

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

28/29 December

Acolytes Vigil 8am David Christian
9.30am Gerard Marcello
Ramzee Michael

Ministers Vigil Cathy Hutchings, Marinela Simic
8.00am Lorraine Fernandes, Winnie Marcello
9.30am Paul Gow, Dawn Manamperi
Perpetual Fernandes

Readers Vigil Mariane Descombes
8.00am Pepito Ferriols, Erika Hien
9.30am Megan Michael, Maricel Santos

Altar Servers Vigil Alexander Bateman-Paul, Benjamin Clark,
Noah Ebb, Christian Milicevic, Caitlyn
Rambukwella
8.00am Saoirse Costello, Sebastian Ciostello,
Karuniya Maruthanayagam
9.30am Eric Da, Victor Da, Mary-Rose Mejalli,
Rynan Michael, Umesh Samara-Sekera

Musicians Vigil 8am Perry's Angels
9.30am Fr Henry
Maria Balatbat

Children's Rosary Liturgy 2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month Only
22 December Morris Family
45 James Street, Seven Hills

Flowers 22 December Lucinda

Bookshop Vigil 8am Mariane Christian
9.30am Shelia
VOLUNTEER

Morning Tea 9.30am Imelda

Church Cleaning 27 December

Welcomers Vigil 8am Mary Bonnici, VOLUNTEERS
9.30am Maria Michael, VOLUNTEERS

4/5 January

Acolytes Vigil 8am Lawrence Falzon
9.30am Louis Fernandes
Noel Emmanuel

Ministers Vigil James Dinning Louise La Guidara,
Christsine Menezes, Stefanie Menezes,
Crystal Menezes, Michael Mifsud
8.00am Fennie Balatbat, Lorraine Fernandes
9.30am Ian Epondulan, Paul Gow

Readers Vigil (Sub Req)
Marinela Simic
8.00am Andrew Millar
9.30am Priya Joachim
Ryan Epondulan
Jeanine Nonato

Altar Servers Vigil Caron Cyril, Jesseline Franco, Edvin
Grover, Alex La Guidara, Ruby Sultana
8.00am Jayda-Leigh Neish, Ethan Neish
VOLUNTEER
9.30am Chloe Attard, (Sub Req) Larissa Leary,
(Sub Req) Jerard Sarmiento

Musicians Vigil 8am Fr. Henry
9.30am Grace Notes
Fr Henry

Children's Rosary Liturgy School Term ONLY
Menezes Family
39 Winnipeg St Seven Hills

Flowers Fenty & Mimi

Bookshop Vigil 8am VOLUNTEERS
9.30am

Morning Tea 9.30am Young Adults Group

Church Cleaning Elodia Colussi, Cathy Hutchings, Elizabeth
Mead, Melvyn Fernandes, Carol Haydon

Welcomers Vigil Judith Deloso, Ram Ugre VOLUNTEER
8am Joyce Hillbick, Rita Paolini, Karen Eleazar
9.30am Artelle Lethall, Lena Falzon, maria
Micheal



Parish Priest: Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran
Pastoral Care of the Sick: Bathista Emmanuel 0405833655
Parish Office Team: Mrs Erika Hien, Alison Issanchon
Kim Dang, Sarah Lenthall
Parish Office Email: secretary@olol7hills.org.au
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall
Catechist Coordinator: Mr Bob McNally 96241015

Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9am - 3.00pm
Telephone: 9622 2920
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.org.au
Parish School: Our Lady of Lourdes
Principal: Ms Keiran Byrnes
Parish Church: 7 Grantham Rd, Seven Hills 2147
Postal address: PO Box 944, Seven Hills 1730

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 29th December 2019 Year A



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

WEEKDAY MASS Tues - Friday 8am

PRAYER AND WORSHIP SERVICE Monday & Saturday 8am

RECONCILIATION Saturday 4.30pm-5.30pm

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

HEALING MASS & ANOINTING OF SICK
1st Thursday of the month at 8am. 2nd January 2020
BAPTISMAL PREPARATION 15th January 2020 at 7:30pm

YOUTH MASS 1st Sunday of the month at 9.30am.

