



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
Wednesday 9:30am - Mass
Funeral 11:00am - Rosa Caccamo
Thursday 9:30am - Mass - St Boniface
Friday 9.30am - Mass - St Norbert &
St. Marcellin Champagnat

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10am - 10.30am St Anne's Church

Parish Priest: Rev Denis Stanley
Deacon: Rev Stephen Fernandes

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

1 June 2025

The Ascension of the Lord Year C

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11
Psalm Response: Ps 46:2-3. 6-7. 8-9. R. v.6
Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28. 10:19-23
Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 28:19. 20

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Mary BORG, Jaclyn DEBENHAM
Penny CLARKE, Jesulin CABRAL,
Agatha CHAVES, Caleb FARIA,
Charles FIGUEREDO, Samford FIGUEREDO,
Cesar GABALES, Charles HABER,
Margaret MAGRI, Sharon MAMO,
Diana MASTRAMICO, Anastasia MORTER,
Tom MOWAT, Brian MUNDY, Emilia POTROVSKY,
Amanda REBELLO, Lynne SIMPSON,
Derick STEWART, Marcus TAYLOR,
Dezirah TUIMAUGA, Delicia VILLELA,
Air WILKENSON, Daniel ZAMMIT

Recently Deceased: Rosa CACCAMO, Prof Irwanto
(founder of LAP), Marty & Cynthia WALKER

Anniversaries: Robert & Lilian ANDERSON,
Charles CALLEJA, Rowland D'CRUZE,
Gerard DAVID, William DILLON,
Fr John GALLIVAN,(1st Parish Priest)
Dominic FOSCHIA, Shawn TAYLOR

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

ON THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGNS – AN INITIAL REFLECTION

Over three Sundays during March we undertook a Parish Thanksgiving Campaign. At the time I noted that were doing this because we have not had such a campaign since 2019. That there are many new parishioners in our parish. Finally it was the responsible thing to do because there are moments on the journey when we have to stop, make an assessment of where we are, renew our vision and commitment and take decisions that help move us into the future.

So how did it go? I do not want to begin with money but people. The small committee to organize the Campaign were dedicated, thoughtful and hard working. Their dedication enabled us to put into place the Archdiocesan Program rather than paying for a program. So on behalf of the parish, thank you Dwain Lemaire, Mary MacDermid and Tony Kiley.

A small group of hard working volunteers entered all the census cards and pledges into the Pacem computer program. A key action item for the campaign. Our Parish secretaries became experts at answering questions about pledge cards and direct debiting and all kinds of other campaign details. A group hand delivered pledge cards on their daily walks and three parishioners spoke at Mass about what the parish meant to them. Thanks to them all.

So how did the campaign go? It empowered the service of a committed group of people for the sake of the parish so it was successful.

I also note that 600 people completed census cards that helped update our parish records. That is an ongoing process.

An initial assessment of how the Thanksgiving program assisted our financial position will need some time to judge. Pledges for the direct debiting and credit cards increased weekly contributions by 28% for the church account - that's \$601 increase. There was a strong increase for the presbytery account as well but without a reliable pledge figure from the past makes it hard to calculate the percentage increase. There were 46 new givers and 70 ongoing givers with increased giving. For this campaign a total of 116 givers offered a pledge.

However we are unable to calculate immediately a regular any increase in the cash collection or the tap and give. We will have to wait and see if this increases. Our quarterly financial bulletin report will keep us informed. Stay tuned.

Finally I would judge the campaign successful if it helped all of us be aware that the financial sustainability of our parish is a serious matter that we realistically need to think about. Like any household, we need to ponder how our weekly collections need to juggle the budget for both everyday "bread and butter issues", support particular needs such as the maintenance and repairs for both our church buildings and relate to other sources of parish income and our savings.

Fr Denis Stanley PP

PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE BOARD FOR MORE NOTICES

Registrations are now open for the MenAlive Weekend Retreat 14 & 15 June 2025

For men in our parish and the surrounding suburbs. We encourage all men to register as soon as possible to allow time for catering arrangements and preparation of printed materials. We understand that everyone is busy, but this retreat offers a unique opportunity to transform your mindset, deepen your faith, and rediscover God's purpose for your life. **Why wait? Sign up today.** (Scan the QR code to register.) **For any questions, please speak to a committee member listed on the flyers.**



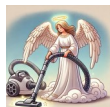
Piety Stall: Confirmation gifts, Framed Pictures A4/ 21 cm by 29.7 cm \$12. Large A3/ 30 cm x 42 cm. Key rings, Car Medals, Rosary beads/ Bracelets/rings as gifts, medals. Bibles, Missals & Books. everything is cheaper than the City, Inquiries at shop, orders taken or Joe Spiteri on 0477 677 248

Sunbury Evergreens

The Evergreens are going to the Police Museum and lunch at DFO Spencer Street. On **10 June 2025**. Traveling by train - leaving 9am back in Sunbury by app, 3pm. If interested call Joe Spiteri 0477 677 248 for info.

