



**Our Lady of
Mount Carmel**
Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 27 October 2024

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



Reflection

Mk 10:46-52

Keep on asking

Near the screened-in porch where I sat making my yearly retreat one summer night, a thicket of ducks quacked its way across the lake and into a tree or two.

Their loud, non-stop, ever-increasing racket was a shock. Each and every duck citizen, it seemed, felt a duty to yell in full voice and all at once! I supposed they were having a rollicking good time, but what did they achieve with their babble?

Had they come for an evening's rest? But how could anyone rest with this ear-splitting quack-talk?

When they were safely ensconced there began a subtle change in the clatter, very gradual, as when applause reaches a peak at a concert and then, almost unnoticeably, crests and trails off. Each bird gave a bit of quiet to the next until everyone was comfortable and calm.

Except one.

This individual went on and on cawing, absurdly, all by itself.

Then at last a duck-mate nudged it and said, "Hey, buddy we're all surrounding you and we're all safe. Zip up your beak." And it did. There ensued the sleepy silence that I had thought they wanted all along.

And I understood this as teamwork.

I have always loved to be included in a team. Nobody perfect, yet everyone having a special place, keeping the rules, moving

along together, and someone comforting the one who can't take a hint. Today I suppose we would call it community. Or family.

God confirms this in the First Reading.

I will gather the blind and the lame, ... the mothers and those with child; they shall return as an immense throng. They departed in tears, but I will console them and guide them; I will lead them to brooks of water, on a level road, so that none shall stumble.

My duck friends might seem to be symbols for this reading. Their alarms—and finally their trusting slumber—maybe weren't so different from what we ourselves do. Our loud-longing is heard by God, who is saying, "hush, child, the whole flock is here. Settle down."

In Sunday's Gospel Blind Bartimaeus, like the last duck, couldn't stop calling out to Jesus. "Son of David have pity on me!" The rest of the flock tried to shush him, but he kept right on. Over and over, "Son of David have pity on me!"

Jesus stopped walking and said, "call him." The man waded through the crowd to Jesus, who asked him the same question the squawking ducks had heard: "What do you want?" In this case it was obvious. A blind man would want his sight back. Surely Jesus would not have missed this.

"Master, I want to see."

But just getting his sight back would not have done it, any more than just landing in the trees did the ducks. Bartimaeus already had the incarnate God standing before him, and maybe this was the fullness of what he "wanted to see."

"Your faith has saved you," Jesus said. And the man saw. And followed.

If Jesus asks you or me, "what do you want," how will we answer? Is the faith that saves us hiding deep within us? Are we able to call for help? Such a call can be fulfilled this very day, you know, if you let it.

Try listening.

"What do you want?"

John Foley, SJ

Parish News

Celebrations for All Souls Day

This year, we celebrate the Feast of All Souls at the 9am Mass on Saturday 2 November. After Mass, we will go to the Memorial Garden and bless the plaques. Please bring along some Morning Tea to share with other friends and parishioners as we recall and remember those we have lost, especially throughout this past year.

Please note that we will be no Sacrament of Reconciliation or Rosary Group after the 9am Mass on this date.

Mass Intentions throughout November

During the month of November, we remember all our deceased loved ones. A memorial book is placed at the front of the church with a list of the names we are asked to pray for. If you would like the name of your deceased family or friends to be added to this memorial book, please use the November Mass envelopes which are available in the parish centre. Please print the names CLEARLY.

Since we pray at Mass for all those who have passed away and whose names are submitted for remembrance in November, we do not accept Mass Intentions specifically for deceased people during this month. However, Mass Intentions for the living, or those who have died recently, are still accepted.

Parish Sacramental Process update

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

CONGRATULATIONS to all the parish children who celebrate their first sacrament of Holy Communion at 11am this Saturday.

Preparation to receive this sacrament for the first time began long before this weekend; in every meal that was prepared for them, in every way that their parents, grandparents and teachers taught them how to welcome others, to say *thank you*, to listen to stories from their past, to talk to Jesus, to participate in a community.

We pray and hope that the children receiving their first sacrament of Holy Communion remember that the simple beauty of Holy Communion is based on the everydayness of their own domestic church; their family. We pray that their second, third and subsequent Holy Communion is just as special as their first, and we pray that their families continue to support them in their journey of faith.

From Bishop Vincent Long

Dear Friends,

The Diocesan Interfaith Commission, since its establishment in 2021, has enriched the life and mission of the Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. It has worked in partnership with the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations, Diocesan agencies and organisations both within and outside the Diocese in building bridges of understanding, inclusion and solidarity. Our Annual Diocesan Iftar Dinner is one of the most well-attended and respected multifaith events in the country.

As this Commission is seeking to renew its membership, we appeal to all clergy, religious and parishioners to consider being a member. The only qualification is the Gospel commitment to love your neighbour, who in this instance, belongs to another religion.

If you would like to assist me and your fellow Catholics in growing interfaith relations in Western Sydney, please register your interest [using the form at the bottom of this page on our](#)

[website](#). Or visit the *Join a Governance Body* in the Diocesan website.

