Our Lady of Mount Carmel
CATHOLIC PARISH VARROVILLE

1 November 2026

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

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Theirs is the Kingdom of heaven

The Feast of All Saints is a rich and beautiful tradition within the Church. It honours those who have died, it reminds us that we are part of a wider communion of holy people, and it affirms our faith in God's loving fidelity to life. In the Dogmatic Constitution of the Church, from Vatican II, an entire chapter is given to affirm that the Pilgrim Church on earth looks to its final completion at the end of time, and that while awaiting this End Time, we are supported and nourished in faith by those already experiencing the fullness of life with God.

Until the Lord shall come in His majesty, and all the angels with Him and death being destroyed, all things are subject to Him, some of His disciples are exiles on earth, some having died are purified, and others are in glory beholding 'clearly God triune and one', but all in various ways and degrees are in communion in the same love of God and neighbour and all sing the same hymn of glory to our God...

For by reason of the fact that those in heaven are more closely united with Christ, they establish the whole Church more firmly in holiness, lend nobility to the worship which the Church offers to God here on earth and in many ways contribute to its greater edification. (L.G. para 49)

Today's readings reflect that certainty of faith. In the context of today's celebration of the Saints, the Beatitudes may sound as if they are the promise of a future, heavenly reward, but it is important to notice that Jesus' words in the first and last Beatitude are in the present tense: 'Theirs is the kingdom of heaven.' Along with the Saints in heaven who experience the fullness of God's desires, Jesus' sermon is directed to disciples now, offering them a vision of what life in the kingdom might mean.

Translations often lose the punch of the original Greek, which has the sense of 'Congratulations! Good on you!' Which raises the questions why should the poor, the bereaved, the hungry be congratulated? This doesn't make sense. This is the whole point of Jesus' sermon. In the world's way of looking at things, his words do not make sense. In this world the poor are not fortunate, the gentle do not inherit much at all, and peacemakers are likely to be ridiculed and called simplistic.

But Jesus is not speaking from the values of this world. He is offering his listeners a change of perspective. He is offering us a vision of what the world would be like if God's reign were operative. In this world of God's desires the hungry would be fed, the merciful would receive mercy, and mourners would find comfort. It is this world, this present reign of God, which you and I are meant to be citizens of. Jesus' Sermon on the Mount is our Constitution setting out the values and way of life for Christians. If we truly live as citizens of God's kingdom, it is unlikely that we will know successes in our current society. Values of generosity, compassion, hospitality do not sit well alongside values of economic prosperity, border control and globalisation. But if we take this Gospel to heart we can draw strength from Jesus' words – 'Good on you, if people abuse you and persecute you, and speak against you. Yours is the kingdom."

All Saints Day

Entrance Antiphon
Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

First Reading rom the book of the Apocalypse; Revelation 7:2-4. 9-14

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:1-6. R. see v.6

Response: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

Second Reading
from first letter of St John3:1-3

Alleluia!, Alleluia Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened,and I will give you rest, says the Lord.**!**
Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according Matthew 5:1-12

Communion Antiphon
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Mass and Devotions

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 9.30am & 5pm

Samoan Mass:

1st Sunday at 12 noon

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

Eucharistic Adoration of 1st Sunday of each month at 6 to 7pm

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

Tuesday at 7.30p in meeting room

Holy Family Fellowship: every 4th Saturday at 7pm.

Book Club: meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 10am.

Friendship Group: meets on the 1st Tuesday of each 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.

Legion of Mary every Saturday at 12.30pm

Grief Support Group meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month

Parish Notices

Adoration will be held in the chuirch tonight (Sunday) at 6.15pm, after the 5pm Mass

All Souls Day Outdoor Mass on Monday 2 November at 7.30pm We will be holding our annual Mass in the Columbarium, honouring and remembering our dearly departed loved ones. All are most welcome. There will also be the usual 9am Mass in the church.

This year, for November, you are invited to bring in a photo if you have experienced the loss of a loved one this year. A photo sized 4 x 6" or 5 x 7" will be displayed in the church for the month.

Friendship Group will be having the Melbourne Cup luncheon on tuesday 3 November commencing at midday. There will be Melbourne cup sweeps, watchthe race, etc. Wear a hat or fascinator. Please bring a dish to share and money for the sweeps.

Roster Renewal. The current rosters finish at the end of November. Please contact the office or message onto whatsapp if there are any changes to your contact details and ministry commitment. Our hospitality ministries of Welcomers and Refreshments desperately need new helpers. Please consider giving your time at a weekend Mass once a month or 2 months to help parishioners and visitors feel welcome and valued in our parish community. New ministry members will be paired with experienced ministers and given guidance in the role. This is a great opportunity for you to meet other parishioners and feel more connected with our community. Please call the parish office for more information or speak to one of our friendly welcomers in the foyer.

