

Acolytes, Ministers, Readers and Altar Servers, please remember to arrive ready 10 minutes before the beginning of Mass.

	September 15/16
Acolytes	Vigil 8am John Jordan 9.30am Jim Said Lawrence Falzon
Ministers	Vigil 8.00am Laura, Anna Bellissimo 9.30am Fennie Balatbat, Adrian Walker
Readers	Vigil 8.00am Mercy Aquino, Barbara Chandler, Jude Dias, Edith, Ernie Gartner, Dawn Manamperi
Altar Servers	Vigil 8.00am Benno Motha, Denis Symon 9.30am Kamela HuiHui, Kathy Walker 9.30am Ian Epondulan, Helen Katopau
Musicians	Vigil 8.00am Alexander Bateman-Paul, Benjamin, Nathan Clark, Jayden, Caitlyn Rambukwella 9.30am Thomas Osbourne, Rebecca, Mathew Said 9.30am Celestina, Oliana, Chiara Katopau
Children's	Vigil 8am Deane Do Rosario, Couples for Christ 9.30am Folk Group
Rosary	Liturgy 2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month Only
Flowers	The Menezes Family 75 Grantham Road, Seven Hills Fennie & Angela
Bookshop	Vigil 8am Mariane Descombes 9.30am Sheila Enright Erika Hien
Morning Church Cleaning	Tea 26 Sept The Malayalee Community Andrew, Ramzee
Welcomers	6pm Kathy Chamberlain, Ram Ugre, Mary Jordan, VOLUNTEERS 8am Annette Peatman, VOLUNTEERS 9.30am Anna Lopeti, Erika Hien, VOLUNTEERS

	September 22/23
Acolytes	Vigil 8am Lawrence Falzon 9.30am Louis Fernandes VOLUNTEER
Ministers	Vigil 8.00am Christine Menezes, Marinela Simic 9.30am Lorraine Fernandes, Andrew Millar
Readers	Vigil 8.00am Paul Gow, Ramzee Michael 9.30am Crystal, Stefanie Menezes 9.30am Adrian Walker, Bob McNally 9.30am VOLUNTEER, VOLUNTEER
Altar Servers	Vigil 8.00am Juan Burgess, Carol Cyril, Makayla Dalmati, Jesseline Franco, Christian Milicevic 9.30 Isabella Dela Cruz, Joshua, Amelia Herczeg 9.30 Sofia Culili, Larissa Leary, Mary-Rose Mejalli, Ruby, Riley Sultana
Musicians	Vigil 8am Perry's Angels 9.30am Perry's Angels Maria Balatbat
Children's	Liturgy 2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month Only
Rosary	The Stambouliah Family 16 Oakwood Road, Toongabbie
Flowers	Priya & Mary B
Bookshop	Vigil 8am Greg Watkins 9.30am Edith Gartner Carole Brooks
Morning Church Cleaning	Tea 26 Sept Sue, Felicity, Joyce
Welcomers	6pm VOLUNTEERS 8am Joyce Hillbrick, Chandra Sampanthan 9.30am VOLUNTEERS



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

Parish Priest: Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran
Parish Secretary: Mrs Debra Price
Sacrament & Youth Co-Ordinator: Mrs Judy Barden
Parish Church 7 Grantham Rd, Seven Hills 2147
Postal Address: PO Box 944, Seven Hills 1730
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.org.au
Parish School: Our Lady of Lourdes
Principal: Ms Keiran Byrnes

Pastoral Care of the Sick and Elderly: Mrs Bathista Emmanuel
Office Hours Monday-Friday: 8.30am - 3.00pm
Telephone: 9622 2920
Parish Office Email: secretary@olol7hills.org.au
Youth Group Email: youtholol7h@gmail.com
Public School Catechist Co-Ordinator: Mr Bob McNally

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time 16th September, 2018 Year B

WEEKEND MASS Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8am & 9.30am

HEALING MASS & ANOINTING OF SICK
1st Thursday of month at 8am. **4th October**

WEEKDAY MASS Tues - Friday 8am

RECONCILIATION Saturday 4.30 - 5.30pm

PRAYER AND WORSHIP SERVICE Monday & Saturday 8am

MARRIAGES Please contact Parish Office 6 months prior to the wedding

Church Open Mon -Fri 8.30am-3pm
Monday-Friday (for prayer and reflection)

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION **19th September** 7.30pm
Baptisms 2nd & 4th Sunday 11am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes Friday after 8am Mass until 9am

FAMILY MASS **23rd September** 1st Sunday of the month 9.30am
YOUTH MASS **7th October**

