



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST,

SUNBURY, WILDWOOD

Parish Office: 101 Riddell Road Sunbury 3429 Ph: 9744 1060

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Liturgy Times

| | | |
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| Mon | 9.15am | St Anne's— Liturgy of Word |
| Tues | 9.15am | St Anne's -St Patrick's Feast |
| Wed | 9.15am | St Anne's |
| Fri | 9.15am | St Anne's |
| | 7.00pm | St Anne's Way of the Cross |
| Sat | 5.30pm | St Anne's |
| Sun | 8.30am | St Anne's |
| | 10.30am | St Anne's |
| | 5.00pm | OLMC |

Sacrament of Reconciliation

OLMC 10-10.30am Saturday

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

Parish Priest: Rev Kevin McIntosh
Priest Assisting: Fr John Papworth SDB
Pastoral Assoc.: Sr Jose Noy RSJ
Pastoral Co-ord: Lyn Plummer
St Anne's School: 8746 6800
Principal: Noelene Hussey
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School: 9740 7344
Principal: Julie Freeman
Holy Trinity School: 8746 6464
Principal: Krystine Hocking

15 March 2020

Third Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Psalm Response: Psalm 94:1-2, 6-9

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel Acclamation: cf John 4:42, 15

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

Gospel: John 4:5-42

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Colin BEAR Don CABRAL Nadia CHRISTOPOLIS Ruby KECHAYAS Royston LEVARO Rochella MAGABILEN Dale MAHER Michelle MIGLANS Martin MULLINS Cassie O'KEEFE Emilee PALSER Carmelita & Pio ROCCO Hubert ROZARIO Christine RUSH Trevor SALTER Veronica SEQUEIRA Carmel TRENTO Ren WILSON

Anniversaries: Immacolata AIOSSA Frank BOWELL Emma DELUCA Roma DODD Kathleen DOOLAN Arthur CAMPBELL Doug CAUSER Marie MAHONY Elizabeth & Franco PISANESCHI Joyce SWEENEY Silvana & Priscilla ZANTA

Parish Vision: Christlike relationships of friendship and faith, valuing one another and sharing our gifts for the good of all

THE LIVING WATER

With the recent rain and the green grass replacing the parched ground, we are again aware of the importance of water.

Jesus uses water as a symbol of eternal life. Our entry into eternal life comes from water of Baptism and the Holy Spirit. As St Paul teaches us today that "we look forward to God's glory because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us." (Romans 5:5)

CHAPTER FOUR OF JOHN'S GOSPEL: Today, we listen to one of the longest and most Spirit-filled conversations in any of the four gospels. The encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well is rich in historical and cultural nuance which helps deepen our understanding of the reading.

MEETING AT THE WELL: The encounter of Jesus and the Samaritan woman takes place at the town well. Jesus tired by his journey sat down on the well. In the Jewish scripture, a well was the meeting place for women and men. Abraham, Jacob and Moses met their wives there.

In the earlier chapter two, Jesus is depicted as a bridegroom at the wedding feast at Cana as he provided the wine for the feast which is the usual task of a bridegroom.

BREAKING DOWN THE BARRIERS: When Jesus asks for a drink, he breaks down two cultural taboos: first for a man to speak directly to an unchaperoned woman was scandalous; secondly, Jews and the Samaritans had been enemies for 700 years. The Samaritans worshipped God at the local Mt Gerazim, whilst the Jews worshipped in the Temple in Jerusalem. Earlier, when cleansing the temple of money changers in Jerusalem, Jesus says he is the new Temple, which will be raised up on the third day. Jesus is our sacred site.

THE WOMAN'S GROWTH IN FAITH: As the start of their encounter the woman is hostile to Jesus. "You, a Jew, ask me for a drink?" "You have no bucket, Sir, and the well is deep." Jesus takes the time to engage fully with her. Jesus mentions she has had five husbands. This comment refers to the Samaritans who were tied or wedded to the first five books of the Bible, the Torah. They did not accept the Prophets and later biblical writers. Now Jesus is open to being a bridegroom her seventh. In the Bible, the number seven is a symbol of completeness, of fullness—like the world was created in seven days. Jesus stands before her as the bridegroom. Later Jesus taught that while the bridegroom is present, his attendants do not fast.

