

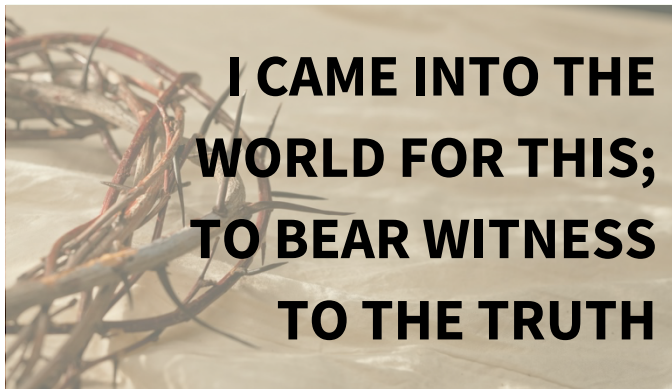


**Our Lady of
Mount Carmel**
Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 24 November 2024

THE SOLEMNITY of CHRIST THE KING



Reflection

Jn 18:33-37

What kind of king?

Once there was a king named Arthur. Long before he became king, in fact when he was just an infant in the cradle, a strange thing happened. The nurse stepped out for a moment and, quick as a wink, Merlin the magician stepped in and then stepped out again taking the boy with him.

Merlin was a kindly old magician and his commission was to let the boy grow up as a normal person - not a spoiled, pampered or "royal" person. He was not to be miles above the animals and the people and the tiny, precious specks of beauty in the most surprising places in our lives. He was to live with us.

So Merlin transported Arthur to a bedraggled castle ruled by a third-rate Lord named Sir Ector. The people were nice enough, and ordinary, and the crannies and nooks of the castle were perfect for a little kid to hide in and the halls for him to run around in.

All the servants and even the lords and ladies were his friends. How could they not be? He was an ordinary lad, though he would be king one day. They called him Wart (which in those days rhymed with Art, which was short for Arthur).

Merlin, funny old character, decided to educate Wart in a special way. Magically, he changed the boy into various and sundry animals, each for a time. He turned him into a hawk, for instance—to witness first-hand the world as it appeared in a hawk's eyes. Or a fish. In fact, especially a fish because Wart could then attend a formal "school of fishes" and learn from their school teacher.

It seems that Jesus had a few things in common with the Wart. Jesus was not called "King" or "your highness" as a boy, any more than Wart was referred to as "your majesty." This one was called "Jesus," a common name in those days. He played outside, helped his dad, rolled in the mud, cut his finger, even helped birds to fly. And his mum was his very most favourite person.

He had a teacher who was even better at teaching than Merlin: the Spirit of God. It helped him through the creeks and cubbyholes of the earth and made him friends with the funny, sweet people who lived all around.

Both Wart and Jesus did grow up to be the kind of king they were meant to be. But they brought new images of a king. Their love was not just for the noble and the mighty but love for everyone. They were lowly. Jesus was "king" because he understood every minutest texture of everyone's life and world.

Later, Pilate would ask Jesus if he were a king. He was, yes, but not in any way that Pilate could have imagined. Smallness was his power. Persuasion was his sceptre, along with an amazing ability to teach.

He was Christ the King.

Oh, I almost forgot. I typed a wrong key when I began writing, and hit a "d" instead of a "g" at the end of the word King. It came out "Christ the Kind."

This is who we will find waiting for us on Sunday.

- [John Foley, SJ](#)

Parish News

Welcome to our community

This Sunday at 11am we celebrate the sacrament of baptism for Gemina and James. We joyfully welcome them into the Community of the Faithful, and we offer our continued support to their parents, Paige & Lachlan and Nicole & Terry, respectively.

Parish Christmas Raffle

OLMC
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
FIRST PRIZE IS A BEAUTIFUL NATIVITY SET

1 ticket = \$2	TICKETS SOLD AFTER ALL WEEKEND MASSES
3 tickets = \$5	
7 tickets = \$10	

All proceeds go towards the upgrade of our church sound system
Tickets drawn 16 December 2024

Ministers in the Parish

It was the tail end of Covid lockdowns, restrictions were beginning to lift and we were finally able to attend Mass inside an actual church again. During a particular Mass in December 2021 there were technical difficulties with the PowerPoint presentation and music. Fr. Janu asked if anyone would be able to help out with these issues. I was always really shy and nervous to volunteer for things but that day I think the Holy Spirit gave me the courage to put my hand up.

Since then, Sonia and I have been helping out mainly with the PowerPoint presentations during the 6pm Sunday Masses as well as first Holy Communion ceremonies. Sonia and I are really close sisters and always love to do things together and so she and I share our ministry duties.

A particular event that stands out to Sonia and I was the Parish 'Think Tank' session. We really enjoyed interacting with and getting to know our fellow parishioners. The session was a great time of reflecting upon what was already working in our parish community as well as creating innovative ideas to improve our service to the community and celebrate our cultural diversity.

