



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 October 2021
Twenty ninth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year B



Entrance Antiphon
To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

First Reading from the prophet Isaiah 53: 10-11

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R.
v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading
from the letter to the Hebrews 4: 14-16

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia!
The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all.
Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according to Mark 10: 35-45

Communion Antiphon
The Son of Man has Come to give his life as a ransom for many.



The Church is the People of God

COVID-19 ROADMAP FOR THE DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG AS OF 14 OCTOBER 2021

On the 27th of September 2021, the NSW Government released a roadmap regarding reducing the current lockdown COVID-19 restrictions. These gradual reduction in restrictions are outlined below.

When considering these restrictions and our actions as we move more freely in our church communities, we must always act with a sense of love to our neighbours.

The Catechism teaches that "Life and physical health are precious gifts entrusted to us by God. We must take reasonable care of them, taking into account the needs of others and the common good." (n.2288)

When following these guidelines, the faithful must consider the safety of themselves and others, compliance with the law and strict hygiene practices as core principles.

All faithful in the diocese are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Mass on Sundays. (canon 87 §1, canon 1248 §2)

The following summary documents the key guidelines as we meet each milestone set by the NSW Government. It is important to note that these guidelines include decisions by the Diocese, apart from Government orders, that are designed to maintain the dignity and physical health of all within our church communities.

This summarised document is available on our website for you to read in full.

The important key steps for our Parish are:

- A. Mass will commence on Monday 25 October at 9am. We will have a maximum limit of 110 worshippers inside the church. Once the inside limit is reached, seating will be available outdoors.
- B. Choir singing is allowed but not congregational singing. All choir members must be vaccinated.
- C. Reconciliation will be available at 11am each Saturday or by appointment.
- D. Baptisms will commence to be celebrated during November.
- E. The preparation and reception of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and Confirmation will be postponed till 2022.
- F. The parish office will remain closed to the public. You can contact the office by phone or email.
- G. We will not have any parish gatherings and face to face meetings. We will continue to use Zoom for meetings at this stage.
- H. All persons involved in Ministry must be double vaccinated. This directive includes the rostered ministries and others such as Altar Servers, Pastoral Care, Choir members, Children's Liturgy of the Word and Sacramental Preparation. The rosters have been prepared and will be uploaded onto the website in the next week.

On All Souls Day (Tuesday 2 November) Fr Shane will celebrate Mass at 7.30pm in the Columbarium. All are welcome and please bring a jacket.

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: Please contact by phone or email
Tuesday—Friday 9.30am-12.30pm
Email: varroville@dow.org.au
Website: varroville.dow.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

Diocese of Wollongong Mass Online:

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

ADORATION PRAYER with the Carmelite Missionaries: GOD BLESS US ALL IN OLMC PARISH! During the lockdown, you are invited to join **every Sunday at 6:30-7:30pm. Contact the parish office for the zoom link.**

Vaccination: The faithful are encouraged to receive a COVID-19 vaccination for the care of each other and the common good. An individual's right to choose not to receive a vaccination is respected and it is acknowledged that some may not be able to receive a vaccination due to contraindications. Where a person has not received a vaccine they must take all reasonable steps to ensure they do not become a vehicle of transmission of COVID-19 (*Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, 21 December 2020*).

In accordance with Work Health and Safety requirements, it is important to ensure that the parish manages all foreseeable risks, which includes the transmission of COVID. Currently, the medical advice from NSW Health suggests that vaccination is the primary way to decrease transmission. Given this, it is the parish's responsibility to take reasonable measures to ensure the safety of the faithful and staff including:

- all persons in public-facing roles (ie. they have direct face-to-face contact with the faithful) are encouraged to be double vaccinated. They must continue to wear masks and follow the hygiene procedures at all times.
- all persons in ministries with access to children and/or vulnerable people (eg. visiting the sick and housebound, children's liturgy, etc.) are required to be double vaccinated.
- all persons attending nursing homes or schools on behalf of the parish are subject to the relevant Public Health Orders (and are required to be double vaccinated).

