



## 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  
Email: sunbury@cam.org.au Website: olmcsunbury.com

Newsletters are available on the parish website  
olmcsunbury.com

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

### LITURGY TIMES: ALL AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH

Saturday	5.30pm - Sunday Mass
Sunday	8.30am
Sunday	10.30am
	11.45am - Baptisms
Wednesday	9.30am
Friday	9.30am

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10am - 10.30am St Anne's Church

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

### 27 November 2022

#### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm Response: 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

**Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord**

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel Acclamation: Psalm 84:8

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Lord, show us your mercy and love,**

**And grant us your salvation.**

**Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

### LET US PRAY FOR

**Sick:** Karina BURNS Kathleen JOHNSON  
Aileen JOHNSTON Moira KELLY Claire KENNY  
Andrena MCGOVERN-TAYLOR  
Cindy MORRISSEY John O'MEARA  
Sera PISANI  
Bob POWLES Thomas SILVEIRA  
Elaine VAN DER WEERDEN Lauro VISTAN  
Doris WILLIAMSON

**Recently deceased:** Max CORKER

Loraine FLOWER

Richard HAINSWORTH

Irene MURRELL

**Anniversaries:** Sheila DAVISON

Joseph RIBEYRO

Warren SAUNDERS

Anne ZERAFA

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

### **BE ALERT BUT NOT ALARMED**

Such a message is often given by governments to their citizens. Today's gospel expresses the same message because Our Lord is saying: 'Don't panic about the future. God, but only God, knows its timetable. But don't make that an excuse for being lazy and lethargic, sluggish and sleepy'.

### **REFLECTION ON THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE READINGS**

We may be accustomed to think of Advent as the time when we prepare for the coming of God, but the readings also train our attention on our own journey to God. We see this most clearly in this first Sunday with readings that tell us the identity of the pilgrims, the destination toward which they travel, and the way of life that is required of them on their journey. As the Vatican Council has proclaimed: We are a pilgrim people.

Both the reading from Isaiah and the psalm response speak of the pilgrimage to the mountain of the Lord, the place where God can be found. Although the psalm speaks about Jerusalem and refer to the temple there, the broader theological significance of the mountain, the city and the temple is one and the same. They represent the presence of God in our midst, and this presence is the goal of our striving. There are clear directions about how we are to live while we are on this pilgrimage to God. In Isaiah we learn that we must put away our instruments of violence and hatred, our swords and our spears. Lest we pick them up again, we are told to convert them into life-producing implements, into ploughs and pruning hooks. Paul exhorts us to put away our deeds of darkness and self-indulgence and to clothe ourselves instead in the deeds of Jesus Christ. Matthew points out the need for alertness, attentiveness, a disposition that is open to a change of heart.

(From Dianne Bergant CSA)

### **THE YEAR OF MATTHEW**

The Liturgical year has turned full circle and we begin the new year with the first Sunday of Advent. This year we will read mostly from the Gospel of Matthew, written fifty years after the resurrection and ten years after the Romans destroyed much of Jerusalem including the Temple.

Matthew's 'good news' is that Jesus is 'God with us' - Emmanuel. This is the name announced at his birth, and the final promise Jesus leaves his disciples, 'I am with you always' (Matthew 28:20)

In our 21st century, our struggles are different to Matthew's community: climate change, global economic rationalism continuing wars, drought, personal and family struggles, etc. While our world is vastly different, we still need to hear the good news that God is with us.

### **OUR ADVENT WREATH**

Is one of the major symbols of the Advent season. The encircling wreath is symbolic of God without beginning or end and the green foliage represents our hope in God.

The central white candle represents the light of Christ that came into the world. The first candle is symbolic of Hope and Expectation. The third candle—rose colour—celebrates Joy that is anticipated in the coming of Christ. The progressive lighting of the candles marks the journey towards the Nativity.

.... Kevin McIntosh

## Advent

This weekend marks the beginning of a new liturgical year with the first week of Advent. This season of Advent we will focus on "Looking forward to the HOPE of CHRISTMAS". The Advent Wreath will again be displayed and the candles lit each week with prayer and song. Advent offers us an invitation to use the time in quiet reflection.

