



# Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville

## Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 16 June 2024

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



### Reflections:

**Mk 4:26-34**

#### From little things

It is wonderful to see Jesus, again and again, looking at life around him, for things and images that might help the people to detect and to experience the presence of the Kingdom. In today's Gospel, again, he tells two short stories about things that happen every day in our lives:

The story of the seed that grows all on its own: The farmer who plants the seed knows the process: first the seed, then the green shoot, the leaf, the ear and the grain. The farmer knows how to wait and will not cut the stalk before it is time, but he does not know from where the power comes for the soil, the rain, the sun and the seed to make a seed turn into fruit. That's what the Kingdom of God is like. It's a process. There are stages and points of growth. It takes time and happens in time. The fruit comes at the right time but no one can explain its mysterious power. No one is its master! Only God!

The story of the tiny mustard seed that turns into something very big: The mustard seed is small, but it grows, to the point where the birds can make their nests in its branches. That's what the Kingdom is like. It begins as something very small; it grows and spreads its branches. The parable does not say who the birds are. The answer to that question will come later in the Gospel. The text suggests that it refers to the pagans who will not be able to get into the community and be sharers in the Kingdom.

Jesus explained the parable to his disciples who wanted to know what the parable means. They do not understand it. Jesus is astonished by their failure to understand and at that point responds in a way that is difficult and mysterious. He

says to his disciples, "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; in order that 'they may indeed look, but not perceive, and may indeed listen, but not understand; so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.'" This makes the people wonder, What use is the parable then? Is it to make things clear or to hide them?

The parable reveals and hides at the same time! It reveals, to those who have become attuned, who accept Jesus, the Servant Messiah. It hides from those who insist on seeing him as Messiah, mighty King. These see the images of the parable but they do not grasp their meaning.

From [Carmelites.org.au](http://Carmelites.org.au)

### Parish News

#### Welcome to our community

This weekend, we welcome Josiah into the community of the Faithful through the sacrament of Baptism. Welcome also to his parents, Judd and Abigail.

#### Refugee Week – Finding Freedom

In a world marked by displacement and the search for refuge, this year's Refugee Week theme "Finding Freedom" – with a focus on family – encapsulates the profound journey of resilience, strength, and unity that defines the refugee experience. This Refugee Week, we aim to shed light on the transformative power of familial bonds as well as chosen bonds in the face of adversity and emphasise the crucial role families play in providing solace, support, and a sense of belonging to those forced to flee their homelands. For more information, please visit [Refugee Council of Australia](http://Refugee Council of Australia).

#### Scapulars for sale

Brown scapulars are now for sale after Mass for \$5 each. Scapulars will be sold until our parish Feast Day and then blessed at the 10am Mass on that day. See below for details.

#### Our Lady of Mt Carmel Feast Day

This year, we celebrate our parish Feast Day at every Mass on Sunday 14 July, with the principal Mass at 10am next Sunday. The Carmelite Fathers would very much like to celebrate with the parish that day so please stay with us after Mass for some fellowship. Details of the luncheon are coming soon.

At the 10am Mass, we will also bless the scapulars so BYO scapular, or purchase one for \$5 after Mass this weekend.

#### Funeral Notices

A funeral for the late **Doris Borg** will be celebrated here at 10:30am on Wednesday 19 June.

And the funeral for the late **Laurell Caspersz** will be celebrated here at 10:30am on Thursday 20 June.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
And may perpetual light shine upon them.*



## Parish Initiatives (from *Think Tank*)

Thank you to everyone who attended the planning session on a chilly Wednesday morning.

The purpose of the meeting was to begin planning some of the suggestions put forward in the *Think Tank* session with the focus on what we *CAN* do, and these are some of the results:

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Two people have volunteered to coordinate this ministry. For now, they will discern how they would like to operate, and will also begin preparing their resources.

**Acolytes and Altar Servers ministry:** Fr Alby will begin coordinating these ministries, offering training and formation.

