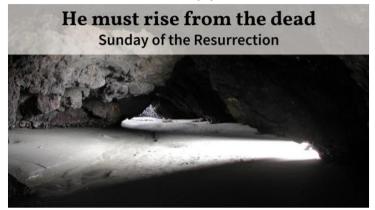


Sunday 20 April 2025

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, Yr C (1)



Reflections for this week's readings

First Reading: Responsorial Psalm: Acts 10: 34, 37-43 Psalm 117: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Colossians 3: 1-4 *or* 1 Cor 5: 6-8

Second Reading: Gospel:

John 20: 1-9 *or* Luke 24: 1-12

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ: What Happened?

"He saw and believed" (John 20:8). Who is he? 'He' refers to "the one Jesus loved (v. 20:2a)" or to the beloved disciple. Many theological commentators said that 'the beloved disciple is referred to John (the disciple) who sat next to Jesus at the table of the *Last Supper* and with Mother Mary stood at foot of the Cross in Calvary' (John 19:26-27).

Some people have questioned the disciple whom Jesus loved (beloved disciple). They asked, was Jesus a selective master to his disciples? Because it seems like he chose one above the others. The answer is strongly NO! We are all either his beloved sisters and brothers and beloved disciples. So, John the beloved disciple was standing on behalf of us (the believers).

Therefore, this context of interpretation can bring us to understand the spiritual meaning of the resurrection of the Lord.

"He saw and believed" (v.8). If we see carefully, this verse (faith statement) has two different aspects such as historical and spiritual. Historical evidence was what they saw in the early morning of the first day. The Body of Jesus was not in the tomb; the stone had been moved; the tomb was empty, and the linen cloths had been rolled up. But the essential aspect was spiritual belief, which is their faith. They believed

that Jesus must rise from the dead as the Scripture said, even it is hard to understand till today.

From the first century until today's era, which is called 'post-Enlightenment', Christians are still similar. We continue live in the world that is strongly determined by reason and intellectual proof.

However, I think this Gospel brings us to see the gifts and the power of God that we cannot understand intellectually, and this resurrection celebration encourages us to have an authentic belief - which is never below reason, but is always suprarational, that is beyond reason based in faith, or as it is called 'mystery of God', that we can't prove scientifically.

So, let us faithfully and truthfully live the spirit of the resurrection of the Lord as his disciples in our family and community life, and be sure to confess that "If we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Rom 6:5).

Fr Alby O.Carm (Assistant Priest)

Parish News

Wishing you all a Blessed Easter!

Through the combined efforts of many people, our parish were able to share in the sorrow, the mystery and, ultimately, the excellent joy that is Lent, Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

It cannot be overstated how much work occurs behind-thescenes into creating a prayerful, reverent and blessed celebration. Thank you to all the families, friends, volunteers and Ministers who have given so much of their time, energy, effort and spirituality to ensure that our celebrations are the sacred, reverent and joyful occasions that we enjoy.

Wishing you and your families a very happy and safe Easter. The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Fr. Janu, the Carmelite Fathers and the Parish Team

Easter Period Office Hours

The office will be unattended from Friday 18th April until Monday 21st April (inclusive). We return to our usual business hours on Tuesday 22nd April.

ANZAC Day Mass and Morning Tea

Please join us for remembrance and prayer for our veteran family members, our defence forces and peace in Australia. Parishioners are invited to bring a plate of food to share and stay after Mass for a cuppa and a bite to eat.

Church Sound System

Technicians from Clare Communications have finished the installation and tuning of the sound system. We thank you for your patience and for the community's contributions to this long-awaited project.

Pontifical Holy Land Good Friday Collection

Every year on Good Friday, the Catholic Church asks us to support the people and places of the Holy Land. The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility of caring for the Holy Places as well as caring for the Christians living in the Holy Land. Your donation is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of people who are keeping alive the Christian presence in the land of Jesus, often in the face of great difficulty in recent years. This Holy Week, you can make your donation using the envelopes provided or via Commissariat of the Holy Land, 47 Victoria St. Waverley NSW 2024 or holyland@franciscans.org.au.

Funeral Notice

Long-time parishioner, Matilde Mifsud passed away peacefully on 10 April. Her funeral will be held on Thursday 24th April at 10:30am here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen

Please pray for...

Those who are sick (Healing and Peace), especially: Nejia Tannous, Ngoc Tran, Victoria (Vicky) Borg, Mary Khamis, John Sultana, Martin Hilder, Tarini Pakkianathan

Deceased (including RIP, anniversaries and memorials): Matilde Mifsud, Martin Galea, Julia Almeida, Vincenza Grunsel, Mary Ouseph Kalathingal, Charlie Zammit, Charlie Sultana, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, Lawrence & Sinfarosa Dias, Inacio, Sacramenta & Ilda Boccaro, Anna & Simao Dias and all poor souls in purgatory

Special Intentions for: Andrew Herlinger, Norman De Luca, Ashmy Davis, Nishant Pakkianathan, Thuy Tran

Thanksgiving: Mario, Jenofin & Joanndra, and Thanksgiving in honour of Infant Jesus

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

Last week's donation to the Parish: \$4,007

Planned Giving (cash/c cards): \$780

Loose cash: \$860

Direct Deposits: \$1,080
Tap & Go: \$1,287

Parish Online Banking: If you would like to pay fees or to donate, our online banking details are:

BSB: 067 950 **Account Number:** 000 00602

Account Name: Wentworthville Catholic Church Reference: [Your Surname] PURPOSE OF

YOUR DONATION

Celebrating our Catholic Calendar

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

SOLEMNITY 27 April 2025

ST PETER CHANEL, priest, martyr

MEMORIAL 28 April 2025

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA, virgin, doctor

MEMORIAL 29 April 2025

ST ATHANASIUS, bishop, doctor

MEMORIAL 2 May 2025

STS PHILIP AND JAMES, apostles

FEAST 3 May 2025



Easter Sunday

20th April 2025

Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!

