



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.

21 November 2021

**OUR LORD JESUS
CHRIST, KING OF THE
UNIVERSE YEAR B**



Entrance Antiphon

How worthy is the Lamb
who was slain,
to receive power and
divinity, and wisdom and
strength and honour.
To him belong glory and
power for ever and ever.

First Reading from the
prophet Daniel 7: 13-14

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 92:1-2. 5. R.v.1

Response:

The Lord is king; he is
robed in majesty.

Second Reading

from the book of the
Apocalypse 1: 5-8

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits
the kingdom of David our
Father; blessed is he who
comes in the name of the
Lord. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according to
John 18: 33-37

Communion Antiphon

The Lord sits as King for
ever. The Lord will bless
his people with peace.

To Love and Serve Jesus as a Catechist

“The long line of Blesseds, Saints and Martyrs who were Catechists has significantly advanced the church’s mission and deserves to be recognized, for it represents a rich resource not only for catechesis but also for the entire history of Christian Spirituality,” Pope Francis wrote in his Apostolic Letter *‘Antiquum Ministerium’* on May 2021.

Our Catholic Community of *Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish-Varroville* is gifted with men and women of deep faith who generously share their time and talents to prepare our children in the Reception of the Sacraments and in proclaiming the Joy of the Gospel in St. Andrews and Robert Townson Public Schools. St. Paul VI wrote in 1975 about the importance of lay people using their gifts for the growth of the Church.

Today, we recognize and honor some members of our community who achieve significant milestones in their commitment and fidelity as Catechists by serving for 5 years, 10 years, 15 years, 20 years and even 25 years or more.

Let us manifest our baptismal mission by sharing our gifts and talents as Catechist. Let us pray that we will be open to whatever God is asking us in serving our Church community.

We need more Catechist Volunteers. **Come and join us!**

“Those who will be catechists must know that they speak in the name of the church and transmit the faith of the church.”

—Pope Francis

The following Catechists received Service Awards on the 13th of November 2021 during the Annual Catechists Mass & Awards at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, in Wollongong.



NAME	AWARD
Catherine Baird	25 Years of Service
Lee Scales	20 Years of Service
Loretta Binny	15 Years of Service
Maria Gleeson	15 Years of Service
Madonna Selvaraj	10 Years of Service



Contact us

Parish Priest:
Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

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

Parish Office Phone:

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.**

Rosters

28 November	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
Monitors	David Fehlberg Bev & Ryan Potter	Gabriel & Ofa Mafi Tess Vergara	Betty & Boby Thalody
Altar Servers	Ryan Potter	Orly Simbul	Robert Selvaraj
Readers	Loretta Binny	Irene Ravino	Timothy Selvaraj
Flowers	Maria Dalecki	Foyer	Kaur Family
Counters	Vilma Marquinez & Jeanette Balane	Vacuuming	Suzanne & Russell Binny

Prayer intentions

For the sick & homebound: Sr Heather Burke, Marie & Barry Atkins, Carol Gonzales, Christabelle Adina, Gloria Gonzales Prudente, Allan & Kelvin Marquinez, 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, 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: David Donovan, Domingo Furcciniti, Rozalia Astalosh, Sr Eileen Brown SGS,

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: All the holy souls we pray for during November.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.





Bulletin Notices

Fundraising News: Our fundraising team met last week. All the activities planned for this year have been put on hold till 2022. The property committee are confident we will be doing the refurbishment of our foyer, kitchen and toilet area in 2022. All of the fundraising undertaken in the past few years will be used to fit out the building. We feel there is time for 2 small activities this year, with your support.

1. Facebook auction of donated items. Follow the links on facebook or on the website to do a bit of Christmas shopping. Each weekday a new item will be added to the facebook page and you can bid on the item. The item will be online for 7 days. At the end of the 7 days the person with the highest bid will win the auction, and can collect their items from the parish office.

2. Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 27 November at Gregory Hills. As our team is small, we don't have enough helpers for the whole day, If you are able to volunteer between 1 and 4 hours on the day 27 November. We start at 7.30am and finish about 4.30pm (including pack up time). Bunnings have told us that in order to volunteer we must be double vaccinated. We will also accept donations of supplies that we will require for the day; eg: sausages, bread rolls, onions, soft drinks, sauces. If you feel you can help out in any way please call 0434705176.

Blessed ADVENT booklets are available after all Masses this weekend and next. Booklets cost \$2.

Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday 25 November at 7.30pm. Let us give thanks to God for the blessing of our Parish and each other. As our year draws to a close, join us for Mass next Thursday. We have had a supper after Mass in previous years, but as we are still operating under COVID restrictions, we are not able to this year.

Friendship Group will meet on Tuesday 7 December for the Christmas Party after 9am Mass. This year the group will gather at the home of Beatrix and Michael. All the usual festivities will be enjoyed; Please contact the parish for the address. Bring a plate for morning tea and a Kris Kringle gift for under the tree.

