



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 17 August 2025

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr C (1)

**I have come to
bring fire to the earth**
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Reflections for this week's readings

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

The fire of the Spirit

Today's Gospel shows Jesus in anguish at the thought of the passion and crucifixion that awaits him soon. That is why this Sunday's Gospel seems to go from topic to topic.

Jesus begins by telling us that he has come to bring fire and he strongly wishes that this fire may burn. Fire may be destructive as we, in Australia, very well know. But it can also be the source of light and warmth. The fire that Jesus refers to here, is the fire of the Holy Spirit which burns brightly and warmly with love within those who believe in Jesus. It is also the fire of the love of Jesus on the cross. This is the fire that Jesus so strongly yearns for.

Next Jesus tells us that he must undergo a baptism, and that baptism causes him anguish. The baptism is the baptism in his blood on the cross. Jesus experiences anguish at the thought of this baptism, just as any of us would suffer anguish if we were told that we have a terminal disease. Jesus, however, accepts his anguish and that fearful baptism since he says he must complete it.

Jesus then tells us that he had come not to bring peace but rather division. This is surprising at first since he told his disciples "Peace be with you, my peace I give you". But the division that Jesus causes is not of his doing but the result of people disagreeing over his person and his teachings. People who give priority to other loves than the love of God the Father.

Then, Jesus berates his listeners for being able to foretell the weather but were unable to recognize in him the Messiah awaited and foretold for many centuries.

Finally, Jesus says that we should seek harmony rather than justice, because we are all sinners and deserving of going to prison. This applies to the relationships among human beings, but it applies especially to our relationship with God. With God we have no coin to pay our debt with him.

So, Jesus is asking us to kindle the fire of love in our hearts along with him, and to reach to others to spread that fire of love which comes from the Spirit. Jesus also asks us to live in harmony with others rather than to seek justice since all of us are sinners and cannot claim to be just. Jesus often told us that must not judge anyone, not even ourselves. As St. Paul puts it, "Neither do I judge myself... my judge is the Lord".

Fr Anthony Scerri, O.Carm

Parish News

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://www.carmelites.org.au/5138-lectio-divina-august-2025)
<https://www.carmelites.org.au/5138-lectio-divina-august-2025>



Father's Day Raffle

The East Timor committee will be having a fundraiser for Father's Day. They will be selling Father's Day cards after all weekend masses. The cards will cost \$5 each. With each card you have a chance to be in the draw for a \$50 Bunnings voucher. There will be 6 to give away.

Thank you from the East Timor committee

Liturgy Corner

Who is the Liturgy of the Word for Children for?

The Liturgy of the Word for Children is an opportunity for children to gather together during Mass to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word, adapted to meet their needs and level of understanding. It seeks to encourage the children's full, conscious and active participation in the Mass and complement parents' efforts to raise their children in the practice of the faith.

In 1973, the Church's then Congregation for Divine Worship issued the *Directory for Masses with Children*. While much of this document focused on celebrating Masses in contexts such as primary schools, it also offers guidance for celebrating Masses with adults where children are also present (such as Sunday Mass). It is here that what we know as the Liturgy of the Word for Children was first proposed.

The adaptations that are made are focused on helping children understand the Scripture readings. For this reason, participation is open to children of primary school age. Toddlers and preschoolers are yet to be developmentally ready to engage in the readings at this level. As such, they are best supported at Mass by their parents' encouragement to focus on the actions, simple responses and symbols of the Mass. Similarly, celebrating the Liturgy of the Word with the rest of the assembly will better support older children and teenagers.

Please pray for...