Good Vibrations Beach Boys on stage. Tuesday **9th September 2025** at 11am. \$26. In Moonee Ponds if interested. Call Joe Spiteri on 0477 677 248 to inquire or book.

St Anne's Cleaning Team want you! New members always welcome. Please call if you would like to help be of service. Michael 0417 332 186



PARISH BINGO - Big Winner!

Congratulations to parishioner Terry Sweeney on his big win at last Saturday's Jumbo Bingo Session. You too can be a winner - come along and give it a try - you've got to be in it to win it! Our weekly session **MAJOR BINGO** is on **every Thursday**, eyes down at **7.30 pm at Sunbury Bowling Club**, Riddell Rd. Three x \$1000 prizes up for grabs this week. Get a group of friends together and join in the fun - you will be made moist welcome. Enquiries to Gary Plummer on 0419 301 760.

SR JOSE - SOME NEWS

During the week I spoke with the Provincial of the Srs of St Joseph, Sr Sue McGuinness, who informed me that Sr Jose has now moved to St Vincent's Aged Care Hawthorn (Mary Mackillop Aged Care) 4 King Street, Hawthorn VIC 3123. Our Parish wishes her prayerful best wishes for this next step of her journey.

SUNBURY COMBINED CHURCHES.

Our local community of Sunbury has a strong, well organised, and led Combined Churches Group that helps organize the Christmas Carols, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, World Day of Prayer, the service for the Sunfest gathering as well as being a place to share concerns and information among the churches. Ministers come and go but the Combined Churches group gives continuity to the connections between Christian communities in Sunbury. Dela Oswald and Sr Jose were faithful members of this group for many years. Since their retirement the group is searching for a Catholic member to replace them. I would like to encourage anyone who might be interested to represent our Parish and help organize the group's various activities to speak with me. Meetings are Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm, 10/11 times in a year

HELP REQUIRED: If you have a couple of hours free and would like to help spread some of the mulch at the garden at St Anne's Church, please bring a rake and begin.

We joyfully welcome the following children who will be baptized in our parish: Levi & Luca **HATZIGIANNIDIS**, Ari **INGO**



Altar Servers Don't just come to Mass, they help Father and the community to celebrate it. Join the team ... enquiries Michael 0417332186

CONFIRMATIONS:

Please remember to keep in your prayer today all the young people from our parish who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in St Patrick's Cathedral Sunday afternoon. There are 106 Candidates for Confirmation from our parish. Thank you to all those who received a prayer companion card for our candidates

FIRST RECONCILIATION - OSPREY PROGRAM

Our Parish OSPREY sacramental program prepares young people from our parish who attend schools other than our Parish primary schools. On Monday, 2 June at 6:30 in the Parish Centre is a information evening preparing for First Reconciliation. If you know anyone who have children in grade 3 that would like to participate in this program, please contact the parish office, or speak with Fr Denis.

May Mass Count

During the month of May, the Archdiocese asks us to undertake the annual Mass count. Collectors will be provided each Sunday with a form to complete the number of those attending at each Mass. In 2023 the annual Mass count was 421. In 2024 it was 519. In 2025 it was 622.5.

OLMC Youth Group:

A chance to register for the OLMC Youth Group! Ages 13 - 18. Dinner / Watch a video / Group discussions / Games + Prayer nights. Parents/guardians to scan QR code and register. **Faith Formation evening: 1 June at 6:15pm in the Parish Hall.** Any questions, please contact Liam Daniels - 0488541844



MORNING TEA: Hosted next weekend, 8 June, by St Vincent de Paul Society

FROM YOUR PARISH COORDINATING TEAM (PCT)

1. Congratulations, Fr Denis, on your election to the Standing Committee of the Victorian Council of Churches (VCC). Representing the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne on this council is indeed a great honour. One task of the VCC is organising the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

2. **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** In addition to individual prayers, the Ecumenical Service this year will take place in St Andrew's Uniting Church at 2pm on Saturday 7th June. The 2025 theme is: "... and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26). The prayers and reflections were prepared by the brothers and sisters of the monastic community of Bose in northern Italy.

3. **June 5th is World Environment Day** - and the call is to tackle plastic pollution. Pope Francis lamented pollution of the oceans and land. "Throwing away plastic in the sea is criminal. This kills biodiversity, the Earth, everything." Plastic pollution permeates every corner of the planet - even our own bodies in the form of microplastics. In two months, countries meet again to continue negotiating a global treaty to end plastic pollution. Locally, can each of us spend time reducing/avoiding single-use plastics, reusing items, and recycling properly? Can we call on authoritative people we know who can help build the momentum necessary to get action on this enormous problem? Pope Francis called on Catholics to act now before it's too late.

4. **Keep the Date - DINNER DANCE** Saturday 5th July bringing all three mass-going congregations together from 6.00 - 9.00 pm in the Parish Hall. Adults \$20. Youngsters (6-12) \$10. Tickets available shortly. Ticket sales will support the GUIH Wednesday Night Kitchen programme (currently assisting between 4-10 vulnerable people) as well as Sunbury Winter Shelter community outreach programmes (currently assisting 2-3 homeless people).