



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.

7 MARCH 2021



Entrance Antiphon

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

First Reading from the book of Exodus 20: 1-17

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68 (R.) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Second Reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1: 22-25

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Holy Gospel according to John 2: 13-25

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

NEXT WEEK

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
YEAR B

First Reading:

2 Chr 36:14-16. 19-23

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 136. R. v.6

(R.) Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

Second Reading:

Eph 2:4-10

Gospel: Jn 3:14-21

Ministry Appreciation

During the next few weeks we will highlight our ministries and thank the many volunteers who work to enliven our parish. There are so many people in our parish who go about helping in so many ways that we will never know. All of our ministries draw upon the 6 parish visions within their teams and the result is the vibrant parish we have today.

Our Parish Vision for Ministry/ Service: Giving of ourselves.

“Seeing their life as part of Jesus’ mission, and being responsive to the needs of the society in which we live, our community enables every member to use their unique gifts and skills in ministry, giving themselves in the service of others.”

This weekend, we will celebrate the Alpha team. This is a group of people who have a passion for sharing their faith with others, drawing upon the Holy Spirit and using the tools in our parish vision of Evangelisation, Community, Discipleship, Worship, Ministry and Leadership.



Some of the participants at Alpha launch night

Last Tuesday evening 48 people came together for the Alpha launch night and shared a meal. In the coming weeks, they will have the opportunity to explore their faith, to pray and to form friendships. They will be supported by the hospitality team and prayer groups as they journey through the Alpha series together.

If you missed last week, and wish to join this week, you can still register online or by calling the parish.

Next week we will celebrate the monitors, wardens, welcomers and sanitisers. One year ago this month our church doors were locked, because of COVID, and we were not allowed to gather for Mass, the sacraments, prayer, devotions or fellowship. The saying that the parishioners make the parish was certainly highlighted because our beautiful holy church was empty and we were forced to go online for Mass and other prayers.

Our welcomers and wardens stepped up to the challenge of being monitors and sanitisers to maintain our Church in a “COVID safe manner” for the protection of us all and to ensure that we can all celebrate Mass again. Sometimes at very short notice, they have implemented new directives and maintained a reassuring and welcoming presence.

They have embraced the visions in our Vision Statement, which has allowed us all to gather for worship, caring for our community and providing leadership for all.

Contact us

Parish Priest:
Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Parish Associate:
Sr Ninfa Timbal, CM
193 St Andrews Rd, Varroville

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

Mass times

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

Rosters

14 March 2021	6pm	9.30am	5pm
Monitor	Suzanne & Russell Binny	Steve & Sarah Locke	Terry & Maree Reilly
	Myra Cortez	Serge & Dominique Autard	Volunteer
Altar Server	Ryan Potter	Orly Simbul	Robert Selvaraj
Reader	Gerard Binny	Volunteer	Maryanne Lagdameo
Counting	Louise Muscat & Lina Agius	Flowers	Patricia Wicks & Audrey Tanuvasa
Vacuuming	Volunteer	Foyer	Kathy Randal

Prayer intentions

For the sick & homebound: Nelia Balingit, John Morgos, Greg Watson, 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, Jeanna 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: Louisa Moniz Dearaujo, Denise Field, Nina De La Cruz, Jose Manubay, Philomena Lopez, Ruth Matining, Ring Doar, Daisy Lebroux, Jean Claude Furlong.

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Corazon Grecia, Ed Benney, Luke Spinnato, M A Pereira, Lio Feiloakitohi,
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.



YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"

DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021

Bulletin Notices

Stations of the Cross are in the church every Friday evening at 7pm during Lent.

Alliance of the 2 Hearts Mass and Devotion will be on Friday evening at 7.30pm on 5 March and 9 April, then on the first Friday of each month.

ROSTERS are due for renewal at the end of March. Please contact the parish office if you need to update your details and availability. The new rosters will be put on the new website in the news dropdown.

Reader Training: There will be Reader training on Saturday 20 March from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. in the meeting room. It will be repeated on Saturday 27 March. You only need to come to ONE day. This will be for people wanting to join this Ministry or anyone who wishes to pray and reflect on their current reading ministry. Another training will be organised with a leader. If you are unable to attend either training please call Colleen on 0415 679 354 so that a convenient time can be arranged. Please notify the office of your intention to attend as we need to observe Covid protocols.

After 6pm mass and 9.30am Mass on the weekend on 20/21 March.

We are having a garage sale to sell things that are no longer required to make some space before our renovations commence. The stall is being organised by the fundraising

committee and if you wish to help with set up and pack up, helping on the tables or donations for the sale on the weekend please call Mago at the parish office. There is some toys, games, kitchen items and other things for sale on the weekend. We will also have a cake stall and plant stall. The funds raised will go towards our Renovations.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend *We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love!*
Come and join us on April 16-18, 2021 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, Book online: www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au.