Those who are sick, healing and peace, especially: Rita Ientile, Victoria (Vicky) Borg, Sana Bainy & Family, Paul & Laura Eid & Family, Rose George

Deceased (including RIP, anniversaries and memorials): Louis Touma, Baldas & Rhonda Parnis, John Power, Charles & Anne Cassar, Stella Aaron, Charlie & Mary Vella, Martin & Stella Galea, Dominic Ientile, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, Lawrence & Sinfarosa Dias, Inacio, Sacramento & Ilda Boccardo, Anna & Simao Dias

Special Intentions for: Norman De Luca, Vincent Tran, Thuy Tran, Ngoc Tran, Mrs Margaret

Thanksgiving: Thelma & Lawrence Blakeman, Diestro & Dolit family

Celebrating Sacraments at OLMC

Weddings:

Pauline Omandam & Jon Henry Albay,
Amanda Macri & George Karkour

May God bless your marriage always!



Celebrating our Catholic Calendar

St Bernard, abbot, doctor

MEMORIAL 20 AUGUST 2025

St Pius X, pope

MEMORIAL 21 AUGUST 2025

The QUEENSHIP of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

MEMORIAL 22 AUGUST 2025

St Rose of Lima, virgin

MEMORIAL (optional) 23 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: \$3,292

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

Loose cash: \$815

Direct Deposits: \$705

Tap & Go: \$992

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
- Parish Secretary: Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kellyville

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

Bishop Vincent Presents Dr Nora Nonterah: 2 September

In the next iteration of the *Bishop Vincent Presents* series, the Diocese of Parramatta will welcome Dr Nora Nonterah, a leading African theological ethicist from Ghana. She will be presenting on Tuesday 2 September at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. As a lay woman and recent delegate to the Synod on Synodality in 2023 and 2024, Dr Nora will offer a powerful reflection on leadership, discipleship, and the wisdom of women in the Church. Register today by visiting <https://parracatholic.org/events/nora/>

Bishop Vincent Presents Cardinal Stephen Chow SJ: 15 September

The second of two *Bishop Vincent Presents* public lectures in September will feature Cardinal Stephen Chow SJ, Bishop of Hong Kong and one of the most senior Church leaders in Asia. He will be presenting on Monday 15 September at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta on the topic of 'Bridge Building'. With a background in psychology and education, and a deep pastoral heart, Cardinal Chow brings wisdom, courage, and compassion to the challenges facing the Church in our time. Register today by visiting <https://parracatholic.org/events/cardinalchow/>

MET Natural Fertility Instruction Sessions: 19 August

MET Natural Fertility are organising a series of instruction sessions on the Natural Family Planning methods offered by the Diocese of Parramatta via Zoom. Learn how to chart your cycle, space out pregnancies and identify the best time to reach your family goals. The next session on the Sympto-Thermal Method will be held on Tuesday 19 August from

7.15pm to 8.15pm. For more information and to register, please visit parracatholic.org/natural-fertility

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 Aug 2025, see parracatholic.org/connect/acyf or email gwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 1-3 September

The next sessions of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on the following days at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre:

Monday 1 September for Initial training (Modules 1-3) from 9.30am to 2.30pm

Tuesday 2 September for Renewal training (Modules 4 and 5) from 10am to 1.39pm

Wednesday 3 September for Refresher training (Module 6) from 10am to 12noon.

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

Registrations now open for 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 to step away 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:

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

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

Diocese of Parramatta Tribunal Office

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, to offer advice and assistance regarding marriage annulments and dissolution of marriages. Interviews are preferably conducted in person with Zoom and telephone interviews in special circumstances. Please contact the Tribunal Office on (02) 8838 3480 or email tribunal@parracatholic.org.

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...

Use the words below to find out what Jesus said to his disciples.

Do you _____ that I
am here to _____
on _____? No, but rather,
_____.



earth
division
peace
suppose
bring

Rosters for 23rd and 24th August 2025

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Angela Carlino Trish Maldigri Anne-Marie Torrens
8am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Cat Paulo Cecilia Cotter Eric Dias Colleen Weatherall
10am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Clyde Fernandes Marina Peter Skip Fernandes Mary Vijila
6pm Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Isa Urbano Bimy Baby Jovan Titus

Next week's readings

23 and 24 August – Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 66: 18-21
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 116
Second Reading: Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13
Gospel: Luke 13: 22-30



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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