



Mass Today

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

FIRST READING | Acts 2:42-47

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 117

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING | 1 Peter 1:3-9

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL | John 20:19-31

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

This Week

Alleluia!

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

sjec.org.au/hello

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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

READINGS NEXT WEEK – Third Sunday of Easter in the Year (A)

Acts 2:14,22-33; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

His Mercy Endures

We are children of Jesus' Resurrection from the dead. Through this wondrous sign of His great mercy, the Father of Jesus has given us new birth, as we hear in today's Epistle.

Today's First Reading sketches the "family life" of our first ancestors in the household of God. We see them doing what we still do—devoting themselves to the Apostles' teaching, meeting daily to pray and celebrate "the breaking of the bread."

The Apostles saw the Lord. He stood in their midst, He showed them His hands and sides. They heard His blessing and received His commission: to extend the Father's mercy to all peoples through the power and Spirit He conferred upon them.

We must walk by faith and not by sight—we must believe and love what we have not seen. Yet, the invisible realities are made present for us through the devotions the Apostles handed on.

Notice the experience of the risen Lord in today's Gospel is described in a way that evokes the Mass.

Both appearances take place on a Sunday. The Lord comes to be with His disciples. They rejoice, listen to His Word, and receive the gift of His forgiveness and peace. He offers His wounded body to them in remembrance of His Passion. And they know and worship Him as their Lord and their God.

Thomas' confession is a vow of faith in the new covenant. As promised long before, in the blood of Jesus we can now know the Lord as our God and be known as His people.

This confession is sung in the heavenly liturgy. And in every Mass on earth we renew our covenant and receive the blessings Jesus promised for those who have not seen but have believed.

In the Mass, God's mercy endures forever, as we sing in today's Psalm. This is the day the Lord has made—when the victory of Easter is again made wonderful in our eyes.

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.



From Fear to Faith, From Wounds to Mercy

The Gospel today presents the disciples hiding behind locked doors, filled with fear and uncertainty. Into this moment of anxiety, the Risen Jesus comes and offers not reproach, but peace: "Peace be with you." This greeting reveals the heart of Divine Mercy—God does not come to condemn, but to forgive, restore, and renew.

Jesus shows His wounds to the disciples. These wounds are no longer signs of defeat but of love transformed. They remind us that our own wounds—failures, grief, and brokenness—are not erased by God, but can be transformed by His grace into sources of healing and compassion.

The encounter with Thomas speaks deeply to our human experience. Like him, we often struggle with doubt and desire certainty. Yet Jesus meets Thomas in his doubt and leads him to faith. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" is a blessing for all of us who walk by faith today.

The first Christian community described in Acts shows what Resurrection faith looks like in practice: unity, generosity, prayer, and joy. Their lives became a living witness that attracted others. As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, we are invited to open the locked doors of our hearts, receive God's mercy, and become instruments of that mercy in our families and community. The Risen Lord continues to say to each of us:

"Peace be with you."

A Sunday School teacher was asking her class about the story of Thomas. She asked, "Now children, why do you think Thomas wasn't in the upper room with the other disciples the first time Jesus appeared?" Franky raised her hand immediately. "I know, Miss!" "Why, Franky?" "Because he was the only one brave enough to go out and get the pizza!"

Thank You to Our Community

We hope you had a joyful and grace-filled Easter celebration.

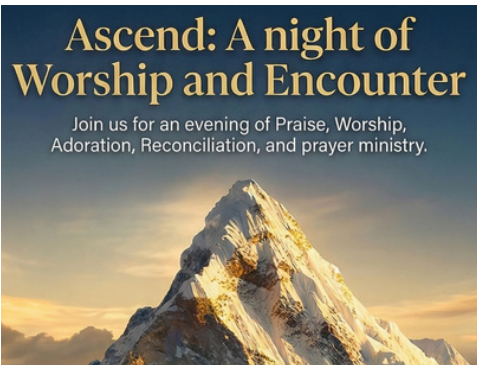
We sincerely thank all our parishioners who so generously gave their time, gifts, and energy in preparing for our Holy Week and Easter liturgies. From those involved in liturgy and music, to those who helped with decoration, cleaning, hospitality, and the many unseen tasks behind the scenes—your dedication made our celebrations truly prayerful, beautiful, and meaningful.

Because of you, our parish was able to journey together from the Cross to the joy of the Resurrection in a spirit of faith and unity. May the Risen Lord bless you and your families abundantly, and fill your hearts with His peace and joy.

Project Compassion

Please bring back your Project Compassion boxes and envelopes now. Leave them in the baskets near the Piety Store. Thank you for your generosity.

Easter Offering amount was \$1,524 & Good Friday appeal was \$3,301.



Ascend: A night of Worship and Encounter

Join us for an evening of Praise, Worship, Adoration, Reconciliation, and prayer ministry.

Ascend Worship Night

Join us for an evening of incredible music, singing, prayer and praise, led by experienced worship leader Louisa Daniels. Adoration, Prayer Ministry and Reconciliation will be part of the night.

Free Entry: a pay-it-forward collection will be taken during the event.

St John's Hall, 7pm Sat 16 May.

