



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

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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
	5.00pm	St Anne's
Mon	9.15am	St Anne's-Liturgy of Word
Tue	6.30pm	OLMC
Wed	9.15am	St Anne's
Thurs	9.15am	St Anne's
Frid	9.15am	St Anne's

RECONCILIATION

OLMC Church

10am-10.30am Saturday

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

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
Principal: Julie Freeman

21 January 2018

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5,10

Psalm Response: Psalm 24:4-9

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel Acclamation: Mark 1:15

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near:

believe the Good News.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Sue ANNETTE Joan ATKINS Carmen BARBAR Maria BARROW Patricia CLARK Helen CONNORS Christine DJAKOBIC John GRAY Harvey HUGHES Diamond JACOB Jan & Peter KEOGH Lloyd MACEY Cassandra O'KEEFE Pio ROCCO Christine VELTHUIS Carolyn WOCKNER Natalee WOOD

Recently Deceased: Fr Ted CUMBO Maria EGAN Julian HORABIK

Anniversaries: Nicolaas de Ridder Maureen LAWSON Michael RAJAH Anthony RODRIGUES John RODRIGUES



THE GAZE OF JESUS

Last Sunday I drew your attention to a part of the gospel that often goes unnoticed. In John's gospel we read '*John (the Baptist) stared hard at Jesus.*' Further on in the same gospel passage we read, '*Jesus looked hard at Simon.*' In the snippet of Mark's gospel served up for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, we read, '*As he was walking along the Sea of Galilee Jesus saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake – for they were fishermen.*' Further on we read, '*Going a little further Jesus saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John...*' Jesus calls the two sets of brothers to follow him, and all four promptly leave their nets, their boats, their fishing gear, and their family and follow Jesus without the slightest hesitation. It is suggested that they responded not only to the voice of Jesus but to his piercing gaze and beckoning eyes. St John of the Cross said, '*For Jesus, to see is to love.*' Yes, '*For Jesus, to see is to love.*'

In his book, *The Impact of God, Soundings from St John of the Cross*, Iain Matthew provides us with a special chapter, *The Gospel has Eyes* (Chapter 5). He writes:

Imagine sitting on a quiet bench in the park, between some flower beds and backed by a hedge. ...composing quite a personal letter, absorbed and writing...Someone is there – you notice out of the corner of your eye – someone is there looking at you, and has been for quite some time. What a moment of exposure!

The gospel has eyes – '*The eyes I long for so*', John of the Cross calls them – and the point comes on the journey when the bride meets those eyes which had been looking on: 'It seems to her that he is always gazing upon her.' It is a moment of exposure as she finds herself a factor in another's life and heart.

It takes a saint, a mystic and a poet to discover the depth of Christ's love. Very few Catholics and Christians have come to the realization that Jesus looks on them with a deep passionate personal love. Later on in the Year of Mark, the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we will come across the episode of the rich young man who is called by Jesus to follow him and leave his wealth behind (Mk 10: 17-27), but the man clings to his wealth. In that episode we read, '*Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him.*' Iain Matthew continues his theme on the '*Gospel Has Eyes*'. He writes...

So the gospel has eyes which are not dispassionate, nor merely passive. Their gaze is not an art-gallery gaze, wandering from exhibit to exhibit and leaving what they see obviously unchanged. Their gaze engages what they see and affects it. "*For God, to gaze is to love*" and to bestow favours. (You are my son/daughter: my favour rests on you.) Gospel eyes are effective: '*God's gaze works four favours in the soul: it cleanses the person, makes her beautiful, enriches and enlightens her.*'

St John of the Cross, with St Theresa of Avila, is probably the greatest Carmelite saint in the history of that contemplative Order. His image of a loving God suggests a refreshing way of looking at the Christian life. '*Christianity is an effect,*' says Iain Matthew, '*the effect of a God who is constantly gazing at us, whose eyes anticipate, radiate, penetrate and elicit beauty.*' What a beautiful image of God is that! How different it is from the ugly '*eye in the sky*', the God who is like a cop wanting to catch us out breaking his law, ready to punish us! Let always remember: "*For God, to see is to love.*"

Fr Bert Fulbrook sdb

PARISH EVENT— ST PATRICK'S DAY 2018 :

The Ripcords will be rocking up a storm in our **Parish Centre on Saturday 17 March— St Patrick's Day**. We will have Irish dancing display and lots of other fun. The band play a mixture of music from the 50's, 60's and 70's so get ready to dance the night away! BYO food and drink .Tickets can be bought from the Parish Office at \$20 per head. Time: 7.30pm. All proceeds will go to the Parish Overseas Humanitarian Project to support the HIV/AIDS affected orphans in Jakarta.

BR MICHAEL HERRY: LITURGICAL MUSIC WORK-

SHOP: Br Michael Herry is a music composer who has written many of the hymns we sing during weekend Masses. We encourage anyone interested in music ministry to attend this special night. The workshop will combine reflective prayer and practical workshop experience in a variety of music for all parish and school groups. **Tuesday February 6 @ 7.30pm-9pm in the St Anne's Parish Centre @ 101 Riddell Rd, Sunbury. Supper will be provided. Please RSVP to the Parish Office on 9744 1060.**

YEAR OF YOUTH 2018: this year has been declared the Year of Youth by Pope Francis and the Australian Catholic Bishops.

