



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

Wednesday	9.15am
Friday	9.15am
Saturday	5.30pm
Sunday	8.30am 10.30am

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

23 May 2021

PENTECOST SUNDAY

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11
Psalm Response: Psalm 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34
Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading: Galatians 5:16-25
Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Mark ARIANS Chris DOUTRE Frances GLEESON Vicki HEATH Paul HOCKING
Roisin MCGOVERN Christopher MCKEOWN
Benjamin MIFSUD Esmaela PAPANGO Lucy PERKOVIC Raewyn ROSS Peter RYAN
Anthony SERIC

Anniversaries: Robert & Lilian ANDERSON
Fr Thomas CONSIDINE Margaret DOWLING
Irene HAMILTON Uncle Norm HUNTER Tom &
Rose REDDAN Shawn TAYLOR Ellen TYQUIN

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

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

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST- THEN AND NOW

Before Christ, the feast of Pentecost had developed into a major pilgrim festival which the Jews celebrated 50 days, or seven complete weeks, after the feast of the Passover of Unleavened Bread. The feast marked the harvesting of wheat.

The feast also commemorated God giving the Jews the Torah/ Law on Mt Sinai after they escaped across the Red Sea from the tyranny of Egypt. The account of the giving of the Torah is described in the Book of Exodus with fire present and the mountain being shaken. God made a new covenant with his people on Mt Sinai (Exodus 19:16-18).

St Luke in our first reading today from his Acts of the Apostles uses the similar images of tongues of fire and a powerful wind. Luke is teaching that the new post-Pentecost Christians community is being formed with the new law of the Spirit given by the risen Christ.

NEW CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR ALL: Those to whom the disciples speak are described as "devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem". They are present for this pilgrimage feast. While the Christian message will be carried to the ends of the earth by the Spirit of Jesus, it is the Jews of Jerusalem and of other nations who are the first to be gathered into the Christian community. In addition the Spirit filled the disciples who "began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech." The Spirit wanted all peoples to hear the Christian message in their own language.

PENTECOST- A CONTINUING EVENT: we are to become a community that will keep the flame of passion for God and for the world which God loves burning strongly, even through the darkest times. Like the first Jerusalem community we are to persevere in prayer and community so that the Spirit will enable us to speak in intelligible tongues to the men and women of our own times and cultures.

THE SPIRIT ENCOURAGES THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE: in his gospel, John names the Spirit as "Paraclete", which can be translated as Advocate, Encourager, Counsellor- all names that offer us disciples enormous hope. The Spirit is both the memory of the past church and the future of the church, not only recalling to us what Jesus has said and done, but also guiding and urging all future openness to the fullness of the truth.

Those who believe nostalgically, that the church was already perfect in some past golden age, need to listen to the highest teaching authority, the Second Vatican Council, which reminded us that until the end of human history, "...as the centuries succeed one another, the Church constantly moves forward towards the fullness of divine truth until the words of God reach their complete fulfilment in her." (Dogmatic constitution on Divine Revelation art 8).

New encounters with the words of Jesus will be necessary in changing social and cultural situations. The Paraclete is our guarantee of new tongues, in which to speak intelligibly in these new situations and of new hearts keeping the flame of Pentecost to ignite the love of God in our world.

PTO

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

Kasey JONES
Eli MCDONALD
Joni MURRAY
Edison YANKOS

We joyfully welcome them to our parish.



BISHOP-ELECT MARTIN ASHE: Pope Francis has appointed our previous Parish Priest an assistant bishop in our Melbourne Diocese. Fr Martin is remembered for his eight years of ministry here during which time he oversaw the building of the Parish Centre and Offices. In 2005, he was appointed director of the ministry of priests—caring for over 250 Melbourne priests. Since 2012, he has been parish priest of a vast growing parish with churches in Mernda, Whittlesea and Kinglake. Kinglake is 33kms from Mernda. We thank him for his generosity in accepting this new ministry of bishop and let us keep him in our prayers. He will be ordained a bishop in late July.

....Kevin McIntosh

QR CODES: As everyone knows by now, we must use QR codes to check in to all our Parish facilities. For those who need the Vic Gov app, we have put links on the front page of our website (olmc.sunbury.com) and if you just open that site on your smartphone and click on the appropriate link for either your Android phone or your Apple iPhone, it will take you straight to the Victorian government QR code application where you just click install and it will install it for you. If you have an older Samsung phone there is a link there to information from Samsung which may be able to help you to get it to work on an older Samsung phone.