Prayer intentions

For the sick & homebound: Carol Gonzales, Christabelle Adina, Gloria Gonzales Prudente, Allan & Kelvin Marquez, Amelia Jimenez, John Ingster, Elizabeth Moore, Nelia Balingit, John Morgos, Greg Watson, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Ron Allen, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Gabriel Gonzales, Francisco Carmona, Doreen Gribbons, Clayton Diack, Emily Rose Pavicin, Pat & Denise Furner, Tracey Bokor, Lily Pereira, Doris Wahhab, John Kajdrys, 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: Christopher Fernandes, Tony Farrugia, Edgar De Souza, Carter Por

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Anita Pinto, Francis Villahermosa,
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.





Bulletin Notices

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 October 22-24, 2021 for a Virtual Marriage Encounter Weekend via Zoom. Open to married couples, priests & religious.

Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

Carmel House Gardening Working Bee on Sat 23rd Oct, 10-2:30pm at 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville

Come and help prepare the monastery grounds ready to receive groups again after 3 months of lockdown! Many hands make light work, so we'd love to see you there. As per government restrictions, we can have up to 30 fully vaccinated people attend. BYO gardening gloves and tools. Lunch provided. Please RSVP via text or email to the MGL Sisters on 0435527389/mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com

Synod of Bishops: On Sunday, 17 October, dioceses around the world will launch local preparations for the Synod of Bishops, which has the theme: "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The Catholic Church in Australia will invite the People of God to make submissions via an online portal that will open on 17 October. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at: <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

Plenary Council - what happens next? With the conclusion of the First General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia, the members approved a concluding statement sharing the fruits of the first assembly and looking forward to nine months of "prayer, reflection, maturation and development" leading up to the second assembly. Please find attached a media release and a copy of the [concluding statement](#).

The Journey podcast compiled a series of insightful interviews at the conclusion of each day of the assembly that can be accessed at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/plenarypodcast/

Prayer Seminars to experience different prayer styles - All Welcome

There has been an overwhelming response to the Prayer Seminar series that runs each Tuesday evening, 7pm - 8:30pm via Zoom. Prayer Seminars are hosted by the CCD Team but are open to anyone and everyone in the Diocese to attend. Each week a different presenter will lead us in a style of prayer that is meaningful to them. The seminars will include information, but also the opportunity to be led by an expert in the prayer experience. Each week, the importance of praying for the Plenary Council and its members will be remembered, amongst many important prayer intentions for the Church and the world. You are welcome to come to any or all of the seminars. Registering does not require you to attend every seminar. Please follow the link to register for Prayer Seminars: <https://www.dow.org.au/events>.

Please register before the day of the seminar, to ensure you receive your zoom link on time.

Next Tuesday, 19 October, Sr Magdalen Mather OSB will lead us on a Benedictine Path to Prayer, live from The Abbey. Come and explore the contemplative way of living prayer that is built on the belief 'that the divine presence is everywhere' (Rule of St Benedict Ch. 19.1).

ACU Centre for Liturgy Public Lecture (Online)

The Australian Catholic University (ACU) will be hosting an online public lecture on Monday 18 October 2021, from 10am-11:30am. It will be presented by Bruce T. Morrill, S.J., and will be on the topic: "Ritual Bodies as 'Reasonable Worship': Putting Liturgy in Proper Ethical Perspective". Registration is essential by Thursday 14 October 2021 via <https://www.acu.edu.au/publiclecturecfl>

Divine Renovation Australasia Virtual Conference 2021

Called to Discipleship Saturday 20 November 2021 | 9:00am-12:30pm: Join us for a spirit-filled time of prayer, live keynotes, inspiring panel sessions. The virtual conference will aim to support priests, parish teams and individuals in their journey of parish renewal, while encouraging and equipping you in your Catholic faith. For more and information and registration: <https://www.divinerenovation.org/dr-aus-called-to-discipleship-conference>

The Journey, 17 October 2021 Weekly Podcast

A jam packed show this week as Fr Joe Murphy breaks open the Gospel and Dr Byron and Francine Pirola remind us of the importance of being committed to being - committed. Plenty of great music on this week's show - the Journey available at www.jcr.org.au.

