



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH
BULLA CLARKEFIELD DIGGERS REST SUNBURY WILDWOOD
ON WURUNDJERI COUNTRY



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land and pay our respects to Elders
past and present.

Parish Office: 101 Riddell Road Sunbury 3429 T: 9744 1060 Office Hours: Mon - Thur 9am -1pm Fri 9am - 5pm After Hours: 9740 6503

Newsletters are available on the parish website - olmc.sunbury.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 - Vigil Mass
Sunday 8.30am - Sunday Mass
10.30am - Sunday Mass
11.45am - Baptism
Wednesday 9.30am - Mass
Thursday 9.30am - Mass - Cosmas & Damian
Friday 9.30am - Mass - Vincent de Paul

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10am - 10.30am St Anne's Church

Parish Priest: Rev Denis Stanley
Assistant Priest: Rev Jossy Kizhakkethalackal
Deacon: Rev Stephen Fernandes
Pastoral Assoc: Sr Jose Noy RSJ
Safeguarding Officer:
St Anne's School: 8746 6800
Principal:
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School: 9740 7344
Principal: Julie Freeman
Holy Trinity School: 8746 6464
Principal: Krystine Hocking

22 SEPTEMBER 2024

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20
Psalms Response: Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6
Second Reading: James 3:16 - 4:3
Gospel Acclamation: See 2 Thess 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel to share in the
glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Agatha CHAVES, George DOWLING,
Paul FANNING, Cesar GABALES, Mary KLOSS,
Margaret MAGRI, Diana MASTRAMICO,
Anastasia MORTER, Emilia POTROVSKY,
Karen RANKIN, Maria RODDA, Derick STEW-
ART, Dawn WESTWOOD, Air WILKINSON,
Daniel ZAMMIT

Recently Deceased: Renato BUENCONSEJO

Anniversaries: Fortonato CORRONE, James
PELLEY, Pat TORR.

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

One body, on spirit in Christ

I hope everyone knows that recently Pope Francis was visiting Australia's backyard. Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, East Timor and Singapore. This was his longest journey and the most distant from Rome. Remarkable for a man of 87 plagued with bad knees and sciatica. (I didn't know what sciatica was until I read that Pope Francis suffered from it. FYI sciatica is "a severe pain that radiates from the back into the hip and outer side of the leg caused by compression of the sciatic nerve"). No wonder he is often in a wheelchair. It was also very hot and humid in all the countries he visited.

All the reports mentioned the number of people who attended Mass presided over by the Pope, apart from the many smaller gatherings with particular groups in each country.

In East Timor around 600,000 people attended the Papal Mass – half of the country's entire population. This would make it the largest gathering of people to attend a papal event proportionally to a country's population.

In Jakarta, the city's soccer stadium the 87-year-old pontiff received an exuberant welcome of more than 100,000 Catholics gathered inside the stadium and a nearby overflow arena. By the way, Indonesia, a country of 280 million, Catholics make up just 3% of the population, which is still a lot of people - 8.3 million. Jakarta is also the home of the LAP programme that our parish supports.

Pope Francis also visited a small town in Papua New Guinea called Vanimo. It certainly fits the bill of being remote. It is near Papua New Guinea's border with Indonesia, two hours flight from Port Moresby, and is for the most part only reachable by plane or boat. There is a small airport, but no ambulift, the wheelchair elevator Francis needs to get on and off planes. Because of that, and the tons of medicine, food, musical instruments and toys that Francis was bringing with him, a C-130 Australian Air Force was used so he could be wheeled on and off using the back ramp. Vanimo has a population 11,000, however 20,000 people gathered on the field in front of the Vanimo cathedral singing and dancing when Francis arrived.

In Singapore, 50,000 people gathered for Mass at the National Stadium. Other gatherings of the elderly, sick, young people, religious, civil and political leaders and leaders of other Christian communities and religions, crowded Francis' three day visit to Singapore – again where Catholics are a minority.

Let me say that we are easily impressed by numbers. Numbers make an event "successful". However many people attended the events during this, and any other, Papal visit, the importance is not the numbers, but being together.

Two Indonesia woman attending the Mass in Jakarta were quoted in press reports and got to the heart of the matter. Daisy Joham said, "This is a very big moment for us," describing the unlikely occasion of so many Catholics gathered in one place. "It gives us hope." Laura Brigitta, as she surveyed the great assembly said, "This is what it means to be Catholic, to be together."

Pope Francis is never going to come to Sunbury – and that's OK with me. However we must never underestimate the importance and significance of being together on Sunday. Long time parishioners, new parishioners, visitors, people we know and people we don't know, friends or strangers.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

It's the same for Jakarta, Vanimo, Dili, Singapore and Sunbury even after the Pope has left or indeed if he had ever come to Sunbury.

Fr Denis Stanley PP

There was movement at the station ... a change to Parish life

This week I received a request from the Vicar General's Office that due to the sudden and unexpected illness of the Parish Priest of Kilmore, Fr Jossy has been asked to care for the Kilmore Parish with its 3 churches, from 21st September to 22nd October. This is an interim appointment until the situation clarifies itself. However, as you may recall, Fr Jossy was appointed to Sunbury for twelve months, to assist when I was suddenly appointed as Administrator of Gisborne, our neighbouring Parish. Given the frailty of human nature - we pray for Fr Prakash the PP of Kilmore and its parishioners - and the shortage of priests these kinds of situations do arise.

