



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST,
SUNBURY, WILDWOOD

Parish Office: 101 Riddell Road Sunbury 3429

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Liturgy Times this Week

Sat 5.30pm St Anne's
Sun 8.30am St Anne's
10.30am St Anne's
5.30pm St Anne's
Mon 9.15am St Anne's—Liturgy of Word
Tues 10.30am OLMC-Funeral Mass
Sam Cristiano
Wed: 9.15am St Anne's
Fri: 9.15am St Anne's

Parish Priest: Rev Kevin McIntosh
Assisting Priest: Rev Bert Fulbrook SDB
Pastoral Assoc.: Sr Jose Noy RSJ
Pastoral Co-ord: Lyn Plummer
St Anne's Primary School: 9744 3055
Principal: Noelene Hussey
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School:
9740 7344

Acting Principal: Mark Gleeson

Baptisms celebrated on Sundays. Please contact the Parish Office for details of the next Baptismal Preparation meeting.

Reconciliation OLMC Church
10.00am-10.30am Saturday

1 January 2017

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Psalm Response

May God bless us in his mercy.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors
through the prophets; now he speaks to us
through his Son
Alleluia!

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Emmanuel AGIUS Margaret
CROOKS Kath KILGARIFF Lionel
MCGUIRE Violeta MARIANO Josephine
MEHAS Bernadette NOONAN Kath REILLY
Kevin SMITH Frank WALKER Beth
WARBURTON

Recently Deceased: Sam CRISTIANO
Jack NELSON Arthur PALSER

Anniversaries: Lindsey BRUCE John
D'SOUZA Andrew GROGAN Sydney
JOHNSTON James MCGOVERN Elizabeth
& Franco PISANESCHI

Special Collection this
Sunday Melbourne Overseas
Mission

PARACHUTE PACKERS

Some time ago a friend of mine sent me this story. Charles Plumb was a US Navy pilot in Vietnam. After seventy-five combat missions his plane was shot down. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy hands. He was captured and spent six years in a communist prison. Surviving the ordeal, he now lectures on lessons he learned from that experience.

One day when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said, *'You're Charles Plumb. You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk. You were shot down.'* *'How in the world did you know that?'* asked Plumb. *'I packed your parachute,'* the man replied. Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said, *'I guess it worked.'* Plumb assured him, *'It sure did. If my chute hadn't worked I wouldn't be here today. Thank You!'*

Plumb couldn't sleep that night. He tried to picture the man clad in Navy uniform, white hat, a bib in the back and bell-bottom trousers. He wondered how many times he had passed the man without so much as a "good day" or "how are you?" After all, Plumb was a pilot and the man was just a sailor, a backroom man. Plumb thought of the many hours that man had spent at a wooden table in the bowels of the ship carefully weaving the shrouds and folding the silks of each chute, holding in his hands the fate of some pilot.

This story makes me think of the many people who pack the parachutes for our parish:

the secretaries and the parish team who do so much work in the background,
the ladies who clean the churches,
the people who open up the church and who prepare everything for Mass,
the ladies who wash the altar linen,
the men who do parish maintenance,
the lectors, the collectors, the catechists, altar servers and the special ministers of Communion,
the musicians who lead us in song,
the people who take communion to the sick,
the welcomers, the RCIA Team, the SVDP volunteers, and the Legion of Mary, Parish Education Board,
the counters of the collection and the finance team,
and the people who do so much behind the scenes.

Yes, I believe I am speaking about our back stage people, our parachute-packers. As we farewell 2016, we must thank these people for their selfless contribution to the life of our parish. And as we begin this New Year, we extend an invitation to anyone who feels called to join the ranks of our brigade of parachute packers.

Fr Bert Fulbrook sdb

THE FIRST DAY OF THE NEW YEAR: You shall say to them : May the Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:23-24)

On the first day of every year we are called to look back on the year that has been and to look forward to the year that has dawned upon us. Though, what sort of disposition are we called to bring to this first day of the year? How should we look back and look forward? To whom should our gaze be directed?

As a people who stand on the shoulders of the Chosen People of Israel (who as we recall in the Book of Numbers, "blessed God") we are called to look back over 2016 and look forward to 2017 in thanksgiving for the hope and strength God offers to each of us.

For while each and every one of us, to varying degrees, have faced trials and challenges, and joys and struggles during 2016, at the beginning of this new year we thank God that we have been able to walk this journey of 2016 accompanied by our faith—a faith that does not take away from us the trials and tribulations faced by all the members of the human family, but offers us the beacon of hope that can guide us through the darkness. As Pope Francis said, "Although many clouds gather on the horizon of our future, we must not be afraid."

