



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

BULLA, CLARKEFIELD, DIGGERS REST, SUNBURY, WILDWOOD
ON WURUNDJERI COUNTRY



Parish Office: 101 Riddell Road Sunbury 3429 T: 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 - Liturgy of the Word
Friday 9.30am - Mass

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

7 May 2023

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 1-7
Psalm Response: Psalm 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9
Gospel Acclamation: John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 14:1-12

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Tom ALLEN, Kerry BAILEY, Roland D'CRUZE, Claire KENNY, Maria MEVIS-SEN, Jema MIRANDA, Karen RODRIGUEZ-DELLER, Thomas SILVEIRA, Jenny SIMPSON, Nelly Valencia, Lauro VISTAN, Doris WILLIAMSON Carolyn WOCKNER

Recently deceased: Amanda LONSDALE

Anniversaries: Mia HOGAN
Bernie MAHONY
Margaret McCONVILLE
Catherine ZARB

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

Mutual Indwelling

The Opening Prayer of today's Mass begins, 'Almighty, ever-living God', the One beyond all dimensions of time and space. And that is true. Could such a God really be 'at home' with us earthly creatures, bound as we are in time and space? It seems improbable. Conversely, is there a possible way in which we earthlings can dwell in God, can inhabit the Divine realm of being?

St John's Gospel gives a resounding 'yes' to both questions. God can be at home with us and we can dwell in God. We are all familiar with the famous passage at the start of St John's Gospel: 'The Word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us.' Here is a more literal translation: 'The Logos was made flesh and pitched his tent amongst us.'

The Jewish runaway slaves, who wandered for forty years in the wilderness after escaping from Egypt, carried around a tent where they believed God's presence was more intensely located: a good place to go and pray and to be inspired.

St John is saying that the Word who is God took on the tent of human nature and pitched his tent among us, took up a dwelling place with us, inhabited our human world of time and space, becoming for us 'the Way, the Truth and the Life'.

That is at the beginning of St John's Gospel.

And now, towards the end of the earthly journey of the Word who pitched his tent amongst us, we have today's Gospel passage.

The disciples are full of premonitions that their beloved leader was about to be cruelly done to death, leaving them abandoned. Yet he tells them: 'Let not your hearts be troubled.'

Why not? Why shouldn't their hearts, our hearts, be troubled by the disappearance of Our Lord's physical presence? Because there is a purpose to his passage through death. It was to bring about a situation where our Risen Lord and the disciples of Jesus can inhabit the same space. How does this come about?

Listen to St John's Gospel a few verses further on. Jesus says, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and *make our home with them.*' (v.23)

We are a dwelling place of God! You personally, together with other lovers of Our Lord, are a dwelling place of God!

And here is something just as astonishing.

Here is what I say when, after the gifts are brought to the altar, I pour a little water into the chalice of wine: 'By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.'

What a powerful verb! To share, to participate in. For us this means that we share in, participate in, the Divine Life of Jesus Christ, of the Risen Lord.

As the Greek saints of the early church used to say in very daring fashion: 'God became human so that humans might become God.'

Of course, this is by grace. We are adopted into this Divine life.

We anticipate this at every Holy Communion when the Divine life of our Risen Lord dwells within us under the appearance of bread and wine. As Pope John Paul II used to say: 'We digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection.'

We become a tent for the Risen Lord!

What a communion! What a Holy Communion! Let us look forward to sharing in that Holy Communion at this Mass. Let us pause after Holy Communion and let us reverence the Divine Life dwelling in us, a foretaste of our dwelling in Divine Life.

God the Almighty? Yes, but dwelling in us so that we might dwell in the Almighty God. Why should this be so?

Because Almighty God loves us. Alleluia!

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Overseas Humanitarian Project – THANK YOU FOR SUCH A FANTASTIC RESULT!

Due to the wonderful generosity of our parishioners, a total of almost \$2,600 was raised at last weekend's collection at our Masses for LAP.

These funds (plus those accrued from the regular pledge-givers) will be urgently sent up to the LAP team in Jakarta to assist them in their ongoing care for the HIV AIDS children.

Thank you again for your support – it is making a real difference to the children's wellbeing.

Parish LAP Fundraising Team.

How are we being called??

