

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday, 22nd February 2026

1st Sunday of Lent Year A

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness

First Sunday of Lent



Reflections for this week's readings

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

In the gospel reading this weekend, we hear of the account of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. After his baptism, Jesus is led by the Spirit into the desert where he fasts for forty days and forty nights. There, he is tempted by the devil to satisfy his hunger, to test God's protection, and to seek worldly power in exchange for worship. Despite these temptations, Jesus remains steadfast, relying on God's word to resist each challenge. This serves as a powerful model for the Lenten journey of self-discipline and spiritual renewal.

This passage invites us to reflect on the reality of temptation in our own lives and the importance of grounding ourselves in faith and Scripture. Lent is a time when we are called to examine the desires and distractions that draw us away from God, and for us to move away from these distractions. We try to recognise personal weaknesses, and we are encouraged to trust in God's love and guidance, especially when we face these moments of weakness or uncertainty. Through prayer and fasting, we can renew our commitment to God and prepare our hearts for Easter.

It is important for us to remember that we are not on this Lenten journey on our own. Some of you may recall Fr Bernard at the end of Mass each week telling us that "Our God always walks with us". This is especially true on this Lenten journey - God is with us walking by our side every step of way. We do not need to rely on our own strength –

we should follow the example of Jesus and turn to God to ask for assistance, support, guidance and protection. Whenever we feel tired or ready to give up or give in, we need to turn to God for encouragement. We know that God will be with us during Lent, just as God was with Jesus when he was in the desert.

Our God will never leave us alone.

Anne-Marie & John Torrens (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:

Thanks to the friends, donors and parishioners of OLMC Wentworthville for making the Parish Dinner Dance event a success!

On behalf of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Wentworthville, we would like to thank each one of you, especially:

1. Those who organised this event: OLMC Fundraising Committee
2. Those who donated Raffle Prizes
3. Those who made financial contributions
4. Those who invited friends and relatives to attend this event
5. Entertainers: Music: Smooth Grooves, Dancer: Hiva Funaki
6. Photographer: Jay.



7. All volunteers who helped.

The outcome of this Parish dinner will be available on the next Carmel Bulletin.

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

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped prepare our church for Ash Wednesday and the Season of Lent. Your assistance in supporting the liturgical life of our parish community is greatly appreciated.

Can you help during Holy Week and the Easter Triduum?

We need the help of volunteers for a range of ministerial, preparation, pack up and support roles at different times over the week - there is sure to be a role that will suit you and help our community. If you can help, visit olmcwentyliturgy.org/triduum-volunteers and sign up now. If you do not have an email address but still want to help, please call the parish office.

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 olmcwentyliturgy.org/contact.

Liturgy Corner

Restoring Communion from the Chalice

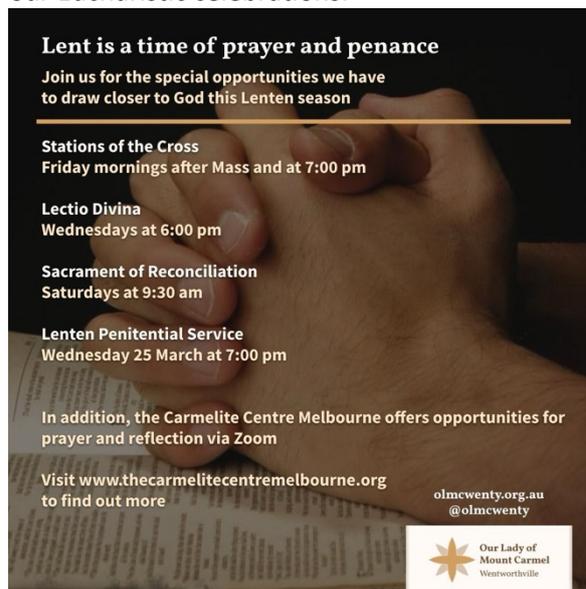
At the Last Supper, Jesus commanded the disciples to eat his body and drink his blood in his memory. Ever since, the Catholic Church has gathered together to worship God and fulfil this command. The Eucharist nourishes us and transforms us so that we may be the body of Christ to the world.

For many years, it was standard practice here in Wentworthville for Communion to be offered to the assembly under both kinds - that is, in the form of consecrated bread and wine. Understandably, the COVID-19 pandemic saw necessary health restrictions put in place so that parish communities offered Communion to the assembly under the form of consecrated bread only.

Last year, the Diocese advised parishes that NSW Health no longer required such restrictions. Our Liturgy Committee, including Fr Janu and Fr Alby, therefore considered

whether it was appropriate for our former practice to be restored.

Starting at the Mass of the Supper of the Lord on Holy Thursday, we will return to offering Communion from the chalice. Over the coming weeks we will explain a little more about why we believe this is an important aspect of our Eucharistic celebrations.



