



To Know, love and serve Jesus
by sharing our gifts through our baptismal mission

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A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Volunteers at OLMC Varroville

As we reflect on the blessings of 2025, one thing stands out above all, the incredible generosity and dedication of our volunteers. Each of you has been the hands and feet of Christ in our parish, and we cannot thank you enough for the countless ways you have served.

From welcoming parishioners at Mass, preparing and serving at the altar, sharing your musical talents, to organizing events, organising refreshments, maintaining our grounds, and supporting those in need, your efforts have touched lives in ways that words can hardly express. You have given your time, energy, and love freely, and through your service, you have helped make Our Parish a true community of faith, hope, and charity.

Volunteering is never just about tasks, it is about relationships, compassion, and living out the Gospel. Every smile you share, every hour you dedicate, and every prayer you offer strengthens the bonds that unite us as a parish family. Your commitment reminds us that together, we can accomplish great things for God's glory.

This year has brought its share of challenges, yet your unwavering spirit has been a beacon of light. Whether you served quietly behind the scenes or led from the front, please know that your contribution matters deeply. You have helped create a welcoming space where everyone can encounter Christ and feel at home.

On behalf of our parish leadership and every member of OLMC Varroville, thank you for saying "yes" to this beautiful mission. May the Lord bless you abundantly for your generosity and grant you joy and peace in the year ahead. We look forward to continuing this journey together, united in faith and service.

With heartfelt gratitude

Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday 27 November at 7.30pm.

We will be having a special Mass and celebration in thanksgiving for our Parish and each other. Come along and invite others in your ministry to attend.

The Cash raffle will be drawn on the night. Thank you for supporting it this year and good luck to all the ticket holders.



JUBILEE OF CHOIRS: A CELEBRATION OF SACRED HARMONY

This weekend, the Catholic Church will celebrate the **Jubilee of Choirs**, a special event within the Jubilee Year dedicated to honouring the ministry of music and those who serve through song. This occasion recognizes choirs as a vital part of liturgical life, enriching worship and leading the faithful in praise. As the Church teaches, music is not

merely an ornament to the liturgy but an integral expression of faith, lifting hearts toward God and fostering unity among believers.

The Jubilee of Choirs is more than a commemoration, it is a spiritual pilgrimage. Choirs from around the world will gather in Rome, with key moments including a pilgrimage to the Holy Door, opportunities for confession, and participation in evening Masses across the city. The celebration culminates on November 23 with a solemn Mass presided over by the Holy Father in St. Peter's Square, a powerful sign of communion and gratitude for those who dedicate their voices to the glory of God. [jubilaem2025.va]

This event also serves as an invitation to reflect on the deeper meaning of music in worship. As Vatican II emphasized, the choir's role is to encourage active participation and enhance the beauty of the liturgy, while also nurturing the spiritual life of its members. Through sacred song, choirs become instruments of evangelization, helping the Gospel resonate in hearts through beauty and harmony. [pilgrimsf...lic.org.au]

The Jubilee of Choirs reminds us that music is a universal language of hope. Whether in grand cathedrals or humble parish churches, choirs embody the joy of faith and the unity of the Church. As we celebrate this Jubilee, we give thanks for the gift of music and for all who serve tirelessly to make our worship vibrant and prayerful.

23 November 2025

Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe
Year C

Entrance Antiphon

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

First Reading from the second book of Samuel 5:1-3

Responsorial Psalm

121:1-5. R. see v.2
(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading from the letter to the Colossians 1:12-20

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. **Alleluia!**

Holy Gospel according to Luke 23:35-43

Communion Antiphon

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Next Week

30 November 2025
First Sunday of Advent
Year A

First: Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm: Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9.
R. v.1.

Second: Romans 13:11-14
Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

Mass and Devotions

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 9.30am & 5pm

Samoan Mass: 1st Sunday of October at 12noon

Maori Mass: 1st Sunday of each month at 2pm

Filipino Mass: 3rd Sunday of each month at 11.15am

Children's Mass: 5th Sunday of the month at 9.30am

Weekday Mass

9am each day except Thursday;

Thursday at 7.30pm

Healing Mass on the 1st Saturday of each month at 9am.

Reconciliation

every Saturday at 11am

Devotions & Prayer groups

Adoration with the Rosary:

Saturday at 9.30am

Alliance of the 2 hearts Mass

& devotion: 1st Friday of each month at 7.30pm

Divine Mercy Devotion: 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm

Faith Circles: every Monday at 2pm & 7pm via zoom

Holy Family Fellowship:

every 4th Saturday at 7pm.

Book Club: meets on the 3rd

Wednesday at 10am.

