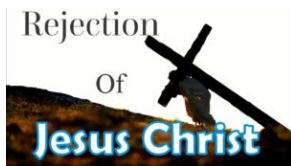


We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand, the elders, past and present and all the Dharawal people. May we too be good stewards of this land.

**SUNDAY 7 JULY 2024**  
**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN**  
**ORDINARY TIME YEAR B**



**Entrance Antiphon**

Your merciful love, O God,  
we have received in the  
midst of your temple.  
Your praise, O God, like your  
name, reaches the ends of  
the earth; your right hand is  
filled with saving justice.

**First Reading** from the  
prophet Ezekiel 2:2-5

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 122. R. v.2  
(R.) Our eyes are fixed on the  
Lord, pleading for his mercy.

**Second Reading** from the  
second letter of St Paul to  
the Corinthians 12:7-10

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit  
of the Lord is upon me; he  
sent me to bring Good News  
to the poor. Alleluia!

**Holy Gospel** according to  
Mark 6:1-6

**Communion Antiphon**

Taste and see that the Lord is  
good; blessed the man who  
seeks refuge in him.

**Next Week**  
**Fifteenth Sunday in**  
**Ordinary Time.**

1st: Amos 7:12-15  
2nd: Ephesians 1:3-14  
Gospel: Mark 6:7-13



## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast Day and Fiesta

Food trays are available for you to take home and bring back on Sunday filled with delicious meals for our food stalls. If you are not able to cook a dish, maybe you can bring something for the BBQ or cakes.

Parking will be available in the grounds of Mount Carmel Catholic College, entry on Spitfire Drive. Please note parking is not permitted within the church grounds except for those people with a disability tag.

Food stall helpers with equipment and other supplies will be able to drop off near the hall but will need to park vehicles outside the grounds by 10am. The College has ample parking and easy access to the fiesta area.

Please allow an extra few minutes before Mass to walk from the College grounds to the Church. The church gates will be closed before the procession begins to ensure the safety of all involved.

We will be setting up on Saturday and Sunday from 8am. Just come along and help out.

After the Feast day Mass there will be a procession led by Our Lady's statue from the church to the Fiesta on the other side of the hall. The fiesta will then commence. There will be parish information stalls and children's activities; multicultural food stalls where you can enjoy a nice lunch, followed by a concert of local talent.

The flyers are available to be distributed in our local neighbourhood. Please take a bundle and put in letterboxes to promote our fiesta locally. Please highlight on the map in the foyer which streets you will cover to ensure we invite as many as possible.

There is still time to volunteer to join one of the teams for the fiesta. The choices are on the sign up sheets in the foyer or by messaging the parish office on 0434 705 176.

Please note this week's Mass times:

Monday 8 July: Weekday Mass at 9am and Novena Mass at 7.30pm  
Tuesday 9 July: Weekday Mass at 9am and Novena Mass at 7.30pm  
Wednesday 10 July: Weekday Mass at 9am and Novena Mass at 7.30pm  
Thursday 11 July: Novena Mass at 7.30pm  
Friday 12 July: Weekday Mass at 9am and Novena Mass at 7.30pm  
Saturday 13 July: Weekday Mass at 9am and Vigil Mass at 6pm  
Sunday 14 July: **Feast Day Mass at 10am** and Sunday Mass at 5pm



**The next meeting for the Fiesta Committee will be held on Monday 8 July at 8.30pm after the Novena Mass.**



## 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](mailto:varroville@dow.org.au)

Website: [varroville.dow.org.au](http://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.

**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.

**Wrap with love** knitting & crochet group meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 11am.

## Prayer intentions

**For the sick and homebound:** Peter Presdee, 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:**

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Petar Petrinovic, Damien Champion, Frazer Toweel, Noreen & Joe Farrell, Anne La Spina, Jeff Randal, Margaret Farrell, *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.*



## Our Community: Rosters

14 July 2024	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 10 am	Sunday 5pm
<b>Welcomers</b>	Glen & Arlene	Nelia & Anita	Terry & Maree
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Andrew, Diane, Sebastian & Eliana	Orly	Michael & Nathan
<b>Readers</b>	Mark & Carlos	Allan & Aida	Sheenalyn & Kathy
<b>Refreshments</b>	Emmarie & Berna	Steve, Sarah & Tereza Canoy	Margaret, Geoff & Danni
<b>Altar Linen</b>		<b>CLOTW:</b> Sarah & Janny	
<b>Flowers</b>	Maree & Asinate	<b>Church Vacuuming</b>	Tess Vergara & Effie
<b>Counters</b>	George & Jackie	<b>Foyer Cleaning</b>	Patricia & Parish Office

## Our Parish Notices:

## Community Notices

**Our major raffle ticket draw at the Fiesta will be postponed due to lack of ticket sales.** It is very disappointing that we will not cover our costs if we draw it now. The draw will be postponed until Sunday 13 October at our Annual Parish meeting. The tickets will be available for sale at the Fiesta. Please take a book home and sell to family and friends.

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**Vinnies Sleepout:** Save the date: Saturday 27 July here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Vinnies members will be hosting the annual sleepout. Join the sleepout or come along for a campfire and offer encouragement for the campers.

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**ALPHA** will commence on Tuesday 30 July with a come & see night. Bring along a friend.

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**Sacramental Information Meeting** for the parents of children undertaking the sacramental classes this year will be held on Saturday 27 July at 4.30pm. Registrations are currently being accepted at the parish office for Confirmation and First Reconciliation.

