# 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.

30 January 2022 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

#### **Entrance Antiphon**

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

**First Reading** from the prophet Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. v.15 **Response:** I will sing of your salvation.

Second Reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 12:31–13:13

**Gospel Acclamation** Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according to Luke 4: 21-30

**Communion Antiphon** Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

### Gospel

Jesus, like Elijah and Elisha, was not sent only to the Jews.

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

They said, "This is Joseph's son, surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside."' And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up

to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

The Gospel of the Lord.



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Email: varroville@dow.org.au	
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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
Diocese of Wollongong Mass Online: For all of the online Mass options—	

please visit https://dow.sh/dailymass

Adoration Prayer with the Carmelite Missionaries Sisters:

every Sunday from 6.30-7.30pm

# **Prayer intentions**



*For the sick & homebound*: Linda Reetz, Reg Gardner, Phyllis Cooper, Sr Heather Burke, Marie & Barry Atkins, Carol & Gabriel Gonzales, Christabelle Adina, Gloria Gonzales Prudente, Amelia Jimenez, John Ingster, Elizabeth Moore, John Morgos, Greg Watson, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Ron Allen, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Francisco Carmona, Doreen Gribbons, Clayton Diack, Emily Rose Pavicin, Pat & Denise Furner, Tracey Bokor, Lily

Pereira, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Erlinda Hermes, Aurelia Vertucio, Ofilia Mawson, Mary & Frances Raithi, Jeanna San Diego, Hugo Garzotto, Eileen Butcher, Josephina Duefries, Austin Taylor, Marisa Aquirre, Joan Wilson.

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

*For our recently dearly departed:* Mary Gardner, Silvano Stocco, Dorothy and Geoff Jones, Angela Tomarchio, Jovicen Delanon, Harry Loche, Zephaniah John Klarnett,

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

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

## **Bulletin notices**



Alpha Come and See Pancake Night Tues March 1, 7pm at the Parish Hall. Alpha is a chance to explore life and the Christian faith, to ask questions, and to share your point of view. Come along, with a friend, for a night of pancakes, a film and discussion. Register via the parish office or email: donna.ransom@dow.org.au

**Cursillo Three-Day Weekend:** Ladies of the Wollongong Diocese. Life has been so unsettled and erratic for many of us. If you are feeling in need of revitalisation in your Spiritual life, please join us for our next 3-day Cursillo weekend. The weekend will be held at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park and consist of talks, discussion, friendship, daily Mass, and spiritual guidance on request. Our Spiritual Director is Father Chris Roberts. The weekend commences at 6pm on 17 March and concludes at 4pm on 20 March 2022. Accommodation and all meals included in the cost. The weekend organisation will be compliant with all COVID safe requirements at the time. For further details please contact Denise D'Amore 0438 254 139, or denisedamore0@gmail.com

**Sacramental Preparation in 2022:** 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 2022 or by calling the parish office.

**Synod of Bishops** Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops, which has the theme: "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The People of God are invited to use a guided, prayerful reflection method to consider a series of questions and make submissions via an online portal. 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

**The Journey, Weekly Podcast** On The Journey This Week: The gospel reflection with Fr Chima Ofor. Mother Hilda tells the story of an 8 YO Polish girl in WW2. Plus, a faith testimony from Lisa Bright on her questioning God while dealing with COVID, bringing joy with new presenter Cathy Jenkins, and more great music! The Journey podcast available at <u>www.jcr.org.au</u>

### **Gospel Reflection by Diane Bergant**

Jeremiah declares that his call from God was prophetic in nature. His vocation was his destiny even before he was born. His entire identity took shape within him even as he was formed in his mother's womb. Jeremiah is told to get ready to proclaim the word of the Lord. This was not going to be an easy task, but God will fortify him as one would fortify a city. The passage ends with words of encouragement. His adversaries will not prevail against the prophet, because the Lord will be with him. There is no promise here of deliverance from the onslaughts. The promise is that Jeremiah will not be crushed by them.

The responsorial psalm opens with a plea for deliverance from distress: protect me; save me from shame; rescue me; hear me. This is followed by a prayer of confidence in God. Different kinds of rock are used to characterise the trustworthiness of God. The psalm ends with a promise to make know the wonders that God has wrought. The psalmist trusted God even while in the womb. As the psalmist had called on the righteousness of God at the beginning of the prayer (v.2), so that same righteousness is proclaimed at the end. It is the righteousness of God that is the basis of the psalmist's confidence.

Paul's praise of love is one of the best known biblical passages. In the reading for last Sunday, Paul insisted that all the gifts that the Spirit bestowed upon individuals functioned for the upbuilding of the community. Today he concentrates on love, the 'more excellent way', the greatest of all spiritual gifts. As beneficial as all the spiritual gifts may be, without love they are nothing. They are useful now, while we are still in this world. However, at the end of this world, their usefulness will come to an end and they will cease to be. Love, on the other hand, will never cease to be.

The Scripture to which Jesus refers announced the eschatological age of fulfilment. It provides a glimpse into the kind of messiah that Jesus will be, namely one who will refashion society for the sake of the oppressed. The response of those in the synagogue who heard Jesus is curious. At first they speak highly of him and are amazed at his words, but later in the episode they drive him out of the city to the brow of a hill to hurl him down. Jesus is not accepted by his people because he preaches that he has come not merely for this people, but for any who will open themselves to his teaching. This response gives us a second insight into the kind of messiah Jesus will be. Not only will he fulfill the role of the prophet who announces the advent of the age of fulfilment, but he will also be rejected, as were the other prophets.