



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 Website: olmcsunbury.com



Newsletters are available on the parish website
olmcsunbury.com

Liturgy Times:

Liturgies have been suspended temporarily due to the lockdown

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

5 September 2021

Twenty Third Sunday Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7

Psalm Response: Psalm 145:7-10

Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading: James 2:1-5

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 4:23

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Sr Jean COUTTS Miguelito ELMA Joan FRANGOS Vicki HEATH Paul HOCKING Chris HULL Mary & Joe KLOSS Roisin MCGOVERN Pat READMAN Brian SAID

Recently Deceased: Patricia COPPINGER
Chris DOUTRE (Brother of Della Oswald) Cassie O'KEEFE

Anniversaries: Mary DUGGAN Anne & Harry DUNNER Fr Jim FEENAN Oliver & Len PLUNKETT Pauline TANASI



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

OUR GOD HEALS

During this lockdown, many people are feeling isolated and lonely. The deaf and dumb man in this Sunday's gospel would have felt the same. Years ago before hearing aids he was unable to receive any verbal communication nor could he communicate his thoughts.

Fortunately, the man's acquaintances are compassionate enough to bring him to Jesus asking for a cure. "Jesus took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his finger into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven, Jesus said to him "Ephphata", that is "Be opened". His ears were opened and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly".

St Mark respects the home language of Jesus, Aramaic, and quotes the original command to be opened. We too are commanded to be open to God's word and to be open to healing the suffering of our sisters and brothers. Not only did Jesus heal the man's disabilities, but he allowed the man to take part fully in the life of his community as he can share his thoughts and receive from others.

THE SETTING OF THE MIRACLE: Jesus is travelling in the Decapolis region, a non-Jewish area, where the Gentiles lived. Mark is teaching that Jesus is the Messiah for all nations, showing the inclusive reign of God. Christ fulfils the great messianic prophecies, one of which is our first reading this Sunday from the Prophet Isaiah where he writes "the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and ears of the deaf unsealed." (35:4-7)

Isaiah wrote these words about 600BC to his people who were in exile having lost their land, the temple and the king and so the people were depressed. Isaiah seeks to rekindle their hope to return to their land and be restored. In our time of lockdown, Isaiah's words are appropriate. "Say to all faint hearts, courage! Do not be afraid. Look, your God is coming to save you" (35:4)

BE COMPASSIONATE TO ALL: As Jesus healed a foreigner, a Gentile, we are called to be open to all making no distinction based on class or money. Let us not be deaf to the cries of the poor and not be mute in our advocacy for them. Our service can take on many forms.

One example is Karl Kulper, a homeless man who slept in a bus stop for twenty-five years outside St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, though he had offers of accommodation. Every evening he escorted nurses leaving the hospital very late at night so they could safely catch their bus. After his death, the Sisters of Charity and the State Transit Authority fixed a plaque to the bus shed "A resident of St Vincent's bus stop for 25 years, Karl, in God's bus stop in heaven may you rest in peace."

LIVING OUT OUR BAPTISM: In the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism, after being washed with water and anointed with sacred Chrism, the priest prays "The Lord Jesus made the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak. May he touch your ears to receive his word, and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father".

The basis of this prayer is actions of Jesus healing the deaf and dumb man. Let us allow Jesus to touch us in our brokenness. He opens our ears to hear the word of God spoken to us by others. May we show our compassion to those around us as the people showed their compassion by bringing the sick man to Jesus for healing. Let us keep in touch with others by phone and internet during these times of isolation.

....Kevin McIntosh

NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS: After the lockdown, our new-parish office hours will be:

Monday -Thursday 9am to 1pm

Fridays - 9am to 5pm

Due to a drop in giving, the hours have been reduced.

OUR PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY: We offer to Graeme and Rodney Coppinger as their mother Pat entered eternal life on 31 August aged 86 years. After being involved in the Corpus Christi Parish, Glenroy, Pat and her late husband Vincent came to our Parish in 1994. Pat was very active as a volunteer in the Red Cross. Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated this week concluding at Riddells Creek Cemetery.

We offer our Parish families—D'Cruz and O'Keefe as Cassie O'Keefe entered eternal life on 30 August, aged 54 years. Cassie and her parents Celine and Lloyd came from Kerala, India to Australia in 1984. In 1989, they came to our Parish. After being very active as a volunteer at OLMC School where her sons Damien and Matthew were students, Cassie joined the teaching staff in 2010. Her colleagues hold her in high regard. Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated this week concluding at Sunbury Cemetery.

FATHER JIM FEENAN: He was born in Ireland in 1926 and ordained a priest for the Melbourne Church in 1956. From 1973 to 1977 he was our Parish Priest. Following the opening of Tullamarine Airport in 1970, Sunbury's population grew greatly. Father Jim established the Parish Education Board. At a meeting, the Board decided the need for another school, and they decided to call the new school St Anne's which opened in 1978 and now has an enrolment of 640 students. After 34 years of ministry, Father Jim retired as a parish priest and continued to help parishes in the Geelong area. He entered eternal life on 3 September 2019.

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL: Our Sunbury Chapter of Vinnies support, both financially and emotionally, many in our community, particularly through the recent months of COVID. If possible please support them in the extraordinary time and effort they give to those less fortunate. Electronic donations will be greatly appreciated:

BSB No: 063 000

Account No: 1031 7778

Reference: 171

Account Name: SVDP

Please email receipts to Parish Office at

sunbury@cam.org.au. Thank you for your support.

MASS TIMES & BOOKINGS: We will need to await further instruction from the State Government once lockdown finishes as to the capacity allowed in our church. Under the State Government restrictions it is essential for all Masses to be pre-booked on the parish website – olmcsunbury.com

The 5.30pm Saturday and 10.30am Sunday Masses will be allocated for the First Eucharist families only and strictly limited in numbers.

Thank you for your continued support in Mass booking, QR entries and maintaining the social distance rules. We all appreciate the care we have for each other in our community.

BEQUESTS: *Are you writing your will or considering a change? Please consider leaving your legacy to the work of our Parish. Details can be obtained by contacting the Parish Office. Telephone 9744 1060 or email sunbury@cam.org.au*

PARISH COORDINATING TEAM PURPOSE: To promote the Parish mission to live and communicate the love, values, and teachings of Christ in our world. The PCT shares in the responsibility for the ongoing life and development of the faith community, working together with parishioners to provide support for their efforts to live as followers of Christ. Our PCT members are **Michael McConville, Denise O'Brien, Juan Carlos Rodriguez-Dellar, Jane Voon, Sue Wight, Mary Baensch, Garnet Jacob, Pauline Sharma, Michael Hetherington, Fr Kevin, Lyn Plummer & Sr Jose**. This month the PCT reviewed the Plenary Council and Parish Survey documents with a view to implementing our Parishioners' suggestions.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

Thu 9 Sept. 2.00pm Parish Finance and Development Committee—Zoom

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:

An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.

This experience gives you the tools to keep your passion alive in a gentle, nurturing environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. **Please check our website for more details.** We have two options: An on-line/virtual weekend: **10-12 September 2021** or a non-residential weekend: **16-17 October 2021** in west Gippsland. (Book early to avoid disappointment) Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

THANKS FROM CATHOLICCARE: Our parishioners have been thanked for their donation of \$344.60 to this year's Chaplaincy Appeal which supports Chaplains providing hope and care to thousands of people through hospital Chaplaincy, prison ministry, youth justice chaplaincy and HIV/AIDS ministry.



YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"

DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021

