



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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Newsletters are available on the parish website

olmcsunbury.com

Liturgy Times-all at St Anne's Church

Saturday	5.30pm	
Sunday	8.30am	
Sunday	10.30am	
Tues	11.00am-Funeral Mass	
	Kevin Smith	
Wednesday	9.15am	
Thursday	7.30pm	Lent Reconciliation
Friday	9.15am	
	3.00pm	Riddell Gardens
Saturday	11am	Memorial Mass-
		Vincenzo David

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10am-10.30am St Anne's Church
No bookings required

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: Noeline Hussey
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School: 9740 7344
Principal: Julie Freeman
Holy Trinity School: 8746 6464
Principal: Krystine Hocking

14 March 2021

4th Sunday of Lent Yr B

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

Psalm Response: Psalm 136

**Let my tongue be silenced,
if I ever forget you!**

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel Acclamation: John 3:16

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God
loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 3:14-21

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Katherine, Soren, Sharen & Sharyl
AGLIAM Mark ARIANS Chris DOUTRE Frances
GLEESON Vicki HEATH Mary KROHN Rubina
LAKEY Roisin MCGOVERN Benjamin MIFSUD
Esmaela PAPANGO Lucy PERKOVIC Dennis
PRICE Bob POWLES Brian RIPPE Peter
RYAN Eduardo SANTOS

Recently Deceased: Betty ALMOND Reynaldo
ARMILDEZ Darren BROWN Michael CASTLES
Martin CLANCY Carmel CORKER Kevin SMITH
Vaughn THOMPSON

Anniversaries: Donald CABRAL Marie
MAHONY Pauline MCCALLUM Garry REDDAN
Jack REDDAN Fr Peter ROBINSON Jan
TYQUIN Vic WHELAN Priscilla ZANTA Silvano
ZANTA

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

GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH

This is the comforting message from our Bible readings this Sunday. The first prayer of our Mass today is "Rejoice". As we gaze at the Cross with the dying Christ nailed to it, we welcome God's love poured out for us in Jesus.

In television shows and other media, God is often referred as judging, vengeful and punishing. The exact opposite image of God is presented in our three readings today- a God of love.

In the first reading, though the chosen People of God had wandered away from God resulting in being exiled in Babylon about six centuries before Christ, God gave his people a second chance by having the non-Jewish king of Persia, Cyrus rescue the Jews from exile in Babylon and lead them back to Jerusalem where Cyrus re-builds the destroyed Temple.

St Paul in the second reading gives us pure good news. By God's grace and mercy, we are raised to eternal life in Christ- it is all a gift. We are saved by the grace of God, not by our own efforts. Our reading finishes: "We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it."

In recent weeks, I have shown our new students in Prep some main parts of our churches. In question time, they were amazed at the Cross. "How did he die?" etc. In St John's gospel, he uses the word "lifted up" which in Greek means crucifixion and an exaltation- a spiritual lifting up. The "lifting up" has the double sense of death and resurrection. The two movements are inseparable.

The world is the only place where God's saving love can be experienced. Hence the world is not a place of evil.

LIVING ETERNAL LIFE NOW: The second sentence of our gospel today is: "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, that all who believe in him may have eternal life." This is the first time we read eternal life. Some scholars prefer to use 'eternity life' to express that Jesus offer not simply an extension in time of life as we know it, but a whole new quality of life. Right now, believing in Jesus we are drawn into the very life of God. As the Spirit said at Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River- You are my beloved Son"- so at our baptism, we become beloved daughters and sons of God.

"REJOICE" SUNDAY: to celebrate our joy in being freely chosen the liturgical colour is rose on this third Sunday of Lent.

INSPIRATION FROM POPE FRANCIS: While in creation the Father gave us proof of his immense love by giving us life, in the passion and death of his Son he gave us the proof of proofs: He came to suffer and die for us. So great is God's mercy: He loves us, He forgives us; God forgives all the God forgives always. (Angelus address, 15.03.2015)

POPE FRANCIS: The 13th March is the eighth anniversary of the election of Pope Francis. Late last year he published another book, "Let us Dream- the Path to a Better Future." Written during the Lockdown due to Covid 19, he states, "To come out of this crisis better, we have to see clearly, choose well and act right. Let's talk about how "and" our greatest power is not in the respect that others have for us, but the service we can offer to others."

SCHOOL OPEN DAYS: at our three Parish Schools. Open Days with tours will be on 15 March at Our Lady of Mt Carmel and St Anne's and on 16 March at Holy Trinity. Details are on the websites: htsunbury.catholic.edu.au; olmcsunbury.catholic.edu.au and sasunbury.catholic.edu.au

THANKS: to Peter Readman who has served on the Parish Finance Committee for forty years. Peter has decided to resign as he believes there are sufficient younger members capable of doing great work. The Committee met for three hours last Wednesday planning post Covid.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: we give thanks that finally nearly 100 of our parishioners were able to receive their Sacrament of Initiation becoming full members of our church when Bishop Terry Curtin our Northern Region Bishop led the Confirmation Mass at Salesian College Stadium on Friday evening.