Our Diocesan Pastoral Plan has identified interfaith engagement as one of the pathways towards a Synodal Church. It is my fervent hope that the Diocesan Interfaith Commission will strengthen our commitment to foster peace, unity and social cohesion in our community.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta

Prayer for the Middle East

O God of Mercy and Tender Compassion,
We cry out to you in this time of crisis.
Hear the cries of the people of the Middle East.
Bring healing to those suffering from violence
and comfort to those mourning the dead.
O God of Hope,
sustain those who labour for peaceful and just solutions.
Inspire leaders and decision makers to choose the way of
peace over the way of violence.
Deliver all your children from the threat of war
and teach us to encounter one another with reverence and
love.
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ
Who came to bring to peace on earth
And who abides with you and the Holy Spirit, now and
forever.

- Sr. Deborah Harmeling, O.S.B.

Carmel bulletin online

Would you like to receive the Carmel bulletin via email? You will receive it before the weekend, you can click on the links, and you will be helping us to reduce paper consumption. If so, please register your interest via our website.

Please pray for

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

Recently deceased, especially Ruth McDonald, 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 Sumagui, Matthew Spiteri, Tony Campton, Thea Flynn, Joanne Tabone, Charlie Bonnici, Duyen Tran.

Our special intentions, especially Grace Mangion, Muscat Family, Xerri Family, Farrugia Family, Charlie Vella, William Weatherall, Mary Delores Vella, Mary Janet, Mo Chinh, Rephaiah Sathi (b'day), Mary & Frank Teuma, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, 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: \$3875

Planned Giving (cash): \$ 741

Planned Giving (credit cards): \$

Loose cash: \$1107

Direct Deposits: \$1160

Tap & Go: \$ 867

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

Community Building Project 2023

We are pleased to announce the Community Building Project Grant that we applied for in May 2023 has been approved and we have been granted \$16,000.

When we applied for this grant, we were in desperate need to fix the front glass and barge capping on the roof. By the end of 2023, we still had no indication if we would receive the grant, but glass was falling and the rain was causing further internal damage. We couldn't wait any longer, so we began the project in April this year using the funds we'd collected from the Parish Dinner Dance and from what little savings we had.

The money received from the grant will now go towards our next major project: the replacement of the sound system.

Around the Diocese and beyond

From the Pastoral Plan 2024-2028: *Behold, I Am With You*

Always: "From the ancient truism, Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi, Lex Vivendi (as we worship, so we believe, so we live), we are challenged that liturgy is not just an add-on to our faith lives but an essential expression of it. We recognise the need to continually renew and strengthen our liturgical celebrations so that all the baptised may truly participate in the life of the Church." (Pg. 43, Pastoral Plan).

Learn how the Synodal Church invites us to strengthen our liturgy: www.parracatholic.org/synodality.

Wedding Anniversary Mass: Bishop Vincent will celebrate this annual Mass at 11am on Sunday 27 October. To register your names, years married and number of people attending, please visit parracatholic.org/weddingmass. Family and friends welcome.

Positions Vacant with the Diocese of Parramatta:

- Administrative Support, Risk, Governance & Compliance — Applications close 30 October
- Administration Assistant, Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair — Applications close 31 October.
- Accountant — Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Parramatta Street Feast: On behalf of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, you are warmly invited to the Parramatta Street Feast 2024. Come and share a free meal, entertainment and company in a spirit of friendship and solidarity: 13 November 2024, 10:30am – 1:00pm, St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. BE A VOLUNTEER: If you would also like to volunteer on the day (e.g., set-up, ushering, serving food), please register at parracatholic.org/streetfeast

Catholic Care Mamre Supported Playgroup: Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering a free supported playgroup which operates on Thursdays from 10am to 12pm during school terms at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Supported Playgroup on (02) 8843 2506.

Diocese of Parramatta Tribunal Office: The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, to offer advice and assistance regarding marriage annulments and dissolution of marriages. Interviews are preferably conducted in person with Zoom and telephone interviews in special circumstances. Please contact the Tribunal Office on (02) 8838 3480 or email tribunal@parracatholic.org.

Coming events

28 October: Sts Simon & Jude, Apostles

30 October: Baptism Preparation with Paola at 6pm via Teams

31 October: Church Cleaning after the 9am Mass

1 November: The Solemnity of All Saints

1 November: Anointing at 9am Mass followed by shared Morning Tea

2 November: Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) at 9am Mass, then the Blessing of Plaques in the Memorial Garden, followed by a shared Morning Tea

Rosters for 2 and 3 November 2024

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Anne-Marie Torrens Trish Maldigri May Pepin
8am	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Michelle Rodrigues David Rodrigues Eric Dias (Assembly) Cecilia Cotter
10am	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Youth Minister Youth Minister David Touma (Assembly) Skip Fernandes
6pm	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Ramona Grimm Bimy Baby Fran Sharpe

Next week's readings

2 & 3 November - 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

First Reading: Deut 6:2-6

Second Reading: Heb 7:23-28

Gospel: Mk 12:28-34



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
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

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