



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 - Communion Service
Thursday	9.45am - Graduation Mass St Anne's 11.40am - Thanksgiving Mass St Anne's 6.00pm - Graduation Mass Holy Trinity
Friday	9.30am - Thanksgiving Mass OLMC 12pm - Thanksgiving Mass Holy Trinity

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

10 December 2022

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6,10

Psalm Response: Psalm 145:6-10

Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel Acclamation: Isaiah 61:1

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
He sent me to bring Good News to the poor.**

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Kerry BAILEY, Karina BURNS, Judy DAVIS, Larry DAVIS, Kathleen JOHNSON, Aileen JOHNSTON, Moira KELLY, Claire KENNY, Andrena MCGOVERN-TAYLOR, Jema MIRANDA, Cindy MORRISSEY, John O'MEARA, Bob POWLES, Thomas SILVERA, Andrew SWANN, Elaine VAN DER WEERDEN, Lauro VISTAN, Doris WILLIAMSON

Recently deceased: Peter MCCARTHY

Brian BEECHAM

Anniversaries: Joseph ADIGRAT
Rene BUTLER, Perc HAMILTON

SPECIAL COLLECTION—next weekend
Vinnies Christmas Appeal

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

JOHN THE BAPTIST - A MESSIANIC FORERUNNER ON THIS SUNDAY OF JOY

Our Sunday gospel opens with John the Baptist in prison. He may be having doubts - is Jesus the Messiah or will someone else come? Doubts can be part of our faith journey.

Jesus answered, "Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor". John has been God's prophet, prepared to accept his talk, cost him what it may - he is imprisoned for upsetting the religious leaders. He is not a prince dressed in fine clothes.

THE LEAST IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

In light of the above, Jesus' closing words are all the more surprising. The Baptist fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah of being a forerunner. Despite the greatness of the figure of the Baptist, the disciple associated with Jesus is superior. The 'least in the kingdom of heaven' is associated with Jesus in the greater mission of bringing hearing and sight, of giving power back to the legs of the lame, and above all proclaiming the Good News to the poor.

We are not preparing the messianic era - we belong to it.

THE GREATNESS OF MODERN DISCIPLES

Following the example of John the Baptist, we can praise God for calling and gracing the great people of our sacred history. They have remained firm to their call, and 'made straight the paths of the Lord.'

I recall the Irish brothers, priests and sisters who came to Australia as missionaries in the early days when they never expected to visit their family and homeland again. I think of Br Pat Howley F.M.S who entered his eternal reward recently aged 96 years. He spent 46 years teaching and serving in East Timor, Papua New Guinea and Solomons. He introduced ways of restorative justice to bring peace to fighting tribes. The UN invited him to speak at an International Conference.

I think of Sr Mary O'Shannassy, SGS, Victorian Director of Prison Ministry, who aged in her 80's still visits prisoners.

We have other volunteers like Vinnies.

This is 'good news' which encourages and challenges us.

THE COLOUR OF ROSE

The joy that is such a distinctive feature of the Advent season comes to the fore on the Third Sunday. The first reading from the prophet Isaiah with his joyous vision of a new creation which is echoed in Jesus' words: the blind will see again, lepers are cleansed and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor. Our first reading finishes: "They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces". Rose is the colour of joy.

OUR NEW PRIESTS

Among the three new priests ordained in Melbourne last month, two of them spent the pastoral formation period in our Parish. Now they have been appointed to serve in these parishes: Fr Vinh Do in the Parish of Balwyn North and Kew East with three churches and Fr Huy Nguyen in the Werribee Parish with two churches. We ask the Lord to bless them in their new ministry.

.... Kevin McIntosh

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 Items Shop—News

I am sorry to all those that missed out on "Heart of the Disciples" book. An online version is a downloadable PDF that can be purchased directly from website for \$2. <https://evangelisation-brisbane.myshopify.com/collections/adult-faith/products/heart-of-the-disciple-online-version>.

'More with Jesus' is a 30-day faith exploration resource intended to help Catholics reflect on the significance of their baptism. Purchasing the resource also provides access to the audio recording of the daily reflections, for those who prefer to think about these things while driving to work or while on public transport. **Still only \$6.00** Please order your copy Now and Don't be disappointed. Order at Religious items shop by leaving your name and mobile number. These are Not yet printed so they are for next year. Come and visit the store if we don't have it we can order it in. Inquires call Joseph Spiteri on 0477 677 248.

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

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

Advent Penitential Service with Reconciliation

Will be held on **Tuesday December 20 at 7pm**. All are welcome to continue their preparation of prayer and reflection for the Christmas season by attending this service. The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available after the service.

Parish Assembly Sunday 5th February 11.30am - 3.00pm

Enjoy a light lunch in the hall. Then gather in small groups to share with friends your questions and thoughts about Fr Frank Maloney's reflections on the church today in the light of our great Parish Vision. Sunday February 5th 2023 - Save the date!



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

Nate COWLING
AURORA WHEELER

We joyfully welcome them to our parish.



CHRISTMAS FAMILY MASS

Our parishioners shall gather to celebrate the birth of our Saviour on five occasions: **Saturday 24 December at 6.00pm, 8.00pm and 10.00pm. Sunday 25 December at 8.30am and 10.30am**. Children are invited to come in their Christmas costumes at the 6.00pm Mass. We will need volunteers to have these Masses run smoothly. If you are available to help in any way please register your name on the **volunteer sheet on the table in the foyer**. Thank you.

Vinnie's Christmas Appeal

Next weekend, **December 17 & 18** you are invited to contribute to the Vinnie's Christmas Appeal. Contributions will assist many families of Sunbury to celebrate Christmas. Your generosity will be most appreciated.

Vinnie's Service Awards

This week Vinnie's have awarded four of our parishioners "Vinnie's Service Awards" in recognition of the time and energy spent serving the people of Sunbury. We congratulate and thank them most sincerely for their commitment.

Philomena Laird – 40 years

Ann Chircop – 20 years

Anita Armstrong – 5 years

Sarah Honner – 2 years



Thank You! Your support of this year's Appeal for World Mission Sunday enables Church workers in 1047 mission dioceses to offer Good News to their local communities. Thank you for contributing to the amount of **\$1,209.60** which was raised by **Our Lady of Mount Carmel** community for Catholic Mission. Our partnership with local churches in over 160 countries is dependent upon the prayerful and financial support of many. Through your contribution, communities in Ethiopia look forward with hope, with easier access to health, educational and spiritual resources. THANK YOU.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

The Parish of Ivanhoe has a couple of vacancies for its Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land **11 – 28 April 2023**. If you are interested please visit our Parish Website www.melbcatholic.org/ivanhoe and click on the News Page or phone Fr. Bill Edebohls 0427 879 733. Thank you.

Cathedral Concert: 'A Christmas Celebration'

Sunday 18 December 3.00pm—4.30pm

Join us as we celebrate the spirit of Christmas with carols across space and time, including an Acknowledgement of Country through music. A family concert of traditional and modern Christmas favourites, featuring Brass, organ and choir in the beautiful and inspiring space of St Patrick's Cathedral. Tickets: \$25 at door or via Trybooking. Children 15 years and under, admitted free.