



# Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville

## Carmel Bulletin

Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



### Reflections for this week's readings

<b>First Reading:</b>	Isiah 58:7-10
<b>Responsorial Psalm:</b>	Psalm 111:4-9
<b>Second Reading:</b>	1 Corinthians 2:1-5
<b>Gospel:</b>	Matthew 5:13-16

### To be Light and Salt to others

The theme of this Sunday readings is Light and Salt. Both are ever present in our lives. Every day we move from dark to light, from day to night, as we live and measure time. We use salt (or not), a little or a lot, every day to flavour our food.

While salt is less important today than it was in Biblical times, we still need it, sometimes to clean, to help heal wounds, as well as add flavour to our food and as a preservative. In Biblical times salt was extremely valuable, often used as currency and most importantly it was the only available preservative for food.

Light we easily understand as it orders our days and can shape our moods. Sunlight can make us feel happy and joyful, while enabling us to see easily and move in the world. Many of us know the low feelings which can be experienced during prolonged periods of gloomy days when daylight is poor. In Biblical times, life was dominated by daylight. No strong artificial light for them – how lucky are we!

In the Gospel Jesus tells his disciples that they are “salt of the earth” and “light for the world”. They are to share the flavour of salt. to bring zest and passion into the lives of people. We too are asked to be a light as well as to bring light into the lives of others.

The question is – how do we do this? Isaiah, the Psalmist and St Paul all answer this question. Isaiah and the

Psalmist give us a list of what we must do to be salt and light. The list includes feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, acting with compassion towards the homeless and the suffering. St Paul also tells us not to rely on our own ideas and thoughts and cleverness as a basis for our faith but to rely on the power of the Spirit. Our work depends on our faith which depends on the power of God. To be salt and light requires faith and faith shows the power of God.

*Janine (Parishioner)*

### Lectio Divina – Weekly Sessions

Come join us every Wednesday evening at 6:00pm in the Red Room for the weekly *Lectio Divina*, a prayerful reflection on God's Word.

As we listen, reflect, and pray together.

For more information, please click on the link [Lectio Divina](#)



### Recycle and convert to Cash

**Your generosity is making a remarkable difference** in supporting families in East Timor and the ongoing mission of the East Timor Committee.

Thanks to your continued support, we are making great progress—please keep the cans and bottles coming! The amount raised from March to December 2025 was \$275. This was before installing bins and turbo-charging the campaign. Updates on the funds raised will be shared quarterly.



## Parish News

### Parish Social & Fundraising Committee:

It is only 5 more sleeps before the Parish Dinner Dance is held. Arrangements are well in place to ensure an enjoyable and successful evening. Tickets are still available and are on sale for **\$70 for adults and \$35 for children under 12 years**. Wednesday is the cut off day for selling tickets.

The function is being held at the **Father Camilleri Hall at Our Lady of Peace Parish Church, Old Prospect Road, Greystanes**. **Parking is available at the venue.**

On the night, **dress is smart casual**. If you prefer to dress in your country's national costume, you will be most welcome. Water, tea and coffee will be available for free. If you enjoy a glass of wine or beer, please bring that with you. Wine glasses will be available at the venue.

**There will be live entertainment, and the catering is being provided by Buddy Catering Services.**

We are also running a raffle which will be drawn on the night of the Dinner Dance. There are some very attractive prizes to be won. These are on display in the Narthex.

For those who are not attending and wish to participate in the draw you can purchase tickets after mass this weekend. **There will also be two lucky door prizes to be won on the night.**

**Art, Wooden Craftwork and memorabilia will be available for sale at the venue.**

## Ash Wednesday Masses

Lent begins on Wednesday 18 February with Ash Wednesday. Masses will be celebrated at 9:00 am and 7:00 pm.

If you need to take ashes to someone who cannot come to Mass because they are sick or housebound, there will be limited portions of ashes available on request after Mass.

## Can You Help Prepare Our Church for Ash Wednesday?

We need the help of a team of people who can prepare the church for the Season of Lent and Ash Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass on Tuesday 17 February. All the guidance you need is provided, and many hands do make light work. Please let Fr Janu or Fr Alby know and join us if you can assist.

