

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 28 December 2025

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Reflections for this week's readings

First Reading: Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 127: 1-5,
Second Reading: Colossians 3: 12-21
Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

Obeying God's Message shows Faith

We celebrate the **Holy family** of Jesus, Mary and Joseph just after the celebration of the nativity of the Lord. The basic question might be '**why does the family of Jesus call HOLY?**'

This family is called HOLY because of their **FAITH** and **OBEDIENCE** to **GOD**, but fundamentally it is based on **God's grace**.

Mother Mary had a strong Faith to God. She lived her Faith by obeying the message of God through the Angel. She obeyed God totally from the beginning of the Annunciation until at the feet of the Cross and the Pentecost. Similarly to Joseph who always obeyed God through the Angel to be a responsible and obedient father for the safety and the goodness of his family as today's gospel tells us. It says he "got up, took the child and mother with him (Matt 2:13b, 20a) to the chosen places where they were sent to, especially to the Egypt and back to Israel.

So, all the virtues of this **holy family** are bounded or tied by the virtue of **obedience**. Jesus Christ the Son of God always obeyed his Father, and Mary and Joseph the guardians of Jesus always obeyed God as well as obeyed the Law of Moses.

Indeed, we are the brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ in Faith through the Baptism and taking part of his spiritual body (cf Col 3:15). Therefore, we are all called to be holy in Jesus Christ through our Faith and Obedience to him (cf 1 Peter 1:15-16).

Let us glorify and praise God for the holiness of his love to our families and communities in 2025 and continue to fortify our hope and be humble to live the spirit of obedience to God in 2026 as Jesus, Mary and Joseph did.

Alby (Assistant Parish Priest)

Lectio Divina – Weekly Sessions

Since beginning Lectio Divina, this has been a deeply beneficial and prayerful time of reflection for those who attend. We hope you will join us in the New Year as we continue to listen to and reflect on God's Word together. Our weekly Lectio Divina sessions are held **every Wednesday at 6:00pm in the Red Room, commencing 7 January 2026**.

In the meantime, for personal prayer and reflection, please click on the links: - [Lectio Divina](#)

Parish News

Thank You

A very heartfelt **thank you** to the Ministers of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist, Ministers of Music, Altar Servers, Wardens, and all our volunteers and parishioners for your generous contributions to the preparation and celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Thank you also to everyone who shared in the Morning Tea last Sunday, and for the joy brought to our children by the surprise visit from Santa.

On behalf of the parish community, **Fr Albi, Fr Anthony, and Fr John**, we wish you a **Happy New Year**, filled with **peace, love, and hope**. 

Fr Janu (Parish Priest)

Parish Secretary

Please join us in welcoming Diane Vella as our new Parish Secretary, who will be joining the parish team from 5 January 2026.

We ask parishioners to continue offering her your support and understanding as she commences in her new role.

Recycle and convert to Cash:

 Your generosity truly makes a difference — **please keep the cans and bottles coming!** to support families in East Timor and the ongoing mission work of the East Timor Committee. We will provide **quarterly updates** on the funds raised.

Parish Social & Fundraising Committee:

Christmas Fundraising -Raffles Draw

 **Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Christmas Morning Tea last week and brought a plate to share!** It was such a joyful time, and even Santa came along to share in the fun and laughter with both the young and the young at heart.

A big thank you for your generosity. Through raffle ticket sales and donations, we raised over **\$5,000**, which will

help support important areas of our church, including our audio and visual systems that enhance our liturgies and community life. We look forward to continuing to work with you in the year ahead. 🎉🌟

Congratulations to the winners of the Christmas Raffles drawn at the party:

1st Prize: Norma Touma; **2nd Prize:** Jeanette Mansour; **3rd Prize:** Mary Buhagiar; **4th Prize:** Mignonette Modridondo; **5th Prize:** Hang Vu; **6th Prize:** Karen Almeio; **7th Prize:** Ezilda Coelho; **8th Prize:** Zol Hang; **9th Prize:** Marie Fernandes

🎉 It's coming!! – Parish Dinner Dance 🎉

📅 **Friday, 13 February 2026**

Venue: Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish Hall, Greystanes
Price: \$70 per adult | \$35 for children under 12
Book early to avoid disappointment and join us for an evening of entertainment, fun, delicious food, and community celebration!

Tickets go on sale after Mass starting **3 January 2026**.

Watch the space - more details to come

Liturgy Corner

Mandatory Safeguarding Training:

Thank you to everyone who has submitted their Mandatory Safeguarding training certificates. For those who haven't yet completed the training or submitted your certificate, please do so as soon as possible if you wish to continue volunteering in any parish ministries.

The online training can be accessed [Safeguarding Training | Diocese of Parramatta](#)

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

To be reported in next Carmel Bulletin

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

Please pray for...

Recently Deceased: Susan Sultana, Shayne Vaz, Denzil Fernandes, Mo Chinh

Deceased (including RIP, anniversaries and memorials): Mary & Frank Teuma, Joyce Cini, Tony & Antonia Cini, Charlie Zammit, Charlie Sultana, Francesca Gonsalves, Mary Hoang, Mary Margaret Nicholapillai, Pasqua Rosin, Belisario Manual Garaicoa, Mary & Joseph Borg, John & Regina Miranda, Augustine & Theresa Miranda, Francis D'Souza, Louis D'Souza,

Baptist Travas, Ursula Ruth McDonald, Jimmy Degaura, Joan & Edward Deady, James Weatherall, **Those who are sick (in need of healing and peace), especially:** Vicky Borg, Thelma Blakeman, Norman de Luca,

Special Intentions /Thanksgiving: Jazmine & Jamaica, Ngoc Tran, Thuy Tran

Celebrating Sacraments at OLMC

Baptisms:

Anna Andrlik (28 December)

May she grow in faith, love, and the grace of God!



