



# Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Wentworthville

## Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 5 February 2023

**You are the salt of the earth**  
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



### Reflection

**Matt 5:13-16**

#### Let your light shine

Matthew is writing his Gospel for newly converted Jews who hung on to the observances of the Old Testament. The pagans converted to Christianity knew little of the Old Testament and wanted to observe only the teachings of Jesus. Thus, tensions arose among the community of Christians.

In this Sunday's Gospel Matthew is gently telling the converted Jews that they should be salt of the earth and light of the world. Salt does not exist for itself but only to give flavour to food, and light does not exist for itself but only to give light to people. Faith does not exist for itself but only to give flavour and light to others and to praise the Father. In recalling these words of Jesus, Matthew is trying to reconcile Jews and pagans converted to Christianity.

Today there is also tension in the community of Christians. There are those who do not want any change from what was taught by the Council of Trent in 1563, and those who want to bring the church up to date with the present times. It is good for all of us to reflect on today's Gospel, which applies to us too, and should reconcile any tensions there are among us.

In olden times, salt was very precious. It was imported in large blocks which were placed in the town square for people to take as they needed. When a block was nearly

finished, the salt fell on the ground and lost its flavour and was trampled by people. Faith is the most precious gift we have. If we do not let it serve others and be light to the world, then it will lose its flavour and be a useless thing for ourselves and for others.

You are the salt of the earth. Let your light shine so that all may be enlightened by it.

Fr. Anthony Scerri O.Carm

### Parish News

#### Welcome and thank you

If you are visiting our parish for the first time, welcome! And if you are a returning parishioner, welcome back! We hope you've had a blessed Christmas and a great start to 2023, that you are rested and have had an opportunity to catch-up with family and friends. And welcome to our new-look Carmel Bulletin.

Since the end of last year, there have been several changes to our administration and community. Namely that our new Parish Priest is Fr Januario Pinto O.Carm, and our Assistant Priest is Fr Christian Marave O.Carm. Christian is on loan to us from the Philippines for a couple of years, and he's already made quite a delightful impression amongst parishioners. The new Parish Secretary and sacramental coordinator is Paola Yévenes, and our bookkeeper is Genevieve 'Gennie' Cosgrove. We all look forward to working with you in the Spirit of our parish vision: *That all families feel connected, supported, and valued as they live and grow in their faith.*

As our new office settles into order, we have much to be thankful for.

We are especially grateful to Robert Barden for helping us achieve a beautiful, simple and unifying logo that best represents what our parish is now and what we hope will continue to be into the future.

The new logo incorporates the Star and the Cross. Much like the star around our baptism font, this star is in keeping with our Marian and Carmelite traditions. And the Cross in our logo - that most universal of Christian symbols - is taken directly from the design on the top of our altar.

We would also like to thank those parishioners who donated the new granite block for the memorial garden. Your time, effort and friendship is gratefully received.

Fr. Januario Pinto O.Carm

Parish Priest

## Office days and times

Please note that the new parish office is now open:  
Monday to Thursday, 8:30am to 4:30pm  
*The parish office is not open on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.*

## Parish Safeguarding

*Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, together with the Diocese of Parramatta and the Carmelite Friars, are committed to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults in our care and ensuring that they feel and are safe.*

Last year, we began to look at the first three National Safeguarding Standards. Today, we continue this very important topic of Safeguarding our children and vulnerable people.

**STANDARD FOUR:** Equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account.

What does this mean? A child-safe organisation provides culturally safe and child-friendly services. It pays special attention to equity by taking into account children's diverse circumstances. It recognises that some children are more vulnerable than others or find it harder to speak up or be understood when communicating that they have been abused. (From [Office of the Children's Guardian](#))

What does this look like? Children with diverse needs and backgrounds speak up about concerns around their safety, and the safety of their friends and families. Our parish adults recognise the value of diversity and inclusivity.

Questions to discuss with your child/ren: Do you feel proud of your background? Do you feel safe to talk about your differences?

You can learn more about Safeguarding on the [Parramatta Diocese website](#), from the [Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd \(ACSL\) website](#), or by contacting the parish [ocarms@tpg.com.au](mailto:ocarms@tpg.com.au).

For further information, please contact any of our parish staff or our Safeguarding Officer, Moira Peter, at [ocarms@tpg.com.au](mailto:ocarms@tpg.com.au) where your enquiry will be treated with respect, belief and confidentiality.

## Return your old branches

Ash Wednesday is coming soon, so it is time to bring in your branches from Palm Sunday last year. The branches are burnt to make the ashes that are used at our Ash Wednesday Masses. Please leave your branches in the basket in the parish centre next weekend.

## Advertising and soliciting

Please remember that no external advertising or soliciting of petitions is permitted in the church without the express approval of the Parish Priest.

## Parish Sacramental Process

The Parish Sacramental Process for 2023 is now available for enrolments.

Parents, if your child has been baptised in a Catholic church, and you feel that you are able to continue assisting them with this process, you are invited to apply via our parish website.

**Children from Year 3 and up**, may be able to prepare for their first sacrament of RECONCILIATION.

**Children from Year 4 and up**, may be able to prepare for their first sacrament of RECONCILIATION, and celebrate their first sacrament of HOLY COMMUNION.

**Children from Year 5 and up**, may be able to prepare for their first sacrament of RECONCILIATION, and celebrate their first sacrament of HOLY COMMUNION, as well as their sacrament of CONFIRMATION.

Dates, details and application form can be found on our parish website.

