

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.

SUNDAY 16 JUNE 2024
ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME YEAR B



Entrance Antiphon

O Lord, hear my voice, for I
have called to you; be my
help. Do not abandon or
forsake me, O God, my
Saviour!

First Reading from the
prophet Ezekiel 17:22-24

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. see v.2

Response: Lord, it is good to
give thanks to you.

Second Reading from the
second letter of St Paul to
the Corinthians 5:6-10

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
Mark 4:26-34

Communion Antiphon

There is one thing I ask of
the Lord, only this do I seek:
to live in the house of the
Lord all the days of my life.

NEXT WEEK

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

First: Job 38:1. 8-11

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 106:23-26. 28-31. R. v.1

Second: 2 Corinth 5:14-17

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

Our Feast Day celebrations begin with a novena of Masses dedicated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

A Novena is a nine day private or public devotion to obtain special graces.

We will offer our Novena of Masses from Friday 5 July till Saturday 13 July at 7.30pm on every weekday. Weekend Mass times will remain unchanged.

The Masses will include readings devoted to Our Lady, novena prayers and singing the beautiful Hymn "Flower of Carmel".

Everyone is encouraged to attend Mass for the nine days of the Novena.

Parish groups and ministries are invited to host one of the Masses by participating with readings, offertory, altar serving, choir, refreshments. A floral offering to Our Lady takes place whilst the hymn is sung.

If you would like to participate with your ministry or individually please contact Sr Jill to lock in a date.

More information including the themes for the Masses are available on the parish website <https://www.varroville.dow.org.au/events/the-feast-of-our-lady-of-mount-carmel/>



Annual Finance Presentation

This weekend our Parish Finance Council will be making a presentation at all Masses.

This is a mandatory report that allows all parishioners to understand the financial position of our parish. Our parish accounts are audited every year and are available to you. If you would like a copy please contact the parish office.

Plans have been underway to do some renovations on our church. The preparation for this renovation has taken much longer than anyone could have anticipated. We are currently waiting for several construction companies to submit quotes. More information will be made available when we have something definite to report.

The primary source of income for our parish is the 2nd collection taken each Sunday. It comprises of planned giving arrangements; both by envelopes and direct debit and loose cash, given by parishioners who do not have a planned giving arrangement in place. An electronic regular gift provides many benefits. You will find it a secure, convenient and efficient way to regularly support your parish, while also reducing our administration costs. It will also help us to confidently forecast and plan, as we know that we can rely on your support. You can increase, decrease, discontinue or restart your monthly gift at any time. Please visit <https://www.varroville.dow.org.au/about-us/new-parishioners/> to learn of the ways you can support our parish electronically.

The new sets of planned giving envelopes will be available in our foyer next weekend for you to collect.

Worship: Mass and Devotions

Sunday Mass	Weekday Mass	Devotions
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Mon, Tues, Wed Mass at 9am	Adoration with the Rosary: Saturday 9.30am
Sunday: 9.30 am and 5pm	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm	Divine Mercy Devotion: Third Sunday at 3pm
Filipino Mass: Third Sunday at 11.15am	Fri and Sat Mass at 9am	Alliance of the 2 Hearts Mass and Devotion: First Friday of each month from 7.30pm
Samoan Mass: First Sunday at 12 noon	Healing Mass on the first Saturday of each month at 9am	Reconciliation: Saturday 11 am—12
Maori Mass: First Sunday at 2pm		



Contact us

Parish Priest:
Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Parish Associate:
Sr “Jill” Girlie Sudario, CM

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 9.30am-12.30pm

Phone: 9603 7373 / 0434 705 176

Email: varroville@dow.org.au

Website: varroville.dow.org.au

Meetings and Gatherings

Friendship Group meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 9am.

Readers Ministry Meeting meets on the last Tuesday of every 2 months at 7.30pm via zoom.

Holy Family Fellowship meets on the 4th Saturday at 7pm.

Book Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10am.

Fundraising Team meeting is on Wednesday 29 May at 7.30pm.

Faith Circles meets every Monday via zoom at 2pm & 7.30pm.

Bible Reflection group meets every Monday at 10am.

Children’s Choir will meet on 3rd Friday at 7.30pm.

