



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 Office Hours: Mon - Thur 9am -1pm Fri 9am - 5pm
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Newsletters are available on the parish website
olmcsunbury.com

MASS TIMES: ALL AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH

Saturday	5.30pm
Sunday	8.30am
Sunday	10.30am
	11.45 - Baptisms
Wednesday	9.15am
Friday	9.15am
	6.30pm - Way of the Cross

RECONCILIATION

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

Parish Priest: Rev Kevin McIntosh
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

3 APRIL 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalm Response: Psalm 125

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

Gospel Acclamation: Joel 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: John 8:1-11

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Nancy ALLEN Val CARR Marie EL-LIOTT Doris FAHEY Terry FORAN Frank HEENAN Chris HULL Corazorn MALLARI Albert POTENZIANI Bob POWLES Clive REES Chris REILLY Marie SULLIVAN Clive SUMNERS Matthew WARBURTON

Recently Deceased: Raymond QUIN Jim RUTH Pamela SUTTON

Anniversaries: Austin D'MONTE Leonie D'MONTE Terrence FARIA Gerry QUIN Brian RILEY Rogelio RIVERA Edwin SMITH Olive SMITH

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

GOD'S MERCY—OUR NEED TO REPENT

The entire scene of our gospel today is a 'set-up' by the Pharisees to trap Jesus. Jewish law dictated adultery was to be punished by death for both parties. However, the Roman occupiers forbade the Jewish authorities to carry out the death penalty. If Jesus agreed to the death penalty, he flaunted Roman law. If he did not uphold the Jewish law, he would be seen as a false teacher - a perfect trap!

ACCUSERS LEAVE

Jesus says to the gathering, "if there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her". When they heard this they went away one by one, while Jesus was bent down doodling on the ground with his finger, until Jesus was left alone with the woman.

JESUS CONVERSES WITH THE WOMAN

The woman has been dragged in by the religious authorities to be used as a 'thing' to trap Jesus. At first, Jesus does not look or acknowledge her presence, but addresses the crowd and the scribes and Pharisees. Only after they leave in shame, Jesus turns his attention to the woman and establishes personal contact with her. Jesus is still kneeling on the ground and looks up at her to speak. Probably she has never been treated with this level of respect in all her life. With this action, Jesus restores dignity and honour to the woman. No longer looked down upon, she can begin a new life. The intimacy of his address to her as 'woman' echoes the term he uses addressing his mother. (John 2:4, 19, 26)

A NEW LIFE FOR THE WOMAN

Jesus neither condemns nor condones. He simply accepts the woman as she is and invites her to a new life. It is acceptance and love that allows repentance and change to occur in others.

Is there someone who is on the outer to whom you can offer support this week?

OUR CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S MERCY

We are all frail followers of Jesus, but sin is no barrier to discipleship. The only barrier is the despair that comes from self-condemnation and a failure to trust in God who refuses to condemn, as seen in our gospel today. As the journey of Lent moves to its end, let us place our confidence in the loving mercy of God. A good number of our parishioners showed this trust at last Wednesday's Lenten Reconciliation Service.

MODERN STORY OF FORGIVENESS

A bishop in Argentina, South America some years ago severely criticised rigid priests in his diocese who had refused to baptise the child of an unmarried woman. He called them hypocrites, praised the young woman who had carried the baby to term and lamented the fact that she had to wander from presbytery to presbytery for the baptism of her child. That bishop was elected Pope Francis in 2013 and our hope for the future of our Church.

.... Kevin McIntosh

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SAUNDERS FAMILY

Last Saturday, the Bendigo Cathedral was packed with friends and priests as Jackson Saunders was ordained a priest. Jackson is a grandson of Anne and Maurie Saunders, our long-time parishioners.

COMMENTARY FOR FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 2022

The Gospel today combines the Themes that have been emerging during Lent: the goodness and mercy of God and the need for repentance. The woman in this story is used as a “thing” to test Jesus. After the Scribes and Pharisees leave the scene in shame, Jesus makes personal contact with the woman, confirming that she is a human person and not a “thing”.

He calls her “Woman” the same intimate term he uses in addressing his mother.

Jesus neither condemns nor condones, but accepts the woman as she is and invites her to a new life.

It is acceptance and love that allows repentance and change to occur in ourselves and others.

Be still and know your God.

Father.... will be celebrating Mass with us today.

