



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH
BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST,
SUNBURY, WILDWOOD

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Parish Masses and Newsletters are available on the parish website
olmcsunbury.com

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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

11th October 2020

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10

Psalm Response: Psalm 22

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Second Reading: Phillipians 4:12-14, 19-20

Gospel Acclamation: cf Ephesians 1:17,18

Alleluia, Alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Pam BELL Giesppe GALATI Marie LOMBARDI Fr Bernard O'BRIEN Cassie O'KEEFE Lucy PERKOVIC Jeanette RAMAGE Anne SAUNDERS Ren WILSON

Recently Deceased: Robert BOND Carol GRIESER Ann HUMPHRIS Fr Charles MCBRIDE

Anniversaries: Austin & Leonie D'MONTE
 Linda WARREN



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

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

WE ARE ALL INVITED

We live in a world where there are divisions between rich and poor, between races, between governments, etc. The image of God we receive in today's scripture readings is that "the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food and of fine wines" (First Reading). In the gospel parable the King says: "Go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." Our God is inclusive. Jesus was criticised for eating with tax collectors, outcasts and sinners.

THE LORD'S WEDDING BANQUET: In the Bible, banquets and wedding feasts are an attractive concept of human fellowship and communion with God. When Jesus was challenged he replied: "The attendants do not feast while the bridegroom is present, later they will." Here Jesus refers to himself as the bridegroom, indicating the loving and permanent partnership he offers us (Luke 5:34).

PARABLE OF THE WEDDING FEAST: In Jesus' time, who one ate with was very important as it reflected your social status. To be invited to a meal was a political action. Hence, when the first group of invited guests refused to take part, the King is shamed. An invitation to the table of your social superior was not to be rejected lightly. Hence, in the story, a fable, the king violently reacts.

The parable was told by Jesus during his tense final week in Jerusalem where he is meeting more opposition and condemnation is ahead. The religious leaders will not change and be converted. They are happy as they are— they have refused to repent as preached by John the Baptist.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD: We are aware how caring people are towards their pets. A shepherd in Jesus' time cared for eight to ten sheep as though they were pets— he called them by name and they knew his voice.

Our Psalm today states: the Lord is my shepherd— not our shepherd. Each of us is card for as an individual. We are not a number belonging to a big flock, but intimately as my shepherd, who finds green grass and restful waters for me (Psalm 22).

OUR TENDER LORD: Another comforting image of God is given by the Prophet Isaiah in our first reading today, "The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek." Like a tender mother comforting a weeping child, God wipes away all tears of mourners.

MATTHEW'S GOSPEL: This Sunday, we hear a third parable about the Kingdom of heaven from Matthew who is writing for his community made up of mostly Jews who had come to believe in Jesus. These disciples had experienced the destruction of their city Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 AD/CE— an event like 9/11 in our time. The parable is written as an allegory— the words used to carry a deeper meaning beyond the literal meaning. As we suffer from coronavirus, let us remember the final verse of the Good Shepherd Psalm: "In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever."

SALESIAN COLLEGE: Last Tuesday evening, fourteen of us teachers, parents and two priests, met on Zoom at the College Council where we were presented with new development for next year. The project is called Positive Education. Don Bosco, founder of the Salesians wrote: "Remember education is a matter of the heart. In every young person there is a point of goodness which a good educator can draw on."

Positive Education is a social emotional learning program used to teach people to flourish. It is based on positive psychology. Mentor groups of about 16 students will meet daily for forty minutes.

Next year, there are 265 students enrolled in Year 7 bringing the total enrolments to 1440. The staff will number 180. Applications for 2022 are still being received. 278 applications have been received so far.

If we truly love our neighbours, we refrain from saying anything prejudicial to them. We support everyone as we would like to be supported. We try to give the example that we would like to receive from others. We excuse and forgive the blunders of others as we would like ours to be forgiven and excused. We rejoice in the happiness of others and are sorrowful in their pains, just as we would like them to respond to us in ours. We graciously help others in their needs both by prayer and actual service because in this way we truly show our good-will and love.
St Jane De Chantal

TEN YEARS ON- OUR MELBOURNE SAINT: This month is the tenth anniversary of the canonisation by Pope Benedict of St Mary MacKillop born in Fitzroy in 1842. In 1863, she qualified as a teacher. Her founding with Fr Julian Tennison Woods of the Sisters of St Joseph continues to make an impact on the Church.