THE SAMARITAN WOMAN—AN EARLY MISSIONARY: The woman's personal encounter with Jesus compels her to start spreading the good news about the amazing man she has met. She has met Jesus face to face to feels compelled to act on what she has felt. Lent is a time for each of us to seek out a face to face encounter with Jesus.

Through prayer, contemplating the scripture or attending our Lenten reflections (on 26 & 28 March), or by encountering Jesus in the face of others, we build a one to one relationship with Jesus. Then we can become missionaries like the Samaritan woman.

Are we willing to sit and talk to eat and drink and listen to people's stories? How tolerant are we of other religions and cultures? When we are tired, do we value creative conversations with youth?

.....Kevin McIntosh

3rd week of Lent:

Gospel Reflection: *The beautiful story of the Samaritan woman symbolises the extraordinary relationship that each one of us has with our God. Her thirst for water represents, not only for her, but also for us, our thirst for meaning and purpose in our lives. And, it is this journey of discovery for meaning and purpose in our lives that is the journey of Lent.*

Reflective Question: *Are there things we need let go of, to hand over to God? What difference would it make if we did this?*

Personal Reflection: *We cannot control the future nor change the past, however as we thirst at the present moment for many things, God offers us living water.*

Lord, help me to see the good at work in myself, in others and in your Church. Amen

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Earlier this month, was held in the Sunbury Lutheran Church which was packed. The Sunbury Chorale led the singing. The prayer, was held in 150 countries and was composed by the women of Zimbabwe. The country has 16 million people, of whom 80% are Christian. 1.4 million are seriously ill. 900000 children have special needs supported only by their mothers as disability is seen as shameful.

SALESIAN COLLEGE SUNBURY: of the Year 12 students in 2019, 81 % have entered tertiary education institutes & 9% have begun apprenticeship. Year 7 next year is full with 10 classes. Applications for Year 7 in 2022 are now open and close in August 2020. Secondary Colleges have earlier enrolment and processes.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

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| Tues 17 March | 3pm Parish Finance & Development Committee |
| | 6.30pm St Anne's Prep Families |
| Wed 18 March | 11.45am Holy Trinity Prep Families |
| | 6.30pm OLMC Prep Families |
| Thurs 19 March | 7.30pm Liturgy Planning Team |
| Fri 20 March | 9.00am Schools Staff Retreat Day |

ST PATRICK'S FEAST DAY: The feast of the patron saint of our diocese will be celebrated on Tuesday with Mass at 9.15am.

PROJECT COMPASSION: please continue to fill your Project Compassion boxes with your small change— then together we can make a BIG change for those in need. Please return boxes by Easter Sunday.

OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN PROJECT: Our parish is now in it's seventh year of supporting the seriously ill children living in the slum areas of Jakarta, Indonesia. With our wonderful regular donation subscribers and the twice yearly mass collections, we have been able to give more than \$10,000 each year to the Lentera Anak Pelangi (LAP) Group which is affiliated with the Atma Jaya Catholic University, thereby helping them provide essential nutrition and other support to these needy children.

With our first donation weekend this year on 28/29th March, supporting the sick children in the slums of Jakarta, we urge you to take home one of the leaflets ' **Caring for Children with HIV in Jakarta** ' that will be on the church seats that weekend. This describes how the LAP Group from Atma Jaya Catholic University continue to support these children living with HIV/AIDS who, through no fault of their own, face a childhood of illness and deprivation. Our help is much needed and much appreciated.....Parish LAP Support Committee

PREP FAMILY MASS: On Sunday March 22, 10.30 Mass we will be celebrating with our new Prep children and their families. We look forward to welcoming them to our Sunday Eucharist.

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS: effective from 28 February Archbishop Peter Comonsoli has stated the distribution of Holy Communion under both species is to cease.

Ministers of Communion are to ensure they sanitise their hands with sanitiser (on credence table) before distributing Communion (which our parish has been practising already).

The Sign of Peace is still encouraged, but anyone with any hesitations can share a smile or bow to those around them.

Communion will be given in the hand only. These measures are temporary and will be reviewed.

