



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 18 May 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Yr C (1)



**Love one another;
just as I have loved you**
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Reflections for this week's readings

First Reading: Acts 14: 21-27
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 144: 8-13
Second Reading: Revelations 21: 1-5
Gospel: John 13: 31-35

Love one another

This Sunday's Gospel begins with the words "when he had gone". When had who gone? When Judas had gone, of course, to betray Jesus. This gives Jesus the opportunity to proclaim his farewell discourse to his disciples and to us. A farewell discourse would express the deepest and most important and urgent matters. In this farewell discourse, Jesus makes two points that are like a covenant to be kept faithfully for all times. The two points that Jesus makes are a) where he is going, and b) a new commandment of love.

As soon as Judas leaves, Jesus says, "Now has the Son of man been glorified". What is Jesus referring to? Judas has gone to betray Jesus, and this betrayal will lead to the passion and crucifixion, for Jesus, the crucifixion is the moment of his glory since it is for this that he has come into the world, that through his crucifixion, the extreme act of love, he would redeem the whole of humankind, and to return to his Father who will glorify in himself. This first part of the Gospel is telling his disciples to believe faithfully in the cross and resurrection as their new covenant of love with God.

The second point of the new covenant with God is the "new" commandment that Jesus gives us, "I give you a new commandment; you must love one another, you must love one another just as I have loved you."

This is the only occasion on which Jesus formally expresses that he is giving us a commandment. By calling it a "new"

commandment he is contrasting it with an old commandment. The old commandment said, "Love your neighbour as you love yourself". For Jesus this was not enough for it to be called true love. His love for us led him to give his life on the cross for us, and that is the kind of love he wants us to show and live towards each other. The words Jesus uses are emphatic, "you must love one another".

And it must be love "just" as I loved you. There is no room for excuses or privileges, or any kind of fake love. This love includes all of humankind, even those who betray us!

It is the lack of love that creates hatred, wars, enmities, unforgivers, and all kinds of evils in the world. We Christians who have been given the task of spreading love, are not less guilty than the rest of humankind. Jesus continues his discourse with, "It is by your love for one another that everyone will recognize you as my disciples". As Christians, individually or institutionally, we are a broken body of Christ, separated from one another, fighting one another on points of theological or scriptural disagreements, there are even cases of Christians of different persuasions hating one another and persecuting one another.

It is love that matters for Jesus, and it must be unconditional love, both for all people and in quality and depth, or it is not true love at all. It is unconditional love that must matter above all else for all, but especially for us disciples of Jesus, or our lives will be meaningless, and our mission as disciples of Jesus frustrated.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails." (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

Fr Anthony Scerri, OCarm

Parish News

Clergy Conference 21 – 23 May

Frs Janu and Alby will be away at the Diocesan Residential Clergy Conference from 21st to 23rd May. Fr Anthony Scerri will celebrate daily mass here at OLMC on those days. For more information about the conference, you can read the Bishop's letter here: [Clergy Conference 2025](#).

Please pray for...

Those who are sick (Healing and Peace), especially: Rita Ientile, Ngoc Tran, Victoria (Vicky) Borg

Deceased (including RIP, anniversaries and memorials):

Lawrence & Sinfarosa Dias, Inacio, Sacramento & Ilda Boccaro, Anna & Simao Dias, Seshayyan & Rejeeenamma, Incy Sebastian & Philomena Incy, Janci Rani Morais, Willie, Mercy, Mona & Maggie, Anthony, Monica & Catherine Kong, Win Naing, Valda M Cox, Dominic Ientile, Angelo Borg, Enio Caldieraro & Family, Cam Tran, Charlie Zammit, Charlie

Sultana, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, and all poor souls in purgatory

Special Intentions for: Tom Sample

Thanksgiving: Basli & Johnce Sathi, Sebastian Joseph & Family, St Anthony, Our Lady, Infant of Prague

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

Last week's donation to the Parish: \$3,010

Planned Giving (cash/c cards):	\$875
Loose cash:	\$410
Direct Deposits:	\$610
Tap & Go:	\$1,215

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

ST CRISTOBAL MAGALLANES JARA, priest, martyr
MEMORIAL (OCarm) 21 May 2025

ST RITA of CASCIA, religious
FEAST (OCarm) 22 May 2025

ST JOAQUINA VEDRUNA de MAS, OCD
MEMORIAL (OCarm) 22 May 2025

OUR LADY, HELP of CHRISTIANS
SOLEMNITY 24 May 2025

Diocese of Parramatta Notices

Positions Vacant

- Property Lawyer: Diocese of Parramatta
- Communications Lead – Diocesan Pastoral Plan: Diocese of Parramatta

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

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarists. Will you help our seminarists to be 'Pilgrims and Sowers of Hope' for God's people? With your prayers and generosity, they can continue to grow in faith and formation, as they prepare to become priests who will sow hope, faith and love in the hearts of God's people. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.



