



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

**31 October 2021**

Thirty-First Sunday Ordinary Time

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6  
Psalm Response: Psalm 17:2-4, 47, 51

**I love you, Lord, my strength.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28  
Gospel Acclamation: John 14:23

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.**

**Alleluia!**

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

LET US PRAY FOR

**Sick:** Miguelito ELMA Rose HABER Chris HULL  
Fr Noel MACKAY Anthony MCMAHON

**Recently Deceased:**

**Anniversaries:** John ARTHURSON Douglas  
DUGGAN Rita JANSEN Linda WARREN



*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**

**ANOTHER BEGINNING**

As we come out of lockdown and gather to worship and pray together, it is providential that Jesus' teaching in today's gospel gives us the two main directions to follow—to love God first and secondly to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.

**FIRST COMMANDMENT—LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD**

These words were prayed daily by devout Jews to the Lord who rescued them from the slavery in Egypt. 'Love' has the sense of to God, to the exclusion of all other objects of worship. We are to love with our totality of heart, soul and strength. God is worthy of our love because he has first loved us.

In our quiet prayer, let us reflect on how we are grateful to God for all we have received - our life, our health, our freedom in Australia, the beauty of creation, incidents of liberation in our lives, so God has found us so loveable. We are not loved because we are good, we become good because we are loved. Hence, we should love ourselves.

**LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF**

Down the centuries there have been various feelings about the human body - some say the body leads us to sin. St Thomas Aquinas, one of the greatest theologians, taught while the body can lead us to sin it is also a temple of the Holy Spirit and a vehicle of God's love and grace. Today's gospel tells us that the love of God, the love of neighbour and the love of self are the cornerstones of the Christian law.

The 'love of self' is not to be 'adore self'. We are called to love our body, not worship it. If we have no sense of our own self worth, our own dignity and the personal love of God for each of us, it is impossible for us to give the same to others and to claim from others the dignity we deserve. We will either treat others as inferior on one hand, or allow others to walk all over us, on the other.

Jesus shows us by the way he loved his Father, us and himself that true love always involves sacrifice. This will involve self control over destructive behaviour in our life. Jesus knew that we can never love others if we hate ourselves.

**ANNUAL CLERGY CONFERENCE**

Was held in the afternoons of last Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. About 180 Melbourne bishops, deacons and priests took part on zoom. Our speakers were Fr Michael Carey, a monk from Melbourne. Dr Austen Iverleigh live from England and Professor John Haldane from Scotland, now in Melbourne.

The themes of the lectures were renewal of the Church, the Synod of Bishops, Plenary Council of Australia and listening to the Spirit. Hopefully we will be able to meet together in person next year.

**POPE FRANCIS AT SOUTH AMERICAN SYNOD**

"We have come here to contemplate, to comprehend, to serve the peoples. And we do so by taking a synodal path; we do as a synod, not at round tables, not in conferences and further discussions. We do as a synod, because a synod is not a parliament; it is not a parlour; it is not demonstrating who has more power in the media, or more power on the web, in order to impose some idea or plan .... Synod means walking together under the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the prime actor of the synod. Please let us not drive him from the hall." (Opening Speech at Amazonia synod, October 2019).

**CONGRATULATIONS AND PRAYERS:** To Huy Nguyen who is to be ordained a deacon for the Church of Melbourne next Saturday, by Bishop Martin Ashe. Huy did his pastoral year of formation with us in 2019. We remember his family in Vietnam and thank them.

**YEAR 12 STUDENTS:** Let us continue to pray for those students as they do their final exams this week as they complete their school education. We pray that the years ahead in tertiary education and employment will be fruitful.

**LOSS OF ELECTRICITY:** Due to the weather on Friday, our Parish Office and St Anne's Church were without power and telephone. Hence, Karen our office secretary was unable to take further bookings for Masses this Sunday.

.... Kevin McIntosh

**THE LITURGY TEAM:** Are pleased to welcome you to 3 sessions of 'Our Vision Through the Spirit' as our advent focus.

**November 17, 11am or November 18, 7.30pm**

**December 1, 11am or December 2, 7.30pm**

**December 15, 11am or December 16, 7.30pm**

More information regarding booking and venue to follow, keep the date!!!

**ALL SOULS'S DAY: November:** Remembering those who have died. Mass will be celebrated on All Soul's Day, November 2 at 10am. Bookings on parish website. All are welcome to bring along photos of loved ones to be remembered. The Remembrance Book will be revered at all Masses. Please include your deceased loved ones.

**BLESSING OF GRAVES:** On **Saturday 6 November** Fr Kevin will bless the graves of those buried at the **Bulla Cemetery at 2.30pm** and at the **Sunbury Cemetery at 3.30pm**.

**2022 COLUMBAN CALENDAR:** The 100 years edition of this beautiful Calendar is available to purchase at the weekend Masses for \$10 each. Cash only.

**EVERGREENS:** The Sunbury Evergreens are having a Social Afternoon on **Tuesday 23 November at 12.30pm** in the Parish Hall and also the Christmas Lunch at the Bowling Club on **Tuesday 7 December**. All seniors are invited. No membership required. All those attending **MUST** be double vaccinated with a certificate of proof to enter as per the Health Department rules. Looking forward to a chat and a nice cuppa, while being safe. Inquiries Joe 0477 677 248.

**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 on 9744 1060 or email [sunbury@cam.org.au](mailto:sunbury@cam.org.au).

**WELCOME BACK:**

It is with a deep sigh of relief and grateful thanks that from this weekend, our churches can begin to welcome back larger groups of parishioners for the celebration of the Eucharist. As Archbishop Peter A Comensoli said in a recent video message, 'There's a bodily reality that has been missing during the lockdown that may now come about again.' And in preparing for that gathering, he suggested to 'pause at the door of your church. Pause there for a moment in silence... allow the Lord to welcome you back in, and allow that moment to be filled with His grace and His peace.'

With the easing of restrictions announced by the Premier we can now celebrate Mass for 100 fully vaccinated people indoors. Bookings for Mass are available on the Parish website and participants over the age of 16 must be fully vaccinated.

**MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE: 'Çuppa with Mary'** - MMHC is reopening for parishioners on Monday 8 November from 9 am – 5 pm. Come visit the Museum that tells Mary and the SOSJ's story, do a walking tour of the Mary MacKillop Heritage trail and Mary's place of birth. Special times have been set aside for Parish groups to have a 'Çuppa with Mary' which includes a presentation, tour and prayer reflection in the Chapel where Mary prayed, at a cost of \$20 per person. Contact Kate on 9926 9300 for a group booking.



# YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

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

DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021