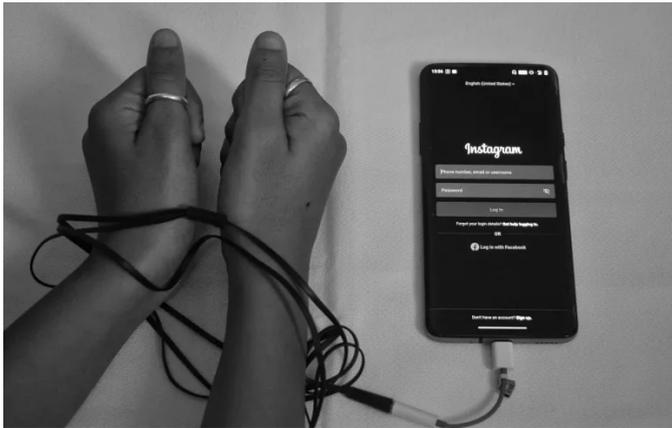


**Our Lady of
Mount Carmel**
Wentworthville

Carmel Bulletin

Sunday 12 March 2023



Reflection

Jn 4:5-42

Thirst

Social media has changed the way we engage with others and the world. It has the power to connect people in many good ways. It can shed light on important issues with a global audience and give individuals a voice. It provided support for many during COVID lockdowns. Yet we are also learning of its unhealthy side - social media addiction driven by FOMO (Fear of Missing Out), a sense that our own lives need to be 'insta-worthy' (in other words, that our life must appear as amazing as everyone else's staged *Instagram* photos look), and the exploitation of vulnerable people that is facilitated by online anonymity.

While social media is a relatively new phenomenon, the undesirable results are perennial issues emerging in a new context. Addiction, vanity and exploitation are just some of the things that can thrive when we find ourselves in unhealthy relationships or when we are starved of a positive sense of self.

Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well has so many dimensions for us to consider - a Jewish man talking to a Samaritan woman is just one. It demonstrates, though, that Jesus is prepared to challenge the social and cultural barriers that people create to reach out to those who are thirsting for a personal, loving relationship with God. He shows the Samaritan woman a way to personal flourishing - the living water that only he can give.

Jesus meets us too in the times and places where we are left thirsting and unfulfilled, offering the loving gift of himself that is as essential to our existence as water. And as people who seek to never thirst again, we are also called to invite others to the well that is filled with the living water of Christ, so that all may flourish.

The water God offers quenches more than just our physical thirst. Do we reach out to those we see are thirsting for more in their lives?

- Robert Barden, Liturgy Coordinator

Parish News

Lenten Prayer Service

Take time out to quietly contemplate on the Scriptures of the Lenten season, combined with the meditative chants of the Taizé community this **Wednesday 15 March at 7:30pm** in the parish centre.

Palm Sunday

Once again on Palm Sunday, we invite you to bring your own cutting of a branch, from any tree or plant, to use as we commemorate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. We would also greatly appreciate it if you can cut and bring some palms or some other branches for people who don't have any. As always, there will be baskets in the parish centre before Mass where you can drop off or collect cuttings.

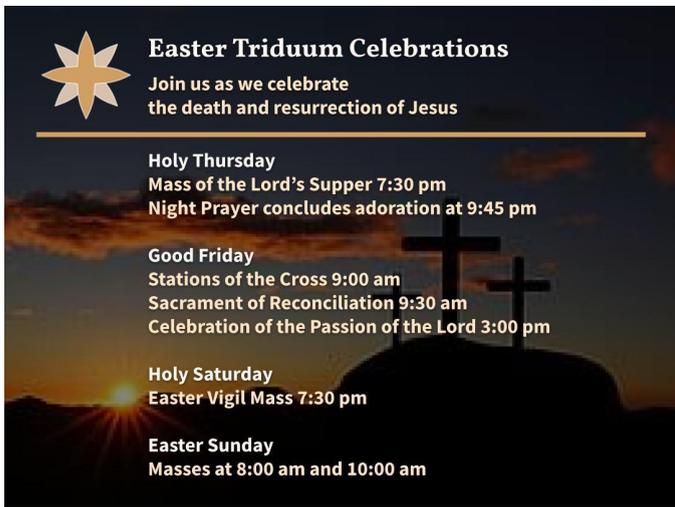
We're also looking for help with setting up the church on Saturday 1 April from 10am, and with the set up and guidance of the Palm Sunday procession at 10am Mass on 2 April. Please sign up now at olmcwentyliturgy.org/triduum-volunteers.

