



**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 **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

Vigil 5.30pm - Mass
Sunday 8.30am - Mass
10:30am - Mass
12:00pm - Baptism
Wednesday 9:30am - Mass
Thursday 9:30am - Mass - John Paul II
Friday 9:30am - Mass - John of Capistrano

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

18 October 2026

Twenty –Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1.4-6
Psalm Response: Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5
Gospel Acclamation Philippians 2:15. 16
Allelulia, Allelulia
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Allelulia, Allelulia
Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

LET US PRAY FOR

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

Recently deceased: Graeme EDMENDS, Frank GUS-
MAN, Mark REAY & Shannon ROYAL

Anniversaries: Gerard DAVID, Austin & Leonie
D'MONTE, Diamond JACOB, Leo & Isabella LORE-
TO, PASQUALE VILLELA & MARY WICKS

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

Experiencing exile

The Jewish people experienced two major periods of exile. The first was the Assyrian Exile beginning in the eighth century BCE when the ten northern tribes were forced into exile in Assyria. The second, the Babylonian Exile, involved the southern kingdom of Judah, primarily consisting of the two tribes of Judah and Benjamin. It occurred in the sixth century BCE when Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon, twice attacked Jerusalem and, on the second occasion, destroyed the city.

In the Assyrian Exile, tens of thousands of Israelites were scattered across the Assyrian empire and, rather than returning, the deportees were gradually assimilated into the local populations, disappearing from history, and leading to the historical concept of the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel.

The Babylonian Exile lasted almost seventy years until Cyrus, the King of Persia, defeated the Babylonians and issued an edict that the Jewish people could return to their homeland. Gradually, over time a large group of exiles returned to Jerusalem and began to rebuild their shattered city.

In this week's first reading, the prophet Isaiah refers to Cyrus as the "anointed" of the Lord, a title usually ascribed to the Davidic king. Furthermore, this Persian king's hand is grasped by God, which signifies the conferral of royal authority. Though Cyrus is a non-believer, God's plan unfolds through him.

The experience of exile must have been devastating because, after being led out of Egypt to the "promised land," the Israelites were once again captive, in foreign lands, and subject to non-believers. It meant the loss of freedom, the loss of a beloved city, leaving home, being deported, and forced displacement. It meant grief and physical, emotional and spiritual suffering.

We too, for a wide range of reasons, can experience what feel like periods of exile in our lives. It might happen when we suffer separation from family and friends, a severed relationship, the loss of employment, a serious health issue or trauma, or mental illness. In those times, our faith and trust in God can be sorely tested. We can really struggle in our search for ways to endure the grief, suffering and displacement, physically, psychologically and spiritually.

Spiritually, at core those experiences challenge us to deepen our relationship with the Lord and to trust that God does not desert us. Painful though they are, in fact they prompt us to grow. Indeed, as we look back on our lives, we can see that the pain points in our lives are in fact growth points in our development.

The challenge is to let those pain points – those times of displacement, grief and suffering – become growth points. It is to let them soften whatever hardness of heart has set in and to let those pain points open us up to new life, new understanding, and new compassion for those around us and the world and its needs.

Michael A Kelly CSsR

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

1. The free 1 hour refresher training (following the 2024 **CPR and defibrillator course**) is scheduled for Saturday, 24th October 2026 at 10am in St Anne's Hall. Please let the Parish Office know if you are attending by cob Monday 19th October . If you did not attend and would like to take advantage of any free spots leave your name and contact details at the Parish Office.

2. . **Carols from Many Lands.** 7.00pm Saturday, 28th November . The PCT's SOCIAL COMMITTEE has great pleasure in inviting all parish-group choirs and soloists to register their commitment to making this year's Carols From Many Lands a memorable Christmas gathering for all, for both new parishioners and old. Singers are requested to register the following DETAILS with the parish office ASAP at: Sunbury@cam.org.au or on 9744 1060

*Group name and contact, *Name of carol(s),

* Language, *Lyrics and English translation,

* Number of singers

REHEARSALS will be held in St. Anne's Church on October 17th, October 31st, November 14th, and November 21st after the 5.30 Mass.