Funerals:

Albert Edward Shield (8 Jan 2026)

May he rest in peace.



Weddings:

Mary Jenat Elvis & Ramanan Jegatheeswaran (18 Jan 2026)



May our Lord grant them happiness and love

Celebrating our Catholic Calendar

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Solemnity 1 January 2026

St Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, bishops, Memorial 2 January 2026

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Feast 3 January 2026

Church Calendar

Lectio Divina	Wed, 7 th Jan 2026 6 pm
Cleaning for Christmas	Thurs, 8 th Jan 2026 9.30 am
St Vincent de Paul Meeting	Thurs, 5 Feb 2026 10 am

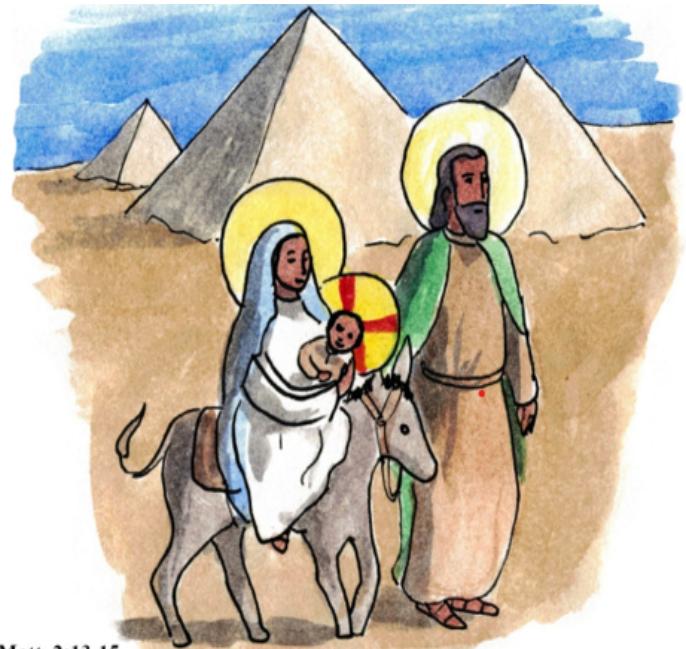
Diocese of Parramatta Notices

Diocesan World Day of the Sick: 11 February

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on 11 February 2026 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. To register, please visit parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-world-day-of-the-sick-mass/

Low-Cost Counselling Services

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provides a low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. Whether you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters, Catholic Care is here to help. Call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.



Matt. 2:13-15

Use the number code to see what the prophet predicted about the Child Jesus.

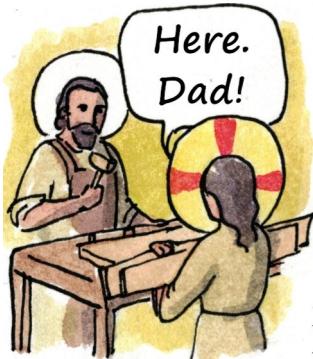
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Kids' Corner

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

The Holy Family



Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. When God sent His Son Jesus into the world, He wanted Him to come in a humble and quiet way.

He wanted Jesus to have a mother and an earthly father and be raised in a happy home.



God brings us into the world in families too. He wants us to have good and loving mothers and fathers to look after us and teach us. Our Lady and Saint Joseph are great examples for parents. They loved Jesus and kept Him safe and let Him grow and learn.



Jesus is an example to children, too!
Love your father and mother, obey them and pray for them. Today is a good time to think of how your family can become more like the Holy Family, living in peace, joy and love. Can you think of

a way to be more obedient, loving or generous with your family?

Rosters for 3rd & 4th January 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	Bob Hanna Janine Hanna Anne-Marie Torrens
8am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	David Rodrigues Michelle Rodrigues <i>Cat Paulo</i> <i>Cecilia Cotter</i>
10am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	Keiza Sathi Jamaica Lopez <i>Marina Peter</i> <i>David Touma</i>
6pm Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	Mark Attwood Ramona Grimm <i>Fran Sharpe</i>

Next week's readings

3rd & 4th January 2026: the Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading:	Isaiah 60: 1-6
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 71: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Second Reading:	Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6
Gospel:	Matthew 2: 1-12



**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: TBA

Finance Officer: Gennie Cosgrove

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Primary School

Principal: Olimpia Pirovic

Phone: 8832 1100

Liturgy times

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 6:00pm (*Vigil*)

Sunday: 8:00am, 10.00am (include Children's Liturgy of the Word), 6:00pm

Weekday Masses

Monday - Thursday and Saturday: 9:00am

Friday: 9:15am (except first Friday of the month)

Reconciliation

Saturday: after the 9:00am 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 morning tea

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

By request

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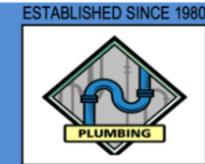
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