



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

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

Parish Office: 101 Riddell Road Sunbury 3429

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Mass times this week

Sat: 6.00pm St Anne's
Sun: 8.30am St Anne's
10.30am St Anne's
5.30pm OLMC
Mon: 9.15am Liturgy of the Word
Tues: 7.00pm OLMC
Wed: 9.15am St Anne's
Thu: 9.15am St Anne's
Fri: 9.15am St Anne's

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 10.00—10.30am OLMC Church

Parish Priest: Rev Kevin McIntosh
Assistant Priest: Rev Dispin John
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.
Please contact the Parish Office for details of the next Baptismal Preparation meeting.

The following children from our parish will be baptised this Sunday:
Charlie APPELYARD Asha BAILEY
Ruby LANE Shileigh MCARDLE
We joyfully welcome them into our parish community.



LIVING IN THE LIGHT: give yourself the gift of ten minutes silence every day this week. Clear a 'space' by turning off the TV, the radio, or your iPod. What new awareness comes to the surface in the silence? Make a note of anything that interests you. Could this insight influence the way you might choose to live from now on?

Beginning Today and during Lent there is a choice of 3 Lenten sessions of shared reflection in groups:

Sunday 9.40-10.30am at St Anne's or

Sunday 4.45-5.30pm at OLMC Church

Tuesday 7.30-8.15pm at OLMC Church

All welcome.

26 February 2012 – First Sunday of Lent

Psalm Response: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Emmanuel ATTARD Artemio AZORES Doris BORG Silvana BODZAY Emmanuel CAMILLERI Caleb FARIA Cathy FREEMANTLE Margaret FRIEL Glenys GAYFER Ramon KARASIG jnr Faye ROWELL Lolita SEPE Frank TRAFICANTE

Anniversaries: Emmanuel BUTTIGIEG Lawrence & Vincenza DESIRA Lucy DOUGHTY John FERNANDES Kevin HOARE Dan KILGARIFF Esme RODRIGUES Irene TYQUIN

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

After Jesus was baptised by John in the Jordan **'the Spirit immediately drove Jesus out into the wilderness'**. The Jordan, of course, is the river which separates Israel, the Promised Land, from the wilderness. In the Book of Exodus Moses leads the people out of Egypt, through the sea to Sinai, the mountain of the covenant, where the covenant once made with Noah is established anew with the People of Israel. Then Moses leads the people directly to the Jordan, ready to cross into the Promised Land. But at the very point of entry, (Leviticus 14) the people lose faith in God's ability to give them possession of the land and refuse to cross the Jordan. Because of this loss of faith, after all that they had seen God do for them, none of those who left Egypt are allowed to enter the Promised Land - they must wander for forty years in the desert until they learn to trust God's promise

Jesus is 're-enacting' the journey of God's People, and he does not surrender to the temptations which come to him. Unlike the people of old he is able to usher in the coming of God's kingdom. There is a sense of urgency and frenetic action throughout Mark's Gospel: the Spirit drove Jesus out 'immediately'; paragraph after paragraph Jesus 'went' here, 'was travelling' there, always on the move. This is the pattern of Mark's Gospel, and the important message that he is trying to convey to us as the pattern which our lives must take if they are to be images of the life of Jesus: 'Focus NOW on what is important, then get on WITHOUT DELAY to address the issues which this focus places before you.'

The purpose of going to the wilderness is to get rid of the clutter which surrounds us most of the time so that we can see more clearly what is important and act more freely without tripping over things. A friend is in the process of renovating (= making new) her office; letting more light in, bright colours, clearing out bookshelves full of folders, simple but tasteful furniture. The result: The room looks twice the size, bright, purposeful, joyful, peaceful, friendly. A fresh complete transformation.

The greatest danger we face in Lent, like the people at the Jordan, is putting things off till tomorrow because we are too busy or too fearful - and then Lent is done and we have not changed. Come to one of the Lent Program meetings advertised in our Churches; contribute generously to Project Compassion; focus on what is really important. The opportunities for transformation and liberation are not endless. As the Buddhist teachers say: 'Do it!'

