



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 E: sunbury@cam.org.au W: olmcsunbury.com

****In case of emergency after hours—Presbytery 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

<https://melbournecatholic.org>

LITURGY TIMES: AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH

Saturday	5:30 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday	8.30 am - Sunday Mass
	10:30 am - Sunday Mass
	11:45 am - Baptism
Wednesday	9:30 am - Mass
Thursday	9:30 am - Mass
Thursday	11:00 am - Funeral - Mary Borg
	2:00 pm - Funeral - Naomi Clark
Friday	9:30 am - Mass

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

3 May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year A

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7
Psalm Response: Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22
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: Addy ADAM, Jaclyn DEBENHAM, Lloyd D'CRUS, Barbara DONOHUE, Caleb FARIA, Adele HUDSON, Briohny KERR, Elaine KING, Lawrence MALLIA, , Diana MASTRAMICO, Edith McINELLY, Brian MUNDY, Willow O'CALLAGHAN, Betty OWEN, Karen RODRIGUES-DELLER, Daisy ROMERO, Lee TAYLOR, Marcus TAYLOR, & Jane ZAMMIT

Recently deceased: Naomi CLARK, Theodore D'SOUZA & Rodney EVANS

Anniversaries: Harrie JANSEN & Margaret McCONVILLE

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

3 May, 2026 5th Sunday Easter Year A
John 14:1-12

What's all this about *living stones* and *stumbling stones* and *cornerstones* in the second reading (from the First Letter of St Peter)? Let's take a deep dive.

The entire passage takes up some deep themes in the Old Testament prophet, Isaiah. There's hardly a word of St Peter in these few verses that is not echoing him. (Even Psalm 118, which he quotes in the business about the *cornerstone*, is spliced with a line from Isaiah 8.) So, we need to ponder Isaiah, especially chapters 24 and 8, where the key quotations come from.

The prophet's writing in the 700's BC, a time of great stress for God's people. Isaiah's message is about the impending destruction of much of Israel through the empire of Assyria.

The "flood" of destruction will rise "to the neck," leaving Jerusalem standing among the ruins. In the midst of it, God, he says, is *laying a stone in Zion*—he's going to rebuild out of this diminished remnant that's left; he's going to reboot the covenant, restart the plan to make Israel the epicenter of his conquest of evil, reunification of humanity, defeat of death, and renewal of all things, thereby accomplishing his original, deep purpose for creation.

St Peter sees Isaiah's word as a pattern for his own writing to the churches in Asia Minor. He says that this reboot is finally being accomplished by Jesus (the *cornerstone*) through the Church (the *spiritual house, holy priesthood, chosen race...*). But the real shock is *how* Isaiah and St Peter say it is realised: by suffering, trial, temptation, defeat, by fidelity through the worst of it. The *rejected stone* becomes the *cornerstone*. That's the Jesus way that Isaiah anticipated. Don't *stumble* over it, he warns, but *believe*.

Like Jesus, the apostles ate, drank, and breathed the Old Testament. Isaiah, the Psalms, Genesis, Exodus, and so on shaped their imaginations, hopes, fears, and intentions so deeply that the divine word became inseparable from their outlook, words, and actions. In this way they forged their creases in the world in concert with God's deep purposes.

The task St Peter gives us in this letter is to *keep faith*, to run along these apostolic creases, making them the track down which our lives run. In this way we are *built up* together into that *spiritual house* as the *living stones* he's talking about. Meditating on his words (and digging down into their Old Testament roots) will give us a much deeper awareness of what is at stake in our faith, what it is we are hoping for, and how to understand the trials and temptations always threatening to derail our path.

Fidelity to that hope despite its apparent failure—perceiving it, through God's faithfulness, as strangely and wonderfully the first moment of victory—is what he means in this passage by *faith*.

W Chris Hackett
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PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE BOARD FOR MORE NOTICES

MAY MASS COUNT

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. Luke 2:1

As the Holy Family had to travel to Bethlehem for the Census of the Emperor, so every year we have a Mass Count. This year our Parish Mass count is part of a Nationwide census. It will be held during all Sunday Masses in May. The National Mass count explores more deeply the numbers of those attending Mass and so requires more detail. On the 3rd Sunday of May there will be a count of men and woman and on the 4th Sunday by age groups – we have a simple way of doing this. Attendance at Mass is not only about numbers but also the depth of minds and hands transformed by grace. Remember that were only 12 at the Last Supper.

OUR SIGN OF THE TIMES.