Exposition, Divine Mercy and Mass **5th October 7.30pm**

A Blessing for Children is available at all Masses

READINGS FOR this Sunday 1st Reading: Is 50:5-9
2nd Reading: James 2:14-18
Gospel: Mark 8:27-35

I gave my body to those who struck me.
Faith without good works is dead.
You are the Christ...The Son of Man was destined to suffer much

READINGS FOR Next Sunday 1st Reading: Wis 2:12,17-20
2nd Reading: James 3:16-4:3
Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death
Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown in a spirit of peace
The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of humanity....
All who wish to be first must make themselves the servants of all

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel

OPENING PRAYER: Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

RESPONSE TO PSALM: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world Alleluia

COMMUNION VERSE: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings

CELEBRATING THE JOURNEY: You are invited to our Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass & Lunch

Sunday 28th October, 2018
11am Mass - St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta
Followed by lunch at Cathedral Parish Hall
The Diocese of Parramatta invites all married Couples, together with their families and guests, to attend the Diocesan Mass for Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries. Mass will be celebrated by Most Rev Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta on Sunday 28th October at 11am. A light lunch will follow at the Cathedral Parish hall.
This invitation is extended to all married couples to give thanks for their contribution to the Church through the faithful living out of their vocation. We give a Certificate of Blessing from the Bishop for those celebrating: 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and for any year over 50 years.

PARISH DIARY

17 Sept	Legion of Mary Meeting	1.30pm
19 Sept	1st Holy Communion Group A Practice	6.30pm
19 Sept	Baptismal Preparation	7.30pm
23 Sept	1st Holy Communion Group A	11.30am
20 Sept	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.00am
24 Sept	Legion of Mary Meeting	1.30pm
24 Sept	St Vincent De Paul Meeting	7.00pm
26 Sept	1st Communion Group B Practice	6.30pm
27 Sept	Finance Committee Meeting	8.00pm
30 Sept	1st Holy Communion Group B	11.30am

OCTOBER

1 Oct	Legion of Mary Meeting	1.30pm
4 Oct	Healing Mass	8.00am
4 Oct	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.00am
5 Oct	Exposition Divine Mercy Mass	7.30pm
8 Oct	Legion of Mary Meeting	1.30pm
8 Oct	St Vincent De Paul Meeting	7.00pm

New Parishioners
Would you like to join or maybe receive a visit from Fr Henry or a parishioner?

Sick or Housebound
Do you know someone who would like Holy Communion or a visit?

Planned Giving
Would you like to support our Parish?
Envelopes/Credit Card/Direct Debit Available

Name

Name

Name

Telephone

Telephone

Telephone

Please place on collection Plate



Let us Pray for the Sick

Debra Price, Sue Tiplado, Letitia Haines, Rose Stambouliah, Andrew Fedrigo, Nancy Youssef, Paul Gerard, Helen Diab.

If you would like to add to our Sick List or know of any Parishioner that is unwell please contact Father Henry or the Parish Office on 9622 2920

Let us Pray for the Deceased



Recently Deceased: Lakshman Perera, Paskin Almeida, Susanne Nadal, Lauren Gerges, Hai Chan Phen, Jose Cordovilla Descalzo Jr

Anniversaries: Mary Muscat, Paul Commarmond, Amirtham John, John Ratnam, Dorothy Slater, Joseph Camenzuli, Bertu Mula, Caroline Susainathan, Emmanuel Falzon, Charlie Galea, Sheena Landagan, Antonio Marra

Remembrance: Wayne Cregan, John & Sharon Lawrence, Roy, Mary and Des Barney, Mary Muscat, Pauline Meilak, Stephen & Louis Mula, Lourda Motha

A PRAYER FOR OPENING TO GOD

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, faith in your word is the way to wisdom and to ponder your divine plan is to grow in the truth. Open our eyes to your deeds, our ears to the sound of your call, so that our every act may increase our sharing in the life have offered us .

MONEY MATTERS

Envelopes	\$ 1407.00
Loose	\$ 857.00
TOTAL	\$ 2264.00
WEEKLY TARGET:	\$3500.00

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



CUPPA FOR OUR CARPARK

Donated to date \$ 17623.62 Balance \$57376.38

DIRECT DEPOSIT:

Banking details are BSB: 067 950; Account Number 000552; Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church. Please mark your ref: Surname/Carpark or via

MASTERCARD OR VISA ONLY CARD

Total: \$ _____ weekly/fortnightly/monthly
Name on Card: _____ Mobile Number _____

Card Number: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Signature: _____

Envelopes available at rear of church

TAI CHI 2018: All are welcome to join every Friday morning from 9.15-10:30am which is a 75 minutes class. \$10 per class. All ages are welcome to attend.