As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent.

As we reflect on the Easter message of love, compassion, and new beginnings, we are reminded of the incredible impact your contributions make. Together, we are building a world where no one is left behind.





It's not too late to donate.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above (linked to OLMC), or by calling: 1800 024 413, or online at: https://fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au/our-lady-of-mount-carmel-wentworthville.

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent.

Diocese of Parramatta Notices

Bishop Vincent's Easter Message

We are pleased to share Bishop Vincent's Easter video message for 2025. The video can be viewed and played via the Parramatta Diocese YouTube Channel.

A transcript of the bishop's video message has been made available by the diocese and copies are in the narthex. Please take one.

Thank You for Supporting our Catholic Care's chaplaincy services

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your kindhearted generosity and support for people in hospital and prison who might otherwise feel abandoned. If you haven't had a



chance to donate, please visit <u>parracatholic.org/appeal</u> or scan this QR code. Thank you.

Safeguarding Face to face Training Opportunity: 3 May

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Saturday 3 May at Holy Family Church, Emerton for Cycle 2 (Modules 4-5). More training opportunities will be available throughout May. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at:

https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeg uarding-training. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Music Workshop 'Exploring Music for the Solemnities': 8 May

Musicians from the Diocese of Parramatta and beyond are invited to attend this workshop led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. The workshop will outline suggested hymns and explore music new and old for the many Solemnities and Feasts that occur in the period of Eastertide. Bring any music related questions along on Thursday 8 May to the Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown at 7pm. Please RSVP by 2 May via parracatholic.org/events/OFW. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211.

Nominations open for the 2025 Papal & Diocesan Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals—both religious and lay—who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 31 May 2025. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit paracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/

Around the Diocese and beyond

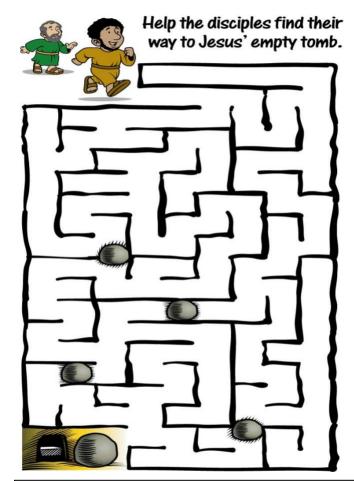
Grace and Truth Event

You are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on Wednesday, 30 April for an evening of prayer, formation, and fellowship. Open to men and women of all ages. The evening will consist of Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers and Benediction, a light dinner, and talks by Sister Elena Marie and Father James Baxter. The event will run from 5-9PM, starting in the crypt of St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, and moving to the Cathedral Hall. Fee: \$20. For more information, contact the Dominican Sisters at: sydney@op-tn.org.

Live-in Carer Opportunity

Our beautiful 96yo father lives at home. He is of Anglo-Indian decent, speaks English and is still mobile. We are looking for a special person to help home care for him in either a full-time or part-time capacity. He lives in The Hills area and has family support next door. The job would suit a nursing student or someone that is good with people. If you would like more information, please contact Jason on: jason@jimail.me or 0414 987 206.

Kids Corner...



Rosters for 26th & 27th April 2025

Second Sunday of Easter		
MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday	Reader 1	Anne-Marie Torrens
(Vigil)	Reader 2	Angela Carlino
	Communion	Elena Fernandes
8am	Reader 1	Jeremy Angelo
Sunday	Reader 2	Joshua Angelo
	Communion	Pauline Cassar
		Ron Aquilina
10am	Reader 1	Carmel Gauci
Sunday	Reader 2	Skip Fernandes
	Communion	Marina Peter
		Rosemary Chung
6pm	Reader 1	Michael Williamson
Sunday	Reader 2	Isa Urbano
	Communion	Isa Urbano



in the care of the Carmelite Friars

We acknowledge the Darug people as the original custodians of this land and pay our respects to the 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

If you would like to stay up to date with all the news from the parish, please consider subscribing to the Carmel bulletin.

Parish Office Phone: 9631 8302

Open Monday to Thursday, 8:30am to 3:00pm

Parish Office is closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday and Public

Holidays

Parish Priest: Fr. Januario Pinto, O.Carm (Carmelite Prior)

Assistant Priest: Fr. Albino Dos Santos, O.Carm In Community: Fr. Anthony Scerri, O.Carm, Fr. Wayne Stanhope, O.Carm (at Jamberoo), Fr. John Powell, O.Carm (in Aged Care)

Parish Secretary: Zenna Azar 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

By request

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