Childrens Ministry Gathering will meet on the 4th Sunday from 3– 5 pm.

Youth Ministry is on fire for faith, friendship and specially for God! All 13-17 years old are invited to join every fortnight on the 2nd & 4th Friday of every month at 6:30 pm.

Prayer intentions

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

For our recently dearly departed: Gerry Antilla, Emeritus Bishop Peter Ingham, Jaya Jones.

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Frazer Toweeel, deceased members of the Thomas family, Ricardo Celiz Jr,



Our Community: Rosters

23 June 2024	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
Welcomers	Paul & Lori & Myra	Martin & Violeti & Paul	Stuart & Judy & Jackie
Altar Servers	Ryan, Amana, Elijah, & Eliana	Orly	Michael & Nathan
Readers	Loretta & Gerard	Gabriel & Volunteer	Margaret & Evangeline
Refreshments	Margaret & Nadia	Maria Severino & Irene	Leah & Patricia
Altar Linen		CLOTW : Fev & Nellie	
Flowers	Patricia & Mago	Church Vacuuming	Susan
Counters	Margaret & Jeanne	Foyer Cleaning	Susan

Our Parish Notices:

Community Notices

The next meeting for the Fiesta Committee will be held on Monday 17 June at 7.30pm.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist will meet on 2 Saturdays 22 & 29 June from 4—5.30 pm for formation. All existing and new Eucharistic ministers must attend. If you would like to join this ministry please call the parish office for more information.

Children's Ministry Get together will next meet on Sunday 23 June from 3—5pm in the parish meeting room. The group meets on the fourth Sunday of each month.

The Children's Mass will be on Sunday 30 June at 9.30am. It is held on the fifth Sunday of the month in the months when there are 5 Sundays.

Property meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 June at 7.30pm in the meeting room.

Working Bee will be held on Saturday 22 June for gardening, general maintenance and Fiesta preparation.

Fundraising meeting will be held on Thursday 20 June at 8pm via zoom. Contact the parish office for the zoom link.

Our major raffle tickets are available from the foyer after all masses. Please take a book home and sell to family and friends. The draw will take place at our Fiesta.

Marriage Encounter Weekend 28 – 30 June 2024 at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact 0490 774 419.

On this first day of MEN'S HEALTH WEEK, 10-16 June, Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia has featured Fr David Catterall's story on their PCFA Facebook Page.

Thank you to all those who have already made a donation to support 'Walk for Him' to support life-saving research and support services for those, like Fr David, diagnosed with prostate cancer. As someone directly impacted by metastatic prostate cancer, Fr David has set himself to walk 30km during this week for this initiative. You can make a donation to Fr David's fundraising page using this

link: www.walkforhim.org.au/fundraisers/frdavidcatterall

2024 Significant Marriage Anniversaries Mass If you are celebrating 25, 30, 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 25 August 2024 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 <https://dow.sh/MA2024> or contact Helen Bennett at the Office of the Bishop at 4222 2403, or via email helen.bennett@dow.org.au.

MenALIVE MAX national Conference – Varroville 19 - 21 July

Many men have benefited from the challenges, encouragement and faithful brotherhood that comes from menALIVE. Here's a chance for men from all round Australia to

come together- be renewed in faith for action, for good - and it is happening in our Diocese- so don't miss this. It's time to book you spot and stoke the desire to become fully alive as the men we have been created to be. For more info and to book go to <https://menalive.org.au/events/max-weekend-2024> or jude.hennessy@dow.org.au or Mob: 0408 236 191

Sydney iSTAND Camp: Forgiven and Free Wednesday 17 July Friday 19 July 2024 Carmel House, Varroville. iSTAND Events are for students in year 9 -12 (age 14-18 yrs) and are a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow young people in a welcoming environment while learning more about yourself, others and God. This iSTAND Weekend will include activities such as games, group activities, prayer, reflection, testimonies and talks. COST: \$160 inclusive of all food and activities Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/240807884793875>

