



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST, SUNBURY, WILDWOOD

ON WURUNDJERI COUNTRY



Parish Office: 101 Riddell Road Sunbury 3429 Ph: 9744 1060
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Newsletters are available on the parish web-site
olmcsunbury.com

MASS TIMES: ALL AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH

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

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10am-10.30am St Anne's Church
No Bookings Required

Parish Priest: Rev Kevin McIntosh
Priest Assisting: Fr Brian Ahern SDB
Fr Frank Moloney 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

16 January 2022

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm Response: Psalm 95:1-3, 7-10

Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
Gospel Acclamation: 2 Thessalonians 2:14

Alleluia! Alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 2:1-11

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Val CARR Terry FORAN Frank HEENAN
Chris HULL Fr Noel MACKAY Albert POTENZI-
ANI Chris REILLY Clive SUMNERS Anthony
VAN DER WEERDEN

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Giovanna BRULLO Fr Bernard
O'BRIEN OMI Rama PRASAD Serafina RAVIDA



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

UNSUNG HEROES

Have you ever visited a great cathedral? Usually, the tabernacle of the Glory of the Real Presence of Our Lord is so far distant from the people that it is practically inaccessible, barely able to be seen.

Had the theologians and builders who devised these great edifices read today's gospel? It ends: 'He let his glory *be seen*.' Where? In a nondescript Galilean village at a wedding feast about to become a disaster for the couple.

This is the message of today's gospel. The Divine Presence is no longer remote and distant from you and me and our everyday concerns. The Divine Presence is as close as if we were all at a wedding feast together.

So, what is the story?

Something is in danger of going horribly wrong. A young couple are about to be the talk of the village for generations to come. The wine is running out. A fiasco is impending. So, we need a hero to step in and save the situation.

Who is the hero, or perhaps the heroes, who will save the day?

Jesus is a very good candidate. He ended up coming to the rescue. And Catholics would emphasise the 'Mother of Jesus'. She persisted in the face of this retort from her son: 'Woman, what is this to me?' Yes, she was the heroine of the story.

But, the unsung heroes are ... the servants.

With all due respect, Jesus and Mary did what Jesus and Mary do.

But the servants took a huge risk. They are going to look utterly stupid if they do what this wedding guest tells them and end up drawing mere water out of the jars to give to the steward.

They took a huge risk by doing exactly what this stranger told them to do, *exactly*. In fact they were like children. If one asks a ten year old boy to fill a glass, he will fill it to the brim just to test you. The gospel tells us that Jesus said: 'Fill the jars with water' and the response is said to be 'they filled them to the brim'.

And then they started to ladle it out and found they were ladling out 'far better wine than anything served before' and the situation was saved.

How is the Divine Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ going to come into the everyday occurrences of daily life? Not with great pyrotechnics of thunder and lightning, but with you and with me doing our best to follow what Jesus asks us to do, and sometimes that requires us to become childlike again and to do what he asks *exactly*.

You and I are servants. We are the servants.

This requires a certain naivety, and a certain refusal to be embarrassed in front of the crowd for whom what you are doing may seem ridiculous.

One or two of you may get the call to do something extreme – filling to the brim – in your imitation of Jesus. Perhaps like St Francis of Assisi, discarding his fine clothes (his father was a cloth merchant) and following Jesus in utter poverty. But for most of us, it will all happen in the usual round of life.

It might be forgiving someone in the family where others in the family think you are fully justified in keeping a cold distance.

It might be caring for the life of a newly conceived or very sick child or elderly parent where the world might suggest more self-serving alternatives.

PTO

It might be by being generous, overly generous, with your time or money; time or money which could be spent on yourself, which is what the world expects.

There is a myriad of ways, foolish in the eyes of the crowd, but when you do it like the servants ladling the liquid from those huge pots, you allow the Divine Presence of Our Lord to save the situation.

Then Cana is there.

The creative power of Jesus Christ is there.

The Divine Glory is seen.

The Divine Glory is at work among us.

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POPE'S THREE PATHS TO BUILDING PEACE

In his message for the 55th World Day of Peace on January 1, Pope Francis points to three paths for building a lasting peace dialogue between generations, education and work.

Introducing this message, the Pope notes that the path of peace continues to remain "sadly distant from the real lives of many men and women."

Citing the intensification of wars and conflicts, climate change and environmental degradation, an individualistic economic model and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, "the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth" he says, "constantly make themselves heard, pleading for justice and peace".

But he points out, "in every age peace is both a gift from on high and the fruit of a shared commitment" and he singles out three paths for building lasting peace.

The first, "dialogue between generations as the basis for the realisation of shared projects" is especially crucial, the Pope says, in a world still gripped by the pandemic that has driven so many to take refuge in their own little world or react to it with destructive violence.

Dialogue, the Holy Father notes, demands trust between the participants who need to listen to one another, share different views, reach agreement and walk together. This is especially important, he says, between generations: "between the keepers of memory - the elderly - and those who move history forward - the young."

The second path chosen by Pope Francis in the pursuit of peace is education: a primary means of promoting integral human development. It makes individuals freer and more responsible, he says, and is essential for the defence and promotion of peace.

The third path spotlighted by Pope Francis is one that rests on the belief that work is an indispensable factor in building and keeping peace.

(Source: *Vatican News*)

EVERGREENS SOCIAL AFTERNOON: 25 January at 12-30 pm. Tea and biscuits. Information DVD about Mobile Personal Medical Alarm Pendant With Auto Fall Detection will be shown. Come along and bring your friend and carer. For more info or transport call Joe 0477 677 248

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Please note the new office hours ongoing are:

9am - 1pm Monday - Thursday and

9am - 5pm Friday.

OUR MASSES

Bookings are no longer required. On arrival please QR in. Masks are required at all times for those aged over 8 years. Please try to socially distance. After each Mass, the Church is sanitised.

PARISH BINGO CONTINUES

each **Thursday at 7.30pm** at the Sunbury Bowling Club, Riddell Road. All are welcome to attend. Meals are available before the game begins.

ST VINCENT de PAUL

A big THANK YOU to our 4 Parish schools plus our Parish congregation on a massive response to our St. Vincent de Paul Society Christmas offering.

What a magnificent effort by our students preparing over 225 Christmas packs of personal items and Christmas goodies for our companions. The children received colouring books and pencils plus activity items for the holiday period.

Our Sunbury conference is very thankful to the most generous response to our Christmas appeal where a fraction under \$4,500- was donated. Our conference can assure all those generous Christians, this will make a big uplifting day in the lives of those less fortunate to us in Sunbury, when we are able to assist them with a 2nd hand washing machine, refrigerator, or new mattress for a good nights sleep, or assisting a child have a computer to assist with their studies. Thank you again and God Bless all you good and faithful people. Kind regards,
John Stafford President, on behalf of all conference members.

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