Can you help at our Easter Triduum celebrations?

We need volunteers for a range of roles, including liturgical ministries and setting up the church at different times for celebrations. You can sign up for roles that are still vacant in the parish centre this weekend, including volunteers needed for the Washing of Feet on Holy Thursday.

Music for our Easter Triduum Celebrations

Choir practice for the Holy Thursday Mass, Good Friday Liturgy and Easter Vigil Mass is on **Mondays, 7:15 - 8:30pm** in the church. If you would like to assist with leading our community's sung prayer at these celebrations, then please come along. For more information, contact Robert at olmcwentyliturgy.org/contact.



Easter Triduum Celebrations
Join us as we celebrate
the death and resurrection of Jesus

Holy Thursday
Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 pm
Night Prayer concludes adoration at 9:45 pm

Good Friday
Stations of the Cross 9:00 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation 9:30 am
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday
Easter Vigil Mass 7:30 pm

Easter Sunday
Masses at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

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.

STANDARD NINE: Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously reviewed and improved.

What does this mean? Being a child safe organisation is an evolving process that requires ongoing efforts to keep children safe. (From *Office of the Children's Guardian*)

What does this look like? Leaders and staff are open to change, they reflect on critical incidents, and the organisation creates an environment of ongoing learning and improvement.

Questions to discuss with your child/ren: Do you think the parish staff and volunteers ask for your opinion? Do they ask if something unusual happens? Do the activities keep getting better?

You can learn more about Safeguarding on the [Parramatta Diocese website](#), from the [Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd \(ACSL\) website](#), by contacting any of our parish staff or our Safeguarding Officer, Moira Peter, at ocarmswenty@gmail.com where your enquiry will be treated with respect, belief and confidentiality.

Coming events

- 15 March** Taizé Prayer Service at 7:30pm
- 16 March** SVdP meeting at 10am
- 17 March** Stations of the Cross after 9:15am Mass and at 7pm.
- 29 March** Lenten Penitential Service at 7:30pm

Children's Liturgy of the Word

We are very excited about the recent interest that parents have had regarding the Children's Liturgy of the Word. To get this absolutely delightful ministry back up and running consistently at the 10am Mass on Sunday, we need the help of a lot of parents and volunteers. You will need a current Working With Children Check, and we can provide you with training and resources.

If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please contact the parish office and we can put you in contact with the relevant organisers.

Carmel bulletin online

Would you like to receive the Carmel bulletin via email? You will receive it before the weekend, you can click on the links, and you will be helping us to reduce paper consumption. If so, please register your interest via our website.

Carmel bulletin advertising

We will once again be including advertising from local businesses in our Carmel Bulletin from the beginning of the new financial year, 1 July 2023. If you are a local business and would like to advertise with us for a fee, please contact the parish office before 1 May 2023.

Parish Sacramental Process

Parents, if you feel you would like to continue the sacramental journey you began when you celebrated your child's baptism, you are welcome to apply to the Parish Sacramental Process. Applications can be found on our [parish website](#).

CONFIRMATION DATES

- Applications close:** Friday 5 May
- Confirmation & sponsor name due:** Friday 5 May
- Practice sessions:** 3:30pm & 7pm Thursday 25 May
- Celebration:** 6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 27 May

FIRST RECONCILIATION DATES

- Applications close:** Friday 14 July
- Celebrations:** 7pm on Monday 24 & Tuesday 25 July

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DATES

- Applications close:** Friday 22 September
- Taste & See sessions:** 3:30pm and 7pm Thursday 12 October
- Practice sessions:** 3:30pm & 7pm Thursday 19 October
- Celebrations:** 11am Saturday 21 & 28 October

Rosters for 18 and 19 March 2023

MASS	ROLE	VOLUNTEER
6pm Vigil	Reader Commentator Communion	Nelissa Almeida Vanessa D'Souza Antoinette Zammit (Assembly) Bob Hanna
8am	Reader Commentator Communion	David Rodrigues Michelle Rodrigues Cat Paulo (Assembly) Pauline Cassar
10am	Reader Commentator Communion	Marina Peter Carmel Gauci Marina Peter (Assembly) Skip Fernandes
6pm	Reader Commentator Communion	Carmel Ruddy Ancilla Shibu Kim Vu

Thank you for your generosity

Last week's donations to the Parish: \$4095

Envelopes and loose cash: \$2295

Envelopes (credit card): \$50

Tap & Go: \$655

Online donations: \$1095

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.