THANK YOU: On behalf of my family and myself I would like to thank you for the positive thoughts, messages and prayers during this challenging time in our lives. Our faith reminds us that God is with us always.

.....Krystine Hocking, Holy Trinity Principal

MAJOR BINGO: now begins at **7.30pm on Thursdays** at Sunbury Bowling Club, 49 Riddell Rd. There is a need for volunteers to run the program which gives joy and friendship to over 100 patrons. Please contact our Parish Office.

MASS FOR INDIAN COMMUNITY: on Thursday 3 June 2021 at 6.30pm to support our parishioners who have lost relatives in India due to Covid and others who have great concerns for their relatives in India. All parishioners are welcome.

SUNBURY WINTER SHELTER: is seeking volunteers as the Shelter is planning to commence on **1 June**. Volunteer registration forms are available on the desks in the foyer. More details—on wns.sunbury@gmail.com or 0497 216 118. Each night of the week the Shelter will operate at a Sunbury Church at three shifts: 5-11pm, 11pm-6am, 6am-9am. There are various roles for volunteers: fellowship, kitchen, driver and laundry.

SUNBURY WINTER SHELTER 2021: Dear Volunteers, both registered and potential Volunteers, After each of the three Masses this weekend you are cordially invited to a short 15-minute meeting in the chapel. You will be given current updates and an opportunity to ask questions on any issues troubling you. See you there,
Juan Carlos Rodrigues-Deller, Co-ordinator St Anne's Venue P.S. Currently we have just one volunteer to cover the night shift from 11 pm to 5 am. We need two more.

Time to Celebrate

Our Father Kevin commemorated his 50th year of Priestly Ordination on 23rd May 2020. Unfortunately we, his Community, were unable to celebrate this extraordinary milestone with him. Next weekend, Saturday May 29 and Sunday May 30, we will be able to pray and celebrate with Fr Kevin and enjoy a cuppa together after each Mass.

HALL BOOKINGS: For Parish Centre bookings please contact Cathie Lio, the Parish Centre Manager on 0405 380 560 directly.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT: during the month of May, all parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne are asked to count all who attend at all parish Masses.

SUNBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD KITCHEN will be restarting in the next couple of months.

Do you want to join our team of volunteers????

We need friendly, active and motivated people who want to make a difference and help others in need. 18 years and over.

Volunteers required on

Mondays 9am to 8pm

Thursdays 9am to 1pm

Do you have interest in any of the duties below, if so, we need you to volunteer.

Cooks, front of house, back of house, setting up the dining room, drivers with current drivers license, for collection of food supplies (usually on Thursdays), fundraising, committee management roles, promotions, website and social media.

Some criteria required:

* Must be 18 years and over

* Must have a current Working With Children Check

*****Registration night*****

Contact volunteercoordinator@sunburyneighbourhoodkitchen.org.au for further information.

PRAYER SERVICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: during the Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the service will be held at St Andrew's Uniting Church in Barkley St on the Village Green on Wednesday 26 May at 7.30pm. This world wide prayer service has been composed by the Christians in Switzerland this year. It is based on the Benedictine style of prayer.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

Tuesday 26 May 7.30pm Sunbury Inter Church Council St Andrew's

Wed 26 May 7.30pm Parish Coordinating Team Parish Centre

A RISE IN AGE OF CRIMINALITY: Jesuit Social Services has joined 75 other services urging all levels of government to rise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 14 years urgently. These services highlight the unique disadvantage and vulnerability of children in prison. Support in the community would prevent a lifetime contact with the criminal justice system.

EVERGREENS recently had lunch and movie for 26 enjoyed by all. We are having lunch at Olive Tree on 25th May 12.00pm. **No membership** needed. Seniors all welcome. Please call Joe Spiteri on **0477 677 248** to book As soon as possible.

CELEBRATING MUMS: FROM MELBOURNE CATHOLIC 19.05.2021 BY ANNIE LAURENCE:

I know that the words *nightmare* and *Mass* don't usually belong together, but as a mum with six kids, let me assure you, 'nightmare Masses' are a thing! Don't get me wrong: I love the Mass and strive to go daily. It's my food for the journey—a small taste of heaven.