As we look forward and look back, we make the words of the ancient prayer of thanksgiving our own:

In you, Lord, is our hope: and we shall never hope in vain. Amen

..... Fr David Catterall, Oran Park NSW PP

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION APPEAL: since its foundation in 1969, Melbourne parishioners have supported Melbourne's own mission fund to help developing nations. This has marked our Archdiocese for its exceptional generosity. Currently, the major beneficiaries are people in Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, Gambia, Ghana, Pakistan, Botswana, Nigeria, Peru and Jerusalem. Archbishop Denis Hart commends the fund to your continuing support.

Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible. Envelopes on the pews.

OUR PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY: we offer to Lina Cristiano and her three children as Sam her husband of 44 years and their father, entered eternal life last Saturday. As a seven year old, he immigrated to Australia from Calabria Italy with his parents. Sam became a food merchant. Sam and Lina came to our parish in 1980. He received ten days notice of his terminal illness. His Funeral Mass on Tuesday will conclude with a cemetery commitment.

GROVEDALE PARISH: Holiday travelers to the Surfcoast (Grovedale, Torquay and Anglesea)— you may be visiting us over the Christmas/ New Year break and beyond, so come and have a look at our brand new website: www.cam.org.au/grovedale. It has all our Mass times and Bulletins on it as well as lots of other interesting material. Please get to know us a little before you arrive, and we will look forward to saying hello when we meet you at any of our Masses.

SUNDAY EVENING MASSES : during January and February we will be following our custom of celebrating Mass at 5.30pm in St Anne's Church where there is cooling for the health of all beginning on Sunday 1 January 2017.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ASSISTING REFUGEE STUDENTS:

MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE – Mercy Works Ltd. is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Interview process will be in late January followed by a Training Day early 2017. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. Email: somml@bigpond.com (preferred for contact) Website: www.mercyworks.org.au Mercy Connect Melbourne - Tel: 9326 1895

EXPLORING THE WORD: The Scriptural presentations of Mary, the mother of Jesus differ quite markedly across the four Gospels. She, along with Jesus' extended family is portrayed quite negatively in Mark (Mark 3:21, 31) as thinking that Jesus has gone mad! In Matthew's story of the birth of Jesus, the leading role is given to Joseph rather than to Mary; however, both Luke and John assign a place of honour and importance to the mother of Christ. In Luke, Mary is hailed as 'blessed among women' and is present at prayer with the twelve in the upper room after the death of Jesus on the cross, and so is also one who received the Holy spirit at Pentecost, just as she did at Jesus' conception. Unfailingly in Luke's Gospel, Mary is presented as a devout and pious Jew, who follows the Law, but more importantly, cooperates fully with God's plan of salvation. What is perhaps most touching in Luke's presentation of Mary is the truly maternal image of a woman wondering about the future of this child she has just borne and pondering in her heart the things that are said about him.Summit No 2016

SHARING THE TRADITION: one of the great devotions to Mary as the Mother of God and Queen of Peace is the daily recitation of the Rosary. The word 'Rosary' comes from the Latin *Rosarius*, which means a garland or bouquet of roses. The history of the development of the Rosary is clouded by time but is popularly attributed to St Dominic in the thirteenth century. The Rosary combines both vocal and meditative prayer; while reciting prayers aloud, the supplicant meditates on particular events grouped in what are known as 'The Mysteries'. There are four sets of Mysteries: The Joyful, The Sorrowful, the Glorious and added most recently by the late Pope Saint John Paul II, the Luminous Mysteries.



As we honour and treasure Mary, Mother of God, let us also remember and honour our own mothers or significant women in our lives. What strengths or gifts do you recognize in them? What influence did that person have on your development and growth?

....Summit Nov 2016

We thank God for the love and support of the nurturers in our lives, be they our mothers, fathers or significant others.

ROSTERS NEXT WEEKEND

ALTAR CARE: Levitt De Andrade **CLEANING:** OLMC Church— Deborah Hoey/ Win Birt St Anne's Church – Nil **COUNTERS** John & Judith Bracher Judith Ibrahim **GIFT SHOP:** Dolly Causer Pam Fairbairn **LECTORS:** Paul Hogan Elena Rodrigues Mary Macdermid Christine Wallace **MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: 5.30pm** Val McManus Sashi Nair Eileen Naylor Jennifer Poon Carmel Pritchard Barry Roberts Yvonne Rozario Pauline Sharma **8.30am** Rex Jacob Lili Lupa Liz Richards Glenda Shanahan Graeme & Lynne Simpson Andrew Swann Monica Allen **10.30am** Sean Quigley Tony Hendy Mick Hetherington Teresa Kiploks Sr Jose Noy Moira Sullivan Mark Pery Mimi Quattrone **5.30pm** Will Honner Maria Mallia Rita Rocco