Do you know a Sign Writer or Advertiser? We would really like to upgrade our signs at the front of St Anne's and OLMC churches. We would really appreciate the contribution of a professional. Contact Fr Denis on 97441060

PARISH KEYS – ACTION REQUIRED

If you hold a key to the Church or Parish Centre, Archdiocesan safeguarding regulations require you to complete a National Police Check. If you no longer require your key, please return it to the Parish Office by **Friday 15 May 2026**. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office.

RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE.

Calvary Goonawarra - Residential Aged Care is Presenting a Talk around navigating aged care and what the new changes entail. Parishioners are invited to attend this informative session, on Tuesday **26th May 2026** in **St Anne Hall** at 12.00 noon. Please call 0477 677 248 more information and posters in the foyer.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

CATHOLIC CARE VICTORIA SUNDAY APPEAL

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria works with those facing homelessness, those experiencing mental health challenges, families struggling with relationship problems, newly arrived refugees and asylum seekers, and those experiencing grief and trauma. This year, the Appeal aims to give hope and support to people experiencing homelessness. Your compassion ensures individuals and families are supported with safe housing, compassionate & practical assistance. You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9967 2515. All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible.

PARISH BINGO

Your Parish Bingo session "Major Bingo" now has EFT available for purchase of your bingo books. Come along any Thursday night—eyes down at the new time of 7.00 pm Sunbury Bowling club, Riddell Rd. Last game guaranteed \$1000 prize along with other game prizes of \$150, \$100 and \$60. Plus Major raffle, Joker raffle and bingo pull apart. For more info contact Gary Plummer on mobile 0419 301 760.

THANK YOU!

Our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Michael McConville and Joan Pulis for steam cleaning the carpets in the church foyer. It is a job that requires much time and effort but don't the carpets look great now!

We joyfully welcome Logan **COSTA**, Maisie & Eleanor **MORRIS** & Maisy **STIKOVIC** who will be baptized in our parish.



PRAYING THE ROSARY DURING THE MONTH OF MAY

Before the Liturgy on Sundays **during May** the Rosary will be prayed, commencing at **5:00 PM on Saturdays and at 10:00 AM**. With Mary the heart is oriented toward the mystery of Jesus. Christ is put at the centre of our life, of our time, of our city, through the contemplation and meditation of His holy mysteries of joy, light, sorrow and glory.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Sunday, 17 May at 2pm at the Sunbury Baptist Church, 207 Gap Road, Sunbury. *"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling" Ephesians 4:4.* All are welcome!

CARITAS AUSTRALIA LEBANON EMERGENCY APPEAL

The situation in Lebanon remains extremely fragile, and civilians urgently need humanitarian support. More than 2,000 people have been killed and over 1.1 million people displaced nationwide, including more than 390,000 children. Our partners Caritas Lebanon continue to deliver emergency food, water, shelter and health support across the country, maintaining humanitarian convoys to hard-to-reach areas in southern Lebanon. Stand with the people of Lebanon today. Learn more or make a donation today at www.caritas.org.au/lebanon



THANK YOU

We received \$3,975.15 for the Good Friday - Holy Places Collection and \$2,653.05 towards Project Compassion. Thank you for your generosity.

FASHION SHOW

Kay from Kay's Fashions will be visiting St Andrew's Uniting Church, Corner of Brook & Barkley Streets, **Sunbury on 6 May at 1.30PM**. A donation of \$10 is requested upon entering the hall which goes towards fundraising.

SAVE THE DATE - ALL VOLUNTEERS

An informal get-together for all parish volunteers is being planned for **12 July 2026**. Details to follow. Please save the date.

MORNING TEA

The RCIA are inviting you to join them for Morning Tea in the Foyer after 8.30 am Mass. This is an opportunity to meet our Team, those Candidates and Catechumens who were received into the Church at the Easter Vigil and those still on the journey. We look forward to sharing a cuppa with you .

PARISH COORDINATING TEAM (PCT)

- 1. May Queen Dinner Dance** Saturday May 23rd
Tickets for the Annual Dinner Dance are on sale from www.trybooking.com or from the church foyer after every mass. Ticket Prices: Adults: \$25.00 & Children (6 to 12 years): \$15.00. Grab your tickets early and join us for an unforgettable evening!
- 2. History Room** - open. Over the first weekend of each month, History Group members have their unique collection open for viewing. Follow the signage from the foyer.
- 3. The Easter season** is the perfect time to reach out to, and pray for those welcomed into the church at Easter.
- 4. Legion of Mary** invites all parishioners to join them in praying the Rosary following mass on Fridays mornings for the next eight weeks.