



# OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH

in the care of the Carmelites since 1937

## 1st Sunday of Advent - 29th November 2015

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, a period of reflection and repentance, of expectant waiting and preparation for celebrating the Nativity of Jesus. It is the start of our liturgical year. In this countdown to celebrating Jesus' birth, much of the world embraces the joy, love and expectation for hope and 'rebirth' that accompanies this time of year. One thing that Jesus consistently communicated was to 'love one another'. This period of the year we especially work on demonstrating love. We are invited to reconcile hatred and resentment. It is difficult, if not impossible, to honestly live love if there is resentment or hate in our hearts. During this period we recommit to living the way that Jesus lived. Not always easy. Pope Francis stated in his homily on the First Sunday of Advent in 2013, 'The time of Advent that we begin today returns us to the horizon of hope, a hope that does not disappoint because it is founded on the Word of God. A hope that does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! He is faithful!'

Perhaps in this period of reflection we might see if we can identify anything which may stop us from recognising the signs of the Lord's presence and action today? Do we see, and then act against the intolerance, indifference, the passive receipt of tragic and unjust action? Do we allow ourselves to be weighed down spiritually by our own shortcomings, or those of our world? Do we step aside and forfeit our duty to be proactive and do good in our world? Are we living love? Do we give up hope? Do we work towards enabling a 'kingdom' of all kin, engaged in mutual respect and love? In Advent we remember that we are not alone. God came to us and will come again.

As Taylor Caldwell writes, 'I am not alone at all, I thought. I was never alone at all. And that, of course, is the message of Christmas. We are never alone. Not when the night is darkest, the wind coldest, the world seemingly most indifferent. For this is still the time God chooses.'-Taylor Caldwell. This Advent may we all reflect honestly, and work to giving the following: 'To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect. - Oren Arnold

Catherine Allen, Parishioner.

**PRIOR OF CARMELITE  
COMMUNITY**  
Matthew McPhee  
O.Carm

**PARISH PRIEST**  
Paul Sireh O.Carm

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR**  
Jerome Watt O.Carm

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**OFFICE HOURS:**  
8.30am - 4.00pm  
Mondays – Fridays

**MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL**  
Phone: 07 3397 7125

## PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekends: Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 8.30am & 5.30pm

Weekdays: Monday to Saturday 9am

*\* The first Wednesday of each month, a Mass of Anointing is held at 10am. This replaces the 9am Mass.*

### RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 9.30am – 10am

### ROSARY:

Mondays –after 9am Mass

*Our Church is always open during daylight hours, to allow you the opportunity to come in and spend some time with Our Lord.*

## This Week at Mt Carmel

Mass of Anointing, followed by morning tea this Wednesday 2nd December at 10am. (there will be no 9am Mass on Wednesday).

School breaks up this Friday 4th December—  
We wish you all a safe and happy holiday !

Friday 4th: Advent Reflection Group  
7pm-8pm CCR

### Next Sunday's Readings:

Year C: **Second Sunday of Advent**

**Baruch 5:1-9; 1 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11;**

**Gospel: Lk:3:1-6**

## Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve—6pm Children's Mass

Christmas Eve—9pm Mass

Christmas Day - 7am and 9am

Christmas Carols will be sung half an hour before the start of each Mass.

Please note there is no evening Mass on Christmas Day

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## **The Year of Mercy**

Pope Francis has announced an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy in the Universal Church. This Holy Year of Mercy will begin on 8th December to commemorate both the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. The Year will conclude on 20 November 2016.

Pope Francis - *“Only someone who has encountered mercy, who has been caressed by the tenderness of mercy, is happy and comfortable with the Lord.*

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Pope Francis is currently visiting Africa and in brushing aside offers of security, he said that he was more afraid of the mosquitos than of any security concerns. We pray for our Pope, his safety and the success of his visit.

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### **Are you a new Parishioner?**

We are very happy you can join our faith community here at Our Lady of Mt Carmel. We look forward to meeting you, so please introduce yourself to Father after Mass and collect a Welcome Packet from the back of the Church.

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Welcome back Fr Matthew, we hope you enjoyed your time in Perth and Melbourne catching up with family and friends.



Mt Carmel Parish

St Vincent de Paul Society

## Christmas Hamper Appeal

A reminder that final donations are this weekend.  
Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all who donated and a special thank you to Margaret Land, John Kelly and the members of the St Vincent de Paul society for their effort in co-ordinating this Christmas Hamper Appeal.

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### **Friends of Zumalai Christmas Cake Stall**

Don't forget to stop by our cake stall at the front entrance to the Church!

We have some wonderful cooks in our parish and there are many delicious cakes and other baked delights on sale.

Why not pick up some raffle tickets, you never know your luck and are supporting a great cause at the same time.

All proceeds go to our parish 'Friends of Zumalai' mission.

Many thanks for your generous support and especially to those who have donated baked goods and items for the raffle.

Many thanks to the Friends of Zumalai committee for their organisation of the stall and raffle.

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## ***Mt Carmel Seniors Social Club Christmas Party***

***The Club will hold its end-of-year break-up Christmas luncheon on***

***Wednesday 16th December***

***at the Carina Leagues Club, to commence 11:30am***

***Cost \$30 (payable on the day) ....All members welcome***

***Please let us know if you require transport.***

***For bookings please call Bernard Ford 3394 1465 or Paddy Boyd 3343 9424.***

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**Transport Needed:** A gentleman from Casa D'Amore at Coorparoo is requesting a lift one day per week, so he can attend the 9am Mass. If you are able to assist with transport, please contact the parish.office.

**We remember those in God's care...**

**Recently Deceased:**

Raymond O'Connell, Sean Atkinson,  
Ester Carlevaro, Anna Moroavia, John Waldron  
and all who have died recently.

**May they Rest in God's Peace.**

**Anniversaries and Memorials:**

Yvonne Hurley, Paul Sireh (Fr Paul's brother),  
Cyril Donovan, Joanna Donovan

**We pray for our sick....**

Brian Cochrane, Joan O'Leary, Kathleen Horne,  
Brian McErlian, Brian Sykes, Joan Logan  
Maryanne Faulkner, John O'Loughlin  
To have someone included in the Newsletter,  
please phone or email the Parish.

**Names for the sick will be removed after two  
months, unless notified for them to continue.**

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**Columban Calendars and Christmas Cards are  
now for sale at the SVDP stall at the front  
entrance to the Church.  
Columban Calendars \$9.00**

**Next Week's Rosters**

**5-6th December**

**Ministers of the Word**

**6pm:** T Laing, P Nunan

**8.30am:** D Austin, B Fennell

**5.30pm:** S Fairlie, S Norris

(Facilitator—Debra Austin)

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**Ministers of Communion**

**6pm:** G Brown, M Downey, V Evison,  
T Laing, M Tom, J Wallis

**8.30am:** D Austin, R Branch,  
G Connors, T Eckersley, G Keating,  
M Liddy, M Martin

**5.30pm** C Bach, J Connolly,  
R Dall'alba, L Egan, J Fitzgerald,  
C Holmes

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**Communion to the Sick**

Anna Nano, Cathy Agis,  
Tracey Laing, Mike Dale

**C.L.O.W.**

No CLOW—school holidays

**Reflection:**

Heather Stabler



**Today, we light our first  
Advent Candle,**

**The candle of hope  
as we remember  
that Christ will come again  
to fulfil all of God's promises to us**

**Mount Carmel Parish acknowledges the Turrbal people as the traditional owners of the  
land on which we live.**