



**Our Lady of
Mount Carmel**
Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 12 May 2024

The Ascension of the Lord



Photo credit: *Earthrise*, taken on December 24, 1968, by Apollo 8 astronaut William Anders, Wikipedia

Reflections

Mark 16:15-20

True Vine

"Time to go." We all know what that means. If you come from a family like mine, it means we're now entering into a period of goodbyes that make us loiter in the doorway for another half hour. Sooner or later, though, we're going to finish that final conversation, give that last hug, say the last I-love-you, and wish the travellers a safe journey home. And then they're gone. For a moment, there's an almost visible space in the room shaped just like Aunt Ida and the kids. That same shaped emptiness is curiously echoed in the heart. Even the silence sounds curiously like the folks who just left.

The disciples standing around after the Ascension must have experienced something like that. A Jesus-shaped space where he stood, a Jesus-sounding silence where he'd spoken. There was a space in their hearts, too, that would always long for him to fill it. And yet the same must have been true of them as it is for us when we take leave of loved ones. Their presence remains brilliantly in their absence. They're

not here but are hardly gone for good. You can't kill love off that easily. Love never leaves the room.

Courtesy GPBS eNews

The feast of the Ascension commemorates the return of Jesus to the Father. Jesus leaves in body but remains with us through the gift of the Spirit. We will celebrate the gift and presence of the Holy Spirit in next Sunday's feast of Pentecost.

The true meaning of our feast today is not found in Jesus' leaving, but in the way he calls his disciples back together, to re-form them as a new community entrusted with the spread of the Gospel. Jesus sends the disciples out to make disciples of all nations and to teach them his way. But the disciples are not left to do all that on their own. Jesus promises that he is with them always.

Jesus has called the ragged, group of disciples, scattered after his crucifixion, back to himself to form them, fragile and doubtful as they are, into a community for mission in the name of God. The task of the historical Jesus is complete; the task of the church as the living Body of Christ has just begun. It is comforting to recognise that Jesus doesn't insist on perfection before he calls us and entrusts us with his mission. This mission is authorised by God and passed on to us through Jesus. It is not about authority over others. It is actually a call to act as God would act, true to God's heart as Jesus has taught us.

Ever since Easter, we have been proclaiming that Jesus is alive. The feasts of the Ascension and Pentecost help us to realise that we are part of a long tradition of faithful disciples. We have our faults and failings, but our call is to witness to and teach the way of Jesus by the kind of people we are, the values and attitudes we hold, in thought, word and action - to be the living presence of God in the world today.

Courtesy of carmelites.org.au

Parish News

Happy Mother's Day from the Carmelites

God of Love, listen to this prayer.

*God of holy people,
of Sarah, Ruth and Rebekah;
God of Elizabeth, mother of John,
God of Mary, mother of Jesus,
listen to us and bless the mothers of our families.*

*Bless with the strength of your Spirit,
the mothers who taught us to stand and walk,
who continue to be strength for us
as we walk the journey of life.*

*Bless our mothers today
with good things and with health;
with joy, love and laughter,
and surround them with many good friends.*

Hold gently in your love our mothers who are now with you.

Amen

Building update

Last week, the timber barge capping as well as the cracked and broken window panes were replaced at the front of the church and don't they look just BEAUTIFUL!



BEFORE: Timber barge Capping on the back of the church has degraded, allowing water to enter.



AFTER: Colourbond barge capping on the back of the church



BEFORE: Timber barge capping on the front of the church has degraded, glass panels are broken and cracked.



AFTER: Timber barge capping on the front of the church has been replaced with Colourbond and eleven glass panels have been replaced.

I invite you to take some time to acknowledge and appreciate what our community can do together; by combining our resources, finances and experiences, we are providing an attractive and safe space for each other and for our future. This was a costly expense (mostly because it's such a difficult area to safely access) but we anticipate that the Colourbond will reduce the risk of water entering the church, and the toughened glass panels will continue to be a safe and attractive feature of the church.

The total cost of this project will be published next week.

Welcome to our community

This weekend, we welcome Samiu into the community of the Faithful through the sacrament of Baptism. Welcome also to his parents, Sofi and Sione, who married here at OLMC and baptised Neomai just last year. Welcome all!

Singers wanted

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at 6:00 pm Mass on Saturday 25 May. We are inviting singers to add their voices to the usual music for this Mass. There will be a rehearsal prior to Mass at 4:30 pm. If you would like to assist, please contact Robert Barden via the contact form at olmcwentyliturgy.org/contact to volunteer and receive further information.

Safeguarding resources

It was great to see that someone borrowed the parish copy of [*Our Common Mission*](#) but, would you please return it once you have finished reading it; that way others can access it as well. If you would like your own copy and/or [*Integrity in Our Common Mission*](#), please email the parish office and we'd be happy to email it or print it out for you.

Funeral Notice

Debbie Buckley, former parishioner of Mt Carmel, and daughter of parishioners Carmel and Diarmid (both deceased), died on 4 May, aged 58. A life of love, rewarded. Debbie will be remembered at North Chapel, Pinegrove at 11am on 15 May, with a celebration of her life to follow at Fox Hills Golf Club. Those who remember Debbie, Carmel and Diarmid are very welcome.

