



# THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT / C

6 APRIL 2025

## FIRST READING

Isa 43: 16-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.*

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125. R. v. 3

**R.** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, / it seemed like a dream. / Then was our mouth filled with laughter, / on our lips there were songs. **R.**

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' / What marvels the Lord worked for us! / Indeed we were glad. **R.**

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage / as streams in dry land. / Those who are sowing in tears / will sing when they reap. **R.**

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, / carrying seed for the sowing: / they come back, they come back, full of song, / carrying their sheaves. **R.**



## SECOND READING

Phil 3: 8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

■ The word of the Lord.



# OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Lent - 6 April 2025 - Year C

## OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH HILTON

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## OFFICE HOURS

**Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:** 9am – 3pm

**Thursday:** 9am – 12.30pm

## MINISTRY TEAM

**Parish Secretary:** Tereza Camacho

**Safeguarding Officer:** Brigette Liddelow 0432 908 980

**Avila Retirement Village Secretary:** Judy Rowlands 0448 205 283

**OLMC Primary School Principal:** Jayson Peacock 9269 2000

**OLMC Primary School RE:** Tracey Marsden

**Seton Catholic College Website:**

<http://www.seton.wa.edu.au/olmc-parish>

**REFLECTION: Judge not.** In the early years of Christianity there were people who took the whole thing so seriously that they went out into the desert around the Nile River and tried to live a life totally devoted to God. Some lived in monasteries, and some lived on their own, they were called the ‘Desert Fathers and Mothers’. There are still some around today in various deserts of the world and by that I also mean the great deserts of our cities in the world. There are a number of stories that have come out of their lives and ones that are very applicable to our lives today such as this one. Abba Moses lived on his own but not too far from the monastery. One day he got called from the monastery to come back because one of the brothers had transgressed very seriously and was to be brought before the whole community. Abba Moses sent back the message that he was not coming back. Well, they sent out another lot from the monastery to get him. he sent back the same message. ‘I am not coming!’ The third time they were sent out he said ‘Alright, I shall come’ and he did. The brothers came out to greet him and what they saw was Abba Moses carrying a bag of sand on his back. Only that the bag of sand had a hole in it and the sand was falling out. They said to him ‘Abba Moses what is all this about?’ He replied, ‘Here I am today coming to find out the sins of another and my own sins are falling behind my back and I don’t even see them.’ The brothers got the message, and they asked for forgiveness and everyone

including the accused went home better for the experience. That is so true of all of us, isn’t it? How often have we gone off to judge the transgressions of others no matter how subtly and being in total denial of our own sins and failings? How do we ever get the idea that we are fit and worthy to judge others, yet we do to the detriment of the other and ourselves because in judging we are never set free. I recently read yet another tragic story of injustice. It was about a young adolescent who had been kidnapped and had terrible things done to her in the time of her captivity. After her release she came home to her parents and of course after all the care had been given her and she was listened to her mother who gave one piece of advice that actually got her through. She said she knew she had every reason to hate the man and woman who abused her but while that is true, leave the judgement to God. The young woman had every right to judge and would be blameless in her judging. In not doing so she found healing and peace and is happily married today. Jesus was right when he told us ‘Judge not and you shall not be judged.’ Here is the road to peace for you and me.

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – 5-6 April

**2025:** The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our local partners on the ground. Our partners are true heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more

hopeful futures for their communities. **Please donate today.** You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes, by calling 1800 024 413 or online at [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion). Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent.

**COUNTING MACHINE:** Over the last two weeks the collection money had to be counted manually for all the Masses because someone put in foreign coins which got stuck in the hopper. PLEASE DO NOT PUT FOREIGN COINS IN THE COLLECTIONS AS THIS JAMS THE COUNTING MACHINE. In appreciation, Judy Rowlands.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK

**PARISHIONERS:** Christine Rhow, Maria, Consiglia Ciavatta, Irwin Beachell, Isabella Da Cunha, Norma Elliott, Rudi Tassell, Steven, Elisabetta Paddon, Edward Fortune, Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb, Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero, Lou Collova, Christine Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr Anibal Da Cunha, Peter Scanlan, John Brackovich, Alison, Sofia, Rebecca, Fr Francis Sundararajan, Fr Greg Carroll, Bill Watkins, Daniel DiMarco, Joshua Oorschot, Fr John Piumatti, Mila Hogan, Mara Ravlich, Fr Vittorio Ricciardi, Lloyd Smith, Tegan Colgan, Patrick O’Brien, Archbishop Emeritus Barry Hickey, Fr Jean Fernandez, Fr Benedict Quadros, Fr John Hogan, Alessia Saraceni, Anthony Lopez, Fr Richard Rutkauskas, Fr Peter Meo, Dennis Woodcock, Giuseppe Cappiello, Vincent Cappiello, Rhonda McGinnity, Teresa Berlingeri, Carmelina Valenti, Reta White.



# OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Lent - 6 April 2025 - Year C

## BULLETIN SPONSORS

### AUSTRALIAN LEADING LOCK SERVICE

Mark Berkovic 0408 404 048  
[mks@dammot.com.au](mailto:mks@dammot.com.au)

### AVILA COURT RETIREMENT VILLAGE

For more information, please contact Judy  
0448 205 283

### UNITED PEST CONTROL

PO Box 7141, Spearwood, 6163  
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39 Hulme Court, Myaree  
9329 9889 or  
[www.rich7harvest.com.au](http://www.rich7harvest.com.au)

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Meet every Monday, except for public  
holidays, between 7 to 8pm in the first  
meeting room to the left of the Church.  
New members are always welcome. Please  
contact Ian (President) on 0428 121 152 for  
more information.

### BOWRA & O'DEA FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Because the little things are  
everything.  
312 South Street, Hilton  
9239 7744 or  
[www.bowraodea.com.au](http://www.bowraodea.com.au)

**MASS TIMES WEEKENDS:** Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 7.30am & 9am.

**MASS TIMES WEEKDAYS:** Tuesday 9am, Wednesday 9am, Thursday 9am, Friday 9am & Saturday 9am.

**RECONCILIATION - Saturday's:** 9.30-10am and 5.15-5.45pm or by appointment.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Wednesday 5.30 – 6.30pm & Friday 9.30 – 10.30am.

**Reconciliation:** Parents and Candidates who have completed ALL the components of the preparation process for this Sacrament are invited to contact Fr Michael to make a time to celebrate this Sacrament of Forgiveness and Restoration.

### First Eucharist

1. Presentation of Candidates: Saturday 3-5-24 at 6pm
2. Parent Workshop: Wednesday 7-5-25 at 6pm
3. Parent / Child Workshop: Wednesday 14-5-25 at 6pm
4. 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist by Appointment: Saturday 14-6-25 at 6pm
5. Sunday 15-6-25 at 9am
6. Saturday 21-6-25 at 6pm
7. Sunday 22-6-25 at 9am

### Confirmation

1. Presentation of Candidates: Saturday 26-7-25 at 6pm
2. Parent Workshop: Wednesday 6-8-25 at 6pm
3. Parent / Child Workshop: Wednesday 20-8-25 at 6pm
4. Sacrament of Confirmation: Saturday 13-9-25 at 4pm

**PARENT / S and CANDIDATES MUST ATTEND to fulfil the Formation Process.**

**SACRAMENTAL BOOKS AVAILABLE:** Those children of our Parish School who are preparing for the Sacrament of Penance, the Candidate Parent, Family Workbook is available to purchase from the Parish Temporary Office situated near the kindergarten play area and the back of the Parish

House during normal Parish Office Hours for \$10 each book.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:** Jesus you are the Good Shepherd who is always mindful of your Church. Watch over those who are Baptised in your name and grant peace and harmony to all families. We ask you to choose from the families of our Parish many priests, deacons, sisters and brothers who will gladly spend their lives making you known and loved. Amen.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday 5 April to Friday 11 April 2025**

**Saturday 5 April**

**9am Mass:** Intention of Donor

**6pm Mass:** Holy Souls

**Sunday 6 April**

**7.30am Mass:** Ron Bacich (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary RIP)

**9am Mass:** For the People

**3-5pm:** Holy Hour

**Tuesday 8 April**

**9am Mass:** David Randall (RIP)

**Wednesday 9 April**

**9am Mass:** Robyn Ellis (RIP)

**9.40am:** OLMC School Oval – Stations of the Cross

**Thursday 10 April**

**9am Mass:** Maria & Sylvia Le Guier

**Friday 11 April**

**9am Mass:** Intention of Catarina Xavier

**10.30am Mass:** Hilton Park Aged Care

**HOLY TRINITY CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP:** Monday night's 7-9pm except during school holidays and public holidays.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025

We are reminded that the Sacraments are a gift to us from God. We meet God in each of the Sacraments. They assist us in our spiritual relationship with God and others. These are gifts from on High. That is why we must prepare well to receive them because God is calling us and talking to us.





**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Joel 2: 12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**GOSPEL**

Jn 8: 1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.*

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**



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# Breaking Open the Word

## JESUS' LIBERATING GAZE

Today's Gospel from John might seem out of place in a year where the liturgical focus is on Luke. However, some scholars suggest that the story of a woman caught in an adulterous act belongs more in Luke's Gospel and became misplaced in time. Whatever of the story's history, it is the teaching that unfolds that is so important as we come to our final week in our Lenten journey.

In the story, the woman becomes a pawn in a dispute over Torah teaching and as an object to trap Jesus in his apparent moral liberality and rejection of Mosaic teaching. Never addressed is the way the knowledge of the woman's adulterous act is derived. How would her accusers know of her conduct if they had not set themselves in a position to spy upon her? They, too, are incriminated by their very witness. Jesus does not buy into their legal dispute nor their accusation of the woman.

As her accusers depart from the scene without condemning the woman, Jesus gazes upon her without judgement. His gaze frees her. The story leaves contemporary listeners with at least two insights. It affirms Jesus' forgiveness and his desire for our spiritual release. It also provides an opportunity to reflect on the way women are treated today in many contexts as objects of sexual desire, domestic violence, male abuse and pornographic depiction.

Fr Michael Trainor