



## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST,

SUNBURY, WILDWOOD

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

Email: [sunbury@cam.org.au](mailto:sunbury@cam.org.au) Website: [olmcsunbury.com](http://olmcsunbury.com)



**Parish Masses and Newsletters are available on the parish website [olmcsunbury.com](http://olmcsunbury.com)**

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

**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

**2 August 2020**

**18th Sunday Ordinary Time**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 55:1-3

**Psalm Response:** Psalm 144:8-9, 15-18

**The hand of the Lord feeds us:  
he answers all our needs.**

**Second Reading:** Romans 8:35, 37-39

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**No one lives on bread alone, but on every  
word that comes from the mouth of God.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 14: 13-21

### **LET US PRAY FOR**

**Sick:** Carmel CORKER Dale MAHER  
Fr Bernard O'BRIEN Lucy PERKOVIC  
Brendan PETERS Trevor SALTER Ren  
WILSON

**Recently Deceased:** Anna FILISETTI

**Anniversaries:** Jack WICKS



*Our Parish is committed to the  
Safety, Wellbeing And Dignity  
of all children and vulnerable  
adults.*

### **THE HAND OF THE LORD FEEDS US: HE ANSWERS ALL OUR NEEDS**

These words we pray today in the Psalm response. The compassion of God is foremost in our readings this Sunday.

In our first reading the Prophet Isaiah writes: "The Lord says: - Listen to me and you will have good things to eat". In our gospel reading, Jesus expresses his compassion and pity for the starving thousands in a lonely place by miraculously multiplying the five loaves and the two fish.

Our gospel today begins "when Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death, he withdrew by boat to a lonely place "for privacy to grieve. John was his cousin and Herod beheaded him for teaching about marriage. The crowd tracked him down. Jesus was not frustrated or upset with their intruding on his grief. Rather, he is moved compassionately to heal their sick.

### **FOOD FOR ALL**

The disciples collect twelve baskets of leftovers. These baskets represent the twelve tribes of Israel. It is a metaphor that Jesus satisfies the entire Jewish population of its twelve tribes. In the next chapter of Matthew, Jesus feeds another four thousand plus non-Jewish persons, the Gentiles. Matthew presents Jesus as the one who provides spiritual food for all.

### **OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FEED THE HUNGRY**

In 1976, Fr Pedro Arrupe, then the world leader of the Jesuits wrote: "The rediscovery of what might be called the "social dimension" of the Eucharist is of tremendous significance today. In the Eucharist... we receive not only Christ, the Head of the Body, but its members as well... Wherever there is suffering in the body, wherever members of it are in want or oppressed, we, because we have received the same body are part of it and must be directly involved. We cannot properly receive the Bread of Life without sharing bread for life with those in want. As long as there are starving people in the world, the Eucharist is "incomplete."

### **NEW WAYS OF PRAYING**

The Catholic Voices of Britain survey showed that 55% of Catholics surveyed said the lockdown had helped them to become more prayerful. The survey by Professor Francis Davis of Oxford University shows 93% of Catholics used online worship at some point and 66% made regular use of livestreaming. 83% indicated that livestreaming was only a temporal substitute as they missed going to Mass. Different ways of praying have been discovered. Cardinal Vincent Nichols of London commented on the way in which the home had become sacred—something that has been strong in Judaism, but not understood so powerfully among Catholics. While we all miss the Eucharist, let us remember that our fellow Catholics in the Amazon area in South America are lucky if they can attend Mass more than twice a year, due to a lack of priests.

### **CHRISTIANS PERSECUTED IN NIGERIA**

In north-east Nigeria, a decade-long insurrection by the group Boko Haram has left 36,000 Christians killed and 2 million displaced.

### **CLOSING THE GAP POST-COVID 19**

We are aware of the growing gap between rich and poor. Recent research challenges the traditional assumption that inequality is a necessary evil if we want the economy to grow, according to Simon Perfect, a researcher for Theos, the religion and

P.T.O

society think-tank. Using Catholic Social Teaching, theologians argue that today's levels of inequality undermine the common good because the rich are increasingly able to isolate themselves from the rest of society, losing sight of their interdependence with the poor and the responsibility everyone has in society has for the other. Christian theology looks to build an economy that helps everyone to flourish as God intended, by becoming other—rather than self-orientated beings, who find their fulfilment in loving relationships. In this kind of economy, the rules are stacked in favour of the poorest and most vulnerable, and unjust processes that penalise the poor are overturned. Pope Francis has said that “inequality, is the root of social evil.”

