

# 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.*

22 May 2022  
Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Year C



## Entrance Antiphon

Proclaim a joyful sound  
and let it be heard;  
proclaim to the ends of the  
earth: The Lord has freed  
his people, alleluia.

**First Reading** from the  
Acts of the Apostles  
15: 1-2, 22-29

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3. 5-6. 8. R. v.4

**Response:** O God, let all  
the nations praise you!

**Second Reading** from the  
book of the Apocalypse  
21: 10-14, 22-23

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep  
my words, and my Father  
will love them and we will  
come to them. Alleluia!

**Holy Gospel** according  
to John 14: 23-29

## Communion Antiphon

If you love me, keep my  
commandments, says the  
Lord, and I will ask the  
Father and he will send  
you another Paraclete,  
to abide with you for ever,  
alleluia.

**Next Week**  
**The Ascension**  
**of the Lord**

## 2022 Catholic Mission Church Appeal

**BRING  
HOPE  
TO NEELA  
AND HER  
FAMILY**



Thank you for choosing to support the work of Catholic Mission this year, and for sharing the important and vital work of missionaries around the world with your parishioners. Catholic Mission, as the Australian agency of the international Pontifical Mission Societies, works on behalf of Pope Francis to support Church-run mission programs around the world.

This year, we invite parishioners to support families from disadvantaged backgrounds through programs like the Deberety Goat Rearing Centre in Ethiopia.

Due to ongoing droughts and failed harvests, many families in the rural township of Emdibir are unable to provide enough food for their loved ones. In collaboration with the local community, Fr Habtesilassie Antuan and the Church dream of building a goat rearing centre, which will provide nourishing goats' milk for families in need and nutrition programs at local health clinics.

However, the Centre can only be built with partnership and support. Through this appeal, Catholic Mission invites parishioners to be part of this life-changing mission program from the beginning, and by doing so, commit to being witnesses of Jesus Christ.

This week Catholic Mission offers us the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to help prevent malnutrition, especially in babies and young children, and help disadvantaged families provide food for their loved ones.

Please give generously today to help kickstart this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope provided, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia](http://catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia), or scanning the QR code.

Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.



**catholic  
mission**



**Freecall: 1800 257 296**  
**[catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia](http://catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia)**

## Contact us

**Parish Priest:**  
**Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD**

**Assistant Priest**  
**Fr "Sam" Ransom Rapirap OCD**

**Parish Associate:**  
**Sr Ines Comiling, 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	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: Saturday at 11am	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>

## Rosters

29 May	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
<b>Monitors</b>	Bevina & Ryan, David	Gerry & Margaret, Irene	Thalody family
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Michelle & Abigail	Orly & Lusia	Vu & Ralph
<b>Readers</b>	Loretta & Gerard	Laura & Volunteer	Kathy & Volunteer
<b>Refreshments</b>	Myra & Volunteer	Nelia, Michelle, Tess	
<b>Flowers</b>	Maria	<b>Church Vacuuming</b>	Hermi & Charity
<b>Counters</b>	Richard & Margaret	<b>Foyer Cleaning</b>	Russell & Suzanne
<b>CLOTW</b>			

**Readers are needed:** We are trying to approach as near to normal (pre covid) as possible within our church ministries. Please consider joining the Ministry of Reader. If you feel called to this ministry we will offer you our prayers, training and support. For those who have previously been Ministers of the Word, please consider returning to this ministry. There is a readers in service meeting on the last Friday of each month. Colleen from the Readers group is happy to discuss this ministry if you have any questions or concerns about joining.

## Prayer intentions

As our Parish is developing a culture of Prayer and Worship the PLT (Parish Leadership Team) have decided to make a little gesture of welcoming everyone to express the need for prayer. The boxes are placed in front of the Blessed Virgin Mary wherein you can drop your petition (example: asking for good health, or any favour, etc.) and thanksgiving prayer (answered prayer, favour's given, blessings received, etc.). After some time, we look forward to forming a group of people who are interested to be part of an intercessor of the Parish Community. For inquiries, you may ask anyone from PLT: Fr. Shane, Fr. Sam, Sr. Ines, Beatrix Reuter, Geoff Ashton, Colleen Haughey, Donna Ransom, Sr. Ninfa

**For the sick & homebound:** John McDermott, 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 Gibbons, Clayton Diack, Emily Rose Pavicin, Pat & Denise Furner, Tracey Bokor, Lily Pereira, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Erlinda Hermes, Aurelia Vertucio, 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:** Fr John Whitty, Ivanka Banda, Zdravko Vrbancic, Marie Wintour, Martin D.Coutho, Fr Tadgh Tierney, Ofilia Mawson, Mary Gardner,

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Hilda Young, Orlando Ramirez Castano  
*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them.*





## Bulletin Notices

**Feast Day planning meeting will be held on Tuesday 24 May at 7.30pm.** We need your assistance to prepare for this year's Feast Day on July 17 in the Parish.