Please stand for the Entrance Hymn

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES ON SALE

At our Sunday Masses today, religious articles will be on sale—objects to help our prayer life.

WELCOME TO OUR MASSES

At each of our weekday and weekend Masses you are welcomed by our team. The wearing of masks in the church is no longer compulsory but optional. We will continue to consider safe distancing. After every gathering, the church is sanitized, thanks to our volunteers.

We warmly welcome you to our liturgies and look forward to seeing you.

BIBLE STUDY REFLECTION

All are invited to a fortnightly Bible Study/Reflection Group. The sessions will be held in St Anne's church commencing **Friday April 8 at 7pm**. Bibles and resources will be provided.

MEMORIAL MASS

Our Parish community have celebrated over 100 funerals in the past two years, many of which were only able to have 10 to 20 participants. Unfortunately there were many of us unable to attend and farewell our dearly loved parishioners.

We will celebrate the lives of our departed fellow parishioners at a Mass on **April 20, at 7.30pm**. Families are invited to bring along photo or memorabilia of their loved one. We will be able to enjoy a cuppa after and share the wonderful memories we cherish.

All are welcome.

GARDEN WORKING BEE - Fr Kevin's garden at the presbytery is in need of a little TLC. To this end, we are having a good old-fashioned working bee on **Saturday 9 April** and we would love to see you there. There's nothing too strenuous to do and we will commence at **9:30am**. Please bring your own tools. Morning tea will be provided. For information, please contact Mary Macdermid (0414 241 815) or Peter Rush (0418 148 586)

2022 HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

Saturday 9 April	5.30pm	Procession of Palms & Mass
Sunday 10 April	8.30am	Procession of Palms & Mass
	10.30am	Procession of Palms & Mass
	11.45am	Baptisms
Tuesday 12 April	7.30pm	Chrism Mass – Cathedral
Thursday 14 April	7.30pm	Mass with Washing of Feet
	9.30pm	Adoration ends
Friday 15 April	9.00am	Way of the Cross - OLMC Church
	10.00am	Sunbury Churches Service - St Andrew's Uniting Church
	3.00pm	Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday 16 April	7.30pm	Easter Vigil Mass
Sunday 17 April	8.30am	Easter Sunday Mass
	10.30am	Easter Sunday Mass

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

Archie & Lilah RENNA

Jacob TOLFO

We joyfully welcome them to our parish.



EVERGREENS

Lunch by popular demand, we had 25 people attend last month. Next lunch will be held on **5 April at 12noon** at Itahlia Restaurant next to the cinema. Come along and bring your friends. For more info or transport call Joe 0477 677 248. Please book asap.

PARISH BINGO

Our Parish bingo session “Major Bingo” continues every Thursday, eyes down at 7.30pm at the Sunbury Bowling Club.

Special \$2000 night on **Thursday April 14**. Lots of fun and plenty of give-aways. Get a group together and come along and join the fun. Enquiries: Gary Plummer 0419301760

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

is here to help. Anyone requiring assistance or help of any kind, please ring 1800 305 330 so members of our Sunbury Conference can assist you.

John Stafford | JP | Sunbury Conference President

St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria

M |0411 151 663

sunbury.conf.pres@svdp-vic.org.au

WAY OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross are organized every Friday from 9.4am and 6.30pm at St Anne's Church and all are welcome to join in.

AUSTRALIAN PLENARY COUNCIL

In 2016, the Australian bishops decided to hold a plenary council. The journey of the plenary council has been an act of faith - a belief that through our common baptism we can bridge differences, overcome barriers, find ways to heal and nurture seedlings of hope.

During the four weeks of March, 281 commissioned members of the Plenary Council have discerned the draft proposals leading our Church to be more missionary and more Christ-like. In May, the feedback from these members will be formulated by the Drafting Committee for the program of the second general assembly of the Council to be held in Sydney in July.

There are three main groups of people attending the Plenary Council's assemblies: Members; Advisers; and Observers. There will be 280 members representing the People of God in Australia. Advisers are people with expertise in theology, scripture, governance, formation, ecclesiology - to provide advice. Observers are likely to include Catholic leaders from New Zealand, the Pacific and Asia; leaders of other Christian Churches; and leaders of other faith traditions.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Wed 6 April 7.00pm RCIA

7.30pm Baptism Preparation Session - St Anne's

7.30pm Knights of the Southern Cross - Parish Centre

Fri 8 April 7.00pm Bible Reflection Session - Parish Centre

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