



**Our Lady of
Mount Carmel**
Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 7 September 2025

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Yr C (1)



**Anyone who
does not carry
their cross
cannot be my
disciple**
Twenty-Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Reflections for this week's readings

First Reading: Wisdom 9: 13-18
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89: 3-6, 12-14, 17
Second Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Gospel: Luke 14: 25-33

Discipleship

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus speaks clearly and rather forcefully as to what it means to be one of his disciples, one who follows him.

The first condition for being his disciple is to hate father, mother, children, and all other relatives. Surely this is not the same Jesus who told us to love one another as he loved us even to dying on the cross for our salvation. But yes, this is the same Jesus. What Jesus is getting at is to define the proper perspective within which we see our relationship with our family and others and our relationship with him, with God. Love is not true love if it is possessive. Love must be free, with no ties. What Jesus is telling us is that unless we are free, no ties, in our relationships with the members of our family, then we are setting our love for them above our love of God. The only way to love Jesus, to love God, is to make him the supreme and only true object our love. You see, Jesus is taking an eschatological view of love, the view that looks at the ultimate end of love. And that is the kind of love that Jesus demands of us his disciples. That we must love him first, last and everyone in between, because this is the only true love, the only love that makes sense, because it is an everlasting love, which cannot be broken not even by death.

It needs to be noted that in the Aramaic language, which is the language that Jesus spoke, contrast is often expressed in opposites, and that is how Jesus is using his language here when he contrasts hate and love and nothing in between.

The second condition Jesus lays down for those who want to follow him is to carry one's cross. Perhaps this is not such a different condition than the first one. The cross is the supreme act of love of Jesus for us and for our salvation. And our cross should be our supreme act of love for God, when, as Jesus did, willingly we suffer the limitations and pains and aches that come with old age and in some cases in not so old age. 'Willingly' is the key word here. Jesus knew that he was to suffer grievously for the love humanity, and he went to his suffering fully aware of what was going to happen to him, and he willingly went to meet his cross. We all know that sooner or later, suffering is part of our lives. We can either rebel and lose all the value of suffering, or we could willingly accept our sufferings and thus share in Christ's mission of the salvation of this world which at present seems to be intent on destroying itself by wars and hatred, than on loving one another as Jesus loved us.

So, Jesus finishes this part of the Gospel by saying that one must make sure you count the cost before truly and knowingly accepting being a disciple of his. Otherwise, we will become the source of scandal and the laughingstock of those who say, "He/she wanted to be a disciple of Jesus but could not go all the way and so lost his/her soul and led others to perdition!"

Fr Anthony Scerri OCarm

Parish News

Welcome home Fr Janu!

Fr Janu returns to the parish this weekend. We hope his time away has reinvigorated his spirit and his mission to guide our parish in faith.

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://carmelites.org.au/item/1568-lectio-divina-for-september-2025)
<https://carmelites.org.au/item/1568-lectio-divina-for-september-2025>



Father's Day Raffle – WINNERS!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the East Timor Committee by purchasing Father's Day cards over the last few weeks! Thanks to your generosity, we had a fantastic response, raising \$1,815 which included some generous donations — and we're excited to announce the **6 lucky winners** of the **\$50 Bunnings vouchers!**

• Renee	• Toni	• Manoj Peter
• U. Zammit	• Gisbert Selvey	• Pauline Cassar

Once again, thank you for your support. Every card purchased helps us continue our mission to support our friends in East Timor.

Thank you from the East Timor committee

First Holy Communion Workshops

We are pleased to announce that the 4-week workshops for children preparing to receive their First Holy Communion will begin this week. There are two workshop available:

- Group 1: Mondays from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM (starting Monday, 1st September)
- Group 2: Wednesdays from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM (starting Wednesday, 3rd September)

Please ensure that you and your child attend **either the Monday or Wednesday group** consistently throughout the 4 weeks. We look forward to supporting your child on this important step in their faith journey.

Ministry Formation Workshops

Our parish holds formation workshops to support liturgical ministers in their ministry. Workshops will be held in a number of ministries over the coming months. The first is a workshop for all Altar Servers on Saturday 20 September at 10:00 am. This workshop is also a perfect opportunity for children and adults who would like to start in this ministry.



Join our Ministry Formation Workshops

Altar Servers
Saturday 20 September, 10:00 am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Wednesday 15 October, 7:00 pm or
Saturday 18 October, 9:30 am

Ministers of the Word
Saturday 18 October, 10:45 am or
Wednesday 22 October, 7:00 pm

Music Ministers
Thursday 13 November, 7:00 pm

Photos: Alphonsus Fok/Diocese of Parramatta

Liturgy Corner

How does the Liturgy of the Word for Children fit within the Mass?