You are invited to our parish **Alpha Celebration Night** on Tuesday May 31 at 7:30pm in the parish hall. For 11 weeks parishioners have been meeting together in various homes as they embark on the Alpha journey. Come along and hear their stories and celebrate what God has done in people's lives through attending Alpha.  
RSVP via the parish office 9603 7373 M: 0434 705 176.

**Friendship Group** will next meet on Tuesday 7 June to enjoy a morning with a movie and popcorn. All are most warmly invited to attend.

**Trinity Sunday Celebration on Sunday 12 June at 9am,** Fr Henry Adler, Parish Priest at Holy Family Parish Ingleburn, will celebrate Mass at Holy Trinity Church Minto at 9am. He invites all past and present parishioners from the Minto Community to a special celebration to mark the Feast of the Holy Trinity. This special occasion will give him a chance to meet everyone after Mass. Fr Adler extends this invitation to everyone who has ever been a part of the Minto Community.

**Ministry Rosters** have been completed and sent out by email. If you require a paper copy of the roster please request at the parish office. Thank you to everyone who has renewed their roster commitment. If you wish to join a roster please contact the parish office at any time and you can partner with an existing team till the next roster is prepared.

**Faith Circles** small groups meet every Monday at 2pm and at 7pm on zoom. Contact the Parish Office for the zoom link. During this period of COVID pandemic, you are encouraged to spend time in prayer and spiritual reading and faith Circles is one way that you can do this. The weekly Faith Circles resource is available for free to download. It is available to download at [www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/](http://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/) or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.

**Raffle Ticket books are available in the foyer after Mass and all parishioners are encouraged to take home a book and sell them to family and friends. It will be drawn on 17 July at the Feast day.**

**Sacramental Registrations** are currently being accepted for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. There will be a parent formation evening on Wednesday 29 June at 7.15pm. There is information available on our parish website and all enquiries should be directed to the parish office.

**Eucharist - The Sacrifice We Offer** Join Bishop Mascord and people from across the Diocese for a Workshop on Saturday 11 June 2022 Xavier Conference Centre Wollongong (38 Harbour St), 9:30am - 2:30pm, presented by Sr Carmel Pilcher RSJ, PhD. Lunch and Morning Tea provided. An opportunity to make a donation to assist in covering costs will be provided towards the end of the workshop. At this workshop we will seek to understand what the early church understood by priestly participation in the liturgy.

Namely that each of us, together with our sisters & brothers in Christ, bring to the celebration the joys and hopes, grief and anxieties of our week. Ritually we place these on the Eucharistic table along with bread and wine to become the mystery of Christ's sacrifice. From the communion table we go to continue our priestly role as witnesses of Christ's love. This is a great opportunity for formation for anyone who wishes to deepen their appreciation of Eucharist. Register by Tuesday 7 June 2022: [dow.org.au/events](http://dow.org.au/events)  
Enquires: Anthony Rewak [anthony.rewak@dow.org.au](mailto:anthony.rewak@dow.org.au) / 4222 2465

### **Appeal for Children's Liturgy of the Word Leaders:**

We are appealing for members of our parish to please consider joining our Children's Liturgy of the Word team. In recent years, we have lost many of our helpers and are down to a small number of dedicated volunteers. As with any ministry, the ideal would be to have enough volunteers so everyone would only be on the roster twice a term. You can volunteer to just assist or you can begin as an assistant and progress to leading the Liturgy. A typical session includes reading the scriptures, discussing the Gospel message in two groups (younger children group and an older children group), singing the Creed and saying a kid friendly version of the Prayers of the Faithful. If time allows, we finish with a colouring or activity sheet. The whole session takes 20 mins or so and there is a PowerPoint display that guides you. It is not as hard or scary as people may think and everyone is welcome! Contact Lee Scales on 0407000281 for more information or contact the Parish Office.

