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 au

****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

W: https://melbournecatholic.org

LITURGY TIMES: AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH

Saturday	**5.30pm - Vigil Mass**
Sunday	**8.30 am Mass**
	10:30 am - Mass
	12:00 pm - Baptism
Wednesday	**9:30 am - Mass**
Thursday	**9:30 am - Mass** - St Gregory the Great.
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**

30 August 2026

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

***First Reading*:**	Jeremiah 20:7-9
Psalm Response:	Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2
***Second Reading*:**	Romans 12:1-2
Gospel Acclamation:	*Alleluia, alleluia!*

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27

Sick: Addy **ADAM,** Florence **BELL,** Lloyd **D'CRUS,** Valerie **D'Cruz,** Muriel **D'CRUZE,** Jaclyn **DEBENHAM,** Rose **DELEMA-PERIES,** Graeme **EDMENDS,** Caleb **FARIA,** Emmanuel **GIALAMZE,** Adele **HUDSON,** Briohny **KERR,** Diana **MASTRAMICO,** Anthony **MYERS,** Edith **McINELLY,** Gayle **MORISON,** Brian **MUNDY,** Willow **O'CALLAGHAN,** Daisy **ROMERO** & Heemani **SAINI**

Recently Deceased: Marena **BROWN** & Bruce **HUTCHINS**

Anniversaries : Renato **BUENCONSEJO,** Vincenza **CALLEJA,** Margaret Bernadette **CUTAJAR,** Cassandra **O'KEEFE,** Tiago **RODRIGUES,** Manuel **SILVEIRA,** Addy **WRIGHT.**

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

30 August 2026 22nd Sunday Year A

Matthew 16:21-27

A woman once shared her experiences as a youth leader. She had to deal with a child who, having been twice warned about his misbehaviour, was told to leave the group. However, the boy kept turning up.

"Why do you keep coming back?" she asked.

The boy said, "Because no one else remembers my name."

This simple story is a reminder that sometimes people will hang around, will keep coming back, not through anger or rage, but because that someone needs to hear their name spoken with love. It is a quiet fire within them.

Jeremiah knows that fire. He says to the Lord, "You have seduced and overpowered me, Lord." However, he also realises the Word of the Lord has become a reproach for him. "There is in my heart a fire, a burning fire imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it."

Jeremiah tries to stay silent, because speaking God's Word brings ridicule and threat. But he cannot. The fire in his heart keeps him going.

Peter, after Jesus shares with the apostles that he will go to Jerusalem to suffer, says, "God forbid it, Lord! This must not happen to you!" Peter wants a messiah without suffering, a path without a cross. Jesus turns to him and says, "Get behind me, Satan. . . If anyone wants to be my follower, let them deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow me."

Jesus' journey to the cross is not about seeking pain. It is about not walking away when God's fire says, "Stay!" or "Go!" It is about choosing love over comfort, truth over popularity, sacrifice over safety. It is the fire in his heart.

From the second reading, Saint Paul teaches us about how to live: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind. Present your body as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God." That is not a call to one dramatic act of sacrifice. It is rather a call to small acts of sacrifice and offering to the Lord every day, such as when we are patient with difficult people, or generous when we would rather save and hold back, or speaking the truth when silence would be easier.

This week we are invited to examine the fire in our hearts. Where is God pressing on us to act, even though it is inconvenient? Maybe it is forgiving, or serving, or simply remembering and speaking someone's name. Following Jesus can be costly and painful, but the One who carried the cross has walked the path from death to life. And he walks with us now, turning our small sacrifices into something that will last.

May we never run from the fire. Let it light our way and lead us home. Let it encourage us to be active in social justice, supporting positive movements to create a better world. Amen.

Sam Kono CSsR

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PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE BOARD FOR MORE NOTICES

PARISH COORDINATING TEAM

1. Season of Creation (September 1 – October 4th)
The theme for this year is *Living Water* (Ezekiel 47:9, 12).
Pope Leo XIV in his message for the 11 **World Day of Prayer** (1 Sept] reminds us that we are once again invited to contemplate the gift of life and to cherish the earth that sustains it, for they are tangible ways of offering praise to our Creator.
Today, we are witnessing many crises and much human suffering. At the same time, it seems that the disruption to the harmonious balance of creation is accelerating. These phenomena are not unrelated; they are a single plea for healing and peace arising from a wounded world. . . . the crises call not only for responsibility but also for a conversion of heart that will bear fruit in a deeper fidelity to God, love of one another and respect for the gift of creation. **QR code** for the full text Pope Leo's Message -

