



# OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST, SUNBURY



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## 14TH AUGUST 2011 TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Mass times this week

Sat 6.00pm St Anne's  
Sun 8.30am St Anne's  
10.30am St Anne's  
5.30pm Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Mon 9.15am St Anne's Church

Mon 7.00pm St Anne's Church

Weds 9.15am St Anne's Church

Weds 11.00am Lions Hostel

Fri 9.15am St Anne's Church

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 10.00am—10.30am O.L.M.C.  
Church

### READINGS NEXT WEEK

1<sup>st</sup> Isaiah 22:19-23

2<sup>nd</sup> Romans 11:33-36

3<sup>rd</sup> Matthew 16:13-20

### MEETINGS THIS WEEK

MON 15 Aug 7.00pm St Vincent de Paul

WED 17 Aug 2.00pm Historical  
Committee, Parish Centre

### MEETINGS NEXT WEEK

TUE 23 Aug 7.30pm Liturgy Planning

WED 24 Aug 8.45am Annual Planning  
Day for Parish & Schools

FRI 26 Aug 3.00pm Annual Melbourne  
Priests Meeting

### ROSARY

Prayed every Saturday at 9.00am St  
Anne's Church.

### FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Monday 15 August and a Holy Day of  
Obligation. Two Parish Masses in St  
Anne's Church at 9.15am and 7.00pm.

### HELP WANTED

Please contact the Parish Office on  
9744 1060 if you are able to assist with  
setting up the Saturday 6.00PM Mass  
on a rostered basis

### **LORD! HELP ME**

The passage from Saint Matthew's Gospel that we hear this weekend is a most extraordinary one. We are accustomed to think of Jesus coming out of the desert, being baptised by John and then proceeding on his mission with a clear understanding of what he had to do. But this account shatters that image. As a result of the uncomplicated, unashamed and perhaps desperate response of the Canaanite woman, Jesus is forced to completely reassess his mission. As a devout Jew he had grown up with the understanding that his work was to complete the revelation of God's love and purpose to his (Jewish) People, but after this encounter he sees his mission as embracing all.

This expansive vision is expressed by Isaiah in the first reading – Those who belong to God's people by birth have no special privileges compared to those who seek to 'attach themselves' to God's People. Paul, in sorrow, has been forced to step away from his beloved Judaism because of their refusal to accept the all-inclusiveness of the Gospel.

During the past week I was at a gathering of leaders from many of the large outer suburban parishes of Melbourne, sponsored by the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation. The speaker began with a photo of Cardinal George Pell and Father Frank Brennan SJ, prominent Catholic figures with significantly different views of what it means to be Catholic. The point he went on to make is that they are both legitimate Catholic Christian men, more than that, they are brothers. Last Tuesday evening something like a quarter of the population of Australia indicated on their Census forms that they were Catholic, but the range of perceptions and understandings of what it means to be a Catholic Christian is very wide indeed and this great diversity exists in all our parish communities. It is precisely and only to the extent that we recognise and value this diversity, recognise and value the uniqueness of each person as a daughter or son of our one Father, and hence our sister or brother, recognise and value those with the most tenuous understanding of what discipleship might mean in their lives and those totally dedicated to the Gospel are of equal value and importance, recognise that each of us has only a partial vision of discipleship and that we need each other in order to grow into its fullness, that we are entitled to call ourselves 'catholic' – a word which, as Fr. Richard Rohr ofm says, means 'Here comes the whole mob of us! All attempts at 'us and them' lead inevitably to the position which Jesus explicitly abandons in today's Gospel.

We have a tendency in our Roman Catholic tradition to have a sense of superiority, or at least a rather inward focus on our own 'clan', with respect to other Christian communities. We call ourselves 'catholic' but can be very demanding when it comes to the conditions for inclusion and communion, despite the already diverse nature of our 'clan'! We call ourselves 'catholic', others call themselves 'orthodox', yet others call themselves 'protestant' – a word which they take to mean 'standing for an important principle' but which is commonly understood as 'objecting to a situation'. In fact we all share 'catholicity' and 'orthodoxy' in about the same measure, and we are all limited in our 'catholicity' and 'orthodoxy' to the extent that we do not value the insights and traditions of others; and we are all witnesses - 'protestant' (= standing up) for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Indeed, each week we stand and proclaim our belief in 'one ... catholic ... Church' in which all who call Jesus 'Lord' are to be honoured, respected and loved as brothers and sisters. ....Richard Hallett

## **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

The Assembly will be held on Saturday 3 September from 9am to 12.30pm in the Parish Centre. Every parishioner is invited. As Pope Benedict said in 2009, "we must improve pastoral structures in such a way that we gradually promote the co-responsibility of all members of the people of God in their entirety. Lay people must no longer be viewed as collaborators of the clergy but truly recognised as co-responsible....."

