



Mass Today

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.*

FIRST READING | Acts 2:14, 22-33

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 15

Lord, you will show us the path of life.

SECOND READING | 1 Peter 1:17-21

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us;
make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

GOSPEL | Luke 24:13-35

They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

This Week

Alleluia!

9:30am Mass – Monday 20 April
9:30am Mass – Tuesday 21 April
9:30am Mass – Wednesday 22 April
9:30am Mass – Thursday 23 April
9:30am Mass – Friday 24 April
10am Mass - Saturday 25 April - Anzac Day

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

Acts 2:14, 36-41; 1 Peter 2:20-25; John 10:1-10

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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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

Emmaus and Us

We should put ourselves in the shoes of the disciples in today's Gospel. Downcast and confused, they're making their way down the road, unable to understand all the things that have occurred.

They know what they've seen—a prophet mighty in word and deed. They know what they were hoping for—that He would be the redeemer of Israel. But they don't know what to make of His violent death at the hands of their rulers.

They can't even recognize Jesus as He draws near to walk with them. He seems like just another foreigner visiting Jerusalem for the Passover.

Note that Jesus doesn't disclose His identity until they describe how they found His tomb empty but "Him they did not see." That's how it is with us, too. Unless He revealed Himself, we would see only an empty tomb and a meaningless death.

How does Jesus make Himself known at Emmaus? First, He interprets "all the

Scriptures" as referring to Him. In today's First Reading and Epistle, Peter also opens the Scriptures to proclaim the meaning of Christ's death according to the Father's "set plan"—foreknown before the foundation of the world.

Jesus is described as a new Moses and a new Passover lamb. He is the one of whom David sang in today's Psalm, whose soul was not abandoned to corruption but was shown the path of life.

After opening the Scriptures, Jesus at table took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples—exactly what He did at the Last Supper.

In every Eucharist, we reenact that Easter Sunday at Emmaus. Jesus reveals Himself to us in our journey. He speaks to our hearts in the Scriptures. Then at the table of the altar, in the person of the priest, He breaks the bread.

The disciples begged Him, "Stay with us." So He does. Though He has vanished from our sight, in the Eucharist—as at Emmaus—we know Him in the breaking of the bread.

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.



Our own hope

“We had hoped...” Have you ever spoken those words? In today’s Gospel, two disciples are walking away from Jerusalem, devastated by the crucifixion of Jesus. They had pinned all their hopes on him, and now, those hopes lie buried in a tomb. As they walk to Emmaus, they are joined by a stranger who listens to their grief and then begins to explain the Scriptures to them. It is only later, when they invite this stranger to stay and share a meal, that their eyes are opened in the “breaking of the bread,” and they recognise the Risen Lord.

This beautiful story from Luke is a mirror for our own lives and our weekly celebration of the Mass. How often do we walk the road of disappointment, overwhelmed by our own “we had hoped” moments—struggles with family, health, finances, or faith? Yet, the Emmaus story assures us that Jesus does not abandon us in our disillusionment. He walks right beside us, patiently listening, ready to speak his healing Word to our burning hearts.

Every Sunday, we live out the Emmaus journey. We gather, we listen as Christ opens the Scriptures to us in the Liturgy of the Word, and we recognise him in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. But the journey doesn’t end at the altar. Just as the disciples immediately ran back to Jerusalem to share the good news, we too are sent forth.

As a parish called to know, follow and share Jesus with our neighbours, let us be attentive this week. Who in your life is walking a lonely or discouraged road? How can you walk alongside them, listen to them, and reflect His hospitable love?

Children’s Mass

Sunday 26 April 10:30am.

The Mass will involve children from Years 5–8 participating in various liturgical roles, including altar serving, welcome, prayers of the faithful, and the offertory procession.

Following the Mass, there will be a short gathering in the parish hall with some fun activities and pizza for the children.

A new beginning

Until the end of the Easter season, we will begin every Mass a minute early with a prayer to gather our hearts and prepare us to encounter the Lord and one another through sharing the Word and Breaking of Bread.

Opening Prayer (*we will pray together*):

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

The following prayer is led by the priest:

Holy Spirit, gather us now as one body in Christ, draw our hearts together, unite us in mind and purpose, and prepare us, as your church, to be united with Christ in the offering of this Mass as one body.

Through the intercession of St John the Evangelist, help us to listen, to remain, and to love, so that what we celebrate together may truly shape how we live. Amen.

We will then begin the gathering song and continue with the Eucharist.



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.

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 Writer, Joseph Georgy Selvon, Mary Irene McLane, Alosio Olaaiga, Johann Brandstatter, Sam Smith, Carmen Cuschieri, Dolores Bominguez, Stanislaw & Helena Simoni, Veronica Augustine.

Rosters

Sunday 26 April

Acolyte

Vigil Jason Thompson

7:30 Brian Thompson

9 Bernard Augustine

10:30 Gavan Hill, Andrei Valderrama

5 Tom Hunter

Extraordinary Ministers

Vigil Graeme & Roseleen Goldie

7:30 Karen Schneider, *Volunteer*

9 Diana & John Hill

10:30 Norma McNally, Imelda Landrigan

5 Rowena & Patrick Cooke

Readers

Vigil Marie Cassar, Sheila Fonseca

7:30 Jean Reid, Cathy Porter, Ian Star

9 Marie Joseph, Nathan Cox,

Cherima Lucilo

10:30 Martin Shields, Ella Talamaivao,

Children (Universal Prayers)

5 Tess Valesini, Val Alcantara

Musicians

Vigil Ben McKenzie & John George

9 Glynn Family

10:30 Joe Talamaivao

5 Filipino Choir

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.



Anzac Day

There will be Mass on Saturday 25 April at 10am to commemorate all those who have served and died in defending our country. Mass will include a brief remembrance service.

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 two 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.

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote that "charity and mercy demand that the Church, like a good mother, be near her children who feel themselves estranged from her." The Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney, which has an Office in the Diocese of Wollongong, is a service of the Church to assist with the pastoral care of Catholics and non-Catholics who are civilly divorced, and who are seeking to remarry or who want clarification of their standing in the Church. The Tribunal also assists remarried persons seeking to have their current marriage recognised in the Church, and remarried persons wishing to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church.

Any divorced person, or a divorced and remarried person is welcome to contact the Wollongong Office of the Tribunal to obtain further information, or to have their status within the Church clarified.

Brochures are available at the back of the church in the notice board area.

The Wollongong Office of the Tribunal is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You are welcome to contact the Tribunal on 4222 2409 or tribunal@dow.org.au or visit www.tribunal.dow.org.au

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.

Palms Australia

Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

Join Palms International Volunteering for two special sessions where you'll learn about our diverse assignments suited to your qualifications. On 30 April at 7pm meet past Palms volunteers and discover how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities, or join us 21 May at 4pm for a live crossing to Timor Leste and see how lives are changing today. See palms.org.au/events

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/fpaprill2026

Appin Massacre Memorial

This year marks the 210th Anniversary of the Appin Massacre (17 April 1816). The annual memorial will be held this Sunday, 19 April 2026, from 11am–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

The disciples' hearts burned as Christ opened the Scriptures and broke bread with them. Is the Lord setting your heart on fire for a life of service? Walk with him — he will show you the path of life. (Luke 24:13–35)

If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact Fr Duane Fernandez, the diocesan vocations director, vocations@dow.org.au



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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

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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