



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
olmcsunbury.com

Our parish is committed to the Safety, Wellbeing and Dignity of all, including children and vulnerable adults.

Email: Sunbury@cam.org.au

LITURGY TIMES: AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH

Saturday 5.30pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 8.30am - Sunday Mass
10:30am - Sunday Mass
11.45am - Baptism
Monday 9.30am - Mass Immaculate Conception
Wednesday 9:30am - Mass St Damasus
Thursday 9.30am - Mass Our Lady of Guadalupe
Friday 9.30am - Mass St Lucy

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10am - 10.30am St Anne's Church

Parish Priest: Rev Denis Stanley
Assistant Priest: Rev Josy Kizhakkethalackal
Deacon: Rev Stephen Fernandes
Pastoral Assoc: Sr José Noy RSJ
Safeguarding Officer: Deon Armstrong

St Anne's School: 8746 6800
Principal: Stephen Arthurson
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
School: 9740 7344
Principal: Julie Freeman
Holy Trinity School: 8746 6464
Principal: Krystine Hocking

8 December 2024
Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Baruch 5: 1-9
Psalms Response: Ps 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14, R. v.1
Second Reading: Philippians 1: 3-6 8-11
Gospel Acclamation: Luke 3:4-6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.
And all shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Jesuline CABRAL, Agatha CHAVES,
Caleb FARIA, Charles FIGUEREDO,
Samford FIGUEREDO, Cesar GABALES,
Charles HABER, Emelda JAYASEKERA,
Christie JAYASEKERA, Mary KLOSS,
Margaret MAGRI, Diana MASTRAMICO,
Anastasia MORTER, Tom MOWAT,
Emilia POTROVSKY, Karen RANKIN,
Maria RODDA, Derick STEWART,
Air WILKENSON & Daniel ZAMMIT

Recently Deceased: Alfredo CORTEZ, Rosa HABER

Anniversaries: Irene BUTLER, Slavko (Steve) CRNAC,
Betty DODD, Perc HAMILTON, Billy LAIRD,
Don McCONVILLE, Oscar MORRIS,
Alexander & Gretchen REBEIRO

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

We are John (or Joan) the Baptists: Second Sunday of Advent

John the Baptist was an eccentric figure. Elsewhere we read he was dressed in a cloak made out of camel hair to protect him from the chill of the desert night, and that he ate locusts and wild honey, what he could scavenge as a truly poor man.

And so we can think that a person who prepares the way of the Lord has to be somewhat extraordinary, somewhat eccentric, even bizarre, the sort of person whose arrival somewhere draws a crowd.

But, *you and I* are called to 'prepare the way of the Lord'. Some of us may qualify as eccentric and bizarre, but for most of us ordinary folk, our vocation is to do what we can to prepare the hearts and minds of those with whom we come into contact so that Our Lord Jesus Christ can enter into the history of that person's life.

Every act of unselfishness, every act of companionship, every act of setting to right some injustice, every act of encouragement so that a person begins to bloom in a new way, every act of advice to avoid some folly which would hurt or stunt someone, all these actions and many, many more, make the path straight for Our Lord to enter that person's heart.

But, lest we become just another moralising meddler in other people's lives, we have to let God prepare *our* heart for *our* role. John the Baptist helps us understand what is involved. First, we must 'repent'. We can all identify that part of our lives which we need to turn around, sometimes 180 degrees!

In the meantime, the challenge this Advent is to identify the one person whose heart you can help prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord Jesus in three weeks' time. The best method is to let that person see your faith and joy centred on that little Jewish baby lying in a manger.

With God's grace, you don't have to be as eccentric or bizarre as John the Baptist to change the course of history!

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Advent – Preparing for the Jubilee Year of Hope in 2025

Pope Francis has declared a Jubilee Year of Hope in 2025. The Holy Door of the Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican will be opened on 24 December 2024, inaugurating the Jubilee and conclude on January 6, 2026, the Feast of Epiphany, with its closing. This ritual symbolizes the pathway to forgiveness and new beginnings.

