



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
<https://melbournecatholic.org>

LITURGY TIMES: AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH

Sunday 8.30am - Sunday Mass
10:30am - Sunday Mass
12:00pm - Baptism
Wednesday 9:30am - Mass - Pius of Pietrelcina
Funeral: 11:00am - Jerzy Urbaniak
Thursday 9:30am - Mass
Friday 9:30am - 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

20 September 2026

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9
Psalms Response: Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18.
Second Reading: Philippians 1:20-24. 27
Gospel Acclamation Acts of the Apostles 16:14

Allelulia, Allelulia

Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Allelulia, Allelulia

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

LET US PRAY FOR

Sick: Addy ADAM, Florence BELL, Lloyd D'CRUS,
Valerie D'Cruz, Muriel D'CRUZE, Rose DELEMA-
PERIES, Graeme EDMENDS, Caleb FARIA, Lizanne
FRANCIS, Teresa FOSCHIA, Adele HUDSON, Diana
MASTRAMICO, Anthony MYERS, Edith McINELLY,
Gayle MORISON, Brian MUNDY,
Willow O'CALLAGHAN, Daisy ROMERO &
Heemani SAINI

Recently deceased: Jerzy URBANIAK

Anniversaries: Antoinette FERNANDES,
Esmeralda FIGUEREDO, Mafalda FURTADO,
Josephine MERCEICA, Sabina MIRANDA &
Pat TORR

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

An ever-generous God

In the gospel parable we might wonder is this the way God acts? It doesn't seem fair to pay everyone the same wage, whether they have worked the entire day or for an hour, even if it was agreed to by the workers at the beginning.

Then, at the parable's end, the landowner says to these upset workers, 'Why be envious when I am generous?'

But we could say it's unjust; what about a fair go for all, not simply those who waited all day for work. Justice is central to the parable, but justice as a form of compassion, ensuring everyone gets paid a living wage, from the first to the last. However, if the wage is a metaphor of salvation, whether we've worked for a long time or not isn't really the issue; we can't earn salvation, it's a gift, and wanting more of it doesn't make sense.

We begin to see how generosity and envy too are at the heart of this gospel, and how envy is a response to a perceived lack of generosity on God's part. It distracts us from what we have been given, and we fixate on what others have – such as money, house, car, status – and that's what we want. The media thrives on this, whether social or otherwise, as the cartoon character called Envy reminds us: she has 'a big appetite for everything she doesn't have.'

This is why gratitude is important, because it enables us to give thanks for what we have been given. So too trust: trust in what Jesus has promised us. As we come to trust in God, we begin to realise that God provides for us and we're able to give thanks for the gift of Jesus' life.

In doing so, we come to see that God gives us all we need and gradually we begin to recognise that we have been living in a self-enclosed world where scarcity and ambition rule. It's then that we come to understand our need to be free of envy if our lives are to be open to the generosity of God; and it's not just St Francis, giving up his lavish lifestyle, who reveals this to us, but it's to be seen in our own lives. Or are we too locked into a way of life that prevents us from seeing it, and so denies us the freedom to live in God's love?

In the second reading Paul, in prison, sees clearly the meaning of his life: 'Life to me, of course, is Christ.' Jesus is our life too and the gift of himself is more than enough. He gives himself to us so we might give away to others what we have received.

While the first reading from Isaiah speaks of God's love for his people. God's thoughts and ways are beyond our understanding, and yet God is close to us and rich in forgiveness. This is the ever-generous God who gives us everything we'll ever need.

Damian Coleridge © Majellan Media 2026

**PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE BOARD FOR MORE NOTICES
FROM YOUR PARISH COORDINATING TEAM (PCT)**

Season of Creation (September 1 – October 4th) - from Pope Leo

The theme for this year is **Living Water** (Ezekiel 47:9, 12). Pope Leo XIV in his message for the World Day of Prayer for the Season of Creation (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. Read the full message using the QR code. We pray for justice in the allocation of water, especially for rural and regional communities, for farmers and workers whose livelihoods depend upon it, and for First Nations peoples whose deep connection to Country and waterways has endured for countless generations. May their voices be heard and respected in every decision concerning the waters of this land.