CARPARK WORK UPDATE: The carpark will be upgraded in the October school holidays. The driveway will be inaccessible to traffic Mon Oct 1 to Fri Oct 5 inclusive - pedestrian access only will be available during this time. The lower carpark in front of the school will be inaccessible from Mon Oct 1 until Fri Oct 12 including the weekend of the 6/7 October. The Parramatta Diocese School CEO will cover the costs of this new scope of works. We thank them for their contribution to our Community.

FROM POPE FRANCIS

SUBTLE ENEMIES OF HOLINESS: Here I would like to mention two false forms of holiness that can lead us astray: gnosticism and pelagianism. They are two heresies from early Christian times, yet they continue to plague us. In our times too, many Christians, perhaps without realizing it, can be seduced by these deceptive ideas, which reflect an anthropocentric immanentism disguised as Catholic truth. Let us take a look at these two forms of doctrinal or disciplinary security that give rise "to a narcissistic and authoritarian elitism, whereby instead of evangelizing, one analyses and classifies others, and instead of opening the door to grace, one exhausts his or her energies in inspecting and verifying. In neither case is one really concerned about Jesus Christ or others".



CONTEMPORARY Gnosticism: Gnosticism presumes "a purely subjective faith whose only interest is a certain experience or a set of ideas and bits of information which are meant to console and enlighten, but which ultimately keep one imprisoned in his or her own thoughts and feelings".

AN INTELLECT WITHOUT GOD AND WITHOUT FLESH: Thanks be to God, throughout the history of the Church it has always been clear that a person's perfection is measured not by the information or knowledge they possess, but by the depth of their charity. "Gnostics" do not understand this, because they judge others based on their ability to understand the complexity of certain doctrines. They think of the intellect as separate from the flesh, and thus become incapable of touching Christ's suffering flesh in others, locked up as they are in an encyclopaedia of abstractions. In the end, by disembodiment the mystery, they prefer "a God without Christ, a Christ without the Church, a Church without her people".

Certainly, this is a superficial conceit: there is much movement on the surface, but the mind is neither deeply moved nor affected. Still, gnosticism exercises a deceptive attraction for some people, since the gnostic approach is strict and allegedly pure, and can appear to possess a certain harmony or order that encompasses everything.

Here we must be careful. I am not referring to a rationalism inimical to Christian faith. It can be present within the Church, both among the laity in parishes and teachers of philosophy and theology in centres of formation. Gnostics think that their explanations can make the entirety of the faith and the Gospel perfectly comprehensible. They absolutize their own theories and force others to submit to their way of thinking. A healthy and humble use of reason to reflect on the theological and moral teaching of the Gospel is one thing. It is another to reduce Jesus' teaching to a cold and harsh logic that seeks to dominate everything

Pope Francis, apostolic exhortation, GAUDETE ET EXULTATE

FIRST COMMUNION Mass Ministers – can you help? Our **First Holy Communion Masses** are still in need of additional ministers. If you can help, please add your name to the list at the back of the church.

HOLY COMMUNION PIETY STALL GIFTS: The Piety Stall has a number of items available for purchase for 1st Holy Communion for boys and girls. You are welcome to come along anytime to the Parish Office and we will open up for you. Prices are very reasonable.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION A very special welcome this weekend to **Jackson Gow** and his family. Jackson will be celebrating his First Holy Communion this weekend at the 6pm Vigil Mass. Congratulations, Jackson, on this very special day and we will keep you in our prayers as you continue on your journey of faith.

FROM FR. HENRY DUC

During two centuries of persecution in Vietnam, it is estimated that more than a hundred thousand Catholics were martyred, and 117 of them were canonised by Blessed John Paul II on June 19, 1988, about 30 years and 3 months ago to be exact. It was said that when court officials saw some of the elderly men brought before them, they asked those aged believers just to pretend stepping over the crucifix lying on the ground to be pardoned, and they, however, preferred to meet their executioner and received a painful death of martyrdom just like Eleazar in the second book of Maccabees (cf. 6.18-31), rather than to hang on to a shameful life of a betrayer. What a courageous example for us to look up today!