Ultimately, becoming ministers has deepened our faith and understanding of the Catholic Church and has also been a great opportunity for catechising Sonia and I. I truly believe that becoming a minister is a great decision to make as you are not only serving your community but it is also sanctifying you.

- Angel Ramia, Parishioner

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

If you would like to assist Vinnies with their Christmas Appeal, they would be pleased to receive donation of cash/gift cards from any major store (Coles, Woolworths, Aldi etc). Please place your cash or gift card in the blue metal Vinnies boxes or under the Christmas Tree in the Parish Centre.

Vinnies are no longer able to accept items for Christmas hampers, but your gift of cash or gift cards is a much more direct method of ensuring that your donation meets the needs of the those affected by health, income or housing insecurity, especially if they have a food intolerance or need specific items.

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.

Please pray for

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

Our special intentions, Maria Perpetua, Agnes Patacsil, Sandra & Sheila Krishnan, Michael Perez, Leonardo Perez Close, Franz Tito, Mary Rose Perez Tito, Amelia Tran, George Vaz, Clivin family, Norman De Luca, Thanksgiving to Our Lady, and in honour of St Anthony.

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

Last week's donation to the Parish:	\$3256
Planned Giving (cash):	\$ 829
Planned Giving (credit cards):	\$ 100
Loose cash:	\$ 852
Direct Deposits:	\$ 635
Tap & Go:	\$ 840

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 this year will be held next weekend.

One of our Tap&Go devices in the Parish Centre will be specifically assigned to accept donations for this appeal only. In other words, all monies collected from this specific Tap&Go device over the course of 30 November and 1 December will go directly to support the Bishop's Christmas Appeal. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and you can receive a printed receipt from that Tap&Go device on that day.

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 please visit parracatholic.org/donate or scan this QR code.



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.

Around the Diocese and beyond

Liturgical Ministry Courses in 2025 If any of the following courses interest you, please collect an enrolment form from the Parish Centre or visit the [Diocese of Parramatta website](#). You can choose between two days and locations to attend:

- **Mondays at 7pm** at the Bede Heather Centre
1-5 Marion St, BLACKTOWN
- **Thursdays at 7pm** at St Nicholas of Myra Parish
Entry via Higgins St, PENRITH

Compulsory Introductory Session

BLACKTOWN:	17 February
PENRITH:	20 February

Ministers of the Word

BLACKTOWN:	24 February and 3 March
PENRITH:	27 February and 6 March

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

BLACKTOWN:	10 March and 17 March
PENRITH:	13 March and 20 March

Communion to the Sick and Dying

BLACKTOWN:	24 April
PENRITH:	27 March

Ministers at the Altar

BLACKTOWN:	31 March and 7 April
PENRITH:	3 April and 10 April

All those who are enrolled in these courses must attend the Compulsory Introduction Session.

If you are wishing to complete Communion to the Sick and Dying, it is compulsory to attend Extraordinary Ministers of Communion first.

If you would like to become a Minister at the Altar, you must attend all 8 sessions. That is, you must attend the Compulsory Introductory Session, both Ministers of the Word sessions, both Extraordinary Ministers of Communion sessions, etc.

Enrolments close on 28 January 2025 however, if sessions fill up before this date, enrolments will close early.

Position Vacant for a suitably qualified and experienced person in the Faith Enrichment Role, 16 hrs/wk onsite, at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes:

- Facilitating/resourcing parents as they guide their children in sacraments/faith
- Liaising with key faith enrichment ministries
- Assisting opportunities for faith inquiry and for parishioners' enrichment
- Sharing in relevant admin and tech tasks with the team

For more information about the role and details for making application, please contact: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

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.

Coming events

25 November: International Day for the End of Violence Towards Women

27 November: Baptism Preparation with Paola via Teams

28 November: Proclamation of Independence in Timor-Leste

28 November: Church cleaning after the 9am Mass

28 November: Liturgy Committee meeting at 7pm in Parish Centre

29 November: Bl Denis & Redemptus of the Nativity OCD

30 November: St Andrew, Apostle

1 December: First Sunday of Advent, Year C

Rosters for 30 Nov & 1 Dec 2024

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Anne-Marie Torrens Trish Maldigri Charlie Felice
8am	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	David Rodrigues Michelle Rodrigues Pauline Cassar (Assembly) Ron Aquilina
10am	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Youth Minister Youth Minister Marina Peter (Assembly) Mary Vijila
6pm	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Bimy Baby Michael Williamson Jovan Titus

Next week's readings

30 Nov & 1 Dec – First Sunday of Advent, Year C

First Reading: Jer 33:14-16

Second Reading: 1 Thess 3:12 – 4:2

Gospel: Lk 21:25-28, 34-36



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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