



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

Mon	9.15am	St Anne's-Liturgy of Word
Wed	9.15am	St Anne's
Thurs	9.15am	St Anne's
Frid	9.15am	St Anne's
Sat	5.30pm	St Anne's
Sun	8.30am	St Anne's
	10.30am	St Anne's
	5.00pm	OLMC

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

6 May 2018

6th Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 10:25-26,34-35, 44-48

Psalm Response: Psalm 97:1-4

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel Acclamation: John 14:23

Alleluia! Alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:9-17

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Sue ANNETTE Darryl CAMPBELL

Patricia CLARK Lucy DELLAI Vera FENTON

Lucilla GHERBINI Christopher HABER Harvey

HUGHES Diamond JACOB Virginia JEWELS

Patricia KABAJ Jan & Peter KEOGH Lorna

MACKENZIE Fred MENZIES Trevor PALMER

Sharron RING Tina SANTIAGO Caesar

TANNAGAN Carolyn WOCKNER

Anniversaries: Michael BUTLER Alex MATHEW

Ernest REBEIRO Jacobus VAN LEEUWEN

Rosalia VAN LEEUWEN-TEKER



LOVE and CHARITY

Love is the most misunderstood word in the English language. And **'Charity'** does not fare much better. We have all heard the phrase **'as cold as charity'**. We throw the word **'Love'** around with great abandon. I love ice cream; I love chocolate; I love Autumn; I love your car; I love what you're wearing... The word **'love'** in those contexts can be replaced by the word **'Like'**. I like ice cream; I like chocolate; I like Autumn; I like your car; I like what you're wearing. There is also puppy love and teenage love, which can simply mean infatuation. There is sexual love which sometimes is nothing more than lust or self-gratification.

John the Beloved Disciple, who was very close to Jesus, knew a thing or two about Christian love, because he experienced being loved by Jesus. The love that Jesus gives out is the love he receives from the Father. Love comes first from God: it rests on Jesus and then flows through Jesus to us. But then it shouldn't stop with us. Jesus commands us to let that love flow out to others. The love that Jesus is talking about is what the Catechism calls the Theological Virtue of Charity.

John came close to understanding love because he came close to Jesus. In his first letter he writes:

*My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God; and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because **GOD IS LOVE**. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away. (1 John 4:7-10)*

If we cannot understand LOVE we cannot begin to understand GOD. *'Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because **GOD IS LOVE**. Divine love comes to us in three stages: all begins in the Father's creating of life. Why did God bother with creating us? St Thomas Aquinas offered this reason: love did not permit God to remain alone. I exist because of God's creative act of love. The second stage of divine love is the showing of God's love to us in the life of Jesus Christ who loved us to the end by dying for us. The third stage of divine love is the gift of the Holy Spirit who implants God's love in our souls so that we can pass it onto others.*

St Paul understood what true love is. He calls it **Charity**.

Charity is patient and kind; charity is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Charity does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong but rejoices in the right. Charity bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Cor 13: 4-7)

'If I have not charity,' says the Apostle, 'I am nothing.' Whatever my privilege, service, or even virtue, 'If I have not charity I am nothing.' (1 Cor 13: 1-4) Charity is superior to all the virtues. It is the premier of the theological virtues. 'So faith, hope and charity abide, these three. But the greatest of them is charity. (1 Cor 13: 13)

True Christian love is based on how God loves. He lets his sun to shine and his rain to fall on good and evil men alike. Christian love reaches out to those who are not likeable, even to our enemies.

Fr Bert Fulbrook sdb

REJOICE AND BE GLAD: is the title of Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation release on 9 April. The forty-page document is a faith-filled promotion of the desire for holiness. Some extracts are: "I like to contemplate the holiness present in the patience of God's people in those parents who raise their children with immense love, in those men and women who work hard to support their families, in the sick, in elderly Religious who never lose their smile." (7)

"This holiness to which the Lord calls you will grow through small gestures." (16)

"We need moments of quiet, solitude and silence before God... to stop this rat race and recover our personal space for a heartfelt dialogue with God." (29)

"Our defence of the innocent unborn needs to be clear and firm as human life is sacred... equally sacred are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the vulnerable infirm elderly exposed to covert euthanasia, victims of human trafficking...." (101)

"Far from being timid and morose, the saints are joyful and full of good humour." (122)

"Growth in holiness is a journey in community, side by side with others." (141)

.....Kevin McIntosh

FIRST EUCHARIST CELEBRATIONS: Our parish will be celebrating the First Eucharist of our young people over 3 weeks from 19 May to 3 June at the 5.30pm, 10.30am and two 5pm Masses. Please pray for these children as they continue to prepare for their sacrament.

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL: Monday 23 April, the building contractors Searle Bros began work on the site. A site meeting was held on Thursday with the Architect, the Principal, the Parish Priest and the Archdiocesan Building Advisor.

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: as part of our First Eucharist preparations our children will have a practice for their celebration Masses. We require a few Ministers of Communion to assist at the practice sessions on the following nights: Wednesdays 16 May, 23 May & 30 May from 6.30pm-7.30pm. Any assistance would be of great value to our children. Please contact the parish if you can assist on 9744 1060.

INCREASING NUMBERS OF HOMELESS IN SUNBURY:

Christian welfare organizations have seen a spike in the numbers of people homeless in our town during the first three months this year. These are persons who don't have a regular place to call home. They may be couch surfing or sleeping in cars, tents or rough on the street. At the meeting of the ministers of the Sunbury Churches last Tuesday, information was given of a project caring for the homeless by the Churches in the Yarra Valley, called StableOne in which seven churches work together during the winter months providing space and food for the homeless - one night a week at each church property.