For further information, please email Paola Yevenes at [ocarms@tpg.com.au](mailto:ocarms@tpg.com.au)

*(please note that email address [paola.olmc@gmail.com](mailto:paola.olmc@gmail.com) is no longer available)*

## Volunteers needed

Several ministries are in need of volunteers:

**Wardens** are needed for the 6pm Sunday Mass.

**Readers and Commentators** are needed for 6pm Sunday Mass.

**Altar Servers** are needed for 8am Sunday Mass

**Church Cleaners** are needed after 9am Mass every second Thursday. Next cleaning day is Thursday 9 February.

If you can assist in any of these ministries, please contact the parish office and we will put you in contact with the coordinator.

## Employment opportunity

The Carmelite Fathers at Wentworthville are looking for a cook for Monday and Tuesday lunch.

This is a paid, casual position, with about three hours work each day.

The cook would have full access to the priory kitchen including all equipment, crockery, cleaning equipment, etc. Lunch is served at 12:30pm, and would suit someone who is looking for some work during school hours.

They would be cooking for about five people on most days, but there may be a few more visitors from time-to-time.

The cook would need to purchase all ingredients, and the cost would be reimbursed in full to them.

For further enquiries please email [ocarms@tpg.com.au](mailto:ocarms@tpg.com.au)

## St Vincent de Paul Society

Vinnies would like to thank all our generous parishioners. The sale from Christmas cards amounted to \$700.

Vinnies meets every second Thursday at 10am in the Parish Centre, and their next meeting will be on 16 February.

### Coming events

- 9 February** Church Cleaning after 9am Mass  
Liturgy Committee Meeting at 7pm
- 17 February** OLMC Opening School Mass at 10:15am
- 22 February** Ash Wednesday

### Rosters for 11 and 12 February 2023

| MASS      | ROLE                               | VOLUNTEER  |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| 6pm Vigil | Reader<br>Commentator<br>Communion | Nelissa Almeida<br>Trish Maldigri<br>Ann Zahra (to assembly)               |
| 8am       | Reader<br>Commentator<br>Communion | Coretta Dias<br>Isabella Dias<br>Cat Paulo (to assembly)<br>Roslyn Khattar |
| 10am      | Reader<br>Commentator<br>Communion | Moira Peter<br>Shayna Peter<br>Mary Vijila (to assembly)<br>Sebastian      |
| 6pm       | Reader<br>Commentator<br>Communion | Mark Attwood<br>Carmel Ruddy<br>Kim Vu                                     |

### Thank you for your generosity

#### Last Week's Donations to the Parish: \$3043

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Envelopes (cash):  | \$615 |
| Envelopes (cards): | \$615 |
| Loose cash:        | \$743 |
| Tap and Go:        | \$630 |
| Online donations:  | \$440 |

*Weekly target: \$4000*

Banking details for direct contributions are:

BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 00602

Account Name: Wentworthville Catholic Church.

So that we can acknowledge your generosity, please put your name first and 'donation' if there is room.

## Carmel bulletin online

Would you like to receive the Carmel bulletin via email? You will receive it before the weekend, and you will be helping us to reduce paper consumption. If so, please [register your interest via our website.](#)

### Please pray for

**Those who are sick**, especially Rohit Singh, Natalie Bailey, Yolanda Gonzales, Edwin Macwan, Sharon Dolan, Charlie Micallef, Sienna Calandruccio

**Those who have died recently**, especially Mary Farrugia, Lai Chi Victoire, Charlie Zammit, Josephine Grech, Bernard Hope, Robert Bodilly, Anna Parella, Peter Patel, Ngoc Chan Tran.

**Our special intentions**, especially the Victims of the war in Ukraine.

## Diocesan News

### Diocesan World Day of the Sick

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday 11 February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals.

RSVPs are required by 6 February 2022 to [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org)

## Local events

### Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharing

Peace, Justice and Ecology (PJE) Sharings are quarterly online gatherings for everyone who is interested in Social Justice, Care for Creation or Global Peace. You are invited to join the conversation, this time with a focus on Caritas Project Compassion 2023 on Wednesday 15 February from 6:30pm to 8pm. To receive a Zoom link, please RSVP via email: [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

## Next week's readings

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

First Reading: Ecc 15:16-21

Second Reading: 1Cor2:6-10

Gospel: Matt:5:17-37



**Our Lady of  
Mount Carmel**  
Wentworthville

## in the care of the Carmelite Friars

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Januario Pinto O.Carm

**Assistant Priest:** Fr. Christian Marave O.Carm

**In Community:** Fr. Anthony Scerri O.Carm, Fr. Paul Gurr  
O.Carm, Fr. Wayne Stanhope O.Carm (at Jamberoo), Fr. John  
Powell O.Carm (in Aged Care)

**Parish Secretary:** Paola Yévenes

**Accounts:** Genevieve Cosgrove

## Connect with us

Online at [www.olmcwenty.org.au](http://www.olmcwenty.org.au)

On [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) @olmcwenty

Email [ocarms@tpg.com.au](mailto:ocarms@tpg.com.au)

### Parish Office

Open Monday to Thursday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

Parish Office is closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Phone 9631 8302

## Liturgy times

### Sunday Masses

Saturday: 6pm

Sunday: 8am, 1am, 6pm

### Weekday Masses

Monday - Thursday and Saturday: 9am

Friday: 9:15am

### Reconciliation

Saturday: after the 9am Mass

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday: 8am

Please contact us for more information about baptisms and  
weddings

## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Primary School

**Principal:** Olimpia Pirovic

Phone 8832 1100

---

*We acknowledge the Darug people as the original custodians  
of this land and pay our respects to their elders past, present  
and emerging.*