



**Our Lady of  
Mount Carmel**  
Wentworthville

## **Carmel Bulletin**

**Sunday 8 September 2024**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**



### **Reflections:**

**Mk 7:31-37**

#### **Listen up!**

A young man got up to speak at the local university prayer gathering last week. At first, I thought he was speaking a language unknown to me; then gradually I realised he was speaking my language. But his ability to make himself understood was nearly strangled by an impediment that made him repeat himself in a loop, over and over, until he could complete a single sentence. I felt sad and frustrated for him.

When he finished speaking, an attractive young woman translated his message for him, emphasising his main points. And the group of people cheered his name, over and over. I realised that this young man, though impaired, was practically a cult figure among his peers. They knew him, liked him, accepted him. Though his tongue was bound, his spirit was free.

Many of us labour under impediments to love that seem insurmountable. They may be physical, mental, or spiritual in nature, rooted in past injury or present dysfunction. However impossible it seems that we may be freed from what holds us bound, the appearance is deceiving. Jesus cured the deaf mute with his spirit. He holds the power to open hearts too.

**Ponder:** How does it feel when you're not part of the conversation? This week, think about including someone in your life that feels disconnected to others through circumstance, accident or even their own fault.

### **Being open to the Truth**

Jesus cures a deaf mute in this Sunday's reading and arouses astonishment in the crowd.

Some of us tend to think that the healing of people was the main goal in Jesus' life. Yet, after this Sunday there are only four more healings by Jesus in Mark's Gospel. Earlier (in the first seven chapters) he had worked so many cures that people were mobbing him.

And that was the trouble. He was in danger of becoming famous as a wonderworker. People were besieging him at every stop, thinking that he would solve their problems. If only he gave back their health, or if only he took away their poverty and death, or if only—well, you name it. He was in danger of receiving the illustrious "fifteen minutes of fame," and only that.

But would such celebrity really reveal God's love for the world and its peoples? Jesus wanted to go further. In the gospel of Mark, Jesus stopped the miracles and began a new phase of his mission.

He turned his face toward Jerusalem. And the cross.

This change of direction will come next week. Suddenly and without warning Jesus will say to the disciples, "the Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise" (Mk 9:31). What more shocking statement could this famous and supposedly invincible leader and healer make to them?

How could death go together with healing?

A married couple told me of the death of their tiny son, and how they had prayed so hard for his healing. They said that their prayers were not answered. Yet somehow, they discovered that God had been present throughout the dying, that God had been immersed in their son's life and death, and that this intimate presence was enough, more than enough for those left behind. Their sorrow was bathed in love, and their son was safe in God's arms.

The point? A human person is made to be loved by God, not merely to have good health, riches, or reputation. Real life consists of love exchanged with God and with others, not just in seeming to be a leader or a success. There is a greater good than this, a relationship with the Divine Being, a seeking of the One who is already close. Such an intimate relationship sends us out to help give that love to the world. Miracle cures help for a while, but pretty soon the suffering world has to be faced as such, in its full suffering self.

As a result, Jesus moved toward the events that would show God's solidarity with us in our anguish, in our rejections, and in that famous event which each and every one of us will face sooner or later: death. God gives us, beyond cures - which are wonderful yet partial - companionship within every instant of our life, not just in this or that particular need.

This Sunday at Mass, let us ask ourselves whether the intimate presence of God is part of what we desire in our own lives. Do we know that Christ is deeply involved with each of us? Do we let his love flow into us and from within us to others, or must it just fight its way through?

Let's pray to hear, as the deaf man finally could.

[John Foley SJ](#)

## Parish News

### Welcome to our community

This Sunday we will welcome three children into the community of the Faithful as we celebrate the sacrament of baptism of Alexandra & Adriana, as well as Evangeline. Welcome also to their parents, Kylie & Andrew, and Lauren & Peter.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Peter and Katie who will celebrate their sacrament of Matrimony here next week. We bless these two young people who begin their married life together. May their hearts always be filled with the light of Christ, and may they walk in His love and grace.

### Funeral Notice

The funeral of the late José Frappier will be celebrated here at 10:30am on Thursday 12 September.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.*

### Father's Day raffle winners

Thank you to all who supported the East Timor Father's Day Cards fundraiser. A total of \$966 was raised towards this mission. Congratulations to the following:

1<sup>st</sup> prize: Jose Mendes

2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Anton Sukumar

3<sup>rd</sup> prize: Alfred Zammit

4<sup>th</sup> prize: Johra Brackenbury

5<sup>th</sup> prize: Manoj Peter

Thanks especially to Teresa Maldigri and the East Timor Committee for providing us with the opportunity to support our brothers and sisters in East Timor.

### Safeguarding Sunday



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that respects the dignity of all children and adults at risk, and empowers and listens to all people, especially those who are vulnerable.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>

## Prayer for the Season of Creation

1 September to 4 October 2024



God of all life,  
We thank you for the gift of creation,  
For the water that keeps us alive,  
For our food and shelter,  
All of which come from the generosity of Earth.

