

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 10 August 2025

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr C (1)



Reflections for this week's readings

First Reading: Wisdom 18: 6-9

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 32: 1, 12, 18-20, 22 **Second Reading:** Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19

Gospel: Luke 12: 32-48

Reach to Instant God before the Mobile Phone!

The first reading from "Wisdom" warns us not to expect to be treated favourably by God because we are trying hard to do his will: "...the just should receive both good and evil alike." So we should never ask: "Why me God?!" when peril visits us. This is confirmed by today's letter by Paul to the Hebrews, explaining that it is Faith that puts reason to what happens to us in life: "Faith is the substance of things that we hoped for."

In Luke's Gospel we are reminded that we should organise our priorities, never leaving God behind. Every day we worry about bills, doctor's and other appointments, medicine to be taken on time, children to take to school and back, studies, exams, bullying, overspent budgets ... and WHERE IS GOD in all this? God IS in every one of these chores and worries if we reach out for him! Yes! God is there to feel and share our anxiety, to calm us down while assuring us that we are not alone.

We must also set aside some time to converse with him one to one in addition to praying as a family. So let us reach to Instant God before the Mobile Phone to solve our problems!

Things have changed a lot since Jesus preached his parables. Now he is not the master returning from a wedding wanting us to be ready all the time to open the door with trimmed lamps: He is the kind father wanting us to be ready with open heart to let him in to be involved in our daily problems,

to ask for his help, equally to share our joys with him. He hates being ignored by us just as we hate to be ignored by our children and grandchildren.

Weekend Mass is fine, but there are six more days in a week! Let us every morning invite Jesus and Mary to walk with us through the perils and joys of the day. Thus, God will be ever present in our life, holding our hand, assuring us that we are always in the right direction to our ultimate destination where we shall meet him face to face to share in his eternal glory.

Frank Zammit (parishioner)

Parish News

End of Financial Year Report 2024-25

Dear Parishioners,

We are pleased to present the financial report for the Year Ended 30 June 2025 which resulted in a surplus for the year of \$10,898.

The main contributing factors to this result were additional income of \$7,710 over budget and under expenditure of \$3,188. The deferment of the purchase of a replacement vehicle (even though it was provided for in the budget) contributed to this result. The Planned Giving (contributions through the envelope system) continues its downward trend. However, it is pleasing to note that more parishioners are making use of the Tap & Go Electronic system. This is a more efficient way of contributing to the running of the church. Close to \$41,000 was raised by this method. The proceeds from the Dinner Dance and the raffles contributed a further \$17,145. A NSW Government Grant of \$16,663 funded the repairs to the facia boards (front and rear) and the replacement of the broken glass at the front of the church. Donations amounted to \$10,717.

Expenses amounted to \$217,432. These were made up of wages and related expenses \$76,310, insurance premiums \$34,199, administration expenses \$17,832, interest on the loan \$16,401, maintenance \$45,219 (includes the audio/visual system \$29,000), motor vehicle running \$8,011 and our contribution to the Catholic Foundation of \$5,638. Other expenses totaled \$13,822.

The Parish is still servicing a loan which was raised to fund the renovations undertaken only a few years ago. The balance of the loan stood at \$329,261 as at the end of the financial year.

A Fundraising and Social Committee was established during the later part of this year to create sense of belonging to the Parish, foster friendship and raise much needed funds to maintain the temple of God in a worthy condition.

The Future

Costs continue to escalate putting pressure on Parish finances. Insurance costs have soared to unaffordable levels. Two vehicles need to be replaced over the next few months and there are some urgent major maintenance issues that need to be addressed, such as the leaking roof.

The audio-visual system is only half complete. A further \$30,000 to \$40,000 are required to finalise this project.

General

We thank all parishioners for their continued support and look forward to another challenging year.

Janu Pinto O.Carm John Cassar

Parish Priest Chair, Finance Committee

Lectio Divina – Weekly Sessions

We invite you to join us for the weekly Lectio Divina sessions at 6:00pm every Wednesday in the "Red Room". For more information or to prepare, please click on the links: Introduction to Lectio Divina



https://ocarm.org/en/lectio-divina/2094-lectio-divina-july-2025

Clergy Annual Leave - Fr Janu

Fr Janu is currently away on annual leave until 5 September 2025 (inclusive). During this time, Fr Alby will be Acting Parish Priest and will have the Carmelites to support him with Pastoral Care for the community.

We ask you to keep Fr Janu in your prayers for his safe travels, fruitful break and to return to our parish renewed in faith, filled with the Holy Spirit and ready to serve the needs of our community.

Liturgy Corner

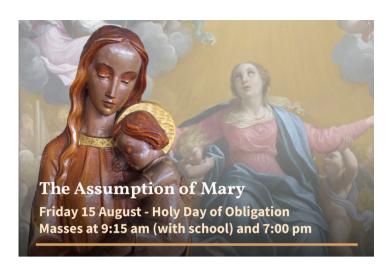
What is the Liturgy of the Word for Children?

Earlier this year, you may have seen messages here in the bulletin inviting volunteers to be ministers of Children's Liturgy of the Word. You may also remember that this was a regular part of Sunday morning Masses prior to COVID lockdowns.

The Liturgy of the Word for Children is exactly what its name suggests. It is an opportunity for children to gather together during Mass to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word (that is, the readings, homily, profession of faith and prayer of the faithful). It is led by trained members of our parish community who specifically and thoughtfully adapt the adult celebration to meet the needs and level of understanding of primary-school-aged children.