.....Richard Hallett

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: St Anne's Church car park currently has the marked area that has been damaged by water. This is a safety issue and is being attended to.

Lenten Prayer: *Ever-faithful God, You wait in the wilderness of our lives.*

Your Beloved Son went willingly into the desert, to bring us out of loneliness into the companionship of your love.

Give us the courage to believe that your Kingdom has indeed come near to us; to leave behind our 'old' ways and embrace new freedom; to hope in the promise of life that never ends; to repent and believe in the Good News.

May our lives proclaim your dream for all; to live in the light of peace and harmony.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Light of the World, and in the power of your Enlightening Spirit— One God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

"This Promise is for You" : continues on Thursday evening commencing at 7.30pm in St. Anne's Church. This week's topic is "Freedom in Jesus". All Welcome. For further info/transport please contact Lambert & Elaine van der Weerden on 9744 4029.

HELP WANTED: we are in need of the skills of someone who knows how to repair our beautiful but damaged Nativity scene. Our maintenance team are in the process of fixing our beautiful statues, but needs help from someone who knows how to mould fibreglass or plaster. Nurses repairing broken limbs may be able to assist. If you have the necessary skills, please contact Jo Wiegerink on 9744 5788. If these beautiful statues cannot be repaired, we will need to look at replacing them which will be quite costly.

SALESIAN COLLEGE APPLICATIONS: School Tours will be held on the following dates during Term 1 :
Monday 27th February at 4.30pm
Thursday 15th March at 9.30am
Please note that Applications for Year 7 2013 close on Friday 2nd March 2012. Enquiries concerning enrolments for other Year Levels (8-12) are welcome. Contact the College Registrar, Mrs Marylou Jones, on 9744 0060 to book in for any of the tours listed or for further info.

ROSARY: is prayed every Saturday morning at 9am in St Anne's Church. All Welcome.

WORKING BEE: on Saturday 3 March starting at 9 til 12.00. Our work will concentrate on the grounds around St Anne's Church and the Parish Centre. Please bring weeding gear, wheelbarrows, shovels, whipper snippers, etc. All welcome, help make St Anne's look like the Garden of Eden.

MEETINGS :

St Vincent de Paul	Mon 27 Feb 7.00pm
Parish Education Board	Wed 29 Feb 7.00pm
Liturgy Planning	Thurs 1 Mar 7.30pm
Working Bee St Anne's	Sat 3 March 9.00-12.00

ROSTERS NEXT WEEKEND

CLEANING: OLMC Church—Deborah Hoey Win Birt St Anne's Church—Cedric D'Souza Lili Lupa

COUNTERS: Kelly Start Vern Walters Maureen Walters

GIFT SHOP: Pat Jeffrey Pam Fairbairn

LECTORS: Eileen Naylor Elena Rodrigues Graeme & Lynne Simpson Anthony Rocco

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: **6.00pm** Paul Hogan Maree Walsh Maurie & Anne Saunders Carmel Pritchard Jennifer Poon Mary Baensch Diana & Albert Mastramico **8.30am** Katherine Thompson Jo & Carmel Wiegerink Mark & Christine Perry Ann Chircop Tom Allen Christine Cassar **10.30am** Aileen & Terry Sweeney Kathy Porter Bernadette Anderson John Bottams Johanna Fahey Paul Fanning Cathy Gay **5.30pm** Alan Slocombe Pauline Strongman Paula Seric

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: "After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God..." Mark 1:14

Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming. It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.



