



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST, SUNBURY



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5th December 2010 THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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 Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Tues 11.30am St Anne's Evergreens Mass
7.00pm Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Weds 9.15am St Anne's Church

Weds 3pm Goonawarra Aged-Care Facility

Weds 7.30pm St Anne's School
Graduation

Thurs 9.15am Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Fri 9.15am Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

READINGS NEXT WEEKEND

1st reading: Isaiah 35:1-6,10

2nd reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Mon 6 Dec 7.30pm St Vincent de Paul
at St Anne's Church

SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL
HELP MAKE CHRISTMAS BETTER
FOR THOSE IN NEED!

CHURCH CENSUS

As we enter our Centenary Year and as many parishioners arrive or change address, we will conduct a quick census at all Masses next Sunday.

EVERGREENS—CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Tuesday 7 December at Sunbury Football Club, Riddell Road. Cost \$25.00—pay on day. Bookings essential—Frances 9744 1999.

PREPARE ANEW

John the Baptist presents an uncompromising message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'. John also presents an uncompromising image of the radically dedicated man, living an extreme lifestyle on the edge of society, and this can itself be deceptive. We can have an image of the repentance that is called for being somehow linked to changing our lifestyle and becoming something of an extremist. But both Isaiah and Saint Paul give a clear picture of the kind of repentance that John and Jesus call for so insistently.

Paul calls for three things:

Perseverance: 'May God help you when you refuse to give up' - but refuse to give up in doing what?

Forbearance: 'Be tolerant with one another'

Friendship: 'Treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you'

Perseverance in forbearance (that is, in gracious acceptance of others as they are) which grows into genuine friendship. This is the great 'new vision' which Jesus, John and Isaiah put before us in this Advent season, this season of preparing for new beginnings. John and Jesus are scathing in their criticism of those who see religious practices as more important than this. Religious practices are important and helpful, even necessary, to support us in coming precisely to this way of living, but they are not an end in themselves.

Isaiah describes the one on whom the spirit of God rests. The description which he gives of the Messiah is precisely the description which the Church takes up in describing every initiated disciple of Christ - the seven gifts of the Spirit of God. Isaiah and Paul are of one mind: 'He does not judge by appearances . . . with equity he gives judgment for the poor of the land.' Isaiah then paints that remarkable picture of the earth transformed - 'calf and lion cub feed together' - the 'kingdom of heaven' which is near at hand and which is brought into being only by uncompromising perseverance in forbearance which grows into true friendship.

.....*The Parish Pastoral Team*

MORNING TEA

The Parish Coordinating Team is looking at reintroducing morning teas after Mass on a more regular basis as a way of keeping up social ties within the parish community. This was a suggestion from parishioners at the last parish assembly. As an initial start morning tea will be held in the foyer of St Anne's Church after 8.30am Mass and before 10.30am Mass on Sunday 12 December so stay late or come early for a cuppa and chat!

Suggestions or queries to Julie—9740 3590 or Mary 9744 1049.

THE JESSE TREE

The Jesse Tree comes right out of a classic Advent passage from the prophet Isaiah: 'A shoot will sprout from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a branch will bear fruit' (Isaiah 11:1). The Jesse Tree is hung with ornaments representing Old Testament people and events, and lead up to Jesus. The traditional symbols hung on the tree are based on the genealogy of Jesus as recounted by the first chapter of the Gospel of St Matthew.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE

A Penitential Service will be held on Wednesday 15 December at 7.30pm St Anne's Church. Come along and participate in this meaningful celebration in preparation for Christmas.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER – VILLAGE GREEN 7.00PM

(organised by Sunbury Christian Churches and sponsored by Sunbury Community & Local Businesses). Free sausage sizzle from 6.00pm provided by the Sunbury Kiwanis Club. BYO seating. Candles and drinks for sale by St John's Ambulance. Performances by Salesian College Band, local primary schools, combined churches chorale & band, Sunbury Girl Guides.

SEXUAL AND OTHER ABUSE: MELBOURNE CHURCH RESPONSE

A new brochure with updated information on the dealing of complaints, counseling and support is available today at the Welcome Desk..

MASS WITH ANOINTING

On Wednesday 8 December we will celebrate Mass with anointing for the residents at Goonawarra Nursing Home at 3.00pm. All those who have volunteered at the nursing home throughout the year are invited to come and join us for this special event.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, ROSA MYSTICA

Rosary and Prayers on Wed 8 December for one hour (12.00—1.00pm) St Anne's Church. All welcome!

'BACK ON TRACK'

A FREE CONCERT IN SUPPORT OF BUSHFIRE AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

'Back on Track', the drought is over.....is a free community concert from midday until 9.00pm on Sat 11 December at the Whittlesea Showgrounds. The concert is a family friendly, strictly drug and alcohol free event. Everyone is welcome so come along and show your support for the bushfire affected communities.

LAITY ENDORSE MARRIAGE

A number of Catholics wish to collect a petition to be forwarded to the local Federal Member of Parliament. The words of the petition were agreed by the bishops as:

'As a parishioner of(within your electorate) please consider my position on the meaning of marriage. Given the variety of domestic arrangements available in Australia, I request that you protect the unique institution of marriage as traditionally understood and actually lived as the complementary love between a man and a woman'.

Please forward before 22 December or sign a copy of the petition at the Welcome Desk.

NEW FENCE AT OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

As indicated in our newsletter of 12.09.2010, the new fence is now being installed. The gates will be open from 8.30am to 9.00am and 3.00pm to 3.30pm. All entry is through the school office for the safety of our children and the security of our property. The entry for morning Mass will be the gate in front of the Presbytery.

THANK YOU

We would like to express our deepest thanks to all members of the parish community for your prayers and support during the time of John's illness and recent death. We would also like to extend a special thank you to those who attended the Mass, sang or helped in any way in the hall that afternoon. It was a wonderful example of our faith in action. Our family has been overwhelmed with flowers, cards, visits and calls. You cannot underestimate how much this has helped us as we grieve our dearly loved husband and father John.

Sincerely.....Therese, Stephen, Jacqui & Chris, Nicole & Matt, Mark and David Arthurson

ST MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGES TO SYDNEY & PENOLA

Two pilgrimages have been organised for 2011— (1) A 6 night pilgrimage to Sydney from 19-25 May. (2) A 3 night pilgrimage from Bacchus Marsh to Hamilton, Portland & Penola from 9—12 September. Pilgrimages will depend on the number of people interested. To register your interest contact Sr Mary Fermio on 53 672 078, email mary.fermio@sosj.org.au before Christmas. Further details see noticeboard St Anne's Church.