Lent is a time of prayer and penance
Join us for the special opportunities we have to draw closer to God this Lenten season

Stations of the Cross
Friday mornings after Mass and at 7:00 pm

Lectio Divina
Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays at 9:30 am

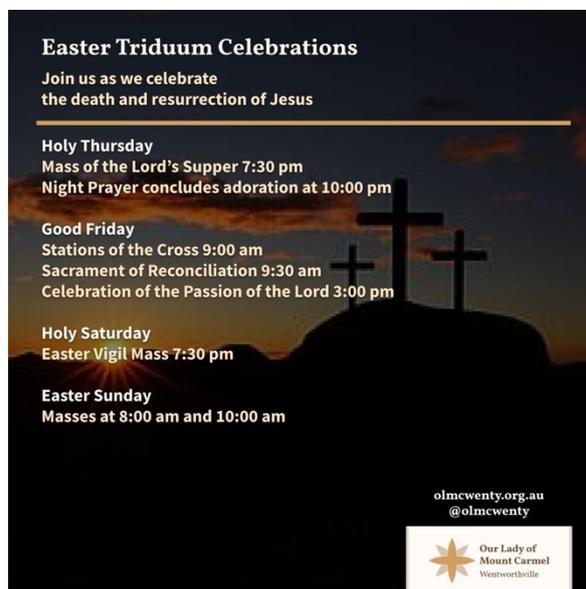
Lenten Penitential Service
Wednesday 25 March at 7:00 pm

In addition, the Carmelite Centre Melbourne offers opportunities for prayer and reflection via Zoom

Visit www.thecarmelitecentremelbourne.org to find out more

[@olmcwenty](http://olmcwenty.org.au)

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville



Easter Triduum Celebrations
Join us as we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus

Holy Thursday
Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 pm
Night Prayer concludes adoration at 10:00 pm

Good Friday
Stations of the Cross 9:00 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation 9:30 am
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday
Easter Vigil Mass 7:30 pm

Easter Sunday
Masses at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

[@olmcwenty](http://olmcwenty.org.au)

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville

Parish Finances

Thank you for your generosity

Donations to the Parish for the week of Monday 9/2/2026 to Sunday 15/2/2026 totalling \$3,371.00	
Planned Giving (cash/c cards):	\$697.00
Loose cash:	\$809.00
Direct Deposits:	\$600.00
Tap & Go:	\$1,265.00

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...

Deceased David K Raj

Deceased (including RIP, anniversaries and memorials): Mary & Frank Teuma, Joyce Cini, Tony & Antonia Cini, Doris Vella, Charlie Zammit, Henry Hart, Anthony Dass, Michael Cole, Carmelo Sultana, Rita and Rhonda Parnis, Dennis D'Souza.

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

Special Intentions /Thanksgiving: Sheelu Peter, Ngoc Tran, Thuy Tran, Joseph Tran, Andrew Tran.

Celebrating our Catholic Calendar



Baptisms:

Phoenix Bobby Bushell and Leo Adonis Bushell

Sunday, 15th February 2026

Church Calendar

Lectio Divina Wed, 25th Feb 2026 6 pm
Church cleaning Thurs, 5th Mar 2026 9.30 am
Anointing Mass Friday, 6th Mar 2026 9.00 am
Baptism Preparation Thurs, 12th Mar 2026 6.00pm
Stations of the Cross after 9am Mass and 7pm each Friday during Lent.

Celebrating Sacraments at OLMC

In preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation which will be celebrated on **Saturday, 23rd May 2026 at 6.00pm.**

Please note the following dates in your diary:

Parents information night **21st April.**

Enrolment closing date is **24th April.**

Attend 3 compulsory Workshops, further notice on dates and times will be provided soon.

Enrolment forms are accessible through the website and from the Parish Office, Monday – Thursday 8.30am – 3.30pm.



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, 23 Feb** 10-1.30pm-Safeguarding Training Cycle 2 Module 4-5 and 7-8pm-Cycle 2 Module 5. St Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church Marayong.
- **Wednesday, 11 March** 9.30-1.00pm-Safeguarding Training Cycle 2 Module 4-5. Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown.
- **Saturday, 19 September** 9.30-1.00pm-Safeguarding Training Cycle 2 Module 4-5 . Our Lady Queen of Peace, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes

Rosters for 28 th Feb – 1 st Mar 2026		
1 st Sunday of Lent		
MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Saturday (Vigil)	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	<i>Anne-Marie Torrens</i> <i>Elena Fernades</i> <i>Charlie Felice</i>
8am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	Jeremy Angelo Joshua Angelo <i>Ron Aquilina</i> <i>Colleen Weatherall</i>
10am Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 Children <i>Communion</i>	Jamaica Lopez Keizia Sathi Joachin Sathi <i>Daphne Dominic</i> <i>Mary Vijila</i>
6pm Sunday	Reader 1 Reader 2 <i>Communion</i>	Eliana Almeida Nellissa Almaeida <i>Jovan Titus</i>

Next week's readings

28th February & 1st March 2026: 2nd Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 32:4-5, 18-20, 22

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9



**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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