**The Journey, Weekly Podcast:** On The Journey This Week: Fr Anthony Crook says the Easter Gospels have been leading us towards the imminent return of the glorified Jesus to the Father; today Jesus gives us his peace and promises the Advocate. Mother Hilda on how music triggers all sorts of memories for us. Plus, Fr Mike Delaney, Cathy Jenkins, Pete Gilmore, and more great music! The Journey podcast

**Deeper: Pentecost Intensive - Carmel House, Varroville 1-5 June:** Join the MGL Sisters as we deepen together in the experience of Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Come for a five-day intensive retreat in the lead-up to Pentecost and be encouraged in discipleship, activating the charismatic gifts, and being equipped for mission through inputs, discussion, prayer, and practical workshops.  
Enquiries: [mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com)  
Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/BWMJI>

### **May Retreats: St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park**

• Seeing with Fresh Eyes: Encountering the Risen Christ:  
6 Days: 27 May - 2 June \$930/ Weekend: 27-29 May \$310  
(Presenter: Elizabeth Lee)  
Enquiries: [contact@towersretreat.org.au](mailto:contact@towersretreat.org.au)  
Phone 02 46300233 <https://www.towersretreat.org.au>

**LIVE Local Macarthur** Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong (CYMW) is back with LIVE Local in the Macarthur, running every Sunday night in the school term from 6:15pm-8:15pm, at St John the Evangelist Parish Campbelltown. For more details on youth groups, visit <https://www.dow.org.au/cymw/>



## Holy Gospel according to John 14: 23-29

*The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him.

Those who do not love me do not keep my words.

And my word is not my own:

it is the word of the one who sent me.

I have said these things to you while still with you;

but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything

and remind you of all I have said to you.

Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you,

a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return.

If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

I have told you this now before it happens,

so that when it does happen you may believe.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



## Reflection by Michael Tate

**God's home is where the heart is** Some people have the idea that God is awfully remote, dwelling beyond the edge of the cosmos. We make contact by sending a prayer like a long range rocket, hoping it will find its target. And many religions teach that in order to be united with Supreme Being we have to be transported to some mystical realm, a realm which leaves the body behind. But this is totally wrong. The Creator is the deep down 'inscape' of every particle of matter, of every dynamism of energy. And the idea of a remote God is far distant from Our Lord's teaching in today's Gospel.

'If anyone loves me and keeps my word, my Father and I *will make our home* with that person.' Jesus was Jewish, and there is a long Jewish tradition which he draws on and then deepens in a remarkable way. Jewish slaves escaped from the despotic rule of the Pharaohs and wandered through the desert. Like the nomads of North Africa, or Tibet, they were tent dwellers. They carried with them a Tent of Meeting which was a special dwelling place of the God who rescued them. So, God, 'tented' amongst them.

And then, St John's Gospel, right at the beginning, says that the Word of God was made flesh and dwelt among us. The actual Greek is 'pitched his tent amongst us'. You can see that wonderful Tent imagery coming through.

In today's gospel, Our Lord is saying to his followers: Even though my ordinary physical presence is to be withdrawn, that is not something to trouble you, because my heavenly Father and I regard you as a tent. You, personally, are the place in which we want to dwell.

God wants to be at home in the hearts of believers, wants to dwell at the very heart of my personality and your personality, wants to make my heart and your heart more generous, more whole hearted. Our Lord is saying it is not in *outer* space, but in *inner* space that Divine Love will make a home – in your inner space, in my inner space. And the inner space is not some purely mental state. I read recently that Australia's leading poet, Les Murray, became a Catholic because of the sheer physicality of its understanding and practice of Christianity. And there is nothing more physical than Holy Communion.

What turns a house into a home, a mere residence into a home? I think you will agree that it is in sitting around a table sharing a meal. Jesus knew that, knows that. So, he created a sacred meal for us – heavenly bread and spiritual drink – and he invites us to share in that sacred meal. And when we do, we find, in the words of St John Paul II, that we 'digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection'. As Our Lord said at the Last Supper: 'Take, eat, this is My Body.' We take into ourselves the Real Presence of the Risen Lord.

In Holy Communion, Our Lord makes his home with us as he promised in today's gospel. There is a saying: Home is where the heart is. If you keep coming to Communion, or come back after even a long time away, you will find that the yearning of your heart is satisfied because Divine Love has chosen to dwell in your heart.

Home is where the heart is. Divine Love desires nothing more than to dwell in the home of your heart.