The Catholic Bishops of Africa in June stated that the coronavirus is devastating the poorest populations due to no tourism resulting in worse unemployment. They are calling for debt alleviation and for large multi-national companies that exploit Africa's raw materials “to make significant contributions to the host countries to enable them to provide basic social services, such as hospitals, schools and adequate and affordable housing.”

### **VINNIES CALLS FOR EXPERT PANEL ON PAYMENTS**

St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia consists of 60,000 members and volunteers working through 1,000 conferences in parishes.

Their National Council on 14 July called on the Federal Government to establish an expert panel to advise on Social Security payment rates which were originally designed to keep people out of poverty. Such a panel would advise to make payments fair, equitable and sufficient to meet basic needs, keeping pace with the actual cost of living. Vinnies call for an investment of at least \$7.7billion in social housing. “We see daily evidence in the turnaround in the lives of people who have received the higher financial support, and those who received access to accommodation and wrap around services since the advent of Covid-19.”

.....Kevin McIntosh

### **OUR PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY**

We offer to Adriano Filisetti as Anna his wife for 45 years entered eternal life on 24 July aged 65 years. In 1978 they came to Sunbury where their children and now her grandchildren attend OLMC School. Anna was an accountant at the ATO for 35 years. After a very healthy life cancer was discovered last December. Her funeral Mass was celebrated on Friday concluding at the Sunbury Cemetery.

### **CATHOLIC HEALTH AUSTRALIA THANKS:**

Catholic Health is the largest non-government grouping of aged care services and includes Mercy, St Vincents and Villa Maria Catholic Homes. On 30th July, the CEO Pat Garcia said: “Our workers are there on the frontline—they are literally the bullwark between the pandemic and the most vulnerable in our community. Staff are working long hours filling in the gaps in rosters for their colleagues who have been forced to self-isolate. They continue to provide care to the best of their ability while maintaining the strictest measures to keep facilities free of infection”. Mr Garcia said the aged care sector had long been seeking more training and great government support to do their jobs. He thanked the Victorian and Commonwealth government for the practical support namely the creation of the Victorian Aged Care Response Centre to co-ordinate additional support for the sector and the release of more personal

protection equipment from government stockpiles.

**NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK** – This is a week for the entire Church to consider, support and pray for those searching for their vocations in life. We might think about and pray for the young people in our community and in our families this week especially. In prayer, ask the Lord to enlighten them and give them the grace and courage to respond to His call. The Lord calls each of us to a particular vocation (marriage, consecrated life, priesthood or a single life of service).

**for**

**SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASSES:** Due to Stage 3 restrictions in Hume, we cannot celebrate Masses in our Churches for the next 4 weeks at least. Masses will be recorded and available on line each week via the parish website [olmcsunbury.com](http://olmcsunbury.com). We will update parishioners when changes will occur and any actions will be in accordance to Victorian Government restrictions and the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Sunday Mass is telecast live from St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am on Channel 44.

**MASS DISPENSATION:** during this time of Covid 19, the Australian Catholic Bishops have dispensed all Catholics from the obligation to take part in Sunday Masses.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** due to Covid-19 the Parish Office operating hours are temporarily changed to Tues, Wed, Friday 9am-5pm (closed lunch time 1-2pm). **The office is not open for face-to-face contact for safety of all staff and public.** Please make all enquiries via telephone 9744 1060 or email [sunbury@cam.org.au](mailto:sunbury@cam.org.au). To drop anything to the office, please use the locked box near the front door of the parish office. Staff are still checking messages, email's and letter boxes. Thank you for your understanding.

**FAITH IMPORTANT IN LOCKDOWN:** Paul Farmer is the Chief Executive of the British Mental health charity, Mind, established in 1970. He said in May, “Livestreaming Masses is reassuring people, and that is very important at a time like this. Faith is keeping a lot of people going; it's part of our mental health toolbox and the Church hopping online is very impressive.” Paul Farmer's mental health tips for lockdown:

- Sleep well
- Eat well
- Exercise well
- Meditate and pray well
- Identify someone you trust who you can talk to –*really* talk to
- Improve your listening skills
- Avoid social media and too much news
- Take up or revive a pastime or hobby.

**CELEBRATION OF PARISH SACRAMENTS:** please keep in your prayers the children and families who would have been celebrating their First Eucharist over the next few weeks. It has been one of the important events impacted by Covid-19. We hope to celebrate the sacraments for the children when it is safe to do so.

Please also continue to pray for the children and families who are awaiting baptism of their babies.

### **Prayer of Pope Francis Spiritual Communion:**

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart ... I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You*