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**NAIDOC Week 2024:** The celebration of NAIDOC Week 2024 is from 7-14 July 2024 and is an opportunity for all Australians to come together to celebrate and recognise the contributions and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NATSICC has produced a beautiful liturgy resource, [https://www.natsicc.org.au/2024-atsi-sunday.html?mc\\_cid=b7a2513af2&mc\\_eid=e4b34f8898](https://www.natsicc.org.au/2024-atsi-sunday.html?mc_cid=b7a2513af2&mc_eid=e4b34f8898). Keep the Fire Burning: Strong in Faith.

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**Sydney iSTAND Camp: Forgiven and Free Wed 17 – Fri 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>

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**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 information and to book go to <https://menalive.org.au/events/max-weekend-2024> or contact jude.hennessy@dow.org.au or Mob: 0408 236 19.

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**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 you and your family in your faith. Stay informed by subscribing at [dow.sh/stayingconnected](http://dow.sh/stayingconnected) or visit [dow.sh/weeklybulletin](http://dow.sh/weeklybulletin).

**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](http://igniteconference.com.au) and contact Arnie Hurdoyal at 0431 611 128 or [Arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au](mailto:Arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au) to be part of our Diocesan Group attending this amazing event.

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**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/](http://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/fait-circles/) or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.

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**Social Justice Points** Many people experience a condition of loneliness that is often close to abandonment. The elderly and the sick ill are often invisible in society. We encourage parishes and Christian communities to be close to them and listen to them. Works of mercy inspired by the Gospel words "I was sick and you visited me" (Mt 25:39) have a profound significance for the people involved and for fostering the wider bonds of community. -- 'XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops' (Synod on Synodality) Synthesis Report.

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**The Journey Weekly Podcast This Week:** Fr Brian Steele MGL says that unless we see God in Jesus, he cannot work the miracle of taking us to himself. Mother Hilda says God's always in the cycle of our life. Plus, Fr Tony Percy, Trish McCarthy, and Pete Gilmore. The Journey podcast available at [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au).

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**Go Deeper in your Faith with popular & FREE Catholic Podcasts**

- **Bible in a Year:** Ascension Press will again run the Catholic Bible in a Year Podcast featuring Fr Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins in 2024. It remains one of the world's leading podcasts with over 400 million downloads. While a new podcast is released daily, you can do it at your own pace signing up at [www.ascensionpress.com/biy](http://www.ascensionpress.com/biy) and it's not too late to catch up or simply work through at your own pace.
- **Catechism in a Year:** This year, Ascension Press will also again run the Catechism in a Year podcast which will slowly and prayerfully read through and break open the Catechism over 365 days. It's not too late to catch up, and the daily podcasts can be listened to at your own pace. It is available at [www.ascensionpress.com/ciy](http://www.ascensionpress.com/ciy)

## Holy Gospel according to Mark 6:1-6

*A prophet is despised only in his own country.*

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.



The Gospel of the Lord.

### Naidoc Week Homily by Bishop Danny Meagher

You would think that, God being all powerful and eternal, those on the side of God would have things go their way. However, here on Earth, this has not been the experience of God's prophets and saints. The readings today deal with this painful reality.

St Paul had a profound conversion experience on the road to Damascus and gave his life thereafter to preaching the Risen Christ. However, as St Paul recounts in the second reading this only led to insult, hardships, persecution and agony. In every way, Paul says he feels weak. Yet Paul realised that God wanted him to know his weakness, because this allowed Paul in his humility to be filled with the power of Christ. So Paul carried on, in his weakness, powerfully witnessing to Christ, right up to his martyrdom in Rome.

In the first reading, the Spirit of the Lord comes upon Ezekiel and Ezekiel receives his commission as prophet. But it was not anything humanly glorious, but rather to the same insult and persecution that Paul experienced as he was called on to prophesise to a defiant and obstinate people – set of rebels.

These readings set the scene for the Gospel. Jesus returned to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and preached in the synagogue. Despite the brilliance of his teaching, Jesus' own people did not accept him. They thought they knew him and could not seem to accept that Jesus might be so much more than the carpenter's son. On his part, Jesus was amazed at their lack of faith and could work no miracles there. Jesus could raise the dead. He could walk on water. He could feed thousands of people with just a few loaves of bread. But, if people had no faith, He could do nothing for them.

And, of course, we know that Jesus would continue to be rejected by his own people despite all the good that he did. After three years of public ministry, Jesus would be handed over by his own people to be crucified.

Many felt crushed by the loss of the Referendum last year. It seemed a just cause in the process of Reconciliation, yet was rejected by the Australian people. We need to acknowledge the feelings of rejection and disappointment – much like the insults and agony St Paul spoke about – that many First Nations people experience.

However, the time will come when all Australians must continue the journey of Reconciliation. Our deepest identity is that we are sisters and brothers in Christ. We are created, loved and redeemed by God. Our homeland is together with our Father in Heaven. Even now we are filled with the Holy Spirit. Reconciliation is right. It is what God wants. This is our faith and our faith keeps us strong. It gives us direction. And it gives us the knowledge that, one day, God's Kingdom will come.

We are called to be strong in faith, as Ezekiel, St Paul and Jesus were. Each of them suffered terrible rejection, yet their faith gave them the strength and confidence to keep going. Because faith attaches us to God and God's power can be manifest in people of faith.

The themes for today – "Keep the fires burning" and "Strong in faith" are very much related and so necessary for those working for Reconciliation. Being strong in faith is to keep the fire deep within our hearts burning. For it is to retain hope that God's ways, whatever the rejections and insults and agonies, will in the end win out. And faith attaches us to God, so we can continue to know God's love deep within our hearts, which gives us the capacity to love and to forgive even in the darkest of times.

Here in the New Testament, St Paul writes that we must endure many difficulties before we enter the Kingdom of God. So it was for Ezekiel, St Paul and Jesus Himself. So, it is for us. But God is greater than everything. For those who stay close to God, all things turn out for the good.