I suppose we all have our own version of a nightmare Mass. I am guessing for a priest it might involve misplacing a well-scripted homily minutes before Mass, or unexpectedly running out of hosts. For me, a nightmare Mass is when I am so overwhelmed by the demands of the children that I leave without having heard a word, generally feeling more frazzled than when I arrived.

Over the years I have experienced many nightmare Masses, especially when the kids were little. Two of these stand out in my memory.

The first was an Easter Vigil Mass. After years of attending Easter Sunday Masses, one year we felt brave enough to attempt the vigil. I say brave, because the vigil's length and lateness are not well suited to families with small children—as we were to discover. It got off to a promising start. The kids were thrilled to begin outside in the dark and were captivated by the outdoor fire. However, their inner pyromania was ignited when they were presented with their very own tapers. My husband had been asked to help with the lighting of candles around the church, and the readings seemed to take an eternity while I was left to supervise alone as the kids experimented with dripping wax and exasperated each other by blowing out their siblings' flames. And then, when the time finally came to blow the tapers out, no one wanted to acquiesce. To top it off, our youngest was miserable with a temperature and whimpered from beginning to end. Mother guilt! Over the years, we have found that sitting in the front pew has helped the children to be more engaged in the Mass. When they were well behaved, they looked like a row of cherubs, but when they misbehaved, their escapades were there for all the congregation to see. That night, it was quite a performance!

The second occasion was the baptism of our third child. From the front of the church, as I proudly gathered around the baptismal font with husband, priest and godparents, I glanced up at the congregation and caught my mum's panicked eyes. 'Where's Georgie?' she mouthed. Georgie, our second child, who was just two years old, had broken ranks and was nowhere to be seen. I almost dropped the baby, and the proceedings halted while uncles and aunts dispersed on a rescue mission, some racing out the church doors to scan the busy highway. She was found playing peacefully in the sacristy. The crisis was over in minutes, but I lost ten years that day!

More recently, and with our kids now grown, we spotted a new family in attendance at our parish. They were conspicuous, at least to us, because the father of the family happened to be a high-profile AFL footballer who played for our beloved Hawks. We pounced on them after Mass, keen to make their acquaintance, and enjoyed a long cup of tea together. Weeks later, the mother of the family confided in me that she had been about to give up on trying to attend Mass as a family but had resolved to make one last attempt at finding a parish where her young family weren't shushed and frowned at. How sad!

Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me' (Luke 18:16). He didn't qualify this with 'if they are quiet, if they are in pressed shirts, if they don't wriggle around'. His welcome is unconditional.

As a mum who is shortly to become a grandmother—yes, I am *beyond* excited—it is my hope that when my daughter first attends Mass with her newborn:

- *she will be welcomed with a smile.* Getting young families to Mass is a huge organisational feat, with mothers often battling their own exhaustion, juggling sleeps and feeds, and dealing with crises of lost shoes and car seat tantrums, even before Mass begins.
- *someone will ask her name and remember it the next time she comes.* 'I have called you by name, you are mine' (Isaiah 43:1).
- *someone will tell her how beautiful her baby is and what a great job she is doing.* Years ago, I recall a priest telling his congregation that if they didn't like the sounds of the children during Mass, they could go and sit in the crying room themselves. Alleluia! Young mums are particularly sensitive to the disposition of the priest towards their noisy baby. A kind gesture or word of encouragement means the world.
- *someone will offer to make her a cup of tea at the end of Mass and she can meet some other young mums.* It's very consoling and encouraging to know that other young families are making the effort to get to Mass. Providing opportunities to connect with others who are facing similar challenges helps young parents to understand that 'I'm not the only one.'

Finally, I pray that my daughter has more dream Masses than nightmares and, most importantly, that her new little family will find the parish a place where their faith will flourish—a home away from home.



PRAYING NOT EASY– POPE FRANCIS:

On 19 May, Pope Francis said praying is not easy, but suggested ways to overcome common obstacles: distraction, spiritual aridity & laziness. We need to know the difficulties, recognise them and overcome them. We all get distractions, so let us try to be alert. It is normal to go from "consolation" to "desolation" and back again. He said the response to these three obstacles should be humble perseverance.