MORNING TEA: next Sunday 4 March after 8.30am Mass will be hosted by the Old Town Neighbourhood. Please bring a plate to share and join in for a cuppa and a chat.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Friday 2 March, at St Anne's Church over 3 million people worldwide will take part in the World Day of Prayer Service, which this year has been prepared by the Christian women of Malaysia with the theme "Let justice prevail." The Sunbury Chorale will lead the singing. Prayer booklets will be available. As James prayed: "Father may they all be one... so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (John 17:21) "Prayer is common to the should of the whole ceremonial movement." (Catholic Catechism No 821) As the host Church this year, a large representation of our parishioners would be a sign of our hospitality.

Founded in 1887, this international Order of Service is translated into more than sixty languages and 1000 dialects in 176 countries and islands. In Australia, nearly 100000 people are expected to participate in over 1300 Services to be held in Churches, Centres, Schools and Nursing Homes.

In Sunbury, the service will be held at St Anne's Church on Friday 2 March at 7.30pm with supper to follow. All parishioners are invited to join our sisters and brothers from other Christian Churches in this special service. A plate of supper to share after the service would be much appreciated.

CATHOLIC HEALTH AUSTRALIA: represents 75 hospitals and 550 residential aged care services operated by the Catholic Church Australia's largest non-profit provider of health services. CHA is urging more funds for health care.

JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES: the enrolment of three new Associates will take place at the 10.30am Mass on this Sunday. All Associates are invited to welcome the new members.

RCIA: today, the first Sunday of Lent our Candidate, her sponsors and family together with the RCIA team will join hundreds of others at the Rite of Election at St Patrick's Cathedral at 2.30pm this afternoon. The Candidates and Catechumens are presented, on our behalf by their sponsors to the Archbishop and reaffirm their commitment to becoming members of the Catholic Community. It is a very moving ceremony which marks the beginning of an intense period of preparation for those who will be received into the Church, by Baptism, Confirmation and reception of the Eucharist for the first time at the Easter Vigil and at Pentecost. If anyone is interested in attending this inspirational ceremony, you will be most welcome. Please contact Jo Wiegerink on 9744 5788 if you are interested in coming.

SING A LONG: Goonawarra Nursing Home, Sunbury. Friday 2 March 2.30-3.15pm. Please come along and help entertain the residents.



NEXT WEEKS READINGS: First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2.9-13.15-18 Second Reading: Romans 8:31-34 Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: We all do things to enhance our lives; Fitness programs and diets to improve our health ; Professional Development programs to improve our job skills. We offer you an opportunity for married couples to give a wonderful gift to your children by enhancing your marriage through a Marriage Encounter weekend. Take a look at our website on www.wwme.org.au Our weekends in 2012 are: 20-22 April, 15-17 June, 10-12 Aug and 12-14 Oct. For info and bookings contact Marianne & Marcel Van den Bronk (03) 9733 0997 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au

Welcoming children into the Christian Community:

Reconciliation in 2012 and First Communion in 2013:

* Information and Registration sessions for all parents: **2pm or 7.30pm, Tuesday 6 March, Parish Centre**

* Celebration of First Reconciliation: 9, 14 and 16 August, 7pm St. Anne's Church

* Celebration of First Communion: May 2013

First Communion 2012: May/June

Families have been advised of the preparation and celebration dates.

Baptism of School Age Children:

Sunday 17 June and Sunday 25 November

Contact the Parish Office NOT LESS THAN 6 WEEKS before these dates to arrange preparation.

For more information contact the Parish Office on 9744 1060 or e-mail: richard.hallett@cam.org.au

CATHOLICCARE OUTREACH PROGRAM: in the past our community has given generously to Catholiccare. Our community has access to the services provided by this wonderful organisation through the outreach program. It is run through the Sunbury Community Health Service and the hours of operation are: Mon, Tues, Thurs 9-5; Wed 11.30am-7pm. Services provided range from individual, couple and family counselling, stress management, grief and loss, pain management and parenting. Please contact 9744 4455 to arrange an appointment if you need to use this service.

ST ANNE'S WALKING GROUP: all are invited to join in every Thursday morning at 9am outside the Administration Office of St Anne's Primary School. Get fit and have fun at the same time. All welcome.