Diocese of Wollongong Mass Online

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

Jamberoo Abbey Weeklong Retreat: Remembering Holy Saturday: This retreat will be made available during the Holy Week. It explores the mystery of Holy Saturday, on what it means to live in "in-between" times, liminal times. There will be video talk everyday starting from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. This retreat will be given by an oblate of Jamberoo Abbey, Rev Catherine Eaton. For more information, go to our website: <https://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats/holy-week-retreat/>

Hospitality meeting: Sunday 14 March at 10.30, after the 9.30am Mass in the parish hall. This meeting is for all past and present members of the hospitality ministry to discuss ways to offer hospitality in a COVID environment.

Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator

– **Catholic Diocese of Wollongong** Suitably experienced and qualified persons are encouraged to apply for the role of Youth Ministry Coordinator in the Diocese of Wollongong. Applications close on Tuesday, 16 March. For more information and a detailed role description, please go to <http://dow.sh/CYMWJob> or for enquiries contact helen.bennett@dow.org.au.

Using Alpha Online to Engage New People

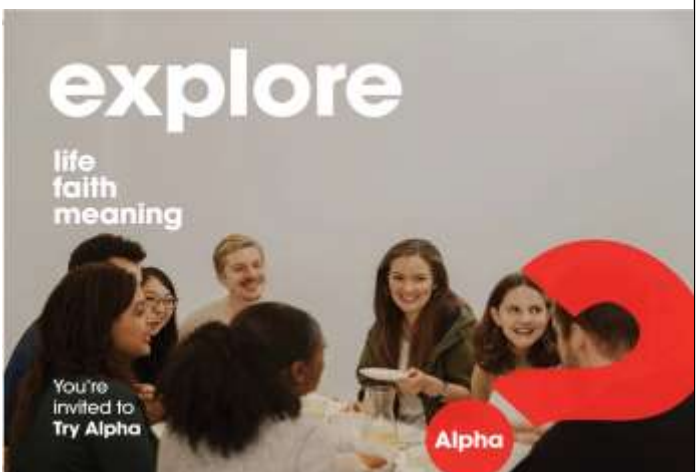
Webinar: Monday 8 March 9pm: We're inviting you to join Fr James Mallon and Nicky Gumbel on an Alpha Online Webinar that will take place next **Monday 8 March 2021 from 9:00PM - 10:00PM**. There we will get to hear about their vision for evangelisation at this significant moment for the church, and the part Alpha Online can play in helping parishes respond. There will be a time of prayer and the opportunity for Q&A during this live webinar. Visit <https://divinerenovation.org/australasia> to register.

The Journey' – 7 March 2021 – Podcast

The Journey this week: Monsignor Graham Schmitzer, Mother Hilda, Sr Susanna Edmunds, and Darren McDowell with reflections on engaging with Jesus' zeal for the Father's house – his zeal for us, our welfare and ultimate happiness, and restoring the wholeness of our relationship with God. The Journey available as a podcast at jcr.org.au

Alpha: Last Tuesday we commenced Alpha with a very successful launch night. The hall was buzzing with excitement and everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. If you missed out, there is a chance to join again this week. **Come and See;** Tuesday March 9, 2021 in our parish hall arrive at 6:45 for a 7pm start. Come along and enjoy a light meal, a short DVD, and a small group discussion. Due to COVID, we do have limited seats available, please register yourself and your guest's attendance via the website or by calling the parish.

www.olmcvarroville.org.au / ww.varroville.dow.org.au
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Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: *Zeal for your house will devour me.* The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.



During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection

WEEK 3
TANZANIA

PROJECT COMPASSION
BE MORE

In today's gospel, Jesus drives the traders out of the temple saying, "Stop making my Father's house a market place!" Jesus cleanses the temple because values have gone astray. This cleansing is symbolic of reform and renewal.

We are the Church – it is through our actions and works that we are the hands and feet of Christ in our world today. Caritas Australia's annual Lenten campaign theme for this year is "Be More", which comes from the words of Saint Oscar Romero "Aspire not to have more, but to be more."

This is a wonderful invitation to rethink what is important to us, what renewal or reform is needed in our own lives and as a community. Hearing of how, with some support from Caritas, communities are able to be architects of their own development, brings about a change in us. We are invited to be part of the story, of working in partnership for a better world.

One such good news story is of Oliva which is featured in Project Compassion. Oliva is a mother of four who did not have the opportunity to go to school in Tanzania, and was embarrassed that she was unable to read, write or count. As an adult, her business was losing money because she couldn't add up. Then Oliva enrolled in Caritas Australia's literacy and numeracy classes. She also set up a home classroom to teach her neighbours, for free, because they were too shy to attend larger classes.

Oliva has now graduated, attendance at her home classes is growing, her kiosk is thriving and she is helping her children with their homework. She aims to become a pastor and run for leadership in the next local election - to help her community to "Be More."

Access to education liberated Oliva, her family and her community. Oliva has transformed her life. What kind of reform would Jesus call us to do today? What are the things that need renewal or could be changed in our world? How can you "Be More"?

PRAYER

God of all peoples and nations, As you accompany us on our Lenten journey,
 May our fasting strengthen our commitment to live in solidarity,
 Our almsgiving be an act of justice, and
 Our prayers anchor us in love and compassion.
 Through living simply and loving generously,
 May we care for our global family and our common home,
 as we "*Aspire not to have more, but to be more.*" *

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Saint Oscar Romero*