## Help our community sing at our Easter Triduum Celebrations

If you would like to assist with leading our community's sung prayer at our Holy Thursday Mass, Good Friday Liturgy and Easter Vigil Mass, then we invite you to join the choir that will sing at these celebrations. Practice will be on Mondays from 7:15 - 8:30 pm in the church, starting Monday 23 February through to Easter. Previous experience and/or training are not required. For more information, contact Robert at [olmcwentyliturg.org/contact](mailto:olmcwentyliturg.org/contact).

## Liturgy Corner

### Walking With Jesus in the Scriptures

The Gospel readings of the Sundays in Ordinary Time invite us to walk with Jesus as he lives out his mission, from his baptism to his final journey towards Jerusalem and his passion, death and resurrection.

The Gospel readings, therefore, are arranged each week in what we call a semi-continuous fashion. Apart from some excerpts here and there, we progressively proclaim the Gospel in order from beginning to end. Some parts, such as those directly related to the Seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter, are reserved for those times of the year.

During Ordinary Time, the second reading is also a semi-continuous proclamation. We make our way through different New Testament letters (or epistles), listening to and reflecting on the teaching given to the early Christian communities. As Sacred Scripture is the living and active word of God, these teachings still speak to us today and challenge us to live in the way of Jesus.

Each "Year A", we listen to the Gospel of Matthew, and to Mark and Luke the following years. While there is an obvious degree of commonality between these Gospels, each has its own unique characteristics that offer us a deeper insight into the person of Jesus and his teaching.

## Parish Finances

### Thank you for your generosity

#### Donations to the Parish for the week of Monday 26/1/2026 to Sunday 1/2/2026 totalling \$3,957.00

**Planned Giving (cash/c cards):** \$941.00

**Loose cash:** \$690.00

**Direct Deposits:** \$905.00

**Tap & Go:** \$1,421.00

**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**

#### Financial Report for the Six Months Period 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025

A satisfactory result of a surplus of \$43,834 was achieved for the period under review. This was basically achieved as a result of having the position of Secretary vacant for the whole period of 6 months.

Revenue for the six months amounted to a total of \$102,778 represented by planned giving of \$88,724 and other revenue of \$14,054. Planned Giving was \$2,856 (3.3%) above budget. Other revenue was mainly made up of proceeds from raffles \$8,978 and donations of \$1,373.

Expenses amounted to \$58,944 and were below the budgeted figure of \$90,197, representing a savings of \$31,253 (34.6%). These were incurred on wages and employee related expenses of \$22,148, administration \$12,803, Interest on Loan \$8,062, repairs and maintenance \$9,428, power, water and rates \$3,462, liturgical \$1,734 and motor vehicle running \$4,386.

The Parish held a cash balance of \$97,328 as at 31 December 2025. Insurance premiums are due by 31 March 2026. These are expected to amount to around \$35,000, thus reducing the cash balance to \$62,000. The Parish loan stood at \$323,362, a reduction of \$5,899 since the start of the current financial year.

The Finance Committee is currently obtaining quotes for the supply and installation of a new AV system consisting of two large TV screens facing the congregation and a smaller one facing the altar. It is hoped that these will be installed by the end of June. Three office computers require replacement.

Our quota for The Catholic Foundation for 2025/2026 is \$14,400. In addition, there is an unpaid balance brought forward from the previous year of \$17,458 making a total payable of \$31,858. Prior to Covid, the Parish (like other parishes) used to have four special collections throughout the year, to cover these contributions (previously known as the DWF). Now this has been reduced to two a year.

Contributions to The Catholic Foundation are tax deductible. Over the last five years contributions towards this cause have dropped to a dribble. We encourage parishioners to be generous and help us meet this quota payment. Each parish contributes 10% of their revenue to the Diocese.

We would like to thank all parishioners for their continued financial support as without it, the Parish will not be able to provide the spiritual services it currently does.