We wish Fr Jossy well as he steps into the pastoral care of Kilmore Parish.

Fr Denis Stanley

Parish Census - 2025

Over three weekends, beginning on 5/6 October, we will invite each member of our parish to participate in our census process. By completing the census form, which will be made available during Masses on each of those weekends, we can register the number of our parish members and better understand the needs of our community. Data from this census will also enable the parish to plan for important events, including the thanksgiving donation campaign scheduled for March next year. Please be assured that all information will be treated with confidentiality as maintaining your privacy is essential. Thank you.

Parish Safeguarding Officer - We Want You!

The Parish is looking for a new Safeguarding Officer to lead our small, but dynamic Safeguarding Committee. The role involves preparing and chairing monthly meetings, liaising with the Parish Priest, Parish Office, other groups within the Parish and the Archdiocese to ensure that the Parish is compliant in the vital work of ensuring safety for our children and vulnerable adults. Of course you will need a valid Working with Children Check.

Please contact Fr Denis through the Parish Office if you are passionate about safeguarding our most vulnerable.



Safeguarding Policies - We would like to hear from you

The latest Safeguarding Policies are now available on the OLMC website. The Parish Safeguarding Committee are keen to receive feedback on the policies and how we can better implement them to have a greater impact in our Parish. Please scan the QR code below to get started. Thank you!

Invitation to Parishioners who would like to be Ministers of Communion for the Sick and housebound.

Please attend an Annual Meeting in the Parish Hall on **Sunday, 22nd September at 9:30am** (after Mass). The sessions will be no more than 45 minutes. If you know someone who would be interested, please invite them to come with you. Notify the Parish Office on 9744 1060 if you are unable to attend.

Evergreens Social afternoon for over 60's will be on **Tuesday 24th September 2024 at 12:00 noon**. St. Anne hall. Food and chat. All welcome, bring a friend. Call Joe on 0477 677 248 for info and transport.

The Evergreens are going to the cinema to watch an Australian family movie, **"The Runt"** (about a dog), followed by lunch at Itahlia on **25th September at 10:00 am**. Come and join us. Call Joe on 0477 677 248 to book for Lunch

Parish Bingo

Our weekly Parish bingo session "Major Bingo" continues every Thursday, eyes down 7:30pm at Club Sunbury, Riddle Road. Big upcoming event Grand Final Bingo, **THURSDAY, 26th September** with a guaranteed \$2000 last game prize. Get a few friends together and come along and join in the fun. Enquiries to Gary 0419 301760.

We joyfully welcome the following children who will be baptized in our parish: **Angus, Elsie & Isla Campelj**



Faith Formation for our young people

1. **Confirmation:** **Mason Penno** from Our Lady of Mount Carmel School will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday, 22 September. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

2. **Altar Servers** - Develop and grow their teamwork skills ... Join the team - enquiries - Michael: 0417 332 186

Religious Shop.

The Light: Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2024—a comprehensive 88-page book of daily reflections designed to deepen your spiritual journey. Flyer on board **Order yours NOW at Religious shop @ \$7-00** *Last chance*

We are taking orders for **"God's Word 2025" ASAP**. We have several new items Statues, Rosary beads as gifts, bracelets and beautiful religious cards.

Missals, Book "After Suicide there is hope for them and you. By Fr. Chris Alar". We sold 5 books, You are Not alone. Thanks to all who donated the preloved items to be enjoyed again. Inquiries at shop or Joe on 0477 677 248

Historical Committee: 'Our Lady of Mount Carmel Historical Committee will be meeting on **Monday 23rd September at 10.30am** in Meeting Room in St Anne's Church. If you would like to know more about the Historical Committee you are most welcome to join us".

The Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday at 10am at St Anne's Church.

St Annes Church Cleaners.

Each week, at times to fit in with their own commitments, small teams of Parish Volunteers come into St Anne's Church. They come in all shapes, sizes and ages. They vacuum and dust the whole church and lightly mop the Sanctuary Area. Each team cleans once during a fortnight and tends to be rostered once every 12 weeks. Thanks greatly to them for their commitment. If you would like to join the team and help maintain our house of worship please call Michael 0417332186

From your Parish Coordinating Team

1. **Season for Creation** The theme of this month's Season for Creation, is **"HOPE and ACT with Creation"**.

Active **HOPE** can be seen in care for Creation:

- Hearing the 'voice of the poor'- Pope Francis,
- Hearing the cries of the Earth inspiring us to change our mind-sets, take transformative steps and **ACT**. This action can look like many things:
 - changing habits,
 - advocating for marginalised people,
 - taking on sustainability initiatives,
 - educating ourselves
 - speaking out when we encounter injustice including racism. Acting in these ways, we will be working with the Creator and all Creation's creatures for a better future.

2. **Continuous Improvement** Have you got a good idea for the parish? Or an issue with something that's not quite right? Why not use a **Continuous Improvement** form from the Welcome Desk in the church foyer to let us know how your PCT can possibly address these things.

Morning Tea - 6th October 2024

Will provide an opportunity to acknowledge and thank Karen Morris & Lyn Plummer for their many years of service to our Parish Community that went above and beyond the call of duty.