



# OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

**BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST,  
SUNBURY, WILDWOOD**

**Parish Office: 101 Riddell Road Sunbury 3429  
Ph: 9744 1060 Fax: 9744 7786**



## Mass times this week

**Sat:** 6.00pm St Anne's  
**Sun:** 8.30am St Anne's  
10.30am St Anne's  
5.30pm O.L.M.C.  
**Mon:** 9.15am Liturgy of the Word  
**Wed:** 9.15am St Anne's  
**Thur:** 9.15am St Anne's  
**Fri:** 9.15am St Anne's

## Sacrament of Reconciliation:

**Saturday 10.00-10.30am St Anne's**

**Parish Priest:** Rev Kevin McIntosh

**Assisting Priest:** Rev Bert Fulbrook SDB.

**Pastoral Associate:** Mr Richard Hallett

**Pastoral Associate:** Sr Jose Noy RSJ

**Pastoral Coordinator:** Mrs Lyn Plummer

**St Anne's Primary School 9744 3055**

**Principal : Ms Noelene Hussey**

**Our Lady of Mt Carmel School 9740 7344**

**Principal : Mr Paul Hogan**

## Parish Information

**Baptisms: Held on Sundays.**

**Contact Parish Office for details.**

The following children from our parish will be baptised this Sunday:

Grace HYATT

Lyric MORAN

Sienna RHODES

Willow TAYLOR

We joyfully welcome them into our parish community.



**WELCOME:** Fr John Papworth will be celebrating 5.30 Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

**PLEASE HELP:** we desperately need more Parish Posties to help deliver the Parish Newsletters. We send out the Newsletter only 4 times per year and need people who can deliver them to all the families in your local neighbourhood. It will also help keep you fit. Please contact the Parish office on 9744 1060 if you can help.



**EVERGREENS:** Christmas Lunch Tuesday December 13 at 12 noon. Ball Court Hotel, cost \$20 Bookings to Frances on 9744 1999 by 9 December.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be no further Masses on a Tuesday until further notice.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION  
THIS WEEK  
ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

## 27 November 2011— First Sunday of Advent

**Psalm Response:** Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord, show us your mercy and love  
and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia!

## LET US PRAY FOR

**Sick:** Elizabeth ACZEL Sandra AMOS Wendy ATTREED Charles ENGERER Caleb FARIA Alison FISHER Gerry KEOHANE Justin O'BRIEN Ron PAGE Gregory QUINN Frank TRAFICANTE

**Recently Deceased:** Ron PLUMMER

**Anniversaries:** Dulcie CRUTCHLEY Sheila DAVISON Joseph GATT Yvon Paul GOUBE Joseph MERCEICA Peter QUINN Joseph RIBEYRO Joseph ZAHRA

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

'Stay awake!' and by implication, if you are not already awake, 'Wake up!'

Jesus repeats the phrase 'Stay awake!' four times in the short passage from the 13th chapter of Mark's Gospel which we have heard read today. He is clearly insistent on the importance of this demand. And he emphasises that it is a demand that applies to all.

St. Paul's great sadness, as we read in several places in his letters, was the fact that, despite all the preparation, all the long history of God's dealings with his people Israel, all the teaching of the prophets and all the wisdom of the sages over nearly 2000 years, when the crucial time came, when the long awaited Messiah actually came, they were asleep and missed his coming. They did not recognise him. This is a theme that is fundamental to the whole story of the Old Testament itself, and it is as crucial for us today as it has ever been, as Jesus says.

The early Christians fully expected that Christ would return in power and glory to bring all things to their completion in their own lifetime. The New Testament is full of the sense of expectation - waiting 'until the Lord comes'. But when the great apocalyptic event failed to happen, the early church began to question what was really meant by the Lord's 'coming'. Little by little they came to recognise that his 'coming' was at once less spectacular than they originally expected and at the same time much more significant. They began to recognise the reality of his coming among them whenever they gathered around his table for the breaking of the bread. And they began to recognise that he would come to meet each of them at the end of their physical, earthly life.

In chapter 11 of his first letter to the Corinthians from which we read the opening words today, St. Paul is perfectly clear about this. Whenever we gather we proclaim his death - that is, the fullness of his love - 'until he comes', and we recognise his Body present among us in the gathered assembly, in the ekklesia, in the church. In the passage we read today Paul gives thanks that the church will not be without the means to be ready as we wait for the Lord to be 'revealed' to us and to all creation.

The words from Isaiah are a necessary precondition - we will not 'stay awake', we will not 'be ready' unless we recognise our own need for God's care: 'Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways?'

As we begin to prepare to celebrate the Incarnation of the Word, the coming of the Christ, as a helpless baby, born in a cow shed, we are starkly reminded that our responsibility is, little by little, through prayer, through participation in the life of this community, through learning to be more perceptive of the needs of those around us and doing what we can to meet those needs, we come to recognise the mystery and the reality of the Divine presence within and among us in a most unexpected way. 'Pay attention!' 'Stay awake!' . . . 'until the lord comes'.  
.....Richard Hallett



**LOURDES DAY MASS:** mass of hope for the sick and fragile Saturday 3 December 10.30am St Patrick's Cathedral. Flyers at St Anne's Church.