**Youth:** Fr Alby will also invite members of the Youth Choir to attend a listening session with the intention of offering to assist young people of our parish with catechesis, retreats, etc.

**Suggestion Box:** Parishioners are invited to contribute their questions, enquiries and suggestions into the Suggestion Box in the Parish Centre which will be monitored regularly. Naturally, any contribution that does not align with the Spirit of the parish community will not be addressed.

**Prayer Groups:** A recurring theme from the *Think Tank* session was for prayer groups. A parishioner has volunteered to begin forming prayer groups; providing those who are interested with the opportunities to join others in intentional prayer.

**OLMC Feast Day luncheon:** We are proud to recognise and celebrate the uniquely multicultural aspects of our parish and a couple of very brave parishioners will be organising our annual Feast Day luncheon with an invitation to celebrate our backgrounds.

**Retreats:** Another recurring theme from the *Think Tank* was the concept of retreats. All ages and backgrounds repeatedly requested more scripture, more prayer, more catechesis, more food for our hearts and souls! Volunteers will soon begin planning for retreats of all different themes, ages and timeframes.

### **This is your sign to get involved**

If you feel called to become involved in these initiatives, or if you have a great idea that you'd like to work towards, please speak with Fr Janu or Alby after Mass, or email the parish office any time.

Want more? See below:

**Pick up a Parishioner:** From time-to-time we get a request for someone to drive them to Mass. The parishioner may be elderly or too sick to drive themselves. If you can drive a parishioner to Mass on Sundays, would you please contact the parish office and, if someone close to your address needs a lift, we can contact you.

**Communion to the Sick:** Are you unable to attend Mass but would like to receive Communion? Or maybe you would like to offer Communion to a sick or elderly parishioner?

If so, please contact the parish office and let us know of your availability. We can arrange for you offer or receive Communion on a temporary or regular basis.

**Youth Mass:** Did you know that on the first Sunday of the month our young parishioners organise the 10am Mass? The Youth Choir play their instruments and lead the congregation

in song. If you'd like to get involved, please let Moira know after Mass, or email the parish office for more details.

**Young children at Mass:** Every parishioner has the right to exist in our church, even our youngest parishioners. It's the nature of children to be active and restless so we request that parishioners please understand how difficult it is for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers to sit still and listen. And, too often, young parents avoid coming to Mass for fear of being judged or reproached if their child/ren act like children.

If you would like to help, maybe you can offer young parents your patience or even a smile, encourage them to persevere with this period in their lives and let them know that all their family are welcome to attend Mass just as they are.

**Bible Study:** Are you interested in starting a Bible Study? If so, please contact the parish office and let us know how we can support you with this.

**Devotionals:** Are you called to a particular devotion? Maybe you would like to pray a novena with others, or dedicate an evening to the Stations of the Cross? We currently observe the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday mornings and have a regular Rosary group on Monday and Saturday mornings but, if you feel you would like to participate in any other devotional, please email the parish office with your suggestion.

### **The Fine Print**

These are all wonderful initiatives so, you may be wondering, what's the catch?

**All volunteers in the Diocese of Parramatta must complete mandatory Safeguarding modules.**

**Furthermore, if you work directly with children (18 years and younger) you must acquire a current Working With Children Check.**

All parishioners are invited to read [Our Common Mission](#) as well as [Integrity in Our Common Mission](#) which is the National Code of Conduct for all in Catholic Ministry along with the Diocesan [Code of Conduct](#). All these documents are readily available online or we can print them for you on request.

If you are reluctant to volunteer because of the mandatory requirements, please consider what you look like to a child; children don't see you as a Warden or a Reader, an Altar Server or a Communion Minister, they see you as a church Leader and therefore someone they can trust.