Our parish intends to extend on our current Youth Group by incorporating fortnightly activities for 2 alternate groups of youth. Starting in Term 2 we will have 2 groups running. Ages 12-13 Years on alternate Friday fortnights; and Ages 14-16 on the other Friday fortnights.

Our current Youth Group has done such great work with our parish in coordinating our Valentines Day Dinner Dances, Christmas in July Dinner Dance, Multicultural Day and Christmas Dinner Dance.

This next step for the Youth Group will be ongoing during school terms. We aim to run the Youth Group Sessions every Friday from 6pm-8pm in the Parish Centre.

It would be appreciated if anyone can help us with food for the Youth group as we intend to provide food to those who attend and for our group leaders. Money can be donated or fresh food provided. Please contact the parish office before fresh food is donated please.

Please pray that our parish youth respond and will get involved in our Parish Youth Group and leaders will come forward to serve the group.

SPARKS OF BEAUTY: 10 February 2018 11am-1pm National Gallery of Victoria. The Sparks of Beauty program draws its name from the words of Pope Francis who said that 'sparks of beauty' can change the world. This series of talks and resources seeks to encourage a holistic, Catholic and grounded approach to faith and life by seeking out the insights of leaders from a variety of fields— art, science, music, literature and sport. In doing so, the program seeks to encourage a new imagining to Catholic spirituality in 21st century Australia. For bookings and more info Ph. 9926 5761 or www.cam.org.au/evangelisation.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK:

Wednesday 31 January 4pm Parish Finance Committee

AUSTRALIA DAY MASS: will be held next Friday 26 January at St Anne's Church at 9.15am. All welcome.

LET US NOT DISTRACT OTHERS: When the sacred Scripture is proclaimed at Mass, it is Christ who speaks, said St Augustine. Late-comers distract us— at the Hamer Hall, late-comers are not admitted until a break in the music program. We have to wait another forty minutes if we are late for our train. Of course, we can be delayed not by our own fault. Let us be early as Pope Francis urges.

SUNDAY MASS IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY: the Sunday afternoon Mass which is normally celebrated at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, will be celebrated at St Anne's Church which has cooling for the health of all worshippers. We will need 5 ministers to deliver Communion. We will use the 2 aisles either side of the centre aisle.

SHARE MEALS, SHARE GAMES, SHARE LIFE STORIES. Have the back-to-work blues got you thinking about your next trip overseas? If so, why not join us on an intimate, authentic tour of **Timor-Leste** this March? **Palms Encounters** are ethically run group tours that provide participants with authentic, hard to come by experiences. The tours have been carefully designed to give you an insight into the daily life of people of another culture, an understanding of sustainable approaches to reducing poverty, and an insight into the life and work of Palms development volunteers.

Palms Australia Encounters in 2018--

11 – 23 March

Timor Leste

18 – 30 May

Samoa

20 May – 1 June

Timor Leste

2 – 14 September

Timor Lester

Limited places still available on our **March Encounter to Timor Leste!**

If you'd like to join us for this incredible experience, please contact Palms on 02 9560 5333 or go to www.palms.org.au/encounters

Real encounter, real people, real exchange, real life

BREAK THROUGH IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP: We all struggle at times in our marriage but it's not always easy to find good advice or practical help. **SmartLoving BreakThrough** is an online course **FREE until St Valentine's Day**. It will help you understand how conflict happens, guide you to develop an effective strategy for managing it, and lead you through a process of personal rejuvenation designed to heal the pain caused by conflict with your loved one. The course is designed for individual spouses so you don't need your spouse to do the course with you.

www.smartloving.org/breakthrough

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND AWARENESS

AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING: has been declared by Pope Francis to be celebrated on the Feast day of St Josephine Bakhita of Sudan. A special Mass will be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral on Thursday 8 February at 6.30pm by Very Rev Joe Caddy, Episcopal Vicar for Social Services & Justice.

"The trade in human beings, a modern form of slavery, violates the God-given dignity of so many of our brothers and sisters and constitutes a true crime against humanity.".... Pope Francis 2017

ROSTERS NEXT WEEKEND

ALTAR CARE: Nil **CLEANING:** **OLMC Church—** Jo Spiteri **St Anne's Church –** Nilu Perera Mary Sammut Francizska Gasser **COUNTERS:** Frank Busuttill Jenny & Peter Ryan **GIFT SHOP:** Roselle Duckworth & Mary Wicks **LECTORS:** Michael Hetherington Joe Kloss Des Dowling Jo S **MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:** **5.30pm** Vicky Heath Calvin Ryan Garnet Jacob Sigurd Rodrigues Albert & Diana Mastramico Val McManus Sashi Nair **8.30am** Lili Lupa Liz Richards Glenda Shanahan Graeme & Lynne Simpson Andrew Swann Monica Allen Tom Allen **10.30am** Moira Sullivan Bernadette Anderson John Bottams Christine Cassar Johanne Dajic Judith Davis Olga Ellul Johanna Fahey **5.00pm** Will Honner Maria Mallia Rita Rocco **Assistance Required**