

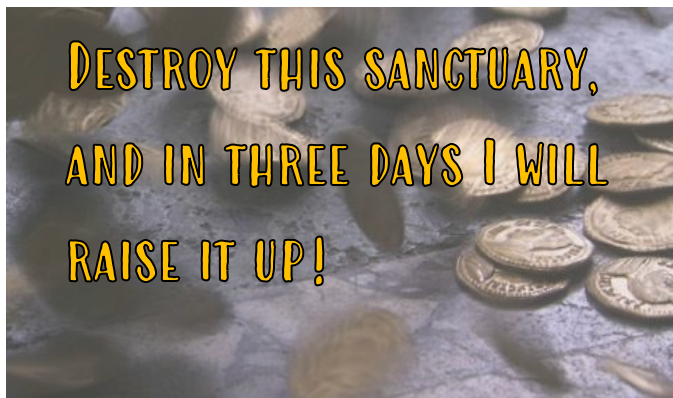


Our Lady of
Mount Carmel
Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 3 March 2024

Third Sunday of Lent, Year B



Reflections

Jn 2:13-25

The Holy Anger of Jesus

The commitment that Jesus has to his relationship with God grounds the fury we see within him in today's text. It is a confronting scene where he aggressively responds by cutting through the unpleasant, worldly and surplus build-up that this sacred space had become; obscuring the very thing it was there to reveal. No wonder Jesus is angry!

Jesus desires and focuses only one thing: receiving and giving the love of God. Anything that participates in and reveals the love of God, Jesus celebrates. Anything that gets in the way and obscures the love of God, Jesus takes to it with a whip.

Fear, false humility and the need to retain control in our lives are just a few reasons why we might avoid focusing on what it truly means to live with God's absolute love for us. It's easier to focus on secondary things (doctrines, behaviours, practises), especially when we don't know how to begin a deeply meaningful relationship with God. A good place to start is recognising that the thing we want and need can only come about by the grace of God.

Throughout Lent, consider abstaining from those peripheral aspects of your faith that keep you from having a truly remarkable, deeply fulfilling and *PROFOUNDLY* loving relationship with God; it may be fear of commitment or disappointment, it may be holding onto a custom that no longer seems relevant, it may be a reluctance to change.

Adapted from [*A Resurrected Life, Daily Reflections for Lent.*](#)

Parish News

Stations of the Cross

You are invited to pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday of Lent. Dates and times are **Friday 8, 15 and 22 March** after 9am Mass AND at 7pm.

Can you help at our Easter Triduum celebrations?

We need volunteers for a range of roles, including liturgical ministries and setting up the church at different times for celebrations. If you would like to help, visit olmcwentyliturgy.org/triduum-volunteers and sign up now. If you do not have an email address but still want to help, please call the parish office.

Music for our Easter Triduum Celebrations

Choir practice for the Holy Thursday Mass, Good Friday Liturgy and Easter Vigil Mass is on Mondays, 7:15 - 8:30 pm in the church. If you would like to assist with leading our community's sung prayer at these celebrations, then please come along. For more information, contact Robert at olmcwentyliturgy.org/contact.

Palm Sunday

Once again on Palm Sunday, we invite you to bring your own cutting of a branch, from any tree or plant, to use as we commemorate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. We would also greatly appreciate it if you can cut and bring some palms or some other branches for people who don't have any. As always, there will be baskets in the parish centre before Mass where you can drop off or collect cuttings.

We're also looking for help with setting up the church on Saturday 23 March from 10:00 am, and with the set up and guidance of the Palm Sunday procession at 10:00 am Mass on 24 March (*my apologies for getting the dates wrong last week - Paola*). Please sign up now at olmcwentyliturgy.org/triduum-volunteers.

Lent is a time of prayer and penance
Join us for the special opportunities we have to draw closer to God this Lenten season

Stations of the Cross
Friday mornings after Mass and at 7:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays at 9:30 am

Lenten Penitential Service
Wednesday 20 March at 7:00 pm



Project Compassion

Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for **Leaia** and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available in the Parish Centre, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

East Timor Easter Raffle

The East Timor Committee will be selling Easter Raffle Tickets from next week in the Parish Centre. Tickets will cost \$2 per ticket or \$10 for 6 tickets. Raffle drawn Monday 25 March 2024.

Parish Key Audit

Thank you to all the parishioners who have registered their keys. Your consideration is very much appreciated. Our parish is constantly working towards maintaining our Risk and Compliance standards as high as possible. The security of our parishioners, staff and volunteers is of paramount importance. It's also important to keep our buildings (and belongings) safe so that they continue to be the beautiful, safe, sacred spaces that we enjoy. To that end, we need to do a parish key audit. That is, we need to account for all keys that we use in and around the parish.

Please note that we don't want to take away your key, we just need to know that you have one. Please [click on this link](#) to fill out a quick form, or email ocarmswenty@gmail.com and let us know how many keys you have, and which doors they open. This would help us *immensely* at remaining compliant with the Diocesan Risk Assessment.

Catholic Schools Guide

Parents who are interested in a guide about Catholic Secondary Education for their children are welcome to pick up a copy in the Parish Centre.

Welcome to our community

This Sunday at the 10am Mass, we will celebrate the sacrament of baptism for little Pipiena. We would like to welcome her into Community of the Faithful, and we also welcome her parents, Sekola and Saulala.

Welcome also to Samson who will celebrate his sacrament of baptism after Mass. Congratulations to his parents, Naomi and Atelea, on this wonderful occasion.