*(The Tablet- 16 July 2011 pg 17)*

The assembly is one such structure for participation in decision-making and of being involved in the evangelising mission of the Church.

All parish groups and neighbourhoods are being asked to make a brief presentation on their activity in the past year and plans for the future.

## **CARITAS AUSTRALIA EMERGENCY APPEAL**

East Africa Crisis Appeal will be held 13-14 August to assist those areas of East Africa affected by drought. There is great suffering in this part of the world and any financial assistance offered would help many thousands of people to get access to food, clean water, medicine and veterinary assistance for animals.

## **ANNUAL PARISH DINNER DANCE**

The Dinner Dance will be held at the Calabria Club, Uniting Lane Bulla on Saturday 8th October 2011 from 6.30 to 11.30pm. Cost is \$50.00 per person (seating tables of 12) Four course meal and drinks. Contact Eileen Cardillo on 5428 5354 or Maree Salm on 9744 1657.

## **CELEBRATION OF FIRST RECONCILIATION**

First Reconciliation began last Thursday evening and will continue this Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Please remember these children in your prayers as they meet the forgiving Lord in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

## **THANKSGIVING OFFERING**

This is our life blood. Our generous givers give back in thanksgiving to God for all that we receive. Without givers, the Parish would not have began 100 years ago. Without our generous givers, we would cease to exist.

Statements on our giving have been sent last week and today new sets of envelopes are available to be collected. You may find it more convenient to give electronically by direct debit or by internet banking instead of finding cash each Sunday. Our banking details are enclosed with your statements to assist with any changes you may need. Electronic giving is also more convenient for our Parish.

## **THANKSGIVING OFFERING TOKENS**

At every Mass, we offer ourselves to God the Father through Christ. To help those who give by automatic payments (direct debits, credit card and internet banking) to become conscious of their offering at every Mass, we shall have available tokens to be placed on the collection plate. These tokens have the printed text: "We support our parish by automatic payments: The tokens will begin next Sunday."

## **RUPERTSWOOD CRICKET CLUB REGISTRATION DAY**

Saturday 27th August from 9-11am at The Clubrooms, Rupertswood. Looking for U11, U12, U14, U16 & Seniors. New players and girls welcome. Registration forms available on club website <http://rupertswood.cricketvictoria.com.au>. Enquire 0459 098 664 or 0421 991 519.

## **PARENTS SESSION ON CYBERSAFETY**

An information evening this Wednesday at 7pm at St Anne's school is open to all our parents. Please contact the school office for tickets. The session will focus on social networking.

## **TRIVIA NIGHT AND AUCTION**

A Trivia Night and Auction will be held by the Sunbury Chaplaincy Committee on Saturday 20th August at Sunbury College commencing at 7pm. Come along for a fun night with raffles, prizes and auctions of sporting memorabilia. BYO basket supper and drinks. Tickets are \$15 at "Just Planet" (37 O'Shannessy St) or ring Helen on 0407 506 507.

## **SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR SRS MAUREEN & MARY**

A collection will be taken up next weekend as a token of appreciation for the work done by these two wonderful ladies. There will also be an opportunity to say farewell to Srs Maureen and Mary at a shared lunch in the Parish Centre on Sunday 28 August from 12.00 lunch time. Please bring a plate to share.

## **PETITION FOR CALEB FARIA**

At each Mass this weekend we welcome Michelle Faria. Her family are part of Sunbury Parish and their little boy Caleb has a very serious illness that needs very expensive life saving medicine. There are petitions to sign that can be forwarded to our local member of Parliament, Ms Vamvakinou. Please support this lovely little boy by signing the letter.