We're always here, if you ever need...

These are challenging times for everyone and CatholicCare are here to support you and your family to navigate the uncertainty. We offer confidential online and phone counselling to support you with the frustration of managing family emotions, relationship pressures and employment changes. To find out more about CatholicCare's counselling service call us on 4254 9395 or email intakeservice@catholiccare.dow.org.au

CatholicCare - Have you thought about becoming a foster carer?

We need foster carers who provide love, care and support to help these children thrive and reach their full potential. Carers receive comprehensive support from the Fostering Futures team to ensure they have a full range of resources and networks to nurture their forever home. Our team have over 30 years' experience helping carers give vulnerable children a loving home and a brighter future. You can find out more by calling **0418 783 956**, email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au or go to <http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au> more information.

Youth Ministry Online: Have you seen Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong's (CYMW) online version of LIVE yet? Click on the link below for some great worship and challenges as you explore faith with some very awesome leaders! Enjoy! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTphLF5OdSt8V_yo7ZLrVgg

Holy Gospel according to Mark 10: 35-45

The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for all.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him, 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Gospel Reflection by Richard Leonard

One Sunday morning during Mass, the congregation was surprised to see two men enter, both covered from head to toe in black and carrying submachine guns. One of the men proclaimed, 'Anyone willing to take a bullet for Christ remain where you are!'

Immediately, the choir fled, altar servers fled, and most of the congregation fled. Within a few minutes, out of the two hundred strong congregation only ten people remained where they were. The man who had spoken took off his hood, looked at the priest and said, 'OK Father, I got rid of all the fence sitters, how about we make a start'.

It's nice to see the priest in the story remained in the Church! I would like to think that faced with such an extreme moment like this I would have the courage of my convictions, but I must admit I have my doubts. Each Sunday by coming and celebrating the Eucharist we implicitly, and explicitly, state that we want to become like Christ. As the Gospels repeatedly tell us if we follow him in his saving love for the world then, like him, we must confront injustice, defend the rights of the poor and the oppressed to dignity, give and forgive, heal and reconcile. By saying this, we are clearly not looking for a smooth ride through life.

In concert with the whole Church what most of us have done is domesticate the hard edges of Jesus' teachings to suit our comfortable existences. And then we get a Gospel like today's. The sons of Zebedee want the best seats in the house without knowing what the admission price is going to cost. They want the glory without the gore.

Jesus teaches them, and later all the other apostles, that for his Kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven, requires of us to drink a cup of suffering and be baptised in a river of sacrificial love. We can't dress this teaching up, or put a good spin on it. There is no resurrection without the cross. No gain without the pain.

For most of us this challenge means doing whatever we can politically and socially to bring the values of the Gospel to bear on our different spheres of influence. But Jesus also links this challenge to the act of service. And in this regard some leaders in the Church give us mixed messages and let us off the hook.

Whatever of the patrimony of the past, today's Gospel reminds us that bishops, priests and deacons should be excellent models of the humility of service. The leadership Jesus advocates is not monarchical or tyrannical, it is being the least, and being a servant.

The Second Vatican Council taught that leaders in the Church should be outstanding in humility, charity and simplicity of lifestyle. Some leaders are just this. Others have domesticated the hard edge of the Gospel.

Let's pray in this Eucharist that we recover a love for the hard teachings of Jesus, even though they demand so much of us, and that we have the courage to call our leaders to do likewise. These teachings are, after all, what makes us different from the Gentiles, and sort out who is actually sitting on the fence.