This weekend, our parish celebration of the Liturgy of the Word for Children commences at 10:00 am Mass. It allows children to gather and celebrate in a way that is 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.

As it is a celebration of the Liturgy of the Word, the whole assembly gathers and celebrates the Introductory Rites of the Mass together. Once the Collect (or Opening) Prayer concludes, and we sit to listen to the readings, the priest will invite children who want to participate in the Liturgy of the

Word for Children to come forward. Once they are gathered, the priest will dismiss the children and leaders, who will process to the "Red Room" for their celebration.

The Liturgy of the Word for Children will then be celebrated as the rest of the assembly celebrates the Liturgy of the Word as usual. As the assembly is engaged in the Prayer of the Faithful, the children, having completed their celebration, will prepare to make their way back into the church.

As the second collection and Offertory take place, the children will return to their families as we celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist together.



Liturgy of the Word for Children
At Sunday 10:00 am Mass
Starting Sunday 7 September

Please pray for...

Those who are sick, healing and peace, especially: Rita Ientile, Victoria (Vicky) Borg, Antoinette De Silva

Deceased (including RIP, anniversaries and memorials): Josephine Grech, Cosima Mihalievich, Angela & Michael Yang, Peter & Patricia Herlinger, Martin & Stella Galea, Ursula Ruth McDonald, Charlie Zammit, Shemouneh & Raymond Frangi, Carmelo Danastas, Joseph Casha, Joyce, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, Mary & Frank Camilleri, Doreen Camilleri, Joseph Teuma, Louis Teuma, Joe & Maria Vella, Rosa Titian, Sonia Spittle, Jesse & Kevin McManus, Carmel Cini, Dominic Ientile

Special Intentions for: Norman De Luca, Thuy Tran, Ngoc Tran, Lawrence Blakeman, Raymond Bainy & Family, Paul Eid & Family

Celebrating Sacraments at OLMC

Weddings:

Sonia Ramia & Jacob Silwanis (20/09)
Chloe Birch & Christopher Brazell (26/09)

May God bless your marriage always!



Celebrating our Catholic Calendar

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

FEAST

8 September 2025

St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor

MEMORIAL

13 September 2025

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

FEAST

14 SEPTEMBER 2025

Church Calendar

First Holy Communion Workshops: Mon, 8 Sept, 6:00 pm
Wed, 10 Sept, 3.30 pm
Cleaning Day Thursday, 18 Sept 2025
St Vincent de Paul Meeting Thursday, 18 Sept 2025

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

Weekly donation to the Parish: \$3,962
Planned Giving (cash/c cards): \$1,129
Loose cash: \$1,045
Direct Deposits: \$755
Tap & Go: \$1,033

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

Diocese of Parramatta Notices

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal – supporting our senior priests as they continue to serve.

This Father's Day, as we thank the father figures in our lives, let's also honour our spiritual fathers - the priests who nurture our faith. Even after stepping back from administration, they continue to serve in faithful ways: offering sacraments, celebrating Masses, hearing confessions, assisting at services, and serving as chaplains in aged care. Your generosity helps ensure our ageing priests receive the care, comfort, and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan the QRcode. Thank you.



Catholic Outlook Magazine Spring 2025 edition out now!

This edition celebrates our journey of faith so central to our lives as the people of God in the Diocese of Parramatta, honouring the unwavering dedication, faith and service of those who make up our Diocese. Pick up your free copy from parishes and offices across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains today or read it online via catholicoutlook.org/magazine

Mass for Musicians: 24 September

In this Jubilee Year of Hope, we invite all those involved in Music Ministry across the Diocese to join us for our Mass for Musicians. Join us on 24 September, 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. We ask that you arrive at 7pm and are seated by 7:15pm. To register your attendance and the number of guests you are bringing, please RSVP via our website by Friday 19 September. If you are unable to register via the form, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or call 0460 037 795.

Around the Diocese

TOONGABBIE LEGAL CENTRE - Free Legal Education Seminars for the Community.

Saturdays: 6 Sept - 22 Nov 2025, 2-4pm

Register: <https://shorturl.at/Eokeo/tlc.asn.au>

Kids Corner

The
**Love
Maze**
Find the path to God



Rosters for 13th & 14th September 2025

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Angela Carlino Trish Maldigri May Pepin
8am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Coretta Dias Isabella Dias Pauline Cassar Ron Aquilina
10am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Carmel Gauci Joachim Sathi Marina Peter David Touma
6pm Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Communion	Michael Williamson Isa Urbano Jovan Titus

Next week's readings

13 and 14 September – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Numbers 21: 4-9
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 77: 1-2, 34-38
Second Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11
Gospel: John 3: 13-17



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. 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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