ST JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL (1572-1641): Born in Dijon, France, her mother died when she was 18 months old. Her father became her educator. A widow at 28 years with four children, she later founded an order of nuns. A relic of St Jane is in the altar of St Anne's. As she lived through a plague in Europe, let us pray to her during Covid-19.

ADULT BAPTISMS RISE IN BELGIUM: In 2010, there were 143 baptisms, in 2005, 143 and this year 305. There are now more laity (2038) than clerics (1940) in decision making positions in the Church. 55% of the laity are women in decision making posts.

POPE FRANCIS LETTER: Was released last Sunday entitled "Brothers and Sisters All" (Fratelli Tutti). He writes: "Let us dream as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all." The whole text of 91 pages is available on www.catholic.org.au/fratellitutti

....Kevin McIntosh

OUR PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY: we offer to the family of Patrick Bricknell as he has entered eternal life aged 90 years. He was the second of five sons. He became a fitter and turner. Patrick and his late wife Rita were active parishioners in St Stephen's parish, Reservoir East for forty years. On retirement, they moved to Rosebud where Patrick was a Vinnies volunteer and a volunteer driver for cancer patients needing to go to Melbourne for treatment. Patrick and Rita moved to Sunbury in 2010 to be closer to their three daughters. His Funeral Mass was celebrated Friday.

SUPPORT THROUGH CRISIS: Just as we did 85 years ago, we continue to support our community through times of crisis like the Black Saturday bushfires, the East Gippsland bushfires earlier this year, and the Covid-19 pandemic. But families and individuals will experience their own crises too. Family violence, relationship breakdown, financial insecurity, homelessness, illness, or addiction to alcohol or drugs are some examples of the crises we see within our community. No one should ever have to walk a tough journey alone. With a listening ear and a compassionate heart, we're walking alongside families and individuals to guide them along their journey to a brighter future. For assistance call 9287 5555.

NO TO WAR: Pope Francis had already made an important contribution to the development of Catholic teaching in clearly ruling out the legitimacy of the death penalty in any circumstances, and some hoped that *Fratelli Tutti* would rescind the use of the traditional just war criteria. It is very clear that Pope Francis does not consider war to ever be a solution. He says:

"We can no longer think of war as a solution, because its risks will probably always be greater than its supposed benefits. In view of this, it is very difficult nowadays to invoke the rational criteria elaborated in earlier centuries to speak of the possibility of a 'just war'. Never again war!"

His concern is less about the just war theory and more about the victims of war: "Let us not remain mired in theoretical discussions, but touch the wounded flesh of the victims. Let us look once more at all those civilians whose killing was considered 'collateral damage'. Let us ask the victims themselves. Let us think of the refugees and displaced, those who suffered the effects of atomic radiation or chemical attacks, the mothers who lost their children, and the boys and girls maimed or deprived of their childhood. Let us hear the true stories of these victims of violence, look at reality through their eyes, and listen with an open heart to the stories they tell. In this way we will be able to grasp the abyss of evil at the heart of war. Nor will it trouble us to be deemed naïve for choosing peace" (n 261).

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Feast day: October 4 and is the patron saint of Animals, Merchants & Ecology. Francis was born in 1181 in Italy and died in 1226. Francis was born into a very wealthy family and lived a very privileged life. Francis was a very handsome and happy young man. He lived a very good life and went into battle where he was captured for about a year. When he was released, he was to go to battle again, but heard God speak to him and he returned to his family and was humiliated and ridiculed for not going into battle. Francis changed his ways and began leading a life of humility and poverty. He renounced his wealth and began preaching to communities and gaining followers to share the Good News. He gained attention as his principals embraced the love of all, including all animals and nature, calling Brother Sun and Sister Moon. He gave everything he had, including the clothes off his back to others. He founded the Franciscans who have an oath of poverty. He was the first to recreate the Nativity scene. He received the stigmata (the 5 wounds of Christ at his Crucifixion) before he died. He eventually became ill and died at age 45 in 1226.

St Francis Prayer

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much

seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

St Francis of Assisi



MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

Tues 13 October 12.30pm Sunbury Ministers

7.00pm Parish Finance Committee

Wednesday 14 Oct 7.30pm Parish Child Safety Committee

Thurs 15 October 4.00pm Parish Finance Sub Committee

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