As a liturgical ritual, the Liturgy of the Word for Children does not try to replicate a "Sunday School" or a Religious Education class. Rather, it seeks to encourage the children's full, conscious and active participation in the Mass and complement parents' to raise their children in the practices of the faith.

Fortunately, with the support and enthusiasm of a number of parishioners, the Liturgy of the Word for Children will return to 10:00 am Sunday Mass over the coming months. Stay tuned for more information about when it will begin.



Please pray for...

Those who are sick (Healing and Peace), especially: Rita Ientile, Victoria (Vicky) Borg, Ngoc Tran, Louise Banno, Rosemok George & Litto Antony

Deceased (including RIP, anniversaries and memorials): Tansa & Julia Draby + family, Lawrence Dias, Martin & Stella Galea, Charlie Zammit, Dominic Ientile, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, Joe Fernandes, Gerald & Dolly Attard, Peter & Patricia Herlinger, Thersa Miranda, Carly Dean, Chary + Perlito + Emily, Rita & Rhomda Parnis, K. V George & Elizabeth George.

Special Intentions for: Thuy Tran, Ngoc Tran

Thanksgiving: Thelma & Lawrence Blakeman, Grit & Michael Conroy, Diestro & Dolit family

Celebrating our Catholic Calendar

St Clare, virgin

MEMORIAL 11 AUGUST 2025

St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, priest, martyr

MEMORIAL 14 AUGUST 2025

The ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

SOLEMNITY 8 AUGUST 2025

Church Calendar

Cleaning Day Thursday, 21 August 2025 St Vincent de Paul Meeting Thursday, 21 August 2025

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

Weekly donation to the Parish: \$3,900

Planned Giving (cash/c cards): \$1,258

Loose cash: \$1,152

Direct Deposits: \$465

Tap & Go: \$1,025

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

End of Financial Year – Tax Receipts

If a receipt for Planned Giving is required for the financial year ended 30 June, please contact Gennie in the office (02 9631 8302).

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal – Thank You!

This year's winter appeal raised \$2,030 to help people break free from the cycle of poverty and homelessness. Your gift will help people with food hampers and clothing or provide a helping hand with essential bills. Thank you for your generous support. May you be rewarded hundred-fold.

Diocese of Parramatta Notices

Positions Vacant

- Training & Development Specialist Safeguarding:
 Diocese of Parramatta
- Facilitator Family Engagement: Mission Enhancement Team, Diocese of Parramatta

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

Catholic Outlook Magazine Winter 2025 edition out now!

Our special tribute edition of the *Catholic Outlook Magazine* is out now! This edition gives thanks for the remarkable papacy of Pope Francis and welcomes the new pontificate of Pope Leo XIV with a range of tributes and reflections. Pick up your free copy from parishes and offices across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains today or read it online via <u>catholicoutlook.org/magazine</u>

Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings — 2025-26 Social Justice Statement: 13 August

"Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings" are quarterly online gatherings for everyone interested in social justice, care for creation, or global peace. The next gathering on Wednesday 13 August from 6.30pm to 8pm will break open the 2025-2026 ACBC Social Justice Statement: "Signs of Hope on the Edge — Serving Homeless People with Mental III-Health", which will be launched on the same day. To receive a Zoom link, please RSVP to met@parracatholic.org

Expressions of Interest now open for Australian Catholic Youth Festival: Closes 25 August

The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Australian Church at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne from 30 November to 3 December 2025! Join thousands of young Catholics from across Australia for an unforgettable festival featuring inspiring guest speakers, artists, and musicians. For more details and to express your interest by 25 August 2025, see parracatholic.org/connect/acyf or email hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org

Caritas Australia prayer for Gaza

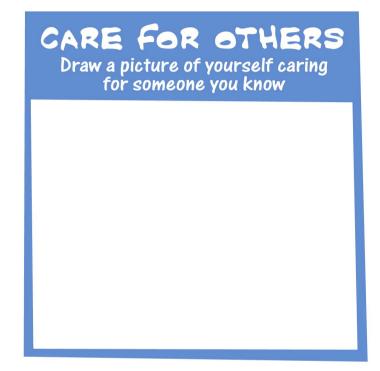
On a daily basis, we are all hearing reports of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza that has claimed over 58,000 lives to date, with tens of thousands more wounded or missing under rubble. Caritas is calling for an immediate ceasefire. Pope Leo XIV encourages us, "one and all, to build bridges through dialogue and encounter, joining together as one people, always at peace." Caritas Australia invites us to

pray for the people of Gaza. If you are able to support Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal, please donate online at www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413.

Volunteer Communicators Network

Are you savvy with a camera, writing or social media? We want to hear from you! Share your interest with us to support our storytelling in *Catholic Outlook*, our websites and social media. Name/contact details are required: parracatholic.org/communicators

Kids' Corner...



Rosters for 16 th and 17 th August 2025		
20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday	Reader 1	Bob Hanna
(Vigil)	Reader 2	Janine Hanna
	Communion	Elena Fernandes
		Ann Zahra
8am	Reader 1	Coretta Dias
Sunday	Reader 2	Isabella Dias
	Communion	David Rodrigues
		Michelle Rodrigues
10am	Reader 1	Basli Sathi
Sunday	Reader 2	Fiona Bylsma
	Communion	Rosemary Chung
		Moira Peter
6pm	Reader 1	Eliana Almeida
Sunday	Reader 2	Michael Williamson
	Communion	Fran Sharpe

Next week's readings

16 and 17 August – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 38: 4-6, 8-10
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 39: 2-4, 18
Second Reading: Hebrews 12: 1-4
Gospel: Luke 12: 49-53



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 <u>subscribing to the Carmel bulletin</u>.

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

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