During our Easter season of renewed hope and joy we are invited to consider how we could share our gifts within our community.

There has been an invitation to many ministries in the newsletter. Hopefully there is one, maybe two that would suit you.

At this time, we are focusing on Ministers of Communion, both in our Liturgies and to the sick and housebound and Lectors who will proclaim the Word of God. These roles of the Laity are so important in enhancing our Liturgies. Formation sessions are planned to prepare us through prayer and practical training in these ministries. Our second call is for those who are able to be rostered to occasionally clean our Church environment.

How are we being called?? **There are sign-up sheets available in the foyer from this weekend. If you are already a Minister of Eucharist, a Lector or part of the cleaning ministry please add your name (details not necessary) to the list. Welcome to all!!**

Evergreens Social are having lunch at the Royal on Tuesday 16th May all welcome call Joe on 0477 677 248 for bookings or transport.

Something New from the Parish Coordinating Team.

MOTHERS' DAY MELODIES A variety show for the whole family.

Saturday 13th May 1pm at Sunbury Uniting Church. Director: Adam Przewlocki. Divine Divas, Rainbow Choir, Kyneton Singers.

Afternoon tea included.

Tickets \$15 Children \$10 Book now – www.trybooking.com/CHEGU

Details on the blue flyer in the church foyer.

FREE HOUSE PARTY

Reach out to your neighbours at a fun party. FREE

Face painting, Animals, Nathan Gabriel, Popcorn,

Photo Booth, Sausage Sizzle, Jenga, Chess, Badges

Sunbury Neighbourhood House, 12 pm – 4 pm

Saturday 3 May. See the colourful poster in church foyer

SUNBURY WINTER SHELTER

Don't delay. Register today www.facebook/sunburywintershelter

Or www.sunburywintershelter.org.au

Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training.

Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know: RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567 web: www.palms.org.au

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

Oliver AGUILA-LAPINING

Georgia BROWN

Marina TENSON

We joyfully welcome them to our parish.



Ministers of Communion

Thank you for your assistance in this ministry. May we remind all ministers to bless children with a hand over the child's head and a blessing prayer. COVID restrictions continue to be adhered with **no contact** as per directive from the Melbourne Archdiocese.

Altar Servers

"Congratulations and welcome to Elisha the new member of our Altar Server Team. Membership available to Girls and Boys over 10 years of age who have made their first Eucharist. Contact Michael 0417332186"

Religious Items shop

FREE Rosary and Divine Mercy CD's and Bible for children with child actors on DVD. We are taking SPECIAL orders for. Rosary Wood Stations of the Cross - 5mm Beads, Divine Mercy Chaplet Red & Crystal - 5mm Beads, Scapular of Benediction and Protection (FR) (Purple). Many other Scapulars available. Pictures in SHOP. Enameled Crucifixes. Guardian angel statues SOLD OUT but on order. Divine Mercy 25cm X 20cm. picture \$2. Baby booties on card and Rosary beads for gifts. Most items are made in Italy. We can order items we do not keep. ALL at cost price, inquiries Joe on 0477 677 248 or Maltesejojoe1@hotmail.com

Annual Mass Count

All Catholic Parishes in Australia will hold this annual count over the four weekends of May. The results will be forwarded to the National Pastoral Research Office.

In The Footsteps of Mary MacKillop

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. See flyer on Noticeboard.

Joseph's Corner - Celebrating 23 years in the West

Don't miss out on this incredible afternoon with two of Melbourne's most inspiring achievers, Les Twentyman and Barry Michael supported by the talented David Mann as MC.

Please join us for High Tea on **Sunday 21 May 2023** to help raise much needed funds to support families affected by addiction. Celebrating 23 Years in the West, Joseph's Corner continues to provide counselling and support free to those in need. The afternoon will provide a unique chance to learn more about what is happening on the streets of the west and the impact addiction has on family and friends. Your ticket includes a selection of classic High Tea favourites including savouries and sweets to enjoy with a traditional cup of tea or coffee. Dietary Requirements will be catered for. This is a fundraiser so come prepared to bid in our silent auction, main room auction and purchase raffle tickets. Cash and card both welcome. Click on link to book your ticket now <https://www.trybooking.com/CHLLV>
See flyer on Noticeboard.