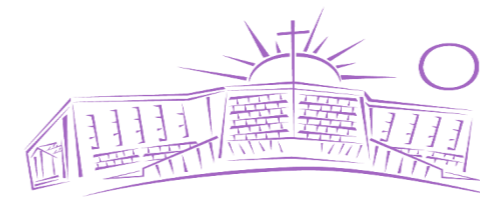


Acolytes, Ministers, Readers and Altar Servers, please remember to arrive ready 10 minutes before the beginning of Mass

December 15/16			December 22/23		
Acolytes	Vigil 8am 9.30am	Lawrence Falzon Ernie Gartner Ian Epondulan	Acolytes	Vigil 8am 9.30am	Ernie Gartner Louis Fernandes Eugene Miu
Ministers	Vigil 8.00am	Cathy Hutchings, Vinnie Zahra James Dinning, Edith Gartner	Ministers	Vigil 8.00am	Christine Menezes, Stefanie Menezes Fennie Balatbat, Lorraine Fernandes
	9.30am	Laura Bellissimo Barbara Chandler Anna Lopeti Kamela Maka Maria Michael Ramzee Michael	Readers	Vigil 8.00am	Paul Gow, Artelle Lenthall Priya Joachim, Christine Woodward
Readers	Vigil 8.00am 9.30am	Denis Symon, Alison Punch Benno Motha, Erika Hien Megan Michael, Helen Katopau	Altar Servers	Vigil 8.00am	NOAH EBB Christian Milicevic Caitlyn Rambukwella Jayden Rambukwella Joshua Ramachandran Tanisha Ramachandran Matthew Shawcross
Altar Servers	Vigil 8.00am	Yxaak Dino Genevieve Estil Madisen Estil Jesseline Franco Arynan Roy Aaron Rosario, Isacc Rosario		9.30am	Sofia Culili Chrisha Gonzales Karuniya Maruthanayagam Mary-Rose Mejalli Daniel Tenn
Musicians	Vigil 8am 9.30am	Deanne Do Rosario Couples for Christ Folk Group	Musicians	Vigil 8am 9.30am	Perrys Angels Parrys Angels Maria Balatbat
Children's Rosary	Liturgy	2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month Only Morris 45 James Street, Seven Hills	Children's Rosary	Liturgy	2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month Only Falzon 2 Wallpark Ave, Seven Hills
Flowers		Fennie & Angela	Flowers		Priya & Mary B
Bookshop	Vigil 8am 9.30am	Mariane Christian Shelia VOLUNTEER Kamela & Anna Maka	Bookshop	Vigil 8am 9.30am	Greg Edith Carole
Morning Tea			Morning Tea		John & An O'Brian
Church Cleaning	22 Dec	Andrew Fedrigo, Ramzee Michael	Church Cleaning	26 Dec	Sue Abela, Felicity Gravina, Joyce Muscat
Welcomers	6pm 8am 9.30am	John Jordan VOLUNTEER Karen Eleazar VOLUNTEER Kathy Chamberlain VOLUNTEER	Welcomers	6pm 8am 9.30am	Ram Ugre, Mary Bonnici, VOLUNTEER Joyce Hillbrick, VOLUNTEERS Helen Gonzales, VOLUNTEERS



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

Parish Priest:	Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran	Pastoral Care of the Sick and Elderly:	Mrs Bathista Emmanuel
Parish Secretary:	Mrs Erika Hien	Office Hours:	9am - 3.00pm
Sacrament & Youth Co-Ordinator:	Mrs Judy Barden	Monday-Friday:	9am - 3.00pm
Parish Church:	7 Grantham Rd, Seven Hills 2147	Telephone:	9622 2920
Postal Address:	PO Box 944, Seven Hills 1730	Parish Office Email:	secretary@olol7hills.org.au
Parish Website:	www.olol7hills.org.au	Youth Group Email:	youtholol7h@gmail.com
Parish School:	Our Lady of Lourdes	Public School Catechist Co-Ordinator:	Mr Bob McNally
Principal:	Ms Keiran Byrnes		

Third Sunday of Advent 16th December, 2018 Year C



WEEKEND MASS	Saturday Vigil 6pm Sunday 8am & 9.30am	HEALING MASS & ANOINTING OF SICK	1st Thursday of month at 8am. 3 January
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 Monday-Friday	Mon -Fri 8.30am-3pm (for prayer and reflection)	BAPTISMAL PREPARATION	16th January 2019 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 YOUTH MASS	23rd December 9.30am 1st Sunday of the month 9.30am 6th January
Exposition, Divine Mercy and Mass	4th January 2019 7.00pm	A Blessing for Children is available at all Masses	

DIOCESAN NEWS...

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2019

If you would like to join our Liturgical Ministry, the Institute for Mission will be providing sessions on the following: Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying, Altar Servers and Acolytes and Safe Ministry. There are two compulsory Evenings for Understanding Liturgical Ministries which will be held 18th and 21 Feb. All Meetings are held on Monday and Thursday evenings 7-9pm. Dates are listed on the application form. For those who wish to become Acolytes, before you register your interest in any of these courses please talk to Fr Henry and complete an application form that can be found at the rear of the church.