Talking about the crucifix, Jesus both foretold of his crucifixion straight after Peter made him proud by professing him as the Christ, meaning the Anointed One. Out of his natural reaction, Peter thought he was doing a good job by soliciting Jesus to abandon the idea. In response, Jesus really gave him a dressing down, and even called him Satan. He made this very significant point to Peter, that 'the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Jesus in no doubt challenged Peter to realise the gap between God's will and what we human beings wish to do, and the key issue here is that we need to discern what the Lord wants us to carry out, instead of what pleases our egos.

He then turned to people following him and the disciples encouraging them to participate in his crucifixion in a symbolic way, which is to carry their own cross and follow his path. The cross Jesus meant to talk about here obviously is about the sufferings, trials, tribulations and hardships that people might have to encounter throughout the life-journey.

Today, let us pray firstly, for the wisdom to discern what is our way and what is God's; and secondly, for the strength to embrace our own cross, and to carry it faithfully.

Have a grace-filled week .

Fr. Henry

PARISH NEWS...

LOURDES OVER 50'S public transport outing Thurs 27 Sept to Manly Meeting at Seven Hills station for the 9.28am train to the city. If you would like to join the group please contact John Lyon on 0402 260 856.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019:

Members of our Young Adults Group will be selling raffle tickets this weekend at all Masses to help support the Diocesan pilgrims heading to World Youth Day in Panama in January. Please support the young people of our diocese as they participate in this great faith-filled experience.



MEN'S BREAKFAST - Our bi-monthly breakfast which was set for 29th September has been **cancelled**. Instead we will meet on the 27th October and again in November as we have interesting guests both months. In October Sr Margaret Shephard, a Sister of Mercy, will share her experience of living with refugees on Christmas Island and in Curtin Detention Centre in WA. Put the date in your diary - October 27th.

DIOCESAN NEWS...

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020: PLANNING MEETING: YOUR VOICE MATTERS

It is time to begin planning our group discussions in the Parish - a vitally important task. Parishioners are needed to help manage this task and to learn more about the ways to facilitate and manage discussion within groups at our General Parish Meetings. Please come along next **Tues 18 Sept 7:30pm** in the meeting room to learn how to help our parishioners **HAVE THEIR SAY** through our parish group discussions. Parish groups such as Choirs, Legion of Mary, St Vincent DePaul, Prayer groups etc need to send a member along to help guide their groups through the listening process using the booklet provided. Your group's experience and advice is a vital part of the way forward. Please just come along on the night or better still, place your name on the sheet provided at the rear of the church. Our Tuesday meeting is intended to cover much of the information contained in the meeting below. Thank you.

PLENARY 2020 INFORMATION AND TRAINING: Learn about the Australian Catholic Bishops Plenary Council's impact on you. Receive support to share the Plenary invitation with parish, friends and family.

20 Sept, 7-9.30pm, Parramatta Cathedral Hall

29 Sept, 10am-12.30pm, St Thomas Aquinas Springwood School Hall (168 Hawkesbury Rd)

29 Sept, 2-4.30pm, Emu Plains School Hall (17 Troy Street)
RSVP: marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org / 8838 3460 with date, time and parish/agency.

ADULT CONFIRMATION FOR 2018: Adult Confirmation for 2018 will be held on Friday 12 October, 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Any adult over 16 years of age wanting to be confirmed please see your Parish Office for information or ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org

LAWN AND GARDEN SERVICES: HELP CATHOLICCARE TO HELP DISABLED WORKERS:

CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains (CatholicCare) is the Diocesan Social Services organisation. Our Mamre Garden Services employs disabled people in a lawn and garden service for both residential and commercial clients. The team of workers is supervised by our Garden Crew Supervisor. Each job is quoted separately and you will not be disappointed with the quality of the work. If you're interested in having your lawns and/or gardens serviced by CatholicCare or would like more information, please contact 02 8843 2500 or visit our website www.ccss.org.au

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish is joining forces with One Meal – It Makes a Difference to support One Meal's Blacktown meal service, held on Saturday afternoons.

One Meal – It Makes a Difference is a not for profit, 100% volunteer community organisation that helps to feed, clothe and support the homeless and underprivileged. They need our help! The One Meal mission is to provide healthy nutritious meals and a range of human services to the homeless, destitute, impoverished and underprivileged people and to assist in advancing the well-being, outlook on life and prospects for future independence of their Patrons We are seeking volunteers to join teams to take part in this program. In short, volunteers will be required to prepare and serve food (once every 10-12 weeks). There are opportunities for those who would prefer to prepare food and not attend the services (and vice versa). Please contact Terri Sebastian via the parish office (9622 1125) or on 0466 418 809 for more information about how to get involved.