Christmas Pageant Preparation: On Christmas Eve, we are planning to have the pageant and outdoor vigil Mass. You can register after Mass or at the parish office if you wish to join in. There are roles for children and adults; music, costumes, scenery & props, etc.

Pastoral Care: Our Pastoral Care team have been calling parishioners during the lockdown to say hello. Now we are able to return to Mass and normal activities they will move their focus to those who are alone and can't return to Mass. If you or anyone you know is lonely and/or not able to attend Mass and would like home visitation with Communion please contact the Parish office.

Social Justice Statement

Response to the Cry of the Earth calls us to equitably address climate change, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability. <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

Very Urgent Action Required this week - Vote on euthanasia

This week is critical for people of faith to urgently oppose Euthanasia in NSW, with debate about to commence in Parliament. Bishop Mascord urges the faithful of the Diocese to urgently contact your state MP this week to stand for the culture of life from conception to natural death. Go to www.dow.org.au/euthanasiabill to receive contact details of your State MPs, as well as speaking points. Emailing is a less impactful, but still valuable option.

Online Survey: *We also urge need as many voters from NSW who oppose this terrible legislation to complete this survey by 11:59pm, 22 November 2021 at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XRQNHFZ>.*

This is a most urgent call to brave action, with this bill infringing many religious freedoms and worse still, the sanctity of human life.

The Diocesan Office of Professional Standards is recruiting to two new roles in the office. We are looking for enthusiastic people who are committed to ensuring the safety of children and vulnerable people in the Diocese to join the team. If you are interested in learning more about this exciting opportunity, information about the two positions can be found at the following links:

1. OPSS Administration Officer <https://www.dow.org.au/position-vacant-administration-officer-opss/>

2. Professional Officer – Policy and Professional Standards <https://www.dow.org.au/position-vacant-professional-officer-policy-and-professional-standards-opss/>

The Journey, Weekly Podcast On The Journey This Week: Fr Christopher del Rosario's (Parramatta) gospel reflection. Mother Hilda on the saying "to die for". Fr Mike Delaney learns to lead like Jesus while bushwalking. Plus, Darren McDowell, Trish McCarthy, Pete Gilmore, and more great music!

The Journey podcast available at www.jcr.org.au.

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. 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, 23 November, Seth Harsh will lead us in the Prayer of the Church. Otherwise known as the Liturgy of Hours, it was at the Second Vatican Council this sacred prayer was encouraged to be reclaimed by all people of the Church. The Prayer of the Church reminds us that God is present with us, each hour of every day, such that each day it becomes a 'liturgy of hours'. Seth will help us to understand the significance of the prayer and led us in Compline.

Holy Gospel according to John 18: 33-37

You say that I am a king.

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Gospel Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Not from, but for, the World

What are we to make of the famous reply of Jesus to Pilate: 'My kingdom is not *of this world*'? Left there, it sounds as though Jesus is talking about a realm which is far removed from terrestrial concerns. Perhaps our task as his followers is to meditate into a blissful nothingness, certainly to live other-worldly lives.

And yet, every time we pray the Our Father, we rather bluntly petition the Father: 'Thy kingdom come Thy will be done *on earth* as it is in heaven.'

We are praying that the divine plan for humanity be put into effect here and now. We are praying that this earthly sphere of existence should be transformed, and we know from the Gospels that we have a role, an arduous role, in bringing that about.

So, what are we to make of 'My kingdom is not of this world'? It is a poor translation, and usually it is not finished off the way our Lord completed his reply. It should read: 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were *from* this world, my followers would have fought to stop my being handed over.'

Of all the ways in which our Lord could have contrasted his realm with all the other ways in which societies are ruled, he chose a contrast about the use of force.

His reign does not proceed from the way in which the world is organised around violence, Caesar's way, and therefore Pilate's way. No, his reign springs from his Father's will that humanity should live together in a realm of non-violence.

That is the truth of the matter and Jesus states that he is wholly committed to personally earthing that truth in and for the world, to bear witness to the truth. Indeed, his whole ministry had emphasised and embodied non-violence as God's way for the world.

Of course, St Peter had not grasped that. Instead he grasped a sword to try to prevent Jesus' arrest a little earlier. He slashed at the ear of the High Priest's servant. Have the successors of St Peter always grasped that? Pope John Paul II has grasped that in a way which set the modern Church on a new period of reflection in listening to the voice of Jesus in his confrontation with Pontius Pilate. His encyclical, 'The Gospel of Life', speaks in anguished terms about the Christian morality of waging war. And the relevant passages in the Catechism continue to restrict the 'Just War' theory.



ISIL's blasphemous use of barbaric violence in the supposed service of religion is the most extreme opposite of Our Lord's teaching which He embodied in his practice. But, even for us, the challenge is there to restrain too-ready resort to armed violence and to humanely moderate its exercise where it is used to protect the innocent.

God's kingdom is not to be delayed as an 'out of this world' experience at the end of time. To be authentic citizens of the kingdom we must help to bring about what we pray for in the Our Father: 'Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done *on earth* as it is in heaven.'

It is a liberating challenge to be subjects of the King of Peace.