

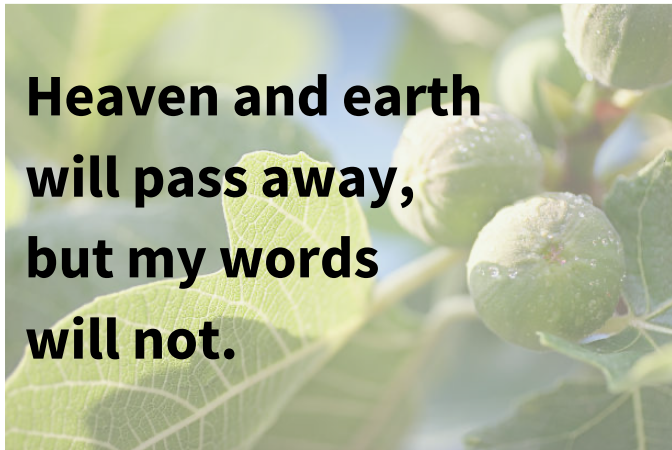


**Our Lady of  
Mount Carmel**  
Wentworthville

## Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 17 November 2024

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



**Heaven and earth  
will pass away,  
but my words  
will not.**

### Reflection

**Mk 13:24-32**

#### Jesus shows us where to find God's will

"The sun will be darkened." How does [Pope Francis](#) say we can help bring light back to the darkened sun? And what can we learn from the fig tree?

*Dear brothers and sisters, that is the word that makes hope blossom in the world and relieves the suffering of the poor: tenderness. Compassion that leads you to tenderness. We need to overcome our self-absorption, interior rigidity, which is the temptation nowadays, that of the "restorationists", who want a Church completely orderly, completely rigid: this is not of the Holy Spirit.*

*We have to overcome this, in order to make hope blossom amid this rigidity. It is up to us to overcome the temptation to be concerned only about our own problems; we need to grow tender before the tragedies of our world, to share its pain. Like the tender leaves of a tree, we are called to absorb the pollution all around us and turn it into goodness.*

*It is useless to keep talking about problems, to argue and to be scandalized – all of us can do that. What we need to do is imitate the leaves that daily, imperceptibly, turn dirty air into clean air. Jesus wants us to be "converters" of goodness: people who breathe the same heavy air as everyone else, but respond to evil with good (Rom12:21). People who act: by breaking bread with the hungry, working for justice, lifting up the poor and restoring their dignity. As the Samaritan did.*

## Parish News

### Welcome to our community

This Sunday at 11am we celebrate the sacrament of baptism for Georgia and Alonzo. We joyfully welcome them into the Community of the Faithful, and we offer our continued support to their parents, Lisa & Daniel and Leilani & Albert, respectively.

### 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. To avoid disappointment, 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 Christmas Raffle



### Building update

Proceeds from this Christmas Raffle will go towards the upgrade of our current sound system.

As you would be aware, this has been one of our major projects for the past couple of years, mainly due to cost.

But, apart from cost, there are many other factors to consider; how to deliver the best possible sound given the different heights throughout the church is one of the main challenges, adding more microphones, sound reinforcement, eliminating feedback and radio interference, upgrading the cabling, working with what we have, and future-proofing the entire system are also very important considerations. Then we also need to consider warranty on parts and labour, compliance with Australian standards and long-term technical support.

A sincere thank you to all those who have offered their advice and assistance with this project; your experience and offers have helped to shape our many discussions and extensive considerations. We will keep you all updated.

## Ministers in the parish

I was raised in a Catholic family that diligently attended Mass every Sunday also participated in singing every fourth Sunday of the month. I later married a Catholic man. However, the true challenge arose when I moved out and had to attend church independently. Although my attendance was inconsistent, I eventually felt a profound sense of incompleteness and fell into hardship, like a fish out of water. Through many prayers and a quest for answers, I realised that I had distanced myself from Jesus Christ. My Sunday Mass attendance had become a mere habit instilled in me during my upbringing, rather than a genuine act of surrender. I often felt unworthy of being in His presence, but I came to understand that I was mistaken; Jesus chose to associate with sinners and sacrificed His life for us. This revelation transformed my perspective on attending Mass. I recognised that perfect attendance was not the goal; rather, I needed to fully surrender and offer Him everything I had, which I felt was my obligation.

In sharing my faith, I felt compelled to assist others who faced similar struggles by utilising my musical talents to help convey the Gospel. Many may not realise that our hymns are directly inspired by the words from the Holy Bible, and I find joy in this, as it draws me closer to God and provides me with peace. If you possess a talent, consider using it; if you feel a burning desire to make a difference in your life and the lives of others, reach out to your ministers or priest to discover how you can contribute. We all progress on our spiritual journeys at different rates, yet we share a common vision. Your journey may have begun with your parents, or you may be seeking a sense of belonging or fulfilment of the Holy Spirit's desires within you, as I did.

I am grateful for my decision to surrender completely. Leading the music during Sunday Mass not only deepens my connection with God but also encourages others to engage more actively in our liturgy, spreading the Gospel through music. I urge others to step forward and share their talents in any way they can. Join us on Sundays at 6 PM, and feel free to come early at 5:30 PM for practice with Fr. Paul. Let us surrender together and give him all.

- Cincia Funaki, Parishioner

## Free baby furniture

Lina has free baby furniture to donate, all washed and in good condition: A white BOORI cot with clean mattress, a white IKEA change table with large drawers, and a 0-8yo car seat. For more information, please phone Lina in Pendle Hill on 0450 003 931.

