

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish

Serving
Varroville, Raby, St Andrews and Bow Bowing

Since 11 May, 1980



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.

13 February 2022
Sixth Sunday In
Ordinary Time
Year C



Entrance Antiphon

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold save me.
For you are my rock,
my stronghold! Lead me,
guide me, for the sake of
your name.

First Reading from the
prophet Jeremiah 17:5-8

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 1:1-4. R. Ps 39:5

Response: Happy are
they who hope in the
Lord.

Second Reading from the
first letter of St Paul to the
Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
your reward is great in
heaven. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according
to Luke 6:17. 20-26

Communion Antiphon

God so loved the world
that he gave his Only
Begotten Son, so that all
who believe in him may
not perish, but may have
eternal life.

Next week

20 February 2022
Seventh Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Pastoral Care Ministry

For many, the events of the past few years have highlighted and exacerbated the pain of loneliness. In turn, many have come to a deeper desire for, and greater appreciation of, being physically present to another person. Whilst the wonders of modern technology have allowed us to stay connected with our loved ones in different ways, no *virtual* connection can ever substitute for being *physically* present to someone else, especially to a family member or a cherished friend. As social beings, we find fulfilment in the very connections and relationships we form with others.

Here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, one of our great hopes is for members of our community to foster meaningful and Christ-centred connections with other members of the parish. Because the essence of pastoral care centres on being present to someone in their particular situation, one of the ways we aim to bring about this great desire of ours is to develop our pastoral care ministry. We are looking for people who would like to be part of a team that will reach out to members of the parish (and beyond).

Above all, our aim is to connect with, and provide a listening presence to, people who are feeling particularly isolated and disconnected. As members of the Body of Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, pastoral care encounters can open up channels of healing, support and empowerment.

For those who are interested, the parish will provide a day of training, consisting of two sessions on Saturday, 19th February. These sessions will be led by Br Adalbert Imperial, a Carmelite friar who has experience in pastoral care and chaplaincy, gained from working in the Pastoral Care Team at St Vincent's Private Hospital.

The first session will cover the fundamentals of pastoral care and will be running from 10 to 11am. A second session, covering the practicalities of providing pastoral care, will be held in the afternoon from 2pm to 3pm. Morning Tea and Lunch will be provided and the sessions will be held in the Parish Hall.

Please contact Sr Ninfa, the Pastoral Care Coordinator at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish on 0481 035 989 or santatrinidadsnnet@gmail.com if you would like to be involved.

Lastly, if you know anyone, whether it be a family member, friend, or neighbour, who is struggling in one way or another and would benefit from a pastoral care encounter, do let us know. Could you also contact Sr Ninfa.



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:

Tuesday—Friday 9.30am-12.30pm

Email: varroville@dow.org.au

Website: varroville.dow.org.au

Mass times

Sunday Mass times

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 9.30 am & 5pm

Reconciliation: by appointment

Weekday Mass times

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday Mass at 9am

Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm

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!
You are invited to join **every Sunday at 6:30-7:30pm.**

Rosters

20 February	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
Monitors	Richard & Tracey Kaldasaun	Gabriel & Ofa Mafi	Betty & Bobby Thalody
Altar Servers	Ryan Potter	Orly Simbul	Robert Selvaraj
Readers	Tracey Kaldasaun	Gabriel Mafi	Timothy Selvaraj
Flowers	Patricia Wicks & Jessica Menezes	Church Vacuuming	P.Kaur
Counters	George Shiner & Irene Ravino	Foyer Cleaning	Wicks Family

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:

Kevin Quinn, Marie Carter, Mary Gardner, Silvano Stocco, Dorothy and Geoff Jones, Angela Tomarchio,

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

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





Bulletin Notices

World Marriage Day: Today is World Marriage Day. May all married couples be reminded of the joy of their own marriage. May they give thanks for the happiness they have known and may each day find them more devoted to each other than the last.