*Janu Pinto O.Carm Parish Priest & John Cassar Chair Finance Committee*

## Please pray for...

**Recently Deceased:** Andrew Tran

**Deceased (including RIP, anniversaries and memorials):** Mary & Frank Teuma, Joyce Cini, Tony & Antonia Cini, Doris Vella, Charlie Zammit, Monica Fernandes, Joan Deady

**Those who are sick (in need of healing and peace), especially:** Victoria (Vicky) Borg, Norman de Luca, Margaret Norton, Vincenza (Vivian) Sultana, Thelma Blakeman.

**Special Intentions /Thanksgiving:** Ngoc Tran, Thuy Tran, Patrick Tran,

## Celebrating our Catholic Calendar

**St Scholastica, virgin**

*Memorial*

Tues, 10<sup>th</sup> Feb

**St Cyril, monk**

*Memorial*

Sat, 14<sup>th</sup> Feb

**St Methodius, bishop**

*Memorial*

Sat, 14<sup>th</sup> Feb

### Church Calendar

Lectio Divina

Wed, 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026 6 pm

Church cleaning

Thurs, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026 9.30 am

Anointing Mass

Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> Mar 2026 9.00 am

Baptism Preparation

Thurs, 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026 6.00pm

## Celebrating Sacraments at OLMC

Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on **Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2026 at 6.00pm**. For those parents of children wishing to prepare for this Sacrament an enrolment form will be on-line soon. Watch this space in the coming Carmel Bulletin, Parish website and socials, OLMC Primary School newsletter and socials. Further information will be provided when available.



## Diocese of Parramatta Notices

### Safeguarding

#### When should I complete my Safeguarding Training?

All Clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children's Guardian Act 2019 to be current and complete with Safeguarding Training.

- If you are new to ministry, you must complete the Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1).
- If you completed Cycle 1 modules two years ago, you must complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2)
- If you renewed your Cycle 2 two years ago, you must complete a Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3)

Safeguarding Training Modules can always be completed online at <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>. Face-to-face training opportunities can be found at [Find An Event Near Me](#) | Diocese of Parramatta.

- Tuesday, 10 Feb 10- 12 pm-Mandatory Safeguarding Training Cycle 3 Module 6. St Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church Marayong.
- Wednesday, 11 Feb 9.30-2.30pm-Mandatory Safeguarding Training Cycle 1 Modules 1-3. Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown.
- Monday, 16 Feb 7-8.30pm- Mandatory Safeguarding Training Cycle 2 Module 4. St Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church Marayong.
- Monday, 23 Feb 10-1.30pm- Safeguarding Training Cycle 2 Module 4-5. St Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church Marayong.
- Monday, 23 Feb 7-8pm-Safeguarding Training Cycle 2 Module 5. St Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church Marayong

### Rosters for 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday (Vigil)	<b>Reader 1</b> <b>Reader 2</b> <i>Communion</i>	Bob Hanna Janine Hanna <i>Elena Fernades</i>
8am Sunday	<b>Reader 1</b> <b>Reader 2</b> <i>Communion</i>	Isabella Dias Carretta Dias <i>David Rodridges</i> <i>Michelle Rodridges</i>
10am Sunday	<b>Reader 1</b> <b>Reader 2</b> <b>Children</b> <i>Communion</i>	Joachin Sathi Trinita Kishore Jamelle Touma <i>Marina Peter</i> <i>David Touma</i>
6pm Sunday	<b>Reader 1</b> <b>Reader 2</b> <i>Communion</i>	Mark Attwood Ramona Grimm <i>Fran Sharpe</i>

### Next week's readings

#### 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

<b>First Reading:</b>	Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20
<b>Responsorial Psalm:</b>	Psalm 118:1-2,4-5, 17-18, 33-34
<b>Second Reading:</b>	1 Corinthians 2:6-10
<b>Gospel:</b>	Matthew 5:17-37





## 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](http://www.olmcwenty.org.au)

On Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @olmcwenty

Email [ocarmswenty@gmail.com](mailto: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 3:30pm

Parish Office is closed Friday, Saturday, 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

**Safeguarding Officer:** Moira Peter

#### 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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