CONFIRMATION 2012: enrolment forms are to be given to the Parish Office by Friday 2 March.

PARISH PLAYGROUP: Come and join us for a cuppa, play and to meet some new people—every Wednesday morning 9.15am to 11.00am during school term at the Parish Centre. Enquiries: Caroline Thorne—9744 5620 or olmcplaygroup@hotmail.com



NEW COMPUTERS: The grade 5/6 children at OLMC Primary school who received their new lap tops this week. We hope that this new tool will enhance and enrich their learning experience. They are very fortunate to have this resource available and we wish them well.

SIX NEW STUDENTS FOR THE PRIESTHOOD IN MEL-

BOURNE: entered Corpus Christi College, Carlton last Sunday. Michael Buck (St Patrick's, Mentone), Kevin Chi-Ong (Sacred Heart, St Albans), Darien Stricklen (St Ignatius', Richmond), Michael Wood (St Mary's, Ascot Vale), Samuel Stanford (St Augustine's, Coffs Harbour), Keiser Lance Cabral (Quezon City, Philippines). Please keep these seminarians in your prayers. Enquiries for entry in 2013 should be directed to Fr Binh Le, Director of Vocations on 9926 5733.

CARE OF OUR ALTAR: volunteers are invited to be on a roster to clean with special equipment our altar of American Cherry Wood and the wooden floor. Please contact Raeleen on 0402 071 815.

NEW ARCHBISHOP OF PERTH: appointed by the Pope is Bishop Timothy Costelloe, our Northern Regional Bishop from 17 March. We thank him for his visits over the past five years especially to parents as they prepared for the Confirmation of their children and for consecrating our altar in 2009.

Father Martin Ashe has been appointed Episcopal Vicar of our Region. Father Martin will do some of the 82 Confirmations in this Region, attend fortnightly Curia meetings and a point of reference for the next year or so until a new auxiliary bishop is appointed. Fr Martin will continue as Parish Priest of Mernda-Whittlesea-Kinglake. Let us keep him in our prayers as he generously has accepted this new ministry.

PROJECT COMPASSION CARITAS LENTEN REFLECTION:

in this week's reading, "the Spirit" sends Jesus into the wilderness for forty days to fast and pray. He is tempted by the devil to focus on his own needs, to seek proof of His Father's love and protection, and to pursue wealth and power. Jesus resists these temptations and is strengthened for the mission for which he is preparing— a mission of justice and peace.

Lent is our "wilderness experience". We can allow the Spirit to lead us to where we can reflect, pray and renew our strength.

This week's Project Compassion story shares the experiences of Flabiana and her family, who were forced, like many others, to leave their home and seek refuge in the mountains after ongoing conflict and violence in Timor Leste. They were left with nothing and, when they returned, were faced with the task of rebuilding.

Through a program supported by Caritas Australia they are now learning new skills, transforming their lives and building a future which they hope will be prosperous and peaceful because, in the words of Blessed Pope John Paul II, "Peace is essential for development." Our mission is for justice and peace too. This connects us to the people of Timor Leste. We can choose to support them as they rebuild their lives. We can choose to be their partners in the process of renewal. We can choose to work for justice— the path to peace.

INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY: is celebrated next Sunday on 4 March and is a time to connect with all women around the world. It is also a time to consider the women who have impacted our lives and hold up in prayer those we have never met. It is an opportunity to share inspiring visions of women flourishing and achieving their full potential as people of God; to offer encouragement and hope in facing the rocky paths yet to be trod.

LENTEN MEDITATION OPPORTUNITY: during the season of Lent, we will be offering Christian Meditation to anyone interested at 8.50am in the RE Office at St Anne's Primary School. You are welcome to join us for this quiet, peaceful time (approx. 20 minutes) where together we can shut out everything but God. Our "Drop off and Drop in" Meditation program begins on Tuesday 28 February and will continue the following four Tuesdays (March 6, 13, 20 & 27). All welcome.



Towards the Light of Conversion