We thank you for the very air we breathe  
Which we share with every creature.  
May we take good care of Earth  
As our common home takes care of us.

May we work for justice for those  
Most hurt by damage to our environment.  
May we enjoy the beauty of nature  
And pray that it be treated with deeper respect.

Jesus asked us to learn from the lilies of the field  
And the birds of the air.

We ask this in his name.

Amen

Written by Michael McGirr

### Please pray for

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

**Recently deceased**, especially José Frappier, Laurell Caspersz, Doris Borg, John Weaver, Massimina 'Mina' Brattoni, 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 Mo Chinh, Cecelia Babu, Babu Dass, Betty Bramble, Leonardo Perez Close, Michael Perez, Mary Rose Perez Tito, Franz Tito, Agnes Patacsil, Fr Augustas Patacsil, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, Skelly-Lewcowicz Family, Clivin family, Norman De Luca, Charlie Zammit, Charlie Sultana, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Thanksgiving to Our Lady, to the Immaculate and Sacred Heart of Jesus, to the Holy Infant of Prague, for the Church in Australia, and in honour of St Anthony and St Christopher.

## Parish Finances

### Thank you for your generosity

**Last week's donation to the Parish: \$3422**

**Planned Giving (cash):** \$ 670

**Planned Giving (credit cards):** \$ 385

**Loose cash:** \$1222

**Direct Deposits:** \$ 325

**Tap & Go:** \$ 820

**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

### New Tap & Go Devices

Our new Tap&Go machines have been installed in the Parish Centre and Parishioners can now choose the amount they would like to donate. 60% of your Tap&Go donation goes to the parish for expenses (eg, staff, maintenance, insurance, etc) and 40% will go toward the Carmelite Fathers. As you know, the Carmelites do not receive an income, so this donation is of great assistance to them.

Having said that, whichever way you would like to donate, and whichever amount you can afford, please know that we are incredibly grateful and appreciate any donation.

### Fees for special Services

Please see below, a recommended guide to donations for special Services:

**Wedding:** \$700

**Funeral:** \$700

**Baptism:** \$50

**Memorial service:** \$400

### Advertise with us

We are currently offering space for businesses interested in advertising with us. For further information please email us at [ocarmswenty@gmail.com](mailto:ocarmswenty@gmail.com) or phone 9631 8302.

### Around the Diocese and beyond

**Long term overseas volunteer opportunities** with *The Cagliero Project* who are seeking volunteers for departure in January 2025 to work 6-12 months with young people in Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia. Applications close 31-10-24. Further information please email [www.cagliero.org.au](http://www.cagliero.org.au) or [lhichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:lhichaaba@salesians.org.au)

#### Positions Vacant with the Diocese of Parramatta:

Development Manager – Property Services

Parish Secretary – Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere.


Lead Facilitator of Diocesan Plan Implementation –

Applications close 25 September

More details at: [parracatholic.org/about/jobs/](http://parracatholic.org/about/jobs/)

**Would you like your child to receive a Catholic education but family cannot afford it?** Please consider applying for The Bishop Kevin Manning Fund, a bursary fund that will cover the school fees, the cost of uniforms and equipment for primary or secondary school students for up to four years of enrolment. For more information, please visit: <https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/affordable-education/bishop-manning-support-fund>

Hurry! **Applications close 18 October 2024**



**Children's Liturgy Workshop**

This evening will be for all those involved with children's liturgy in their parishes. We will cover the Diocesan Guidelines as well as any questions you may have.

**THURSDAY 19TH SEPT, 7PM-8:30PM**  
Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown

Register [Lucy.Woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:Lucy.Woodbury@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795

### Coming events

**9 September** St Peter Claver SJ

**12 September:** SVdP meeting at 10am in Parish Centre

**13 September:** St John Chrysostom

**14 September:** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

### Rosters for 14 and 15 September 2024

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm (Vigil)	Reader 1	Trish Maldigri Angela Carlino Caz Learmonth (Assembly) May Pepin
	Reader 2	
	Communion	
8am	Reader 1	Cat Paulo Cecilia Cotter Cathy Rossiter (Assembly) Roslyn Khattar
	Reader 2	
	Communion	
10am	Reader 1	Skip Fernandes Carmel Gauci Mary Vijila (Assembly) Moiria Peter
	Reader 2	
	Communion	
6pm	Reader 1	Ramona Grimm Nelissa Almeida Isa Urbano
	Reader 2	
	Communion	

### Next week's readings

**14 & 15 Sept - 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

**First Reading:** Is 50:5-9

**Second Reading:** James 2:14-18

**Gospel:** Mk 8:27-35





## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville

### in the care of the Carmelite Friars

*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.*

### Connect with us

Online at [www.olmcwenty.org.au](http://www.olmcwenty.org.au)  
On [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) @olmcwenty  
Email [ocarmswenty@gmail.com](mailto: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

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