Prayer Intentions

SPECIAL INTENTIONS & THE SICK

Joan Samuel, Maria Noida Carmona, Helen Barnes, Ronald Elliott, Jack Wheeler, Roslin, 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

Cynthia Guidice, Helena Charous, Oscar Lopes, Elisabeta Ursino, Tony Wakeham.

ANNIVERSARIES & THANKSGIVING

Mary Irene McLane, Alosio Olaaiga, Johann Brandstatter, Sam Smith, Carmen Cuschieri, Dolores Bominguez, Stanislaw & Helena Simoni, Veronica Augustine, Michael O'Connor.

Rosters

Sunday 19 April

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 Jismin Jio, Alexander Wojcik

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

Prayer Ministry

This Sunday (Divine Mercy) there will be the opportunity to receive prayer for any need at 11:30am - in the church after the 10:30 Mass.

Divine Mercy Sunday

On Divine Mercy Sunday, you are warmly invited to a time of prayer and reflection. **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 2pm, followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm.** Come and experience the healing love and mercy of Jesus. All are welcome.

Parent Information Night – First Holy Communion

We are preparing our children to receive their First Holy Communion on the **Body and Blood of Jesus** (6–7 June).

Parents are warmly invited to attend the **Parent Information Night on Wednesday 22 April 2026 at 7pm in St John's Church.**

This is an important opportunity to support your child as you continue your role as the first teachers of their faith.

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!

Our parish Alpha has only three remaining Monday evening sessions. Thank you for your continued prayer and support.

We are also seeking help to provide meals for around 15 people over the remaining weeks. If you are able to assist with cooking, please contact Pat Webb on 0422 538 244. Thank you for supporting this important parish ministry.

Sanctus - Rosemeadow

Join us for Sanctus Summit at our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow on Wednesday 15 April 2026. Sanctus Summit is a monthly adoration night, bringing together youth and young adults from different parts of the Diocese! Eucharistic Adoration from 6.30 – 7.30pm (Reconciliation will be available), followed by dinner at Ambarvale Hotel. Come along to pray before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and connect with other young people from the area!



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St Patrick's College Open Day

Saturday 2 May | 10am - 2pm

Prospective families are invited to attend our College Open Day and experience our welcoming community. Tour the campus, explore our learning spaces and meet our students and staff. Guided tours are available and must be booked in advance, as places are limited. The College is currently accepting enrolments for Year 7 in 2027 and 2028, and scholarships are available for students in Year 5. For more information and to register:

saintpatricks.nsw.edu.au

St Jude's Chamber Choir Concert at The Abbey

2pm Sunday, 19 April 2026 \$45

St Jude's Chamber Choir will be having a concert at Jamberoo Abbey to raise funds for the Abbey's building maintenance effort.

Spend a lovely afternoon listening to magnificent music brought by the beautiful voices of St Jude's Chamber Choir resounding in the acoustics of the Abbey church. After the concert, we invite you to have afternoon tea with us at the Abbey Guestry.

jamberooabbey.org.au

Formation Pathway: Leading People Well

Formation Pathway | Leading People Well

The conversation you avoid today becomes the conflict you manage tomorrow. Every leader eventually discovers the same thing. The most difficult part of leadership is not vision, planning, or organisation. It is people. Our next Formation Pathway evening will focus on the practical side of leading people well. The session will explore several areas that often determine whether teams thrive or struggle, including: handling conflict constructively; having honest and respectful conversations; setting clear expectations and responsibilities; supporting the people entrusted to our leadership. If you are involved in any form of leadership or ministry, this evening will offer practical help for one of the most important parts of leadership: caring for and guiding people well. All are welcome. Campbelltown Tues 21 April 7-9pm Wollongong & Zoom Wed 22 April 7-9pm. To register: dow.sh/fpapril2026

Appin Massacre Memorial

This year marks the 210th Anniversary of the Appin Massacre (17 April 1816). The annual memorial will be held on Sunday, 19 April 2026, from 11:00am – 3:30pm at Cataract Dam.

All are welcome to attend as a sign of respect for the Dharawal people and their descendants. This family-friendly day includes a free sausage sizzle, a short ceremony, smoking ceremony, traditional dance, and didgeridoo. Please bring a hat, sunscreen, water, and walking shoes. Event buses will be available for those unable to walk. Let us continue to support truth-telling and reconciliation.

News from the Diocese

A vocation view

Thomas returned to the community and there encountered the Risen Lord. Every vocation is born from a personal meeting with Christ within his Church. Be open to his call today. If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact Fr Duane Fernandez, the diocesan vocations director, vocations@dow.org.au

Life in the Spirit Seminar

A 9-week series will commence on Monday 13 April as part of the Bible Study & reflection group, which meets Mondays at 10am.

Come and join us.

OLMC Parish, 193 St Andrews Rd, Varroville. (02) 9603 7373

Urgent Need for Foster Carers

Could you open your heart and home to a child in need? There is an urgent need for foster carers in our community. For over 30 years, CatholicCare has supported carers to provide vulnerable children with a loving, safe home and a brighter future. Foster carers receive comprehensive training, regular case worker support, and a carer allowance for the child's day-to-day needs. If you've ever considered fostering, now is the time. Call: 1800 967 894 fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au We will support you every step of the way.

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.



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