PARISH DIARY

DECEMBER

17 Dec	Legion of Mary Meeting	1:30pm
17 Dec	St Vincent de Paul Meeting	7:00pm
20 Dec	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.30am
21 Dec	Advent Prayer Group	9:00am
16 Dec	Social Justice Group - Training meeting	12:30pm
18 Dec	2nd Rite Reconciliation	7:30pm
20 Dec	1st Rite of reconciliation	8.30am
21 Dec	1st Rite of reconciliation	9.00am
22 Dec	1st Rite of reconciliation	9.00am

New Parishioners	Sick or Housebound	Planned Giving
Would you like to join or maybe receive a visit from Fr Henry or a parishioner?	Do you know someone who would like Holy Communion or a visit?	Would you like to support our Parish? Envelopes/Credit Card/Direct Debit Available
_____	_____	_____
Name	Name	Name
_____	_____	_____
Telephone	Telephone	Telephone

Please place on the collection plate

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near.*

OPENING PRAYER: O God you see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. 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: *Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring the Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Say to the faint of heart: be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.*



Let us Pray for the Sick

Esperanza, Maria Zentai, Sue Tipaldo, Letitia Haines, Andrew Fedrigo, Gabriel Chung, Gordon McLandsborough, Helen Diab, Nancy Youssef, Paul Gerard, Rose Stambouliah, Helena Amansec

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: Alexander Balatbat, Roseline Ratnam, Frank Strangio, Francis Cook, Lakshantha Fernando, Lourdes Fernandez de Venecia, Lazaro Fernandez, Victoria Almeida, Bridgette Fernandes,



Anniversaries: Antonio Xavier, Irene Moroney, Xavier Motha jnr, Christine Gomez, Mary Camenzuli, Paul Mula, M.A. Fernando, Veronica Pombart, Herman Saputra, Jose Font

Remembrance: Papa Maman Cyril, Harold Lafleur, Rosine Lafleur, Marc Lafleur, Teodoro Garcia, Lakshman Perera, Lourda Motha, Muscat Family, Mary Muscat, Roy, Mary and Des Barney.

PRAYER FOR ALL CHURCH LEADERS

Lord, Jesus Christ, watch over those who are leaders in your Church. Keep them faithful to their vocation and to the proclamation of your message. Teach them to recognise and interpret the signs of the times. Strengthen them with the gifts of the Spirit and help them to serve their subjects, especially the poor and the lowly. Give them a vivid sense of your presence in the world and a knowledge of how to show it to others.

MONEY MATTERS
Envelopes \$ 1780.00
Loose \$ 780.00
TOTAL \$ 2560.00
WEEKLY TARGET: \$3500.00



Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

CUPPA FOR OUR CARPARK

Donated to date \$ 18998.62 Balance \$56001.38

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 2019: Classes will resume in January 2019. Start date will be announced after Christmas.

FROM POPE FRANCIS

"In the twenty-fifth chapter of Matthew's Gospel (vv. 31-46), Jesus expands on the Beatitude that calls the merciful blessed. If we seek the holiness pleasing to God's eyes, this text offers us one clear criterion on which we will be judged. "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me"

Holiness, then, is not about swooning in mystic rapture. As Saint John Paul II said: "If we truly start out anew from the contemplation of Christ, we must learn to see him especially in the faces of those with whom he himself wished to be identified". The text of Matthew 25:35-36 is "not a simple invitation to charity: it is a page of Christology which sheds a ray of light on the mystery of Christ". In this call to recognize him in the poor and the suffering, we see revealed the very heart of Christ, his deepest feelings and choices, which every saint seeks to imitate. Given these uncompromising demands of Jesus, it is my duty to ask Christians to acknowledge and accept them in a spirit of genuine openness, sine glossa. In other words, without any "ifs or buts" that could lessen their force. Our Lord made it very clear that holiness cannot be understood or lived apart from these demands, for mercy is "the beating heart of the Gospel". If I encounter a person sleeping outdoors on a cold night, I can view him or her as an annoyance, an idler, an obstacle in my path, a troubling sight, a problem for politicians to sort out, or even a piece of refuse cluttering a public space. Or I can respond with faith and charity, and see in this person a human being with a dignity identical to my own, a creature infinitely loved by the Father, an image of God, a brother or sister redeemed by Jesus Christ. That is what it is to be a Christian! Can holiness somehow be understood apart from this lively recognition of the dignity of each human being? For Christians, this involves a constant and healthy unease. Even if helping one person alone could justify all our efforts, it would not be enough. The bishops of Canada made this clear when they noted, for example, that the biblical understanding of the jubilee year was about more than simply performing certain good works. It also meant seeking social change: "For later generations to also be released, clearly the goal had to be the restoration of just social and economic systems, so there could no longer be exclusion".

Pope Francis, apostolic exhortation, GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE

FROM FR. HENRY DUC

We have been so blessed to live in this promised land of peace, security and prosperity called Australia, where we are spared the extreme violence and poverty that many throughout the world have to face in their daily lives.