Parish Mass Guide on your phone



Joining us for Sunday Mass? Access our guide on your phone. From the responses and prayers, to where to find things, our guide has what you need. **Scan the QR code or visit olmcwenty.org.au/church**

We ask you to set your phone to 'do not disturb' or silent mode to help everyone focus on prayer

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

Last week's donation to the Parish: **\$3972**

Planned Giving (cash): \$ 892

Planned Giving (credit cards): \$ 485

Loose cash: \$ 775

Direct Deposits: \$ 1105

Tap & Go: \$ 715

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: 000 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. These fees include both the Parish and Carmelite Father's fees:

Wedding: \$700

Funeral: \$700

Baptism: \$50

Memorial service: \$400

Planned Giving envelopes now available

New Planned Giving envelopes are now available for you to collect from the Parish Centre.

Thank you to all those who contribute to our community using this method.

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.

Parish Easter Offertory



Please pray for

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

Recently deceased, especially Rohit Singh, Francis D'Souza, Josephine Tabone, Bernadette Stevens, Rob McMenamin, Paul Crollick, Jennifer Kelberg, Charmaine Kelberg, Baby Egan, Rachael Sumagau, Matthew Spiteri, Tony Campton, Thea Flynn, Robert Howe, Joanne Tabone, Charlie Bonnici, Duyen Tran.

Our special intentions, especially John Kempers, Norman De Luca, Cam Tran, Mary Rose Perez Tito, Lynne, Manuel & Agnes Patacsil, Franz Tito, Princess Kate Middleton, Mary Margaret Nicholapillai, Doris Berger, Michael Perez, Edgardo Navarro, Catherin Vincent, Shaji John, John Riel & Kuya Lods Casimero, Lawrence & Sinfarosa Dias, Inacio, Sacramenta & Ilda Boccaro, Anna & Simaó Dias, Clivin family, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, Charlie Zammit, Charlie Sultana, Thanksgiving to Our Lady, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Families in difficult circumstances, and in honour of St Anthony and St Christopher.

Coming events

12 May: Week of prayer for Christian Unity

13 May: Our Lady of Fatima

15 May: International Day of Families

16 May: St Simon Stock OCarm

16 May: Church cleaning after 9am Mass

19 May: Pentecost

Rosters for 18 and 19 May 2024

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm (Vigil)	Reader Commentator Communion	Janine Hanna Bob Hanna Ann Zahra (Assembly)
8am	Reader Commentator Communion	Joshua Angelo Jeremy Angelo Eric Dias (Assembly) Cecilia Cotter
10am	Reader Commentator Communion	Carmel Gauci Basli Sathi Moiria Peter (Assembly) Marina Peter
6pm	Reader Commentator Communion	Isa Urbano Eugene Urbano Fran Sharpe

Next week's readings

18 & 19 May – Pentecost Sunday (Vigil & Day Masses)

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

Second Reading: Gal 5:16-25

Gospel: Jn 15:26-27, 16:12-15

Around the Diocese and beyond

Synod 2023 Update: Local Think Tank Sessions: Parishes and other local faith communities across the diocese are holding local Think Tank Sessions, giving local leaders and anyone involved in ministry to offer feedback on the Draft of the Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church, and contribute ideas for the practical implementation of our Diocesan Plan. Contact the parish office to inquire about our local Think Tank session and visit parracatholic.org/synod for more.

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**Our Lady of
Mount Carmel**
Wentworthville

in the care of the Carmelite Friars

Connect with us

Online at www.olmcwenty.org.au

On Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @olmcwenty

Email ocarmswenty@gmail.com

Parish Office

Open Monday to Thursday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

Parish Office is closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Phone 9631 8302

Parish Priest: Fr. Januario Pinto, O.Carm

Assistant Priest: Fr. Albino Dos Santos, O.Carm

In Community: Fr. Anthony Scerri, O.Carm,

Fr. Paul Gurr, O.Carm (Carmelite Prior),

Fr. Wayne Stanhope, O.Carm (at Jamberoo),

Fr. John Powell, O.Carm (in Aged Care)

Parish Secretary: Paola Yévenes

Finance Officer: Gennie Cosgrove

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Primary School

Principal: Olimpia Pirovic

Phone: 8832 1100

Liturgy times

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 6pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 8am, 10am, 6pm

Weekday Masses

Monday - Thursday and Saturday: 9am

Friday: 9:15am (except on the first Friday of the month)

Reconciliation

Saturday: after the 9am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday: 8am

Rosary Group

Monday - Friday: 8am

Saturday: after the 9am Mass

Anointing within Mass

First Friday of the month at 9am Mass followed by a shared Morning Tea

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

On request

We acknowledge the Darug people as the original custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders; past, present and emerging.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, together with the Diocese of Parramatta and the Carmelite Friars, are committed to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults in our care and ensuring that they feel and are s