## Follow Mass on your device



**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](http://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: \$3258**

**Planned Giving (cash):** \$ 873

**Planned Giving (credit cards):** \$ 100

**Loose cash:** \$ 540

**Direct Deposits:** \$ 1015

**Tap & Go:** \$ 730

**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

### 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](mailto:ocarmswentyaccts@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

### 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 Laurell Caspersz, Doris Borg, John Weaver, Massimina 'Mina' Brattoni, Rohit Singh, Francis D'Souza, Josephine Tabone, Bernadette Stevens, Rob McMenamin, Paul Crollick, 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 Lawrence & Sinfarosa Dias, Inacio, Sacramenta & Ilda Boccaro, Anna & Simaó Dias, Michael Perez, Leonardo Perez Close, Leena Marcus, Joyce, Charlie Attard, Sandra Krishan, Agnes Patacsil, Norman De Luca, Duyen Tran, Sr Wendy, Piers family, Madelyn Rose & family, Catalina Tuyan, Clivin family, George Netto, Carmel, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Joseph, Louis, Mary & Frank Teuma, Doreen, Mary & Frank Camilleri, Joe & Maria Vella, Jesse & Kevin McManus, Rosa Titian, Sonia Spittle, Charlie Zammit, Charlie Sultana, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Thanksgiving to Our Lady, to the Immaculate and Sacred Heart of Jesus, and to the Holy Infant of Prague, and in honour of St Anthony and St Christopher.

## Coming events

**16 - 24 June:** Refugee Week

**19 June:** Funeral for the late Doris Borg at 10:30am

**20 June:** SVdP meeting at 10am in the Parish Centre

**21 June:** St Aloysius Gonzaga SJ

**22 June:** Sts John Fisher and Thomas More

### Rosters for 22 and 23 June 2024

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm (Vigil)	Reader Commentator Communion	Angela Carlino Anne-Marie Torrens Antoinette Zammit
8am	Reader Commentator Communion	Coretta Dias Isabella Dias Michelle Rodrigues (Assembly) Eric Dias
10am	Reader Commentator Communion	Shayna Peter Moira Peter Volunteer needed (Assembly) Mary Vijila
6pm	Reader Commentator Communion	Bimy Baby Michael Williamson Isa Urbano

### Next week's readings

**22 & 23 June - 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

**First Reading:** Job 38:1, 8-11

**Second Reading:** 2 Cor 5:14-17

**Gospel:** Mk 4:35-41

## Around the Diocese and beyond

**Adult Confirmation 2024 Formation Day:** The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday 24 August from 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$25 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day. For more information, please contact Lucy Woodbury on 0460 037 795 or by email to [lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org).

**Catholic Youth Parramatta's** annual LIFTED Retreat has transformed into 3 separate retreats, each catering to different age groups. Visit [parracatholic.org](http://parracatholic.org) for details:

**5-7 July – Ages 18-24** at Carmel House, Varroville. Cost \$150.00.

**12 July – Ages 16-18** at The Shrine of the Holy Innocents, Kellyville. Free of charge.

**19-21 July – Ages 25-35** at Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa. Cost \$150.00.

**Share a Meal, Share a Story** cookbook is a project from the Australian Refugee Council that shares a mouth-watering collection of recipes from Australia's refugee communities. A \$20 donation would be most appreciated. For more info, please visit the [Australian Refugee Council's website](http://AustralianRefugeeCouncil.org).





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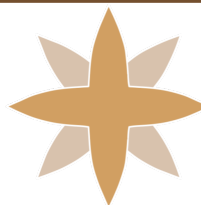
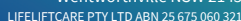
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## Wentworthville

**in the care of the Carmelite Friars**

## Connect with us

Email [ocarmswenty@gmail.com](mailto:ocarmswenty@gmail.com)

## Parish Office

**Finance Officer:** Gennie Cosgrove

## Our Lady of Mt Carmel Primary School

**Phone:** 8832 1100

## Liturgy times

## Sunday Masses

Sunday: 8am, 10am, 6pm

### Weekday Masses

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 safe.*