## Advent Prayer Resources

Daily reflection booklet "Heart of the Disciple" is available in the religious articles shop for \$6. The booklet gives a reflection for each day of Advent. In the busyness of December it offers us time and guidance as we prepare for Christmas.

## Sunday Mass Obligation—Welcome Return to Worship

Archbishop Peter Comensoli has lifted the dispensation from our Sunday Mass obligation beginning from 27 November, like many other activities it is safe to return to church. Everyone is now welcome to join us around the Table of the Lord. His letter "Welcome Home" is in the foyer.

## Parish Bingo

Have you tried your Parish Bingo session yet? We are on every Thursday evening, eyes down 7.30 pm. at Sunbury Bowling Club. A few weeks ago, at our Big Bucks special night, one lucky player walked away with an incredible \$10,000 prize. You never know – you could be the next big winner! Get a few friends together or simply come along by yourself – you will be made most welcome. Enquiries to Gary 0419 301 760 or Graeme 0417 503 527.

## Religious Articles Shop—News

Religious Christmas Cards are now available - Pack of 8 cards for \$3.00.

2023 Columban Calendars are now available for \$10 each.

## Josephite Companions

Next Meeting **Wednesday 30 November** at 1.00pm St Annes' Church Meeting Room.

## World AIDS Day

Vigil Mass for World AIDS Day will be celebrated at St Francis' Church (corner Lonsdale and Elizabeth St, Melbourne) on

**Wednesday 30 November 2022** at 5.30pm.

All Welcome.

## Parish Assembly

What was your best "parish" memory from 2022? What burning question do you have? Why not jot them down today so they're ready for sharing. Small group discussions will be big in our next Parish Assembly on Feb 5th, 2023.



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

Georgia CUMMINGS

Evelyn MAHER

Fletcher RIDDELL

Lucy SINNOTT

We joyfully welcome them to our parish.



## Christmas Carols at Rupertswood

Is organised by the Combined Churches of Sunbury on **Saturday 10 December 2022.**

Carols at Rupertswood in two weeks, continues the tradition of 25 years gathering together as we prepare as Christians for the birth of our Saviour. The organising committee has been working hard, especially as we have a new venue this year.

The event begins at 5.00pm and finishes at 8.30pm. Please bring your rug or chair. No glassware is to be taken on to the site, as it is a school area. No alcohol is permitted. From 5.00pm, there will be activities for children and a nativity scene with live animals.

Food vans will provide food, including food for special needs.

There will be show bags for children. The program will not be broadcast this year on the local Sunbury radio. OLMC school choir will sing. St John's Ambulance will attend.

There is a special need for volunteers after 8.30pm to pack up after the event. We require the following assistance:

**2-5pm** setting up marquees, tables and chairs

**5-7pm** handing out programs, taking of collection assisting with the children's activities

**5-9.30pm** keeping grounds tidy, emptying rubbish bins, supervision of toilets.

**7-9pm** assisting the performers on and off stage

**9pm** on dismantling marques and clearing the site

All volunteers must be registered and have a current WWC card.

To register, go to [www.sunburychurches.com.au/volunteers.html](http://www.sunburychurches.com.au/volunteers.html) and fill in the form, or print and fill in. Either way, please print and sign.

## Volunteer Opportunity Assisting Refugee Students

**Mercy Connect Melbourne** is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for 4 school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safeguarding will take place prior to commencement in 2023.

Email: [somml@bigpond.com](mailto:somml@bigpond.com) (preferred for contact)

Tel: 9326 1895

## Rosa Mystica

The Legion of Mary are celebrating Rosa Mystica with prayers, devotions and rosary on Thursday 8 December from 12-1pm at St. Anne's Church. All welcome.

## Meetings this week

Wed 30 Nov	7pm	Child Safeguarding Committee
	7.30pm	Winter Night Shelter - St Andrews
Thu 1 Dec	7pm	Liturgy Planning

## CareWorks Christmas Appeal

See flyer on noticeboard in foyer.