Parish office hours

Please remember that our parish office hours are Monday to Thursday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. And that *the parish office is closed on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.*

Next week's readings

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A

First Reading: 1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Second Reading: Eph 5:8-14

Gospel: Jn 9:1-41

Project Compassion



In the third week of Lent, our next Project Compassion story is of Priscilla, who lives with her husband, Charles, and two of their grandchildren in Zimbabwe. Climate change continues to bring unprecedented challenges for people living in Zimbabwe's most vulnerable and remote communities.

During times of intense drought and food shortages, Priscilla had to commute to the town centre and wait in long queues to collect food.

With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops. Priscilla produced a bumper harvest in her first year of practising conservation farming. She used the funds from her harvest to start poultry farming, which enabled her to sell eggs to pay for her grandchildren's school fees, books and stationery. Poultry farming provides a safety net for Priscilla and her family during times of hardship, like the current drought.

While the situation in Zimbabwe and across eastern Africa remains dire, the work of Caritas Hwange means that Priscilla can learn the techniques, tools and resources she needs to build resilience and support her family during this current food crisis.

🙌 Support Project Compassion today:

www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion

▶ Watch Priscilla's story here:

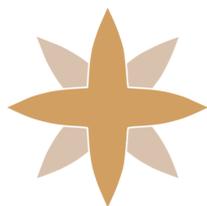
www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/priscilla-story-video

Please pray for

Those who are sick, especially Bob Norman, Roseline Fernandez, Rohit Singh, Natalie Bailey, Yolanda Gonzales, Edwin Macwan, Sharon Dolan, Charlie Micallef, Sienna Calandrucchio

Those who have died recently, especially Febreeca Fernandes, Rhonda Parnis, Thu Tran, Yu Lo Mai Ling, Soewanto Tio, Robbins David, Noelene Lennon, Mary 'Lina' Farrugia, Mo Chinh, Leticia Gonzales de Patino, Lai Chi Victoire, Charlie Zammit, Josephine Grech, Bernard Hope.

Our special intentions, especially Saliba Family, Giovanna Belcastro, Charlie Chetcuti, Joyce Cini, Mary & Frank Teuma, Tony & Antonia Cini, Mary & Frank Camilleri, Doreen Camilleri, Joseph Teuma, Louis Teuma, Joe & Maria Vella, Rosa Titan, Sonia Spittle, Jesse & Kevin McManus, the Victims of the war in Ukraine.



**Our Lady of
Mount Carmel**
Wentworthville

in the care of the Carmelite Friars

Connect with us

Online at www.olmcwenty.org.au

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

Email ocarmswenty@gmail.com

Parish Office

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

Parish Office is closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Phone 9631 8302

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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Primary School

Principal: Olimpia Pirovic

Phone 8832 1100

Around the Diocese

Employment Opportunity at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Greystanes

Two employed roles are available, each 8-10 hours, or the possibility of combining both roles.

Role 1: Maintenance and improvement works in the buildings and grounds – Requires proven handy-person skills with trade experience or equivalent.

Role 2: Cleaning and hygiene care for offices, bathrooms and meeting areas – Requires practical experience and pride in work.

Successful applicants will work closely united with the parish team. Role descriptions available. Please contact Christine via 9631 8135 or parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Greystanes Maltese Seniors

Monday 13 March in the Parish Centre. Morning Tea and speaker from Dementia Australia. The new start time is 10:30am. Members & Parishioners are always welcome. For further information, please contact Marisa on 0414 863 123.

Liturgy times

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 6pm

Sunday: 8am, 10am, 6pm

Weekday Masses

Monday - Thursday and Saturday: 9am

Friday: 9:15am

Reconciliation

Saturday: after the 9am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday: 8am

Rosary Group

Monday - Friday: 8am

Saturday: after the 9am Mass

Baptisms, Wedding and Funerals

On request

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