If you are unwell there is no obligation to take part in Mass. We should stay home.

The following children from our parish will be baptised this Sunday:
Vivien CARTY Iyla DICKSON Lukas PLIEGER
We joyfully welcome them to our parish.



ST ANNE'S CHURCH KEYS:

The work to change the locks of St Anne's Church, the Parish Centre and Parish Office is expected to commence within 2 weeks. The new keys are available for pick up from the Parish Office for those who have already submitted a request. If you have not yet completed a new key request form, please do so at your earliest convenience. The forms are available at Church entrance and Parish Office.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES: are in the churches for the next few Sundays for collection. Thank you to all who financially support the work of the parish.

PARISH POSTIES: In the coming weeks the Parish will be delivering the Easter Neighbourhood Newsletter, via our Parish Posties. We are always in need of new Posties to deliver to the letterboxes of our Parishioners. If you can spare an hour over the next few weeks we would appreciate your time. Please contact the Parish Office – 9744 1060

PARISH LENT REFLECTION DAYS: Thursday 26 March 7.30pm-9pm in St Anne's Church and repeated on **Saturday 28 March 10am-11.30am in OLMC Church.** As part of our Lenten journey, this is an excellent opportunity for a moment of peace, prayer and reflection. All welcome.

EVERGREENS: Social Afternoon on 24 March 12.30pm at St Anne's, with speakers from the Health Center. All welcome. Tea and biscuits will be provided.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: will be recited by all parishioners during Lent. Please join together with the Psalm.

WAY OF THE CROSS: will be prayed using the sacred scriptures during Lent on Fridays at 9.45am and 7pm in St Anne's Church.

ROSARY: will be prayed at 5pm on Saturday in St Anne's Chapel prior to Mass during Lent.

LEGION OF MARY: meet on Wednesday mornings at 10am and Wednesday nights at 7.30pm in St Anne's Church. All Welcome.

RUBBISH BINNS ST ANNE'S CHURCH: following specialist advice the two bins outside the preparation room have been removed for safety reasons. These bins have been replaced by two internal bins.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN LETTERS: thank you to all volunteers who have signed the Code of Conduct Declaration form and updated their Working With Children Check to reflect the parish as an organisation they volunteer at. A letter has been sent out to volunteers who still need to comply with these requirements. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions.

LENTEN PILGRIMAGE WALK: Please come and join the Lenten Pilgrimage walk on Saturday 4th Apr 2020. Walk to visit 'Our Mother of Good Health Velankanni' at Ta' Pinu Marian Shrine @ 15 Flanagans Dr, Merrimu VIC 3340. During the walk, we will have intercessory prayers; continuously pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplets. Based on feedback and to accommodate more participants walkers can join the pilgrims from three start points at different intervals. 6:30AM, 1st start point from 1486 Diggers Rest, Comaidi Road, Toolern Vale; 11:15AM, 2nd start point from 'Navan Park' Centenary Ave, Melton West VIC 3337 and around 12Noon, 3rd start point (from a bridge located on Old Western Highway - approximately 5kms before Long Forest Road) for the last 1 hour walk to finish point. Please confirm your attendance by 21/03/2020 for catering and administration reasons. 0411 286 428 Ps. We need volunteer drivers who can assist on the day. Please contact Garnet for availability.

MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE: invites parishioners, families and friends to their first Weekend Open day for 2020 on Saturday 21 March from 10am-4pm. A "Walking Tour" will take place at 11am. Everyone is welcome and entry is free.

ROSTERS NEXT WEEKEND— 21 March

ALTAR CARE: Beverley Taylor **CLEANING:** OLMC Church— Lucy Gatt **St Anne's Church—** Nil **COUNTERS:** Gerard Duggan Mimi Quattrone Anne McCormick **GIFT SHOP:** Roselle Duckworth Frances Arians **LECTORS:** Garnet Jacob Mary Macdermid Mick Hetherington Paul Fanning **MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:** 5.30pm Mary Sammut Pauline Sharma 8.30am Sigurd Rodrigues Peter Rush 10.30am Sheila & John Stafford Moira Sullivan Elaine Van de Weerden 5.00pm Maria Mallia **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** 5.30pm Carol & Sally 10.30am No Session