Silent Retreat: MGL Sister are running a silent retreat on Feb 18-20. More info and registrations at <https://www.trybooking.com/BWMJG>



Alpha Come and See Pancake Night Tues March 1, 7pm at the Parish. 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

Parish Pastoral Care Team Retreat and Formation Day: Saturday 19 February from 9am in the Parish Hall: For many, the events of the past few years have highlighted and exacerbated the pain of loneliness. In turn, many have come to a deep desire for, and greater appreciation of, being present to another person. For those who are interested in joining our pastoral care team, please come to an in-service day which will be led by Br Adalbert, a Carmelite Friar who has experience in Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy. Please contact the Parish office if you would like to be involved.

If you know anyone, whether it be a family member, friend or neighbour, who is struggling in one way or another and would benefit from a pastoral care encounter, do let us know.

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>

SmartLoving The Marriage Kit Leader Formation

Program: April – June 2022 Online Gatherings: Wednesdays @7:30 pm | April 27, May 11, May 25, Jun 8, Jun 22. The Marriage Kit is an online course for couples to strengthen and enrich their marriage. It includes

multimedia input via SmartLoving's online learning platform, individual reflection, and couple activities. Enrolment includes:

1. Access to the Marriage Kit online course (Apr 1- June 30). The course is comprised of 5 lessons with each one taking approximately 2 hours to complete.
 2. Access to Online Gatherings, community chat, file share, via MS Teams private group.
- More Info & enrolment Web: smartloving.org/mk-leader-formation-sydney T: 0434 346 280 E: info@marriagerc.org

Alpha Vision & Coaching Day: All Alpha Teams across the Diocese of Wollongong, and all who are interested in learning more about how Alpha can serve their parishes, are invited to join this Alpha Day Coaching at the Xavier Conference Centre Wollongong on Saturday 19 February 2022, from 9am – 4pm. There you will be equipped to run Alpha in your parish. The day will include vision setting and embedding Alpha in the parish, building a team, small group facilitation coaching, Alpha Retreat coaching, promotion, and invitation. For any enquiries, please contact Darren McDowell: darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au To attend, please register via the following link by Monday 14 February 2022: dow.org.au/events

New Youth Ministry innovative: The Diocese of Wollongong is excited to be launching two deanery-based youth groups in Wollongong and the Macarthur this year. These youth groups will be run weekly under the name LIVE Local. Further details to come later in the month.

Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love): Pope Francis' post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation, Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) on love in the family is an Apostolic Exhortation published after the conclusion of a two-year synod process discussing both the beauty and challenges of family life today. The 2015 Synod's theme was "the vocation and mission of the family in the Church and the modern world." Fr Bernard Gordon and James Arblaster will be presenting a 9-week course on Amoris Laetitia commencing Wed 27 April 2022, 7pm at St Francis Xavier Cathedral in the Monsignor Rigney Meeting Room. To follow the talk, please purchase a copy of Amoris Laetitia from St Pauls Publications or from the parish office. To register please contact Lumen Christi Parish Office on 4211 0500 or go to: www.lumenchristi.org.au/AmorisLaetitia

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

Holy Gospel according to Luke 6:17. 20-26

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.



'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

Gospel Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Paul teaches us that, united to Christ through faith and in baptism, we are united in his death and resurrection. With Christ we die to sin; with him we rise to a new life. We cannot wait to see proof of our transformation before we change our actions. The proof is in the lives we live in faith. To deny that we have died and been raised is to deny the resurrection of Christ. Paul insists that they cannot be separated. The challenge is to live in and out of this faith.

Both Jeremiah and Jesus introduce us to such a way of living. It is a way of paradox, a way that moves us beyond the self-centred standards of the world. The poor, the hungry, those who weep, and those who are persecuted are really the ones who are blessed. The victims of our social and economic systems, those who have been ravaged by war or have been made vulnerable by life itself are the ones who, if they place their trust in God, will be blessed in the end. They may appear to be the outcasts of this world, but, if they are filled with faith, they will inherit heaven. The wealth of this world and its pleasures are not the blessings that we might think they are. They can blind us to the real values of life and prevent us from dying to the world and living resurrected lives in Christ.

