



## 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: AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH

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

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10am - 10.30am St Anne's Church

Parish Priest: Rev Denis Stanley  
Deacon: Rev Stephen Fernandes  
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

**30 July 2023**

### SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12  
Psalm Response: Psalm 118:57,72,76-77,127  
-130  
Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30  
Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 11:25

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven  
and earth: you have revealed to little ones  
the mysteries of the kingdom.**

**Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

### LET US PRAY FOR

**Sick:** Kerry BAILEY, Jalila DAWOOD  
Catherine JARECKI, Jessie MICALLEF,  
Thomas SILVEIRA, Larry VISTAN

**Recently Deceased:** Moira MURPHY  
Fr Desmond PANTON PE  
Wade WEBSTER

**Anniversaries:** Eric D'MONTE  
Carlton JOHNSON, Lucy PERKOVIC,  
Jack WICKS

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

Much like today, different gods and life philosophies were plentiful in the ancient Roman world. They were like different pearls, available for people to pick and choose which they liked and wanted to keep.

However, say you had come across a pearl greater in its beauty and purity than all of the others you had seen, one so valuable it required you to discard all the rest to obtain it. There's a sense of urgency in the decision too. A pearl this valuable, like treasure found in a field, will not remain available like this for long. Looking at it, you know you must decide quickly while it is still available.

Would it be worth it to you?

When Jesus talks about the 'kingdom of heaven' or the 'kingdom of God' being like a pearl of great price, he's referring to the value of the new way of living available through him.

As St Paul explains in today's second reading, the kingdom of heaven is not just about eternal life. It is primarily about being shaped to become like Jesus, including in the here and now. We share Jesus' wisdom, his capacity to love others and his relationship with the Father. We live with Christ's life, we become moulded to his ways, and we take on Christ's whole way of being as our own.

The imagery offered by the parables in today's gospels describes the right response to finding the kingdom of heaven, which is to give up everything else that has value in order to pursue it. Whether it costs us success, security, pleasure, or the respect of others, the kingdom of heaven is worth the very highest price.

St Matthew understands how the kingdom of heaven can change a person. Not only has he given up everything, including riches and security, for the kingdom of heaven but, in attaining it, he is like the head of a household who can welcome others into the kingdom and give its treasures away.

However, there is no understanding of the kingdom of heaven as Jesus describes it without a life-changing commitment to stay on its course.

As our first reading explains, King Solomon, at the start of his life, found this pearl of great price and placed it at the very centre of his life. Solomon disregarded offers of health, wealth and security and instead prized knowing the heart and mind of God. However, as the books of Kings go on to document, the wealth and life of pleasure drew Solomon's focus away from the wisdom he once prized above everything.

The life on offer from God gives us meaning and joy. It offers us a life where "all things work for good for those who love God." It is worth it to cast everything aside to attain it.

Joseph Doyle  
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### First Eucharist

With great joy we announce that our children from the three primary schools and OSPREY will receive their First Eucharist between 15 July and 6 August at the 5.30pm and 10.30am Masses. Please continue to remember them in your prayers. You may like to remember the first time you received the Holy Eucharist.....

### ALTAR SERVERS

*"My children do not get anything from coming to Mass!! ALTAR SERVERS do because they help with the celebration. Young people 10 years and older who have received first Eucharist are welcome to join the team. Enquires Michael 0417332186"*

### Religious Items Shop

**We are praying to get some more helpers to serve in the shop for about 10 minutes after mass. Please call Joe 0477 677 248 or Office 9744 1060.**

FREE Rosary and Divine Mercy CD's and Bible for children with child actors on DVD. Gifts for first communion and cards, Enameled Crucifixes, Children books, Guardian angel statues. New items arrive regularly. ALL at cost price.