Building on *Laudato Si'*, this Jubilee also emphasizes an ecological conversion of heart, urging us to respect creation and commit to sustainable living.

In our Parish each Advent Sunday our prayers to light the Advent Wreath are inspired by the Letter that Pope Francis has written to announce and prepare for the Jubilee Year. The Letter is entitled, ***Spes non confundit – Hope does not disappoint***. Can we live without hope?

Fr Denis Stanley PP

Combined lessons and carols service: This year's service will be held on **21 December at 7pm** in St Mary's Chapel (bluestone building). All are welcome.

Combined Churches of Sunbury

For many years the Combined Churches of Sunbury Group, with the support of the local ministers, have organized the **Christmas Carols celebration for our community**. This year it will be held on **Saturday, 14th December**, on the oval at Salesian College. (**Flyer on the Board**). On the day, there will be limited parking at the venue, but shuttle buses will operate from the Hume Council carpark and from Bay 7 at the train station

Morning Tea: Hosted by St Vincent De Paul on Sunday, 8 December 2024 after 8:30am Mass. All welcome!

Hall Keys: If you have recently accessed the Parish Hall, please check your pockets and bags to see if you have accidentally forgotten to return the keys to the key return box near the office front door. Or if you have found a key in the grounds of the church and surrounds, please return them via the key return box or to the office as soon as possible.

EMMAUS CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP will hold their last meeting for the year on Thursday Wednesday 11th after the 9.30 Mass followed by lunch in St. Anne's meeting room. All welcome, including children. Meetings will resume on Wednesday February 5th. For further info/transport please contact :
Lambert & Elaine van der Weerden on 0418 322 596.

Call for Volunteers - Christmas Masses

We are looking for the following volunteers to assist with the Christmas Masses:

***Setting up Chairs** Working Bee on 23 December at 10:am.

***Greeting & Ushering *Sacristan** (Mass Set up)

***Collector's Coordinators *AV Operators**

If you would like to lend a hand, please leave your name, number and volunteer role on the clipboard provided in the foyer.

OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFETY.

Our risk management group has developed an Emergency Procedure to be followed should we ever have to manage a medical situation, a disturbance or evacuate St Annes Church. It is designed to complement the recent training of First Aiders and Defibrillator operators.

To launch the procedure, we are inviting all collectors and interested parishioners to attend one of two sessions on:

- **Saturday 7 December after 5.30pm Mass or**
- **Sunday 8 December after 8:30am Mass.**

The purpose of the session is to explain the process and the roles people play.

Any enquiries to Michael 0417332186.

Thanks to Ray Mallia

Please notice in the Church's gathering space the new notice board for the photos of the children to be baptized each Sunday. Ray was kind to enough to make this for us. It looks great.

Fr Denis Stanley

Altar Servers - Altar Servers -

Develop and grow their teamwork skills.

Join the team - enquiries - Michael: 0417 332 186

Piety Stall.

Christmas Special Large Posters & Books under \$30. Poster at Shop. Call Joe. 0477 677 248 ASAP. Divine Mercy and Columban calendars only \$11. Religious Christmas cards X 8, Nativity Statues, Rosary beads/rings as gifts, bracelets. Bibles, Missals. books: "After Suicide there is hope for them and you by Fr. Chris Alar". **We have sold 6 copies. "You are Not alone". NEW stuff.** Inquiries at shop or Joe on 0477 677 248

Proposed Changes to Disabled Parking Spaces around St Anne's Church

A tale of pedestrians and cars

First a word of thanks to our Parish Risk Assessment Team who have been checking potential risks associated with our Parish buildings.

The position and number of our Disabled parking spaces and cars driving along the pathway under the portico at the entrance of the church, have become issues of concern. Many parishioners use this pathway to walk into the entrance of the church. Pedestrians and cars are not a good mix.

We propose to increase the number of Disability parking spaces, providing spaces in front of the Parish Office and to the left of the Church, removing the two spaces presently available and closing the driveway during Mass times. This will end the driving of cars under the portico.

I expect the necessary work will be undertaken in January.

This will ensure the greater safety of all our Parishioners.

Fr Denis Stanley