

*We Remember those in God's Care*

- \* Pam Brown, and all who have died recently;
- \* all whose anniversaries occur now.

*We Pray for ....*

- \* Steve Clark Ryan, Sebastian Geisler,  
Tim O'Neill, Tony Ng, and all our sick

**Mt Carmel Social Club**

Annual Meeting on Thursday 19 February

at 9.30 am in Carmel Community Room.

Reports for 2008

Fees Due \$5

Planning for 2009

Bring a Plate

Anyone over 50 most welcome

Emmanuel Community, HEART2hearts Women's Outreach is hosting a Women's Breakfast on Saturday 28 February 2009 at Rosalie Parish Centre (Sacred Heart Church) Herbert Street, Paddington at 7.15 am for a 7.30 am start finishing at 9.30 am. Cost \$15 or concession \$10  
Guest speaker is Jan Heath who has a deep passion to bring God's love, refreshment, challenge, strength and hope to the hearts of women.  
RSVP 20 February 2009 – Phone Emmanuel office 3217 5199 or email [asmin@emmanuelcommunity.com.au](mailto:asmin@emmanuelcommunity.com.au).

**YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TRAINING DAY**

Faith and Life are putting on a training day for people who minister with children and young people, especially in the area of children's liturgy and youth activities. This will take place on **Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> 2009 at ACU McAuley Campus in Banyo, from 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.** Morning tea and lunch is provided. There will be a keynote address by Archbishop Battersby, a choice from 28 workshops [see noticeboard] and peer networking opportunities. Cost is \$25 per person, to be met by the parish of course and the RSVP is February 6<sup>th</sup>. Contact [www.ycm.org.au](http://www.ycm.org.au) or 3336 9168. Please advise the parish office if you are interested in attending this day.



**PARISH PRIEST**

Laurie Timms O.Carm

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

Jerome Watt O.Carm

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Emanuela Heaton

**FINANCE**

Maureen Hassett

**PRIOR OF CARMELITE  
COMMUNITY:**

Frank Shortis O.Carm

**PARISH OFFICE**

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Office Hours:

8.30am - 4.30pm,

Mondays - Thursdays

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH**  
in the care of the Carmelites since 1937

**1 February 2009**

**WHY AM I HERE?'**

Back in the 60's, we watched an iconic movie called *Zulu* which would be regarded as politically incorrect today, but in those days portrayed the dramatic defence in 1879 of Rorkes Drift in modern day Kwa-Zulu in South Africa, when a garrison of 139 British soldiers held off an attack of 5,000 Zulus. At one point in the film, a frightened young soldier asked his unflappable Sergeant Major, "Why are we here sir, why are we here?"; to which the Sergeant Major replied, "Because we are, son, because we are!"

Perhaps not as dramatic, but as I sit in the church seat today (I hate the word 'pew'), I too might ask, 'Why am I here'.

The recent thefts of our data projector by people who knew exactly where things were show that there are a variety of answers to the question of why am I warming a church seat in Coorparoo. Similarly, thefts of handbags while people are going to communion show that there are a variety of reasons why people go to church! But why am I here?

Maybe the people in the synagogue might have asked the same question. Jesus, we are told, stood up and taught in the synagogue and was immediately hailed as a breath of fresh air. This was in contrast with what must have been boring, cliché and platitudinous teachings from the local scribes. The guy with the unclean spirit probably livened things up a bit as well! Maybe in the long-winded sermons, the Jewish people of that synagogue might have asked "Why am I here?"

Why do we front up to Mass each week, or at least on a regular basis? Why do I only go every now and then, or twice a year? Why do I go at all?

Jesus was hailed because he taught with authority. Do I recognise any authority in the Mass? I don't mean compulsion or coercion or fear-ridden compliance. That belongs in the past. Do I give any authority to the readings that I hear? Do I acknowledge any form of authority in the homily, not from the man giving it, but from the content.

The degree to which I can actively participate in the Mass, whenever I go and for whatever reason, and the degree that I can in humility try and give authority to the teaching I hear, is the degree to which I can make progress on my own road to personal wholeness in Christ,

## PARISH MASS TIMES

### Weekends:

Saturday Vigil – 6 pm;  
Sunday - 7.30 am, 9.30 am, 5.30 pm

### Weekdays *this week*:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
& Saturday - 9 am

Wednesday, Mass of Anointing, 10am

### RECONCILIATION

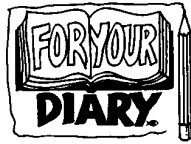
Saturdays 9.30 am – 10 am

### MEDITATION

Wednesdays 6.30 am – 7 pm

### BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

by appointment



### SUNDAY 8 FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*Job 7:1-4, 6-7*

*1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23*

*Mark 1:29-39*

Baptism Sunday

### Tuesday 10 February

Finance Council meeting in Carmel  
Community Room, 7.30 pm

### Thursday 12 February

Readers Preparation in sacristy, 7.30pm

# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring *World Marriage Day* on Sunday February 8<sup>th</sup>. As well as encouraging all to love others more readily, it mainly wishes to deepen married love. Consequently, we will have the opportunity to renew marriage vows during Masses next weekend. Couples who wish might like to bring their wedding photo and place it on the sanctuary in a specially prepared place.

People who wish to form a Lenten Group are encouraged to place their names and contact details on the forms provided in the foyer of the church this weekend.

## Mass for Anointing of the Sick

At 10am on Wednesday we will have the monthly Mass of anointing for those parishioners whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age. Through this sacrament of anointing the church supports the sick in their struggle with illness and continues Christ's work of healing. The sacrament expresses the belief that we share in the sufferings of Christ and we share in the sufferings of others. There are three elements to the sacrament: the prayer of faith, the laying of hands and the anointing with oil. The sacrament also offers hope and comfort for those who look after the sick or are close to them.

## Ministers of the Word & Hospitality

Roster for February and March  
now available in the church foyer.  
Please remember to collect your  
copy. Thank You

**Your generosity  
can live on!  
THINKING OF MAKING OR  
RENEWING YOUR WILL?**



*Please think of us.*

For more information please contact  
Mt Carmel Parish Office 3397 1587.

## This week at Mt Carmel...

### Today is 1 February

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Deuteronomy 18:15-20*

*1 Corinthians 7:32-35 Mark 1:21-28*

### Monday 2 February

Rosary after 9.30 am Mass

St Vincent de Paul meeting in Carmel  
Community Room, 7.30 pm

### Wednesday 4 February

Mass of Anointing, 10 am

### Thursday 5 February

Readers Preparation in Sacristy, 7.30 pm



*To Fr Laurie, Fr Jerome and  
parishioners of Mt Carmel especially  
Grace Wilmott, Louise Godwin,  
Jan and Trevor Roman,  
Margaret, Reg and Chris Heath.*

I would like to express my thanks to you all for your warm hospitality during my visit to Australia and to your parish. To the people I met at the Mass of Anointing, I will remember you all.

Until, maybe one day we meet again –

May the Lord hold you all in the palm of his hand. God Bless  
Yvonne, UK