### "Women Deacons & the Synod: What Happens Now?"

On **7 August 2023** (10-11:30am AEST) the ACU Centre for Liturgy will host Dr Phyllis Zagano (Hofstra University, New York) who will give an online public lecture (via Zoom) entitled **"Women Deacons and the Synod: What Happens Now?"** Most of the Continental Assemblies and the syntheses of several Episcopal Conferences call for the question of women's inclusion in the diaconate to be considered at the Synod on Synodality. Is it possible to envisage this, and in what way?" She will address the questions: What are the arguments for and against women ordained as deacons? What will happen in October? Dr Zagano is an internationally acclaimed Catholic scholar and lecturer on contemporary spirituality and women's issues in the church. To register, please go to [www.acu.edu.au/publiclectureCfL](http://www.acu.edu.au/publiclectureCfL)

### BAPTISM, the new beginning

#### Deciding about your child's Baptism

The first step of your child's Sacramental Journey is Baptism, followed by Reconciliation (Year 3), First Eucharist (Year 4) and Confirmation (Year 6).

Therefore, if you and your child choose to be part of that journey, your child will need to have been baptised into the Catholic Church. The Parish Office will need to be contacted asap, to arrange the celebration of your child's Baptism

Please call (leave a message, if necessary) the Office on 9744 1060 to receive a follow-up call.

**Evergreens** Our next Lunch will be at Itahlia. **Tuesday 15th August** at 12-00pm. For transport and Booking call Joe 0477 677 248 asap thank you.

**Morning Melodies** at the Bowling club with Devonshire tea for \$10 and Arnie Grives the one man party 10-00 am start, followed by lunch at Bistro on **Monday 4th September 2023**. For transport and Booking call Joe 0477 677 248 asap thank you.

### Thank you

To Stephen Perkovic who did a great job in cleaning St Anne's Church. The parish appreciates him doing this important work for us.

### Something New from PCT

**1.Bazinga** A big THANK YOU to all donors, guests and workers who made Bazinga the very enjoyable parish get-together that it was. This happy occasion raised \$2354.85 to pay for a defibrillator and defibrillator training costs.

#### **2.Another statement from a Catholic organisation—Jesuit Social Services, Building a Just Society, on The Voice.**

The Voice will support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in determining their own lives. Ultimately it will contribute towards shaping a society in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples another Australians can join hands together acknowledging the past and looking to the future.

*What the Australian Catholic bishops say:*

In their May 2023 Media Release, the Australian Catholic Bishops encouraged "everyone to read and discuss the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which we endorsed in 2021 and the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia endorsed in 2022" to help shape a respectful and productive debate on the referendum."

### Australian tour of the relic statue of St John Bosco, July–September 2023

#### **On Friday 4 August: The relic will visit Salesian College**

**"Rupertswood"** The relic statue of St John Bosco, better known as Don Bosco, will be touring Australia as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the arrival of the Salesians on Australian soil. The Salesians first set foot in Australia at Fremantle, Western Australia, on 30 March 1923.

**The Historical Committee** are seeking to add to our oral histories. While we have a good collection of oral histories which date back to our beginnings in 1852 we would like to hear from families who have come to the parish from the influx of the 1970's and onwards. Your story no matter how long or short is important. When did you come to Sunbury, where did you come from? How have you been involved in the life of our Parish? How have you seen our Parish grow? What was the town like when you arrived? What changes have you seen? Have you been involved as a parent of children in our Parish Schools? Maybe you are a student and would like to share your memories. Could you write down your memories, typed or handwritten. They can be emailed to Joan at [jkoren@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jkoren@optusnet.com.au) or left at the Parish Office. Please leave your contact details for following up. Please take the time to participate. Your memories are important and a way of leaving a continuing history for future generations.

### Are you new to the Parish?

If so we warmly welcome you and invite you to take a Welcome Pack from the desk in the foyer of St Anne's Church. If you would like to join any of our parish groups or ministries please contact the Parish Office on 9744 1060.

### Meetings this week

Fri 4 Aug 10.15am Knights of the Southern Cross, Parish Centre