

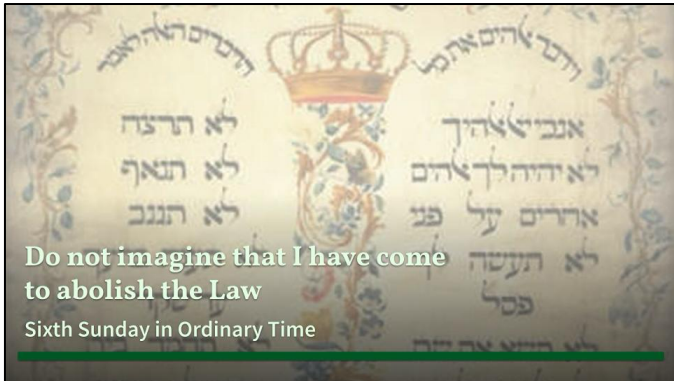


Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday, 15th February 2026

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Reflections for this week's readings

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

Today's Scriptures place before us a beautiful and demanding truth: God gives us real freedom, and He calls us to use that freedom for love.

Ecclesiasticus reminds us that God has set before us fire and water, life and death. We are not puppets. The Lord trusts us with choice. His commandments are not traps but pathways to life. He never commands the impossible; rather, He gives grace so that obedience becomes a living relationship, not mere rule-keeping.

Psalm 119 responds with the heart of a disciple: *"Blessed are they who walk in the law of the Lord."* The psalmist does not see God's law as a burden but as a joy and a guide. This is the posture we are invited to cultivate — not reluctant compliance, but a desire: *"Teach me, O Lord... give me understanding."* The one who asks to be taught is already walking toward holiness.

Saint Paul then lifts our eyes higher. The wisdom of God is not obvious to the world; it is revealed through the Spirit. What God prepares for those who love Him surpasses what we can imagine. Christian morality, then, is not simply about behaviour — it is about entering the mystery of God's own life. We do not follow Christ only with effort; we follow Him through grace that enlightens the heart. In the Gospel, Jesus brings everything to fulfillment. He does not abolish the law; He deepens it. He moves us from

external action to interior transformation. It is not enough to avoid killing — we must uproot anger. Not enough to avoid adultery — we must purify the heart. Not enough to speak truth occasionally — our very word must become trustworthy.

Christ is teaching us that holiness begins within. The Kingdom of God grows in hidden places: intentions, desires, thoughts, and choices made when no one sees. True righteousness is not performance but communion — a heart aligned with the Father's love.
Caitiano (Cat)—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

Thank you for your generosity in supporting families in East Timor and the ongoing mission of the East Timor Committee.

We are making a remarkable difference please keep the cans and bottles coming!



Parish News

Parish Social & Fundraising Committee:

The Fundraising Committee would like to thank all who participated and contributed to the Parish Dinner Dance and special thank you to those who helped with putting it together and cleaning up afterwards.

A special thank you to the caterers and entertainment to make the night a huge hit.

We truly couldn't make it without you. Further updates in next week's bulletin.

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



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 [olmcwentyliturgym.org/contact](mailto:olmcwentyliturgym@olmcwentyliturgym.org).

Liturgy Corner

How is it that the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke have so much in common?

While there is an obvious degree of commonality between the Gospels we hear in Ordinary Time each year, each also has its own unique characteristics that offer us a deeper insight into the person of Jesus and his teaching.

You may have heard the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke referred to as "synoptic" gospels, reflecting the high degree of commonality between them. This "collective" or "single view" of Jesus' life is evident in the large amount of content that is similar across two (eg the Sermon on the Mount/Sermon on the Plain), or sometimes all three Gospels (eg the Proclamation of John the Baptist).

But was this commonality simply coincidental? After all, each Gospel recounts the same life of Jesus? Biblical scholars have come to find over time that the similarities between the synoptic gospels are a result of two factors. First, it's believed that the Matthean and Lukan communities had access to the Gospel of Mark as their own Gospels developed. Second, it's also believed that each community possessed a (now lost) single written

collection of Jesus' sayings that was used as material across the three gospels.

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

Donations to the Parish for the week of Monday 2/2/2026 to Sunday 8/2/2026 totalling \$3,514.00

Planned Giving (cash/c cards): \$915.00

Loose cash: \$870.00

Direct Deposits: \$910.00

Tap & Go: \$819.00

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.

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

Please pray for...

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, Doris Vella, Charlie Zammit, Baby Jonathon Anthony Egan stillborn grandson of Christine & Wally Hryniuk, Bruno & Louisa Nangerath Family, Luiz Jesphine, Eva Philo Augusta, Concetta Felice, Jose Frappier, Guy Marcel, Mimi Victoire, Miguel Romena SR, Librada Romena, Feliciano Romena II, Mrs Rosacay, Adelaida Toledo, Serafin Toledo, Alicia Portillo, Jason Daep, Michael Bigeni, Maria Concetta Cassar, Lawrence & Sinfarosa Dias, Inacio, Sacramento and Ilda Boccaro and Anna & Simao Dias.

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, Joseph Tran, Norman De Luca, Lawrence Blakeman

Celebrating our Catholic Calendar

Baptisms:

Phoenix Bobby Bushel and Leo Adonis Bushell

Sunday, 15th February 2026

Church Calendar

Lectio Divina	Wed, 18 th Feb 2026 6 pm
Church cleaning	Thurs, 19 th Feb 2026 9.30 am
Anointing Mass	Friday, 6 th Mar 2026 9.00 am
Baptism Preparation	Thurs, 12 th Feb 2026 6.00pm

Stations of the Cross after 9am Mass and 7pm each Friday during Lent.

Celebrating Sacraments at OLMC

Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on **Saturday, 23rd 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](#).

- 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 21st & 22nd February 2026

1 st Sunday of Lent		
MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	<i>Angela Carlino</i> <i>Trish Maldigri</i> <i>Bob Hanna</i>
8am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	<i>Cecilia Cotter</i> <i>Cat Paulo</i> <i>Roslyn Khattar</i> <i>Eric Dias</i>
10am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Children <i>Communion</i>	<i>Daphne Dominic</i> <i>Fiona Bylsma</i> <i>Daphne Dominic</i> <i>Rosemary Chung</i> <i>Mary Vijila</i>
6pm Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	<i>Elena Fernades</i> <i>Michael Williamson</i> <i>Isa Urbano</i>

Next week's readings

21st & 22nd February 2026: 1st Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 50:3-6, 12-14, 17
Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19
Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11



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 3:30pm

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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