



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

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
Thursday 10.30am - Funeral - Judy Davis
2.30pm - Mass - Calvary Aged Care
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

15 January 2023

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
Psalm Response: Psalm 39:2, 4, 7-10
Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3
Gospel Acclamation: John 1:14, 12
Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.
Alleluia!
Gospel: John 1:29-34

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Kerry BAILEY, Karina BURNS, Aileen JOHNSTON, Moira KELLY, Claire KENNY
Andrena MCGOVERN-TAYLOR, Jema MIRANDA
Cindy MORRISSEY, John O'MEARA, Bob POWLES,
Thomas SILVEIRA, Jenny SIMPSON, Andrew SWANN, Lauro VISTAN, Doris WILLIAMSON

Recently deceased: Linda BURLEY,
Judy DAVIS, Cardinal George PELL,
Beverley RIPPE, Maggie RODRIGUES

Anniversaries: Giovanna BRULLO, Jane CASSAR, Jean DORNEY, Fr Noel MACKAY, Rama PRASAD

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

THE LAMB OF GOD THAT TAKES AWAY IN THE SIN OF THE WORLD

These words from our gospel reading this Sunday, John the Baptist applies to Christ revealing the identity and mission of Jesus.

THE LAMB OF GOD

Lambs are pure, white and defenceless. They demand nurture and are easily led. Jewish law dictated that a lamb had to be killed at least once a year at Passover to atone for their sins.

Such a sacrifice cost the shepherd time.

Lambs were currency. A shepherd had only a few lambs in those times.

Saying Jesus is the Lamb of God tells us that Jesus is God's most precious gift; God's own self, given to the world. The Aramaic word for sheep, 'talya', is the same word used for servant.

The first hearers of this gospel were to learn that Jesus is the servant who brings us the truth we need for life, answering our deepest desires to know that our existence on earth has meaning.

Jesus opens for us the life beyond this earth, where there will be no more weeping or sadness.

BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

John the Baptist teaches us in today's reading that there is a vast difference between his baptism and the baptism by Jesus. John's water baptism is a simple preparatory rite of conversion, disposing people for salvation.

Jesus, upon whom the Baptist has seen the Spirit come down to rest, is going to 'baptise with the Holy Spirit.' He is going to impart the Spirit of God.

To understand fully what the Baptist is saying, we need to look at the moment of Jesus' death upon the cross when Jesus said: 'It is accomplished' and bowing his head he gave up his spirit. (John 19:30) It is a majestic imparting of the Spirit.

The Church comes to birth at this moment in the person of Mary, the Mother of Jesus and John, the beloved disciple standing near the cross.

Two days later, the risen Lord will stand among his disciples, breathe upon them and say, 'Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven'. (John 20:22)

Truly Jesus is 'the Lamb, that takes away the sin of the world.' (John 1:29)

JESUS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE BAPTIST

In the first community of disciples there may have been some confusion who was more important, Jesus or John.

The first disciples had been disciples of the Baptist, the gospel very clearly points out that Jesus is the more important.

Our world places importance on competition and being the best. We can get trapped into this framework, measuring ourselves against others, as if they provide the standard.

The Gospel teaches us God is calling us to use the gifts we have received. John the Baptist knew his role in life, to bear witness to Jesus, not to take over Jesus' role.

My ultimate peace and happiness lies in living my life, not the life of someone else, not 'keeping up with the Jones' but keeping true to the life God has given me.

....Kevin McIntosh

Our Prayerful Sympathy

We offer to Larry Davis and his four sons as his wife Judy aged 77 years, entered eternal life on 7 January. Judy grew up in St Gabriel's Parish, Reservoir where she married Larry having met him in 1960. They came to Sunbury fifty years ago. Judy was for a time a taxi driver in Sunbury. During the past six years of serious illness Larry became her carer. Her funeral will be held on Thursday 19 January at 10.30am.

'Month's Mind' Mass—St Patrick's Cathedral

A memorial Mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI will be celebrated by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli at St Patrick's Cathedral on **Sunday 29 January at 6.30pm**—approximately one month after his death. All are welcome.

Parish Bingo

Has started back to commence celebrations for our 30th Year of Major Bingo!! Eyes down, 7.30pm, Sunbury Bowling Club 49 Riddell Road. All welcome. Enquiries to Gary 0419301760 or Graeme 0417 503 527

Evergreens

The first function for 2023 will be - Lunch at the Bowling Club, **Tuesday 17th January at 12-00pm**. Please call Joe Spiteri on 0477 677 248 for bookings.

Religious Items Shop

2023 Columban Calendars still **ONLY \$10 each**. 'More with Jesus' is a 30-day faith exploration resource intended to help Catholics reflect on the significance of their baptism. 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. Reflections can be started anytime 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.

Parish Assembly Sunday 5th February 11.30 - 3.00pm sharp

Experience our Parish Vision **in action**, *Christ-like relationships of friendship and faith, valuing one another, and sharing our gifts for the good of all*. Enjoy a light lunch in the hall. Then gather in small groups to share with friends your thoughts and questions about Fr Frank Maloney's reflection on the church today. Respectful sharing (both in listening and speaking) means that everyone feels that it is safe to speak up.



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

Alexis BROWNE

Lyle McCUBBIN

Ryland TREMBATH

We joyfully welcome them to our parish.



Melbourne Catholic Schools

In 2021, a new organisational structure was set up to inspire and enable every student to flourish and enrich the world. Over 180 years, our schools have provided the best education possible forming lives of faith, hope and love. Now there are 112,000 students in nearly 300 schools which have a staff of 16,000. The new structure is MACS—Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools.

Catholic Care Victoria

This year, 31,691 Victorians of all ages were helped disrupting disadvantage and helped to 'live to the full'. Services provided were counselling, social housing, homeless services, prison ministry, bushfire and flood recovery.

Made for More: Visions of the Promised Land creatively blends **live music, media and sacred art** for an **evening of beauty and reflection on the meaning of life, love and human destiny**. Join Christopher West and team as they offer a vision of the Gospel through the lens of St John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*. Choose from: **Tuesday 24 January 2023, St Francis of Assisi Parish Hall, 290 Childs Rd, Mill Park. Wednesday 25 January 2023, St Mary's Community Centre, 26 New Street, Dandenong**. Schedule: **6pm - food for purchase, 7pm start, 9.30pm finish** Open to all. *All children under 18 years must be supervised by an adult*. Tickets: \$25 general, \$10 concession/student, free for children 10 and under. Register: www.trybooking.com/CETXQ

Please submit any articles to be included in the newsletter by WEDNESDAY 5PM. This is due to the reduced office hours. Thankyou.

Cardinal George Pell - Some memories

He always had leadership roles. 60 years ago he was appointed one of four student leaders at Corpus Christi College, Werribee where 135 of us students for the priesthood lived. While Archbishop of Melbourne, he was very supportive of the disadvantaged. At my request, he provided special accommodation for one of our missionaries who was severely injured in a plane crash in Papua New Guinea, becoming a paraplegic. For more than 25 years, he suffered from arthritis which he said he inherited from his family. His sister Margaret was a first violinist in the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra until she had to retire due to arthritis. (From Kevin McIntosh)