3. **The Sunbury Community Disability Expo** is a free community event designed to connect people living with disabilities, their families, guardians, support workers and disability providers. It is on **Thu, 29 Oct, 10am - 1pm at the Hume Global learning Centre Sunbury.** Tickets available online <https://events.humanitix.com/sunbury-community-disability-expo>

HUME CITY COUNCIL SENIORS FESTIVAL EVENTS

Live Music: at Artrise on Jackson hill Thursday 22 October 10:30 AM - 11:40 am.\$15 tickets. Relive the music of the 1940s & 50s in this tribute to the 'Forces Sweetheart' Dame Vera Lynn. **Please ring Joe Spiteri (Evergreens) on 0477 677 248 for tickets or call Hume City Council direct As soon As Possible**

EVERGREENS SOCIAL AFTERNOON

On **27th October 2026 in St Anne Hall 12-00pm.** come join us and enjoy a cuppa and a chat and have a laugh or listen to a speaker. This month we have Candle pines Funerals giving us information about Funerals costs. Maybe join us for our monthly lunch or outing.

PARISH BINGO

Time is running out - **BOOK YOUR SEAT NOW** for our big **BINGO BONANZA to be held Saturday 24th October-** eyes down 7 pm at Sunbury Bowling Club. Guaranteed game prizes of \$5000, \$2000 and \$1000 plus \$300, \$200 and minimum of \$120. Tickets \$100 each. Our **weekly session continues every Thursday** eyes down 7pm at Sunbury Bowling Club. Get a group of friends together and come along and join in the fun. Contact: Gary Plummer 0419 301 760.

REMEMBRANCE BOOK FOR NOVEMBER

The Book of Remembrance is available in the foyer for family members' names to be added and prayed for during November.

MASS SCHEDULE—1ST & 2ND NOVEMBER

Sunday, 1 November: All Saint's Day

Blessing of the graves: 1:30pm –Sunbury Cemetery

3:00pm - Bulla Cemetery

Monday, 2 November: All Souls' Day

9:30am - Mass for All Souls in St Anne's Church.

LEGION OF MARY FOLLOW UP SESSION

Following the success of the morning tea hosted by the Legion of Mary on Sunday 4th October, we will hold an Info. Session to provide a more detailed overview of what we do. The meeting is on **Mon. 26 October at 1pm** in St Anne's Church meeting room adjacent to foyer. Please consider joining us for a cup of tea, cake and an informal chat. Enquiries Cath Ph. 0428842521.

LAP FUNDRAISING COLLECTION

Just a gentle reminder – Our next fundraising collection will be at all Masses in three weeks on the **7 / 8 November.** Your contribution will again help the LAP team in Jakarta provide essential nutrition and other support to over 139 children living with HIV and 65 (mainly female) caregivers. The LAP team in Jakarta has recently celebrated their 16th anniversary, and your generous support and prayers have helped sustain their efforts for twelve of those years.

Thank you again, We also look forward to sharing morning tea with you after the 8:30 Mass.

OLMC LAP Fundraising Team

EMMAUS CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Meets each week on **Wednesday at 7pm** in St. Anne's Church. All welcome. For further info/transport **please contact Lambert & Elaine van der Weerden on 0418 322 596**

CHRISTMAS AT RUPERTSWOOD

Organised by the Combined Churches of Sunbury **Saturday 12th December 2026.** Christmas Carols start at 6pm. Free children's activities start at 5.30 pm
We are asking for volunteers from all the Churches and Community Organisations of Sunbury to assist us this year. **Details on how to register to volunteer are on the flyer on the Notice Board**

SAFEGUARDING ESSENTIALS ONLINE TRAINING

All volunteers in our Parish must complete this mandatory training every three years. Some of you may recall that group sessions were held in 2023.

If you would like to be part of a group, please email or phone in your expression of interest to the parish office by Monday, 19 October 2026.

Details of sessions are:

Thursday, 22 October 7:30pm – St Anne's Parish Centre

Saturday, 24 October 11:30am – St Anne's Parish Centre

THANK YOU - OLMC YOUTH GROUP

Last Sunday 11th at 5.30pm, our parish youth group and their leaders led "An evening with Jesus". The Group had devoted time to preparing and practicing for the evening and their performance on the night was excellent. About 30 people were present for a time of reflecting on being a disciple, silent prayer with the Blessed Sacrament, superb signing and tremendous music, ending with almost everyone clapping and singing along. It was outstanding and a credit to all. Stay tuned for the next invitation.

How do we build on this? Encourage and support. How else will our Parish Prayer take wings and "our youth grow in strength as good Christians"?

Fr. Denis with PCT Team