

*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.*

**16 July 2023**  
**Fifteenth Sunday**  
**in ordinary time**  
**Year A**

**Entrance Antiphon**

Your As for me, in justice I  
shall behold your face;  
I shall be filled with the  
vision of your glory.

**First Reading** from the  
prophet Isaiah 55:10-11

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8

**Response:**

The seed that falls on  
good ground will  
yield a fruitful harvest.

**Second Reading** from the  
letter of St Paul to the  
Romans 8:18-23

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of  
God, Christ is the sower;  
all who come to him will  
live for ever. Alleluia!

**Holy Gospel** according to  
Matthew 13:1-23

## Feast Day of Our Lady of Mt Carmel

Our Lady of Mount Carmel is the title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary in her role as patroness of the Carmelite Order, particularly within the Catholic Church. The first Carmelites were Christian hermits living on Mount Carmel in the Holy Land during the late 12th and early to mid-13th century. They built in the midst of their hermitages a chapel which they dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, whom they conceived of in chivalric terms as the "Lady of the place."



Since the 15th century, popular devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel has centred on the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, also known as the Brown Scapular. Traditionally, Mary is said to have given the Scapular to an early Carmelite named Saint Simon Stock (1165-1265). The liturgical feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is celebrated on 16 July.

**Welcome to our Fiesta today and enjoy the festivities offered by the generosity of our parishioners.**

**Thank you to everyone who has prepared for today in so many ways.**

**Words cannot express how wonderful you all are.  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, pray for us!**

## Contact Us

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

**Parish Associate: Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM**

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**Parish Office Ph: 9603 7373 /0434 705 176**

**Office Hours: Tues -Fri: 9.30am-12.30pm**

**Email: varroville@dow.org.au**

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### Weekday Mass times

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

Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm

### Sunday Mass times

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 9.30 am & 5pm



### Alpha Come and See Night August 1 at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall Who Will You Invite?

This is your chance to invite family, friends and neighbours to experience an Alpha session.

For further information go to the Alpha page on our parish website.

[www.varroville.dow.org.au/alpha/](http://www.varroville.dow.org.au/alpha/)

**The Journey Weekly Podcast:** Fr Mark De Battista says when it comes to faith and knowledge of God, it's those with a childlike heart who have the deepest insights. Mother Hilda compares King David's harp playing to the music of Jesus in our heart. Plus, Pete Gilmore's faith testimony. The Journey podcast available at [jcr.org.au](http://jcr.org.au).



**For the sick & homebound:** Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Amanda & John Meredith, Reg Gardner, Sr Heather Burke, Marie & Barry Atkins, Carol & Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Francisco Carmona, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdryns, *May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain & affliction.*

**For our recently dearly departed:** Laurence McGuinness, Ronald Allen, Terrence Royal Frantz, Carmel Pillai, Antonio Azevedo, Luke Stephenson,

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Jerry & Anne Migus, Anne La Spina, Jeff Randal, Damien Champion, Maurice Spillane, Margaret Farrell, Les Wicks, Benito Cossettini,

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

## Bulletin Notices

**Vinnie's Sleepout:** Please join our Sleepout or give now to help us reach our fundraising goal which will assist Vinnies provide support for those in our community who need it the most. We are calling for local businesses and community members to come together in solidarity and give up one night in a warm, comfortable bed to help raise funds and awareness about homelessness and disadvantage in our very own back yard.



Date: Saturday 29th July from 6pm.

Venue: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Parish,

Event Coordinator: Gabriel Mafi; contact: [kapelieli.mafi@gmail.com](mailto:kapelieli.mafi@gmail.com)

What to Bring: Sleeping bag, pillow, a water bottle, wear warm clothing, and a blanket if you feel the cold!

**2023 Significant Marriage Anniversaries Mass:** If you are celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or over 60 years of marriage this year, we invite you to the celebration of Significant Marriage Anniversaries, to be celebrated with Bishop Brian Mascord on Sunday 17 September 2023 at 2pm at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong. Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the Xavier Centre Conference Room. Please register online at [dow.sh/ma23](http://dow.sh/ma23) or contact Helen Bennett at the Office of the Bishop at 4222 2403, or via email [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au) by no later than Friday 4 August 2023.

**Disciples of Jesus Covenant Community | Fire Weekend Friday 28 – Sunday 30 July 2023** at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre Varroville: Fire Weekends are for young adults aged 18 -35 who want to grow deeper in their relationship with God. It's also a great way to meet and make friends! The event will include activities such as talks, personal sharings, dramas, recreation time, sport, prayer, good food, live music, reconciliation, and Mass. Cost: \$200 inclusive of all food and activities. Register here: [form.jotform.com/231340929360857](http://form.jotform.com/231340929360857). Any enquiries contact: Joe Pulella 0401 319 532

**MenALIVE Macarthur Regional Weekend**, 9-10 September, Micah House, Campbelltown. Cost \$70 per person (\$50 concession). Come along to our menALIVE weekend and be impacted by an encounter with the Gospel in the presence of other good men seeking to be renewed in faith and life. So many men have had their faith transformed and renewed by the experience of menALIVE, and this is an opportunity for men who have attended a menALIVE regional weekend in the past, and men who haven't, to come together to affirm the words of St Irenaeus all over again: "God is glorified when men are fully alive!" Register: [ow.sh/MACampbelltown2023](http://ow.sh/MACampbelltown2023)



## Holy Gospel according to Matthew 13:1-23

*A sower went out to sow.*

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'



The Gospel of the Lord!

### REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Here is Jesus telling another story about nature, in this case about soil good enough to bear a crop. Is he just a keen observer of the farmers of his time? No.

Throughout the Gospels there is a harmony between Jesus and the natural creation of a profound kind. But St Paul intuited that link at a profound level in the case of the Risen Lord. This led him to make the most amazing claim that:

'The creation itself would be set free from its slavery to decay in order to share the freedom associated with the glory of the children of God.' We, and the whole cosmos, share the legacy of a common destiny brought about by the powerful victory of Christ over the final instance of decay, destruction and every type of death.

We could pause a moment to pray with the angels as we do at every Mass: 'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.'