This week, Lord, teach us all to be careful stewards of the water entrusted to us. Inspire communities, businesses, and households to use water responsibly, to conserve it with gratitude, and to protect it from waste and pollution.

**The OLMC Youth Group
presents: AN EVENING WITH JESUS**

You are invited to join us for an evening of prayer and music Sunday 11th October | 5.30pm to 6.15pm | St Anne's church
Bring along family and friends. Tea and snacks provided.

PIETY STALL

Crucifixes, Light up religious scenes, Baby Items, Ceramics, Baptism book \$8. Wearable Rosary beads, Bracelets and Rings. Statues, Medals, Missals and Bibles From \$35. Quality at cost price. Please contact or TEXT Joe Spiteri on 0477 677 248.

PARISH BINGO

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 .

**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

SUNBURY EVERGREENS SOCIAL AFTERNOON

29th September 2026 in St Anne's Hall at 12pm. Come join us and enjoy a cuppa and a chat and have a laugh or listen to a speaker and learn something new. Maybe join us for our monthly lunch or outing.

We joyfully welcome Eden **FARRUGIA** & Oliver **GARTSIDE** who will be baptized in our parish.



LEGION OF MARY

Please join the Legion of Mary in celebrating at all weekend Masses on 3/4 Oct. Following the Sun. 8.30am Mass is morning tea in the Church foyer. We look forward to meeting you and briefly outlining the community services we provide.

NEW PASTOR OF ENCOUNTER CHURCH

Joshua Rozario will be inducted as the new pastor of the Encounter Church of Christ in Sunbury on Sunday, 27 September at the 10:00am Service at the Memorial Hall, Stawell St. Sunbury. A luncheon will follow the service.

ST ANNE'S CHURCH REPAIRS – UPDATE.

On 30 September and 1 October our plumbing contractor will be working in and around the church to remove tree roots, and reline the sewerage pipes to repair the leaks. They will also be working outside in the garden area at the Northwestern end of the church to repair broken storm water and improve drainage. Prior to the work, Jo Wiegerink and Jeremy Orchard will remove the bottle brush trees to improve access and remove some of the root source. The plan is then to allow the foundations to dry out before work is undertaken to restore the church footings.

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 our volunteers will contact you. WWCC and Police checks are mandatory. We can assist if required

COMBINED CHURCHES OF SUNBURY

SEEKING NEW MEMBERS: The Committee of the Combined Churches of Sunbury Inc is a group of volunteers who support the Ministers of Sunbury in their community outreach activities. We meet 10-11 times per year. (our next meeting is Tuesday September 22). We welcome visitors to "check us out". Everyone has a special talent to share.

If your talent is in the area of figures/finance our treasurer would love to have a chat. For further information contact

Gwen Hutcheson (Secretary) 0412 547 643

Chris Morgan Prosser (Treasurer) 0418 113 734

ST VINCENT DE PAUL—CALL FOR NEW MEMBERS

At the three Parish Masses this weekend, Adrian Purcell from the local SVP Conference will speak briefly about the work of the Conference and invite parishioners to consider joining the Conference in their work of reaching out to those in need in our community. Please listen and consider carefully. For anyone interested in joining the St Vincent de Paul Society, please reach out to Adrian Purcell - Ph: 0478 219 817 or Email: adpurcell5@outlook.com Or: sunbury.conf.pres@svdp-vic.org.au

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD - DECEMBER 2026

Many thanks to the group of parishioners who attended the feedback session last Saturday on the discussion papers for the December Synod. We have prepared notes to be sent to the Synod Office. Thanks to our young people and leaders who shared their feedback on the synod paper on youth.