## Coughing etiquette

Please keep in mind that COVID and flu are still very prevalent in our society. We ask that all parishioners be mindful of those around you – especially those who may be vulnerable – and, if you are prone to coughing or are feeling unwell, to please wear a mask while at Mass.

## Communion to the Sick

From the [Breviary](#), we learn that:

*The faithful who are ill are deprived of their rightful and accustomed place in the Eucharistic community. In bringing communion to them the minister of Communion represents Christ and manifests faith and charity on behalf of the whole community toward those who cannot be present at the Eucharist. For the sick the reception of communion is not only a privilege but also a sign of support and concern shown by the Christian community for its members who are ill.*

If you are unable to receive Communion at Mass due to illness, you are invited to request that an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion visit with Communion. And, if you would like to take Communion to a friend or family member, please let us know and we can arrange for you to collect a blessed pyx after Mass.

## Parish Safeguarding

*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.*

All Staff and Volunteers of the Diocese of Parramatta who work with children and adults at risk are required to complete Mandatory Safeguarding Training which focusses on protecting the most vulnerable in our communities.

[These modules can be found online](#) and you can complete them now. All those who work or volunteer at the parish must complete three of the compulsory gold icon modules. All leaders and supervisors must also complete two blue icon modules. And all clergy must complete the red icon module.

When you have successfully completed a module, please email the parish office with your certificate, and we can record this as part of your ongoing training.

You can learn more about Safeguarding on the [Parramatta Diocese website](#), from the [Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd \(ACSL\) website](#), by contacting any of our parish staff or contacting our volunteer Safeguarding Officer, Moira Peter, at [ocarmswentysafe@gmail.com](mailto:ocarmswentysafe@gmail.com) where your enquiry will be treated with confidentiality and respect.

## 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*

## Please pray for

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

**Our special intentions, especially** George Vaz, Nga Tran, Michael Alexander, Skelly-Lewcowicz Family, Clivin family, Norman De Luca, Thanksgiving to Our Lady, to the Immaculate and Sacred Heart of Jesus, to the Holy Infant of Prague, to St Jude, 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:** \$3775  
**Planned Giving (cash):** \$ 929  
**Planned Giving (credit cards):** \$ 100  
**Loose cash:** \$ 1031  
**Direct Deposits:** \$ 785  
**Tap & Go:** \$ 930

**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

## Bishop's Christmas Appeal 2024

The fourth and final Bishop's Appeal for 2024 will be held on the weekend of 30 November – 1 December.

The Bishop's Christmas Appeal will raise funds to support Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains' nationally accredited Houses to Homes program.



This program supports pregnant women and young mothers aged between 16 and 25, who are homeless or at serious risk of homelessness. The program provides transitional housing for up to two years to help them get back on their feet, as well as essential support services including counselling, parenting education, living skills support, employment and training support, and so much more. Many of these women and their children have experienced significant trauma, including domestic and/or family violence, and our parish support would help reshape the lives of these local, vulnerable young families.

For more information, or to support this Appeal, please visit [parracatholic.org/donate](http://parracatholic.org/donate) or scan the QR code above.

## Around the Diocese and beyond

### Positions Vacant with the Diocese of Parramatta:

- Accountant – Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

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

**Diocesan Pastoral Council Nominations:** If you would like to assist Bishop Vincent in his pastoral ministry by providing advice, promoting communication among different groups in the Diocese, and collaborating with other bodies on matters that concern the pastoral life of the Diocese, please register your interest [in the form at the bottom of this page](#).

For further information, please refer to the letter from Bishop Vincent that can be found in the newsstand in the Parish Centre.

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

**Always :** "Synodality is built on mutual listening, compassion without judgement, and a desire to understand and even celebrate differences. A synodal faith community knows itself to be imperfect and so fosters respectful listening, especially to the voices that have been marginalised or excluded. A Synodal Church cannot exist when unilateral decisions are made without adequate communal consultation and discernment, regardless of who is making the decision. What structures in the local community and training will be necessary to enhance communal decision-making for a Synodal Church?" (Pg. 51-52, Pastoral Plan).

Learn how the Synodal Church invites us to strengthen our liturgy: [www.parracatholic.org/synodality](http://www.parracatholic.org/synodality).

**Diocesan Advent Week Scripture Reflection Evening:** Register for the Diocesan Advent Scripture Reflection Evening with Dr Michele Connolly RSJ on Tuesday 26 November 2024 – 6:30PM to 8:30pm [via this link](#) or RSVP via [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

## Coming events

**19 November:** St Raphael of St Joseph Kalinowski OCD

**21 November:** SVdP meet in the Parish Centre at 10am

**21 November:** The Presentation of BVM

**22 November:** St Cecilia

**23 November:** St Columban

## Rosters for 23 and 24 November 2024

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Trish Maldigri Angela Carlino Elena Fernandes
8am	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Cecilia Cotter Cat Paulo Roslyn Khattar (Assembly) Cathy Rossiter
10am	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Skip Fernandes Carmel Gauci Volunteer Needed (Assembly) David Touma
6pm	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Michael Williamson Nelissa Almeida Fran Sharpe

## Next week's readings

**23 & 24 Nov - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

**First Reading:** Dan 7:13-14

**Second Reading:** Rev 1:5-8

**Gospel:** Jn 18:33-37





## 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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