Wedding congratulations

Please keep Tia and John in your prayers as they celebrate their wedding this Friday in our parish. Tia (aka Satia) was a student at OLMC and celebrated her sacraments here as well.

Parish Sacramental Process 2024

Parents, if you feel you are ready to assist your children to celebrate the sacraments, you are invited to apply online [using this link](#). If you would prefer to use a manual form, please email the parish office at ocarmswenty@gmail.com. For further information, please visit our website olmcwenty.org.au and select *Sacraments for Children* within the *Grow in Faith* option.

CONFIRMATION:

Applications close Friday 26 April.

Confirmation names & sponsors names due Friday 3 May.

Confirmation practice at 3:30pm & 6pm on Thursday 23 May.

Confirmation celebration at 6pm (Trinity Sunday Vigil) Mass on Saturday 25 May.

FIRST RECONCILIATION:

Applications close Friday 19 July.

Celebrations at 6pm on Monday 29 & Tuesday 30 July.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

Applications close Friday 27 September.

Taste & See sessions at 3:30pm & 7pm on Thursday 10 October.

Practice sessions at 3:30pm & 6pm on Thursday 17 October.

Celebrations at 11am on Saturday 19 and 26 October.

Join the Parish Sacramental Team

The Parish Sacramental Team is looking for new members! If you would like to assist with workshops, planning, celebrating, or even if you're just interested in learning about the sacraments, please email ocarmswenty@gmail.com. This would be especially interesting for parents whose children are preparing to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Holy Communion and/or Confirmation.

Free chairs

We have about 60+ stackable chairs ready for you to collect for free. The chairs are similar to the black, chrome and cloth chairs in the Parish Centre (but we don't want to give away the ones in the Parish Centre).

If you are interested, please visit the Parish Office.

Thank you for your generosity

Last week's donation to the Parish: **\$3060**

Planned Giving (cash): \$ 613

Planned Giving (credit cards): \$ 100

Loose cash: \$ 1337

Direct Deposits: \$ 350

Tap & Go: \$ 660

Parish Online Banking: If you would like to pay fees or are able to make a donation, our online banking details are:

BSB: 067 950

Account Number: 00602

Account Name: Wentworthville Catholic Church

Reference: [YourSurname]DONATION NAME

Fees for special Services

Please see below, a simplified guide to our fees for special Services:

Wedding: \$700

Funeral: \$700

Baptism: \$50

Memorial service: \$400

What is Planned Giving?

Planned Giving is a pledge you make to assist the parish with their finances. Your contributions would go toward staff salaries, insurance, maintenance, loan repayments, liturgical resources, etc. You can choose to set-up an automated deposit from your bank account with the amount and frequency you would like to donate. Just make sure to use the banking details above. Planned Giving is a very convenient and practical method of contributing to the parish, even if it's just \$5 a week.

If you would like to receive a receipt for your Planned Giving please contact Gennie, our Finance Officer, on ocarmswentyaccts@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Please pray for

Those who are sick, especially Lucy & Rosine, Rita Ientile, Vivian Sultana, Roseline Fernandez, Yolanda Gonzales, Edwin Macwan, Sharon Dolan.

Recently deceased, Jennifer Kelberg, Charmaine Kelberg, Baby Egan, Rachael Sumagui, Matthew Spiteri, Tony Campton, Thea Flynn, Robert Howe, Joanne Tabone, Charlie Bonnici, Duyen Tran.

Our special intentions, especially Luiza, Josephine Eva Augusta Philo, Stella Galea, Elsie D'Cruz, Frank & Cathrine Sciberras, Clivin family, Anthony, Monica & Catherine Kong, Charlie Zammit, Charlie Sultana, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, Vicitms of war, Holy Souls in Purgatory, in honour of St Anthony and with thanks to St Jude for prayers answered.

Names published with permission from families.

Coming events

4 March: Choir practice with Robert from 7:15 – 8:30pm

7 March: Church cleaning after 9am Mass

7 March: Liturgy Committee Meeting at 7pm in Parish Centre

10 March: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Rosters for 9 and 10 March 2024

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm (Vigil)	Reader Commentator Communion	Bob Hanna Janine Hanna Caz Learmonth
8am	Reader Commentator Communion	Cecilia Cotter Cat Paulo Cat Paulo (Assembly) Colleen Weatherall
10am	Reader Commentator Communion	Fiona Bylsma Clyde Fernandes Marina Peter (Assembly) Moira Peter
6pm	Reader Commentator Communion	Mark Attwood Bimy Baby Isa Urbano

Next week's readings

9 and 10 March – Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B

First Reading: 2 Chron 36:14-16, 19-23

Second Reading: Eph 2:4-10

Gospel: Jn 3:14-21

Around the Diocese and beyond

Synod 2023 Update: Decree issued and Development of Diocesan Plan Begins

In January, the Synodal Decree from our inaugural Diocesan Synod was issued, enabling us to move forward in the development of a Diocesan Plan. Join us in the next phase of our journey, as we discern a new path forward for our local Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. The Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church will launch at the Diocesan Gathering on Saturday 10 August. Learn more at parracatholic.org/synod

POSITIONS VACANT

Parish Cook (part-time) - St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Parramatta – Applications close 4 March.

Administration Assistant (part-time) - Sacred Heart Parish, Mt Druitt South and Permanent Diaconate community – Applications close 10pm Monday 11 March. More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