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 parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/

Pentecost Scripture Reflection with Dr Deborah Snoddy: 28 May

What does the Holy Spirit look like in your life? How can Scripture stretch our imagination when comes to Pentecost and the Holy Spirit? Register for the Diocesan Pentecost Scripture Reflection Evening with Dr Deborah Snoddy on Wednesday 28 May at 6:30- 8:30pm. RSVP via parracatholic.org/events/pentecost-scripture-night or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

Laudato Si' Week (16 – 24 May): Celebrating 10 years of inspiration from Pope Francis

During this Laudato Si' Week, 16 – 24 May, we are invited to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the inspiring ecological encyclical Laudato Si' of our late Pope Francis and recommit ourselves to caring for God's creation. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Caritas Australia provide resources for prayer and to raise awareness at tinyurl.com/LSW25-resources. More inspiration is available on the website of the international LS Week (celebrated a week later): laudatosiweek.org

Registrations now open Diocesan Retreat Opportunities

The diocese is hosting three retreat opportunities for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope. Take the time to from your usual routine to experience a diocesan retreat - a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God. Registrations are now open. For more details and to register, see the three options of retreats below:

May 24: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-24-may/>

August 16: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/>

November 15: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/>

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 22-24 May

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Saturday 22 May at St Finbar's Church, Glenbrook for Cycle 2 (Module 5). Safeguarding Renewal Training Cycle 2 (Module 4-5) will be held at St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill on 24 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=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

FaithLIFE Theology Short Course: Wednesdays in May

Considering learning about theology? Interested in faith seek understanding? Looking to learn more about the Jubilee Year of Hope? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Alison Ryan from MET on Wednesdays 7, 14 and 21 May: parracatholic.org/faithlife

Around the Diocese and beyond

Aid to the Church in Need

The Catholic charity *Aid to the Church in Need* is seeking regular volunteers to assist at their national office in Penrith. Days and times as mutually suitable. The office is close to public transport and has parking. For more information contact Peter Harrop peter@aidtochurch.org or phone 9167 9526.

Position Vacant: Sacramental program and Special Religious Education Coordinator

St Anthony of Padua Parish Toongabbie is looking for a Sacramental Program and Special Religious Education Coordinator. This is a permanent part-time position with 15 hours per week. Please forward applications and resumes to the Parish Secretary secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au by 9 June 2025. For more information you may contact 9631 3316.

Holy Family Parish 60-Year Jubilee Celebration, Holy Family Parish Mt Druitt: 1 June

Join us as we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt, since its establishment in 1965. The celebrations will take place on Sunday, 1st June 2025. Mass at 10:30 AM with Bishop Vincent followed by a Multicultural Festival and lunch. If you have any memorabilia to share, wish to register for the event, or need more information, please email us at jubilee@holysfamily.org.au. We look forward to celebrating this special milestone with our parish community!

Marriage Enrichment Weekend: 23-25 May

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 23-25 May at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW – a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney. Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

Mount Schoenstatt Monthly Shrine Time for Youth and Young

Join us for Monthly Holy Hour for youth and young adults at the Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa, every fourth Sunday of the month for praise, worship, silence, prayer, reflection and benediction at the Shrine. There is the opportunity to go to confession and there is a small social gathering afterwards. For further information please contact Sr M Rita via srrita@schoenstatt.org.au or 0493 026 628. Web: <https://schoenstatt.org.au/>

Kids Corner...

Use the words below to complete the Scripture passages:

Lord, neighbour, loved, another, hate, heart, enemies

“Love your _____, do good to those who _____ you.”

Luke 6:27

“You shall love the _____ your God with all your _____, and with all your soul.”

Matthew 22:37

“You shall love your _____ as yourself.”

Matthew 22:39

“Just as I have _____ you, you also should love one _____.”

John 13:34

Rosters for 23rd and 24th May 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Bob Hanna Janine Hanna Ann Zahra
8am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Joshua Angelo Jeremy Angelo Roslyn Khattar Cathy Rossiter
10am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Skip Fernandes Carmel Gauci David Touma Rosemary Chung
6pm Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Isa Urbano Ramona Grimm Fran Sharpe

Next week's readings

24 and 25 May – 6th Sunday of EASTER

First Reading: Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 66: 2-3, 5-6, 8
Second Reading: Revelations 7:9, 14-17
Gospel: John 10: 27-30



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 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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