I remember a few years ago I happened to meet with the older brother of one of my friends from the village primary school. Since we hadn't met each other for at least more than 30 years, he first asked me whether I remembered him. 'Of course, I do', I replied with confidence. Perhaps the main reason why I could never forget the names of this pair of brothers was because their names were the rarest. Theirs actually mean 'tragedy' when put together, and tragedy it was as he went on to unfold the story of his younger brother to I.

Due to unbearable hardships in the post-war Vietnam, my friend, according to his brother, decided to cross the border to



make a living in Cambodia, just like myself fleeing the motherland and landing in this place. He managed to save some money, enough to start a small business in rural and dangerously lawless Cambodia, controlled by gangs and corrupt officials.

His successful enterprise, of course, had always been the easy target of one robbery after another. 'They – robbers-were absolutely brazen', his brother emotionally said to me years after those events, for they raided his residence, got him scuffled and beaten up badly even in daylight.' He survived the first two robbery attempts since they just wanted to know where he had kept his money and precious items, and got away with them. However, his life was tragically cut short, as they returned for the third time. He refused to co-operate with invaders and was beaten to death by them, whom his older brother identified as corrupt soldiers and police officers in the local area.

On this third Sunday of Advent, traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday, or Sunday of Joy, which is based on the Latin translation of the second reading this Sunday (Phil 4.4-7), highlighting the spirit of joyful expectation for the approaching of the Lord's nativity and Second coming, John the Baptist offers his individually-tailored advice to ordinary people in general, to tax collectors and soldiers. He encourages people to be charitable to share, tax collectors to remain just and fair, and soldiers to say no to violent means. In other words, John obviously promotes the spirit of generosity, justice and peace as pathways for his contemporary to renew themselves with a radical transformation, worthy of the coming of the Son of God in his public ministry.

Inspired by the message of generosity, justice and peace that John preached to his people of old, let us ask the Lord to give us, people of today, a joyful and generous heart to share with the disadvantaged, the courage to bring justice to the voiceless, and the willingness to be peacemakers in communities where we live. Consequently we may better prepare our souls and minds for the commemoration of Christmas and the coming of Jesus at the end time.

Have a joy-filled week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

All are invited to join Fr Henry for the Advent Prayer Group from **9.00—9.30am on all Fridays during the Advent season.**

PARISH SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Our parish will celebrate the **Second Rite of Reconciliation** with the help of our local clergy on **Tuesday 18th December at 7.30pm.**

The **First Rite of Reconciliation** (one to one) will be held on **Thursday 20th December from 8.30-9.30am, Friday 21st December from 9.00-10am & Saturday 22nd December from 9.00-10am.**

RCIA We are inviting all who are interested to become Catholic to join our RCIA program 2018-2019. Please contact Fr Henry for a chat before the start of the program.

ST VINCENT de PAUL MEETINGS

Meetings are held **every Monday** at 7.00pm except during January.

LOURDES OVER 50S GROUP OUTING

A reminder for those booked on the Riverboat Postman Cruise on Monday 17th December. Please be at the church by 8.15 am as the bus leaves at 8.30am. Next meeting Thursday 14th February 2019

Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Homeless Young Mothers in our Diocese.

This Christmas, we're counting on your faith, hope and charity to support homeless mothers and children in crisis. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will support the shelter, independent living and parenting skills programs that homeless mums desperately need. **Please give with a generous heart via the envelopes on the pews or donate online at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal.** Thank you for sharing God's unconditional love this Christmas.



CHRISTMAS MASSES - Can you help?

There is a sign up sheet at the back of the church from this weekend for anyone who would like to serve at one of our Christmas Masses. Please add your name to the sheet if you would like to be involved.

Christmas Mass Times

Children's Mass

6pm Monday 24th December

Christmas Vigil Mass

9pm Monday 24th December

Christmas Midnight Mass

12am (midnight) Tuesday 25th December

Christmas Day Mass

8am, 9:30am Tuesday 25th December

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

Also, an invitation is extended to anyone wishing to join the **Midnight Mass group choir.** Please contact the parish office for further details.

PLenary COUNCIL 2020 PARISHIONER SURVEY

This Plenary Council has been called to bring our Catholic Church up to date so that it continues to be relevant to all people in these modern times. The Council has called for input from every Parishioner. Parishioners have between now and 6 March 2019 to Have Their Say to the Plenary Council. If you want to send it direct to the Plenary Council use the website plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au. To send your reply to the Diocese as well as the Council use the parracatholic.org/haveyoursay site. Both sites take anonymous replies. It is easiest to type out your reply and then attach it to the email at the nominated box on both sites. Up to 3 attachments can be entered on the one posting. Take home a Have Your Say Brochure. **Remember: Every voice matters. Make yours matter.**

PARISH PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

(Social Justice Group). We are participating in a six month trial next year, **supporting families seeking asylum who are being left without government support.**

If you would like to be involved, training has been arranged in the parish meeting room this weekend on Sunday 16th December 12:30 - 3:30 pm. Please contact Terry Jordan 98963711 or 0409373715 to register.