becoming a witness who brings her whole community to Jesus. Like her, we are invited to encounter Christ in our own places of need and to allow his love to renew us. Lent is a time to bring our thirsts—our questions, struggles, and hopes—to God, trusting that he will meet us with mercy.

As a parish, our mission is “to know, follow, and share Jesus with our neighbours.” This week, let's ask: Where am I being called to drink more deeply of God's love? How can I share that living water with others—at home, at work, or in our wider community? May we be wells of hope, compassion, and joy for all we meet.

Sacramental Program 2026

Our parish will celebrate the following Sacraments for children in 2026:

First Holy Communion

Parent Information Evening:
7pm Wed 22 April in St John's Church.
6–7 June (Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ)

Confirmation

Parent Evening 7pm Wed 29 July
Tues 8 Sept and Wed 9 Sept at 7pm.

First Reconciliation

Parent Evening 7pm Wed 14 Oct
Thur 19 Nov at 5pm or 7pm.

Prayer Intentions

Rosters

Sunday 15 March 2026

Acolyte

Vigil Michael Norris
7:30 Tom Hunter
9 Pauloleono Aukusitino
10:30 Joy Kuriakose, Andrei Valderrama
5 Dominic Fonoti

Extraordinary Ministers

Vigil Vicky Horgan, Sam Nour
7:30 Shirley Moretti, Ian Star
9 Hazel Vargas, Falakika Nau
10:30 Ioana Brunt, Faalu Faamau
5 Abilene Barnes, Rowena Cooke

Readers

Vigil Jolene Gonzales, Elizabeth Javin
7:30 Lucas Alcantara, John Lloyd,
Mary-Ellen Bland
9 Michael Willis, Reiltin Bullock,
Nathan Cox
10:30 Ancy Mathews, Kate Delmo,
Roslyn Williams
5 Kerrie McDonald, Kimberly Sumang

Musicians

Vigil Ben McKenzie & John George
9 Glynn Family
10:30 Joe Talamaivao
5 Siervas Musika Choir



St John's Easter 2026

Holy Thursday 7pm

Good Friday

Stations of the Cross 10am

Passion of the Lord 3pm

Easter Vigil 7pm

Easter Sunday

7.30am; 9am; 10.30am & 5pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 21 March 11am-12.30am
(2 priests)

Wednesday 25 March 7pm-8pm

Adoration and Reconciliation

After Stations of the Cross
and Passion of the Lord on Good Friday.

Children's Mass
 Sunday, 22 March 2026
 St John the Evangelist Catholic Parish,
 Campbelltown

Children in Years 5-8 are warmly invited to participate in the Mass!
 Be part of a beautiful celebration where our young parish members take active roles in the liturgy.

Participation Opportunities:

- Altar Serving
- Welcome & Introduction
- Prayers of the Faithful
- Offertory Procession

There will be a short gathering in the parish hall after Mass with some fun activities and pizza!

Date: Sunday, 22 March 2026
 Time: 10:30 AM
 Location: St John the Evangelist Catholic Parish
 Address: 35 Cordeaux St, Campbelltown NSW 2560
 Ancy 0413 496 421

MGL Sisters Consecrated Life Weekend: Discernment Retreat

Friday 13 March - Sunday 15 March 2026
 A time for single women aged 18-35 to listen for the voice of Jesus, ask questions and experience prayer, talks, sisterhood and sharing to help discern your vocation.
 More info and RSVP: [0402 602 520](tel:0402602520) or mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com



Catholic Chaplaincy at University of Wollongong

UOW students and staff are warmly invited to become involved with the UOW Catholic Society. Join us for **Mass and lunch, 12:30pm Thursdays** during semester in the Building 11 Clubs Room.
 See [@uowcathsoc](#) on social media to find out more.



Catechist Retreat in March

All Catechists and supporters of the Catechist Ministry are welcome to join us on a special day of retreat either in **Wollongong on Monday 23 March** or in **Rosemeadow on Friday 27 March**. Being the season of Lent, the theme for the retreat is **"Gospel Conversion: Turning to the God of Jesus."** Retreat facilitator, **Fr Aloysius Rego OCD**, will lead us into a greater understanding of the God of Jesus, as revealed to us in Scripture. There will be times for prayer, learning and discussion. Mass is planned before lunch. Please BYO lunch. Morning Tea provided. Donations are welcome however there is no cost for the retreat. Register now: dow.sh/CCDRETREAT26

Diocesan Choir

Sending out an invitation to all those people who are interested in joining the **Wollongong Diocesan Choir**. The choir prepares music for special Diocesan Masses where all parishes are invited to attend. Rehearsals are on a Monday night in the lead up to a celebration, between 7pm-8.30pm. Rehearsals are usually held in the St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong. If you are interested in being involved, email the Diocesan Choir Director, Angela Quinn, with details of your name, email and parish that you attend. quinnao1@dow.catholic.edu.au

News from the Diocese

A vocation view

Jesus gives Living Water to those who come to Him in their need. Bring your weakness to Him, that His strength may help with your continued conversion of life. (John 4:14)
 If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact Fr Duane Fernandez, the diocesan vocations director, vocations@dow.org.au

Summit Night: an evening with Dr Robert Haddad

Young adults of the diocese (18+) are invited to the first Summit Night for 2026 - an inspiring evening of truth, formation, and community featuring Catholic author and apologist Dr Robert Haddad. Join us on Saturday 21 March, 6pm-9pm at the Xavier Conference Centre (next to Wollongong Cathedral) for **The Eucharist—The Medicine of Immortality**.

Using his book, *The Medicine of Immortality: The Eucharist in the pre-Nicene Church Fathers*, our speaker will give us some insights into what the Church Fathers had to say, why the Eucharist is indeed so central in our Church history. The evening includes a wine & cheese reception, Dr Haddad's keynote, Eucharistic Adoration, Q & A and expo of some of our local ministries.

Free event (donations are welcome), but registration is essential. Register here: dow.sh/SummitEucharist Follow [@CYMDOW](#) on socials for more details.

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 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.



Is there more to life than this

Alpha

Alpha @ St John's

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

Alpha is a welcoming space where people can explore questions about life and faith, reconnect with the Church, or encounter Jesus for the first time.

Our parish Alpha has been running for three weeks and this year we have five guests. We invite you to support this ministry by praying for our guests and the Alpha team.

We also need help with providing meals for about 15 people. If you are able to assist with cooking, please contact Pat Webb – [0422 538 244](tel:0422538244).

Thank you for supporting this important parish ministry.

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 by Tues 10 March

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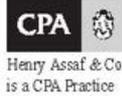
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