



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 11 January 2026

The Baptism of the Lord



Reflections for this week's readings

First Reading:	Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 28: 1-4, 9-10
Second Reading:	Acts 10: 34-38
Gospel:	Matthew 3: 13-17

Last week we observed Epiphany Sunday, commemorating the visit of the wise men who journeyed from distant lands to worship Jesus Christ. This week, the Church celebrates the Baptism of our Lord. These two events, distinct yet deeply connected, were foretold centuries in advance. Seven hundred years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah envisioned the Messiah's mission—anointed by the Spirit to open blind eyes, liberate captives, and bring light into a darkened world. In His baptism, God the Father empowers His Son through the Holy Spirit to begin this salvific ministry.

The scriptural readings from both weeks remind us that Christ's mission is not confined to Israel alone. His call extends beyond cultural and ethnic boundaries—embracing both Jews and Gentiles in one redemptive purpose. St. Augustine teaches that **Christ's baptism reveals His willing obedience to the Father**. Though John the Baptist hesitated, Jesus chose to be baptised in the Jordan, fulfilling all righteousness. **Likewise, when we or our children receive baptism, we echo that same obedience to God's command.**

Through baptism, Jesus inaugurates a new covenant that supersedes the old law of circumcision. As He later commands in Matthew 28:19, His disciples are to baptise all nations in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. When Jesus arose from the waters, the heavens opened—signifying that baptism now opens heaven to humanity.

The baptism of Christ teaches us to practise what we ask of others: **to lead by example in faith and humility**. Today, many young people in Western churches respond to this call, seeking deeper commitment and discernment. Their willingness to come, as Jesus did, in humble obedience, brings joy to the Father.

Chris (parishioner)

Lectio Divina – Weekly Sessions


Our weekly Lectio Divina to reflect on God's Word together is here!

Join us at the Lectio Divina sessions this **Wednesday at 6:00pm in the Red Room**.

For more information or to prepare, please click on the links: - [Lectio Divina](#)

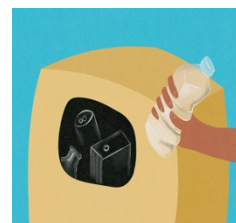


Recycle and convert to Cash:

 Your generosity truly makes a difference to support families in East Timor and the ongoing mission work of the East Timor Committee.

We are doing well so far, **please keep the cans and bottles coming!**

We will provide **quarterly updates** on the funds raised.



Parish News

Parish Social & Fundraising Committee:

The Fundraising and Social Committee continues to raise funds for the good of the Parish. The Parish has completed the first stage of the audio/visual system in the church and Narthex. It is now endeavouring to finalise the project with the installation of TV screens.

To this end, The Fundraising and Social Committee is again reaching out to our community to come together for a **Dinner Dance at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Greystanes on Friday, 13 February 2026**. (details below)

There will be **live entertainment** on the night, and the catering is being provided by Buddy Catering Services. If the success of our previous two Dinner Dances is any


indication, this promises to be a lively and enjoyable night of good food, music, and fellowship.

Tickets are still available, but we recommend early acquisition so you will not be disappointed.

Tickets Available!

Reach Out – Community & Friendship Dance Dinner

 **Friday, 13 February 2026**


 **Venue:** Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish Hall, Greystanes

Cost:

- \$70 per adult
- \$35 for children (under 12)

Join us for a wonderful evening of entertainment, dancing, delicious food, and joyful community celebration! 🎵🥂🌟

 **Tickets on sale after Mass from 3 January 2026.**

 **Watch this space** for the full program and highlights of the night!

The Committee is looking for sponsorships of items to be raffled during the event. All contributions are welcome.

The Christmas Raffle was a success and all prizes except one have been claimed. We are waiting for Eliza Coelho to claim the final prize.

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

Donations to the Parish over 3 weeks: \$14,194.00

Planned Giving (cash/c cards):	\$2,089.00
Loose cash:	\$5,948.00
Direct Deposits:	\$1,775.00
Tap & Go:	\$4,382.00

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: Albert Shields, Shayne Vaz, Thu Tran, Francesco (Cesco) Van Der Horst.

Deceased (including RIP, anniversaries and memorials): Mary & Frank Teuma, Joyce Cini, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Camilleri, Doreen Camilleri, Joseph Teuma, Louis Teuma, Joe & Maria Vella, Rosa Titian, Sonia Spittle, Jesse & Kevin McManus, Carmel Cini, Lewis Camilleri, Joseph Grech, Charlie Zammit, Abraham Poothambran, Fabreece Fernandes, Arthur Lopez, Anna Kulyna, Vincenza (Vivian) Sultana.

Those who are sick (in need of healing and peace), especially: Vicky Borg, Thelma Blakeman, Norman de Luca, Andrew Herlinger.

Special Intentions /Thanksgiving: Jazmine & Jamaica, Ngoc Tran, Thuy Tran, Amelia Tran, Ashley & Helen Bakes, Joseph Joy and Family,

Weddings: Vanessa & Dylan (25th Anniversary)
Alfred and Antoinette Zammit (57th Anniversary)
Dulangelie & Prinith (13th Anniversary)

Celebrating Sacraments at OLMC

Baptisms:

Carmel Doris Sua (11 Jan 26)

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



Weddings:

Mary Jenat Elvis & Ramanan Jegatheeswaran
(18 Jan 2026)

May our Lord grant them happiness and love



Celebrating our Catholic Calendar

Church Calendar

Lectio Divina	Wed, 14 th Jan 2026 6 pm
Church cleaning	Thurs, 15 th Jan 2026 9.30 am
St Vincent de Paul Meeting	Thurs, 5 th 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/

Kids' Corner

The Baptism of the Lord

Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord
Sunday January 11th, 2026



*What did Saint John the Baptist see
that showed him that Jesus was the Son of God?
Connect the dots to find out!*

A sacrament is an outward sign of a grace that God gives us in our soul. When we are baptised, water is poured on our head as a symbol of the sin being washed out of our soul.

You might be wondering if babies need to get baptised when they haven't even done any sins yet. But baptism also takes away original sin, which comes to us from Adam and Eve. Baptism also gives us the grace we need to live a good Christian life. Of course babies can't sin when they are very young, but Baptism will give them grace when they need it.

Why do you think that Jesus got baptised, since He didn't have original sin or actual sins? Jesus didn't need to get rid of any sins, but He was baptised to give us an example.



Rosters for 17th & 18th January 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	Anne-Marie Torrens Elena Fernandes Caz Learmonth
8am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	Carretta Dias Isabella Dias Colleen Weatherall Ron Aquilina
10am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	Basli Sathi Fiona Bylsma Skip Fernandes Mary Vijila
6pm Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	Eliana Almeida Nelissa Almeida Jovan Titus

Next week's readings

17th & 18th January 2026: 2nd Sunday in ordinary time:

First Reading:	Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalms 39:2, 4, 7-10
Second Reading:	1 Corinthians 1:1-3
Gospel:	John 1:29-34



**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: Diane Vella

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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