Thanks to our volunteers, office staff and teachers who did much work to book and record those present during the current Health Regulations, and plan the celebration unlike any we have had in the past.

OUR PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY: we offer to the family of Kevin Smith who entered eternal life aged 95 years. Kevin was dux of St Bernard's College and entered the Victorian Public Service. Kevin and his late wife Pat came to our parish in 1961 when only 3 houses were for sale. Kevin served as parish secretary and parish accountant. He was one of the founders of Vinnies in Sunbury. He was very involved in Knights of the Southern Cross. His Funeral Mass is on Tuesday concluding at Sunbury Cemetery.

We offer to Sr Jose as her brother-in-law Bill Kaiser has entered eternal life aged 92 years. His Funeral is at Frankston on Tuesday.

SUNDAY MASSES: Continue to book online please via www.olmcsunbury.com

REFLECTION RESOURCES FOR LENT: Melbourne Proclaim Office has prepared a number of resources, "Simply Jesus", accessed via www.melbournecatholic.org under Lent, View Resources

"LOOK TO JESUS": We are invited to look to Jesus in our community, in one another, finding the face of Christ in others' fear, anxiety and hope as we journey together through Lent, finding forgiveness in Him and one another. This weekend's theme is "Awaken the hope within ourselves." Lent is an opportunity to reflect more deeply on our relationship with Christ and those around us.

PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION: Reconciliation with Absolution will be celebrated Thursday March 18 at 7.30pm. An opportunity to enrich our Lenten experience and prepare for the Easter Triduum.

VOLUNTEERS FOR EASTER CELEBRATIONS: For the Easter ceremonies to be celebrated under COVID restrictions we will require a number of volunteers. Please consider adding your names to the rosters at registration tables.

ENGAGE YOUTH GROUP: our Youth Group has reopened. The youth group is for young people from 12-17 years of age, to gather and make new friends through activities and social engagement. Our group gathers weekly on Wednesday nights from 5-6pm in the Parish Centre. For more info contact Jo at the Parish Office on 9744 1060.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

Tues 16 March 12.30pm Sunbury Ministers- Baptist Church
Wed 17 March 7.00pm Baptism Preparation- St Anne's

The following children from our parish will be baptised this Sunday:

Zachary BRNDUSIC

Ellis FLORENDO

Darby LOGAN

Thomas OLIVIERI

We joyfully welcome them to our parish.



SUNBURY WINTER SHELTER IS HOLDING THE INAUGURAL ANNUAL

GENERAL MEETING: at St. Andrew's Uniting Church, 3pm March 21. COVID guidelines will require you to sign in, hand sanitise and please carry a mask with you unless you have a lawful reason not to (depending on numbers use may not be necessary).

As we are planning to hold our Shelter as we did in 2019 it would be wonderful if members of our church families would consider Volunteering for one of the many roles available:

Shift leader, shift member, cook/kitchen helper, laundry person, driver or behind the scenes support with knitting beanies, supplying toiletries, donating funds, every facet of assistance is welcomed and appreciated.

Volunteer role descriptions and registration form are available on our website www.sunburywintershelter.org.au

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact either your Venue Co-ordinator or Chris Morgan-Prosser, Volunteer Project Co-ordinator 0497 216 118.

PROJECT COMPASSION: Caritas Australia fund infrastructure improvement such as sanitation in communities to help eradicate sickness due to poor hygiene. The money from your Project Compassion box will make a world of difference to those in need.

Donations can also be made via www.caritas.org.au or call 1800 024 413.

A MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITY DURING LENT: "When sorry isn't enough: making things right with those you love" by Gary Chapman (5 Love Languages) & Jennifer Thomas.

Date: Saturday 20th March 2021.
10.00am – 3.30pm.

Address: Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall.
49 Nicholson St, Brunswick East.

Cost: \$40 per couple.

(Includes copy of the book and morning/afternoon tea) **Please bring your own lunch. Book early using TryBooking. Limited places available.**

<https://www.trybooking.com/BOZGX>

More information contact: **Helen & Leo Wursthorn 0422 340 096**

Money refunded if COVID lockdown occurs. COVID safe protocols in place.

EVERGREENS recently had lunch for 23 and by popular demand we are having another one. **Book early. Evergreens** lunch at Sunbury Bowling Club on 30th March 2021 at NOON, and to get together raising the spirit in each other and have a laugh. 3 Course Seniors meal \$19. 2 courses \$16.50. Please call Joe on 0477 677 248 to book before 25th March 2021. **Always if it is safe.** Watch Bulletin for any changes. **No membership** needed. Seniors all welcome

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



On my desk I have a statue of St Joseph sleeping.
While sleeping he looks after the church.

Yes, he can do it.

We know that.

When I have a problem or a difficulty, I write on a piece of paper and I put it under his statue so he can dream about it. This means please pray to St Joseph for this problem.

.... Pope Francis
Meeting of Families Philippines January 16, 2015