Friendship Group: is on the

1st Tuesday of the Month

Bible Study & Reflection

Group: meets Monday at 10am.

Children's Ministry

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

Ascent Youth Ministry:

meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday from 6.30pm.

Parish Notices

Orientation for Welcomers and Refreshment Volunteers this weekend after every Mass. Stay after Mass for a tour and information about our new foyer and kitchen facilities. We have some new procedures to introduce about using our new facilities before the new rosters commence in December.

Raffle tickets are still available to take home and sell. Please ask the welcomer for a book of tickets or call in at the parish office to collect. Sold tickets can be returned at any time.

Advent Books "The Promise" are now available from the Parish office and the Piety stall. The cost is \$5.00

Vinnies are launching the Christmas Appeal this weekend. The tree is in the foyer and you can take a tag and bring back the item written on the tag. Some tags are food items and some are gifts for specific age children. There will be a money collection next weekend to support the work of Vinnie's in our local community.

Parish Advent Retreat Day will be held on Saturday 29 November; Commencing with the 9am Mass. The theme this year is "Waiting with Hope Embracing The Advent Journey".

Children's Mass will be held on Sunday 30 November at 9.30am Mass. Please bring your children and grandchildren for this special Mass.

Nametag Sunday: will be introduced next weekend and then on the last weekend of every month. The objective of nametag Sunday is to spend a little time at mass meeting a person or a family that you may see each week but don't know. It will also coincide with the start of the refreshment roster, so we can take a little time and make a friend or two who are in our community. If you have a nametag at home for your job you can use that instead of writing a sticky label.

Francisco Palau Appeal; A huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent fundraising drive! Your generosity has made a real difference, and we're grateful to be part of such a caring community. To all the parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, your contributions have helped raise Au\$2,500 for the Fr. Francisco Palau Foundation, Inc. (FFPFI). This will directly support those in need, and we're still receiving envelopes, so every bit counts! Thanks again for your kindness and support. Carmelite Missionaries.

The Friendship Group will be meeting on Tuesday 2nd of December at the Meeting room after the 9am Mass. It will be a **Christmas Brunch party.** Please bring a dish or plate to share and a gift (value maximum \$10) for the Kris Kringle.

Advent group will run on Tuesday evening for 4 weeks from 7pm - 8.30pm commencing 23rd November in the Parish meeting room with a light supper provided. For further details or questions please contact Paul & Loriana 0412216589.

Working bee will be held on Saturday 6 December from 9am—2pm to clean up the grounds and parish in preparation for Christmas. Come along for an hour or 2. Your assistance will be appreciated.

Save the Date: Advent Christmas Concert with Peter Kearney; The concert will be a mixture of reflection, celebration and fun, led by Peter Kearney, a Catholic composer, singer and guitarist. He has made religious music my work since the 1980s. My best-known compositions include 'Fill My House', 'The Beatitudes' and 'This Is Our School'.

The first part of the presentation will focus on Advent themes of preparation.

Then it will look ahead to the joyful time of Christmas, including traditional and Australian Christmas carols. There will be opportunities for audience participation. Children will be welcome and included.

The Indian community invites you to celebrate the Holy Mass of St Francis Xavier's Feast on the 3rd of December at 6.30 pm. Mass at St Thomas More Catholic Church, 43 Acacia Ave, Ruse. Please bring a plate to share.

2025 Advent Retreat - From Eden to Bethlehem From Eden to Bethlehem is a retreat day based on The Great Adventure Bible Timeline™ Learning System. The Bible Timeline™ Learning System ties all of Scripture together by following God's "family plan"... from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church. With its unique color-coded system, you will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. A Life-Changing Approach to Scripture! **Date:** Saturday 13 December from 9am - 5pm at Holy Family Parish Ingleburn - Parish Meeting Room; **Retreat Facilitator:** Charbel Raish; **Cost:** Free (A donation for the retreat facilitator will be appreciated). Please contact the parish office for more information or visit www.hfi.org.au

What's on around the Diocese? dow.sh/stayingconnected or dow.sh/weeklybulletin see everything that is on around our Diocese!