Altar Server Meeting will be held on tuesday 10 November at 7.30pm in the Parish meeting room for all Adult & Junior Servers

Alpha sessions will continue weekly till December. Is there someone who is enquiring about their faith, or is considering joining the Catholic Faith through RCIA. Register via the Parish Office.

2026 Cash Raffle to be drawn on thursday 26 November. This is a major fundraiser for our parish. Books of tickets are available for you to take home and sell to family & friends. Please ask at the welcome desk after Mass or call the parish office to collect a book of tickets. Tickets cost $5 each and a book of tickets cost $50. Your support of our parish is invaluable.

Grief and Loss Support group will meet on tuesday 10 November at 10am. Open to all, in a safe environment, this group is facilitated by Griefcare, a Catholic Organisation who supports those who have lost loved ones. Sometimes our grief can be caused by a loss other than death such as sickness, family truama, job loss and fear of the future. Griefcare offer a spiritual reflection and an opprtunity for personal sharing in a small group.

Altar Server Meeting will be held on tuesday 10 November at 7.30pm. It is important that all Altar Servers attend. Junior Altar Servers should also attend with a parent.

Carpark Safety: Concerns have been raised about the safety of pedestrians in our carpark before and after Mass each Day. Please take care when you are leaving the church and ensure your children do not play or run in the carpark. We have a beautiful large Alfresco area to congregate in after Mass. When driving please be aware of pedestrians. If you wish to park in the northern carpark near the Columbarium please enter the carpark at the top or second gate. Also for those who enter at the first gate and park near the hall, please leave by the same gate. Please try to avoid driving through the portici before and after Mass.

FORMATION PATHWAY: Watch Your Language! – Words That Shape Culture; Could the words we use be holding back parish renewal? Join us as we explore how everyday language shapes our beliefs, behaviours and parish culture, with practical workshops and an open Q & A on all things parish renewal. On Tuesday 3 November: Campbelltown Catholic Club. Time: 7–9 pm; Register: dow.sh/fpnov26

Advent Taize: Your are wamly invited to attend an Advent Taize on saturday 5 December from 7.30pm, after the 6pm Mass. A time of prayer, song & silence as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Organised by the Francisco Palua Communion Centre Inc.

Banns for Sacerdotal Ordination of Rev. Anthony Joseph Lisone, OATH (Oblate Apostles of The Two Hearts), and is scheduled to receive the **Sacred Order of Presbyter on Nov 21, 2026** at Cathedral Parish of St. Paul the First Hermit, San Pablo City, Laguna, Phillipines. Should anyone know of any canonical impediment that would prevent the candidate from receiving the Sacred Orders, please inform the Parish Office. Br Anthony grew up in this parish and we wish him well in his vocation. Va'a & Katalina have been parishioners in this parish and we congratulate them in supporting Br Anthony on his studies.

Carols by Candlelight on Saturday 12 December at 7.30pm after 6pm Mass. Our Parish choirs will prayerfully entertain us with a beautiful Christmas celebration through song. Our fundraising team will be offering dinner and refreshents for sale throughout the evening.

Prayer Intentions

For the sick and homebound:

Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Reg Gardner, Barry Atkins, Carol & Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart, Allan Marquinez, Vladdy Mher Peralta, Mercy Espiritu, Stephen & Kathleen Mitrovics, Jadwiga Doomalewska, Bill Scibberas, Bernie Briscoe

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

For our recently departed

Jaenay San Diego, Stephen Skocylas, Liliana Jaroveski, Peter MacKenzie

Anniversaries

Rozalia Astalosh, Benito Cossettini

All the holy souls during the month of November

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual l shine upon them.

Our Rosters

8 November 2026	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
Welcomers	Paul Q, Paul Q & Lori Q	Martin H, Violeti H & Paul T	Geoff A, Margaret A & Danni M
Altar Servers	Berna P, Christian O, Elijah P & Arland P	Vu T	Robert S & Nathan S
Readers	Louise M & Candice D	Irene R & Aura C	Judy L & Leah M
Refreshments	Estela M & Myra C	Samoan Choir Community	Beatrix R & Madonna S
Altar Linen	Sr Jill	CLOTW:	
Flowers	Jeanne H & Vaitafao A	Church Vacuuming	Parish Office
Counters	Jeanne H & Irene R	Church Foyer	Parish Office

Contact Us

Parish Administrator:
Fr Sunny Abraham OCD

Deacon:
Rev Stuart Lake

Parish Associate:
Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM

Office Hours

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Holy Gospel according to Matthew 5: 1-12

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples.

Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:
'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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.