On **Tuesday 15 May** at 7.00pm Jenny Willetts, the founder of Stable One will address interested volunteers at the Baptist Church, Gap Road. For further information visit the website, at stableone.org. All welcome to this meeting which the Sunbury Inter-Church Council endorsed at their meeting last Tuesday.

FAMILY WEEK: to support family week (14-20 May), we will be celebrating Mass on **Wednesday 16 May at 9.15am** with our Grade 1 children and their parent/grandparent. We invite parishioners to bring their family members with them and enjoy a social cuppa after mass. Please bring a plate to share. CatholicCare's theme for this year is "Building Connections: Growing Together" and is focused on strengthening family relationships and wellbeing. Further info is available on the CatholicCare website under *Fostering Healthy Relationships*.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

Tues 8 May	5pm	Parish Education Board
Wed 9 May	4pm	Parish Finance Committee
Fri 11 May	10am	Professional Standards Committee

THANKSGIVING MEAL: we had 270 children, parents and teachers attend our 2 Thanksgiving Meals at the Parish Centre this week as part of the preparation for First Eucharist in the next few weeks. The Thanksgiving Meal is designed around the Passover and the Last Supper and teaches the children the significance of the Liturgy of the Eucharist during Mass. We had good responses to the quality of the food and organization of the night.

We thank our teachers and catechists for the work they are doing with the children and also thank the parents for supporting their child's faith journey.

Nights like this enrich the children's understanding of the sacredness of the Eucharist and the importance of celebrating at Mass regularly.

The following children from our Parish will be baptized this Sunday:

Rex & Magnus CLIFFORD

Amelie MAVOR

Dylan CRAWFORD

Quinn FIGUEREDO

Ezekiel BREMNER

Saoirse ROONEY

We joyfully welcome them to our parish.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT: during the month of May, all parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne are asked to count all who attend all parish Masses. Our collectors will be assisting with this at each mass throughout May. Thank you for your assistance and understanding.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: 2018 Knox Public Lecture

Wednesday 16 May at 7.30pm. Dr Jeff Kildea. What Price Loyalty? Australian Catholics in the First World War. Bookings and information: Email

jill.doncovic@ctc.edu.au or phone 9412 3304 R.S.V.P. Wednesday 9 May.

Venue: Catholic Leadership Centre, corner Victoria Parade & Hoddle Street, East Melbourne.

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL – VACANCY: The position of **Twinning Officer Co-ordinator** has become vacant in the Central Highlands Regional Council of the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

In the Society, a group of members (usually parish-based), is called a conference. One role of conference is to become paired and share resources with, a conference in a developing country. For more information please contact Regional President Arthur Donovan, hlands.pres.council@gmail.com

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: *Invest in your*

most precious asset.....Your Marriage! Forget life's tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit.

There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. 2018 Melbourne weekend dates : 1-3 June, 17-19 Aug, and 9-11 Nov 2018 Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/Bookings: PH: Andre and Maria 0411 225 992

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: www.wwme.org.au

THE MALTESE GHARB CLUB OF MELBOURNE invites you and your family to celebrate The Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to St Elizabeth, Sunday 3rd June 2018 St Bernadette's Catholic Community Centre, Cooke Avenue, North Sunshine. Mass at 2:30pm celebrated by Rev Fr Lonnie Borg MSSP Followed by a social function in the foyer

FRENCH PRESIDENT POSITIVE ABOUT THE CHURCH: Addressing 400 Catholic Bishops and guests in Paris, President Emmanuel Macron said, "I would say that a Church that pretends not to be intersected in temporal questions is not fulfilling its vocation and a president of France who pretends to not be interested in the Church and Catholics is not doing his duty."

Mr Macron was baptized a Catholic when he was 12 years old at his own request.

U.S. CATHOLIC BISHOPS PRAISE MARTIN LUTHER KING: "This 50th anniversary of his assassination give us an important moment to draw inspiration from the way in which Dr King remained undeterred in his principle of non-violent resistance, even in the face of years of ridicule, threats and violence for the cause of justice."

MOTOR NEURON DISEASE FUNDRAISER: this year we again support this fundraiser by having merchandise available for sale after all 3 Masses at St Anne's church this Sunday 5/6 May. Your generous support is appreciated.



ROSTERS NEXT WEEKEND

ALTAR CARE: Lorna Jacob **CLEANING:** OLMC Church— Snell Family **St Anne's Church** – Nil **COUNTERS:** Gerard Duggan Mimi Quattrone Anne McCormick **GIFT SHOP:** Roselle Duckworth Teo Alvares **LECTORS:** Michael Hetherington Peter Readman Mary Macdermid Jane Voon **MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:** 5.30pm Mimi Quattrone Barry Roberts Yvonne Rozario Calvin Ryan Pauline Sharma Angelo Snell Dawn Westwood Sue Wight 8.30am Monica Allen Ann Chircop Lloyd D'Crus Rex Jacob Lili Lupa Liz Richards Carmel Wiegerink **Assistance Required 10.30am** Anne Smith John & Sheila Stafford Moira Sullivan Aileen & Terry Sweeney Grace Tucker Tony Hendy 5.00pm Will Honner Maria Mallia Rita Rocco