

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish

Varroville, Raby, St Andrews and Bow Bowing



To know, love and serve Jesus
by sharing our gifts through our baptismal mission.

We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand, the elders, past and present and all the Dharawal people. May we too be good stewards of this land.

17 January 2021
Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year B

Entrance Antiphon

All the earth shall
bow down before
you, O God, and
shall sing to you,
shall sing to your
name, O Most High!

First Reading from
the first book of
Samuel 3:3-10, 19

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 39:2, 4, 7-10. R.
vv. 8,9

Here am I, Lord; I
come to do your will

Second Reading
from the first letter
of St Paul to the
Corinthians 6: 13-
15, 17-20

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
We have found the
Messiah: Jesus
Christ, who brings
us truth and grace.
Alleluia!

Holy Gospel
according to John
1: 35-42

Gospel

John 1: 35-42

They saw where Jesus lived and they stayed with him.

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.



One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

The gospel of the Lord.

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Reflections

Greg Sunter

Jesus' invitation to 'Come and See' is a powerful image in this week's gospel. It is not a simple reply to the question of where Jesus is living; in some ways it is a summary of his whole ministry – come and see what I am on about and become part of it. It is typical of the invitational nature of Jesus' ministry. Throughout the gospels, Jesus offers and invites, he does not force his ministry onto anyone. When he invites us to 'Come and See' it is an invitation to 'give it a go'; take a chance; let go of what we know.

To 'Come and See' is exactly what Jesus invited the apostles to do. In this week's reading, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, takes up the invitation and becomes a follower of Jesus. He is so impressed with what he sees in Jesus that he finds his brother and tells him that they've found the Messiah and that Simon should come and join them. Jesus immediately gives Simon a new nickname: the Rock (Peter). There are many instances throughout the Bible of people taking or being given new names. Abram became Abraham; Jacob became Israel; Saul became Paul. This change of name is used as a sign that they have encountered God in a special way and have taken on a new life – a new commitment to God. In this instance, Simon is becoming a disciple of Jesus, a trusted and influential one at that.

Unlike the call of Samuel in today's first reading, in which the call to discipleship is heard as a booming voice, Andrew and Simon experience the call through personal encounter with Jesus. A booming voice from the sky might be helpful, but for most of us the call comes in much more subtle ways through our prayer and reflection on interaction with others.

These days, the word 'vocation' seems to be applied to whatever job someone happens to find themselves in. More traditionally, the word carries with it a sense of undertaking work that has a deliberate purpose about it and that is outwardly focused. Usually, there is a sense that there is 'importance' to the work and that it is linked to God's dream for the world. The Church has tended to use vocation in reference to religious life. The word comes from the Latin, *vocare*, meaning call or name. Realising to what it is we are called can be one of the great challenges of life.

Why did Jesus call a group of people to follow him closely and share in his ministry? Certainly, it was not uncommon at the time that a charismatic leader might attract a group of followers and 'hangers-on' but Jesus appears to have deliberately called some people to travel with him and share in what he was about. So much of what Jesus spoke about was living in right relationships: with God; and with one another. Rather than simply being a 'back-up group' for Jesus, the disciples provided a lived example of trying to live in right relationships. They didn't always get it right, but they were on the way.

ROSTERS

24 Jan 2021	6pm	9.30am	5pm
Monitor	David Fehlberg	Sarah & Steve Locke	Susan & Reg Bucknell
	Bev & Ryan Potter	Serge & Dominique Autard	Volunteer
Altar Server	Ryan Potter	Orly Simbul	Robert Selvaraj
Reader	Suzanne Binny	Denise Field	Gabriel Mafi
Counting	Louise Muscat, Lina Agius	Flowers	Maria Dalecki
Vacuuming	Autard Family	Foyer	Binny Family

Sunday Mass times	Weekday Mass times
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday Mass at 9am
Sunday: 9.30 am & 5pm	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm
Reconciliation: by appointment	All Sacramental enquiries: call the parish office

Parish Office Ph: 9603 7373 / 0434 705 176
Office Hours: Tuesday—Friday 9.30am-12.30pm
Email: varroville@dow.org.au
Website: olmcvarroville.org.au



For the sick & homebound: Fr David Catterill, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Ron Allen, Sean Finnerty, Eduvigis Reyes, Rose Levoune, Gabriel Gonzales, Francisco Carmona, Doreen Gribbons, Jenny Bishop, Clayton Diack, Emily Rose Pavicin, Pat & Denise Furner, Claude Fricot, Tracey Bokor, Lily Pereira, Mary & Reg Gardner, Doris Wahhab, John Kajdrys, Gabor Weiner, Erlinda Hermes, Aurelia Vertucio, Ofilia Mawson, Mary & Frances Raithi, Marie

Atkins, Jeana San Diego, Hugo Garzotto, Eileen Butcher, Josephina Duefries, Austin Taylor, Marisa Aguirre, Joan Wilson.

May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain & affliction.

For our recently dearly departed: David Hazlett, Peter Mowlam, Daisy Lebreux, Jean Claude Furlong, The Cuong Nguyen, Geraldine Hurren, Edmond Pew,

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Rita Briscoe-Hough, Joseph Remedios, Anthony Campbell, Teresa Thompson, Resse Mangulabnan, Anthony Pinto,
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.

Bulletin Notices



ALPHA: YOU'RE INVITED

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life, faith and God in a friendly open and informal environment. Beginning Tuesday 2 March, 2021 at 7pm.

For further information contact the parish office 9603 7373 and olmcvarroville.org.au. Find out more at alpha.org.au

Sacramental Preparation in 2021: A Christian family lives within a wider parish community, which also has a responsibility to share its faith to nurture you and your child. Our parish will offer an opportunity of providing faith education for both adults and children. Specific dates and information about Sacramental preparation will be available on our website by the end of January 2021 or by calling the parish office during office hours.

Request for Prayer for Catechist Ministry in the Diocese: Each week, hundreds of volunteers around the diocese answer the call to share our Catholic faith with Catholic children. Please keep in your prayers the work of Scripture Teachers, the children they teach in state schools and their families. If you would like to know more about the ministry, please go to www.ccdwollongong.com.

Diocese of Wollongong Mass Online: For all of the online Mass options- please visit the DoW website <https://dow.sh/dailymass>

Year of St Joseph: Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde (With a Father's Heart)*, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph", running from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.

A number of resources are being developed to encourage and support the celebration of the Year of St Joseph. These resources will be available at:

<https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

. They will include:

- Monthly reflections on various aspects of St Joseph's life and character;
- Prayers for various settings;
- Images and social media graphics.