2. Catholic Earthcare, with the support of the Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service is inviting Catholics across Australia to come together for the **SEASON OF CREATION GATHERING,** taking place online on **3-4 September**. This will explore how faith can inspire ecological action and hope. Find out more and register here - https://www.caritas.org.au/news/blog/catholic-earthcare-season-of-creation-gathering-2026/

EMMAUS CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Meets each week on **Wednesday at 10:30am** in St. Anne's Church. All welcome. For further info/transport **please contact Lambert & Elaine van der Weerden on 0418 322 596.**

ROSARY

Please join us at the first Saturday of the month rosary devotion to the Immaculate heart of Mary. Starting at 4.45 pm Saturday 5th September followed by 5.30pm mass.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our small group of volunteers are looking for others who would like to assist with children's liturgy. We would like to encourage anyone who could assist for a few weeks in a school term to join us in spreading Christ's message in a relaxed, informal but faithful way. Please inform the parish office of your interest with contact details and one of or volunteers will contact you. WWCC and Police checks are mandatory. We can assist if required.

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged from 30 into their 50's, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate. Online *Diaconate information meeting* **Tuesday, 22 September 2026** from 19:00 – 20:00 Location: via **ZOOM**

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison **Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au**
In the week before the session the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.

PRAYER SERVICE OF LAMENT

In 2026, in Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows, we will gather as the Church in Melbourne for our annual **Service of Lament** for survivors of abuse. Tuesday **15 September 2026** at **4.00pm** in the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral. The Service will also be Livestreamed.

We joyfully welcome Airlie **FERGUSON** and Milani **CORIGLIANO** who will be baptized in our parish.

PARISH BINGO

A big thank you to Stephen Reeves-Williams and Sophia Ordonez for recently joining our Bingo organising committee. Our weekly session continues every Thursday evening, eyes down at 7 pm in the Sunbury Bowling Club.
SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS: **Grand Final Bingo** - Thursday 24th September $2000 last game prize. Get dressed in your club colours and come along and join the fun.
Major Bingo Bonanza - Saturday 24th October. Game prizes of $5000, $2000, $1000, $300, $250, $150 & $120. Booking essential. Tickets at $100 - lay by available. Come down to the bowling club any Thursday evening to book your seat. **Enquiries: Gary Plummer - 0419 301 760.**

PIETY STALL - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Orders are now being taken for **God's Word 2027**. These will be printed in time for 2027. **Orders close soon**.

EVERGREENS

EVERGREENS are hosting the morning tea after the 8-30 mass on the 6th September. Come join us and enjoy a cuppa and a chat and have a laugh. Come See what keeps us going after 36 years..

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. Enquiries to 0417332186

MELBOURNE ARCHDIOCESE SYNOD – PARISH PARTICIPATION December 4th - 6th 2026

The Archbishop has called for Archdiocesan Synod to be held in December to discern three key areas of decision making for the future. Young Discipleship, Formation and Participation and Missionary Leadership are the three topics. A brief discussion paper has been prepared on each as well as a Guide for the Consultation Process. Four Regional Meetings and the recent Clergy Conference have reflected and provided feedback that will help shape the consultation at the Synod. Now it is our Parish's turn.

On Saturday 12th September at 10.00am in the Parish Centre you are invited to participate in reflecting and providing feedback for the Synod on two of the Synod themes, Formation and Participation and Missionary Leadership. We have asked leaders and young people from our Youth Group to reflect and provide feedback at a Zoom meeting on Young Discipleship.

If you email the Parish Office, the discussion papers can be sent to you by return email. To participate you must read the papers on Formation and Participation and Missionary Leadership.

The consultation and feedback will be guided by the process of Spiritual Conversation of sharing individually, responding to what you have heard others say and only then a general conversation. Listening is very important in this process.

To help us prepare you can let the Parish Office know if you are coming along. Numbers will to be limited. If you wish to be present and contribute you will be warmly welcomed.
Fr Denis Stanley PP

SAFEGUARDING: LISTENING CULTURE

We want everyone to feel safe to speak up. If you have a concern about a child or adult, no matter how small, please talk to Fr Denis, one of our Safeguarding team. It is always better to share a concern early.