Retreat in Daily Life: Grow deeper in your walk with God

Join a seven-day retreat at home, at your own pace, starting with Mass at Holy Family Church Ulladulla at 10:00 am on Thursday, 20 June, and concluding after Mass on Thursday, 27 June. Participants will receive daily readings, reflections, and music links via email. Opportunities to meet with other retreatants will be available after Mass on the first and last days, and Sunday, 23 June. Individual support is also available by appointment. Retreatants can attend Mass in their local parish if so willing. This retreat is designed for personal reflection and can be adapted to fit your schedule. Open to everyone from all parishes. Contact Anne Foster at 0402 904 188 or fosterja@outlook.com for more information or to express interest. Come away to a quiet place all by yourselves and rest a while - Mark 6:31

Ignite Conference 2024: Rise Up! Sydney 26-29 September 2024: A conference for everyone, from leaders to first-time believers. This is the Church gathered and alive on mission. This is God's people united with one heart. Ignite Conference is a gathering of Catholics for four days of real-world formation, renewal of faith, great people and powerful worship. Join with young people from our Diocese and over 2000 high schoolers, young adults, leaders, teachers, priests and religious taking part in a life changing encounter with God and His Church. For more information, go to igniteconference.com.au and contact Arnie Hurdoyal at 0431 611 128 or Arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au to be part of our Diocesan Group attending this amazing event.

Try Faith Circles Faith Circles is a weekly resource to help individuals but mainly small groups to come together in Parishes. In doing so it assists in the development of faith and community, a strong desire expressed in our Diocesan feedback from the National Church Life Survey. The weekly Faith Circles resource is available for free to download. It is easy to use with simple questions and prayer points. It is available to download at www.dow.org.au/media-resources/fait-circles/ or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.

Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese; Every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage

Holy Gospel according to Mark 4:26-34

The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, as far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Gospel Reflection by Pope Francis

In today's Gospel passage (cf. Mk 4:26-34), Jesus speaks to the crowd about the Kingdom of God and the dynamics of its growth, and he does so by recounting two brief parables. In the first parable (cf. vv. 26-29), the Kingdom of God is compared to the mysterious growth of the seed, which is cast upon the ground and then sprouts, grows and produces ears [of grain], independent of the care of the farmer who, when it is fully grown, sees to its harvest. This is the message that this parable conveys to us: through Jesus' teaching and action, the Kingdom of God is proclaimed, has burst into the field of the world and, like the seed, grows and develops by itself, through its own strength and according to humanly incomprehensible criteria. In its growth and development in history, it does not depend on my Holy Spirit who brings forth Christian life in the People of God.

At times history, with its events and its protagonists, seems to go in the opposite direction of the design of the heavenly Father, who wants justice, fraternity, and peace for all his children. But we are called to live out these periods as seasons of trial, of hope and of vigilant expectation of the harvest. Indeed, yesterday like today, the Kingdom of God grows in the world in a mysterious way, in a surprising way, revealing the hidden power of the little seed, its victorious vitality. Within the folds of personal and social events which at times seem to signal the failure of hope, it is important to remain confident in God's subdued but powerful way of acting. For this reason, in moments of darkness and of difficulty we must not lose heart, but remain anchored in faithfulness to God, to his ever-saving presence. Remember this: God always saves. He is the Saviour.

In the second parable (cf. vv. 30-32), Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed. It is a very small seed, yet it grows to become the greatest of all the plants in the garden: an unforeseeable, surprising growth. It is not easy for us to enter this logic of the unforeseeable nature of God and to accept it in our life. But today the Lord exhorts us to an attitude of faith which exceeds all our plans, our calculations, our predictions. God is always the God of surprises. The Lord always surprises us. It is an invitation to open ourselves more generously to God's plans, both on the personal level and on that of the community. In our communities it is important to pay attention to the little and big occasions of goodness that the Lord offers us, allowing ourselves to engage in his dynamics of love, of welcoming and of mercy toward others.

The authenticity of the Church's mission does not come through success nor through the gratification of the results, but by going forth with the courage of trust and the humility of abandonment to God. Going forth professing Jesus and with the power of the Holy Spirit. It is the awareness of being small and weak instruments which, in God's hands and with his grace, can accomplish great deeds, advancing his Kingdom which is "righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Rom 14:17). May the Virgin Mary help us to be simple, to be attentive, to cooperate with our faith and with our work to develop the Kingdom of God in hearts and in history?