Hear from Pope Leo XIV Sunday Echo is a limited-release resource the Diocese has developed that contains, using the Holy Father's most recent homily or reflection and accompanying discussion questions. Each issue will be released the day after Pope Leo XIV gives a homily or reflection on the most recent Sunday Gospel readings go to <https://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/> to access or sign up to have sent straight to you.

menALIVE Growing Good Men Weekend 2025 Friday 5 – Sunday 7 December 2025, The Tops Conference Centre: A powerful weekend for fathers and their teenage sons (ages 12–17). Strengthen your bond, explore the journey into manhood, and share in engaging activities, reflection, prayer, and a memorable Rite of Passage. Places are limited – register early to secure your spot! \$400 per father & son pair (includes accommodation, meals, activities & resources). For more information and registration, visit www.dow.org.au/events

Prayer intentions

For the sick and homebound:

May Whitlock, Pat Cullen,
Mary Ponnalam,
Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran,
Karen Browne, Reg Gardner,
Sr Heather Burke, Barry
Atkins, Carol & Gabriel
Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez,
Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty,
Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib,
John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart,
Allan Marquinez, Richard
Scolyer, Angela Pavlovic,

May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain & affliction.

For our recently departed

Jennifer Cuaresmo, Angelina Solidum.

Anniversaries that occur at this time Giuseppe Cuomo, Angela Tomarchio
and all the holy souls remembered in the month of November

Eternal rest grant unto them,

Our Rosters

30 November 2025	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
Welcomers	Richard & Tracey	Nellia, Anita & Irene	Terry & Maree
Altar Servers	Ryan, Amana, Elijah, Eliana	Orly	Michael & Nathan
Readers	Bevina & Mark	Children's Mass	Fev & Stuart
Altar Linen	Berna	CLOTW: Children's Mass	
Counters	Margaret & Jeanne	Church Vacuuming	Marites & Volunteer

Contact Us

Parish Priest:
Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Parish Associate:
Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM

Office Hours

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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.

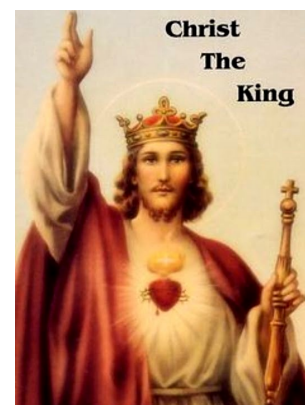
Holy Gospel according to Luke 23:35-43

Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom.

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

The Gospel of the Lord



Gospel Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The Power of Remembering

Memory is an awesomely powerful phenomenon. A passing comment or even aroma can lead to the vivid recall of some event, some person, and we can still feel the joy or sorrow, the happiness or trauma. But it can decline. One of the sadnesses about a person suffering from Alzheimer's Disease is that one cannot be sure that one's dearly loved father or mother really remembers you, and you desperately want to be 'brought to mind'.

Again, if you memorise something, you are said to 'know it by heart'. That is why we want to be remembered by someone important to us: we want that person to 'know us by heart'.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to know that God *always* remembers you, remembers me, that we are *always* 'in mind', that God 'knows us *by heart*'. That would be a powerful remembering.

In today's Gospel, amidst all the scoffing and jeering and the taunting of Our Lord: 'If you be the king of the Jews...', one of the criminals crucified with Jesus simply pleads:

'Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.'

'Jesus'. Surprisingly, this is one of only two instances in the Gospels where Jesus is addressed by his name.

'Jesus' is a short form of the Jewish name 'Joshua' which means 'Yahweh helps' or 'may Yahweh help'.

This poor tortured criminal recognised in his fellow crucified someone who embodied the power of God to save him – to save him from the realm of everlasting death and to transfer him to the divine realm of everlasting life.

Unlike the jeering and taunting leaders, he saw the truth of the inscription: 'Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews.' He was invoking the Kingly power – the power of absolute pardon responding to a petition for mercy.

But he does not plead for mercy in so many words. He simply pleads: 'Remember me'. It was enough for him if this Jesus would 'bring him to mind', would 'know him by heart'.

It was enough for him to be imprinted on Jesus' memory, and saving consequences would follow. Even after the dissolution of the body in death, he could be remembered in heavenly glory.

This is an exercise of sovereignty which befits 'Christ the King'.

At times, the church has emphasised the all too worldly aspects of that title, symbolised perhaps in the bestowing of the triple crown on the Pope at his coronation in years past.

However, the true sovereignty of Jesus Christ is perfectly shown in this little episode in His dying moments on the throne of the cross: 'Today, you will be with me in Paradise.'

Jesus demonstrates all the kingly power you or I will ever need and he shows that he will do so not by lording it over us, but, as with the criminal on Calvary, being close enough to really gaze at us so that we are imprinted on his mind.

So one of the tasks in life is to put ourselves in a position where we can be confident that Jesus is alongside us: in coming to Mass in response to Jesus' imperative at the Last Supper: 'Do this in memory of me.'

Do these things and we can be sure that Our Lord is present, close enough to gaze on us, close enough at the moment of death to hear our voices joining that of the criminal on Calvary:

'Jesus, remember me, know me by heart.'

And He will, and when He does, that is our salvation — *that* is to be in Paradise.