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

Exposition, Divine Mercy & Mass
Friday 3 January 2020 7.00 pm

A Blessing for Children is available at all Masses

READINGS This Sunday 1st Reading : Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
2nd Reading : Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel : Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.
Concerning the Christian life in the world.
Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt

READINGS 5/1/2020 1st Reading : Isaiah 60:1-6
2nd Reading : Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6
Gospel : Matthew 2:1-12

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.
The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.
We have come from the East to worship the king.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.*

OPENING PRAYER: O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joys of your house delight one day in eternal reward.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen

RESPONSE TO PSALM: *Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!
May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you, Alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Our God has appeared on the earth and lived among us.*

| JANUARY 2020 | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 5 | The Epiphany of the Lord | |
| 9 | Legion of Mary | 1.30pm |
| 12 | The Baptism of the Lord | |
| 15 | Baptismal Preparation | 7.30pm |
| 23 | Christ Community Prayer Group | 9am |
| 26 | Australia Day | |
| 28 | School Resumes | |

Parish Directory 2020 — COMING SOON !



LOURDES OVER 50S
Next meeting Thursday 13th February 2020

CHRIST COMMUNITY PRAYER GROUP will recommence
9am Thursday January 23rd. 2020



HAVE YOU VISITED OUR PARISH WEBSITE LATELY?? Our parish website is updated regularly with news and upcoming events - everything from youth news to social justice to Mass times, bulletins, hall hire information and much more - a great way to stay up to date with what's on in our parish! Visit www.olol7hills.org.au

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH? WELCOME!
If you would like to register with our parish or receive a visit from Fr Henry or a parishioner, please give your name and contact number to Fr Henry after Mass or contact the parish office on 9622 2920
or email secretary@olol7hills.org.au. We look forward to hearing from you!



Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, Frank Azzopardi, David Barrow, John Bourke, Barrie Chamberlain, Gabriel Chung, Myrna G Cruz, Maureen Daley, Paul Daniel, Andrew Fedrigo, Anthony Janicska, Wendy & Klaus, Lawrence Family, Rosalinda Marcelo, Maria V, Blago Milicevic, Laurel Morris, Patricia Oreo, Lekisha Grace & Rommel Panlilio, Debra Price, Rose & Tony Stambouliah, Josette Sultana, Denis Symon, Sue Tipaldo.

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. We can also arrange for Holy Communion or a visit if required.

Let us Pray for the Deceased

Recently Deceased: Maureen Thelma Carter, John D'Silva, Errol Fernando, Mary & Frank Gatt, Reno Gatt, Ted Haines, Hilda Mead, Lucille Alexandrine Wilson, Neville J Byrnes.

Anniversaries: France Angseesing, John Azzopardi, Fortunata & Frank Baida, Alexander Constantine Balatbat, Carolina Borg, Lionel Bosen, Mary Camenzuli, Samuel Cavallaro, Marcel & Max Diab, Tony, Debe & Bede Diab, Ivan Elisher, John Falzon, Maria & Emanuel Farrugia, Shanti Fernando, MA Fernando, Jose Font, Irene Moroney, Thelma Morrissey, Anton Motha, Paul Mula, Aurora Nonato, Elizabeth Pinter, Veronica Pombar, Makalita Kilaitina Pongi, Roseline Ratnam, Jose & Laureano Reyes, RJ Rosares, Santan & Pauline Soares, Sylvia (Abbott) Walker., Fr. Bill O'Connor.

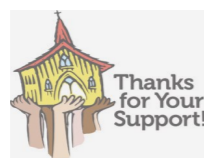
Remembrance: Elvina & Giovanni Barnaba, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sr Maree Aimee & Clarence Corera, Shanti Fernando, VA Francis, Teodoro Garcia, Roderick Garcia, Sharon & John Lawrence, Pauline Meilak, William & Emilia Mifsud, Lourda Motha, Louis & Stephen Mula, Felix & Andriana Muscat, Josephine, Charles, Mary & Muscat Family, Lakshman Perera, Natalia & Felicisimo, Amalia & Dominga Usman.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Oh God, by the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary, you bestowed upon the human race the rewards of eternal salvation; grant we beg you, that we may feel the power of her intercession, through whom we have been made worthy to receive the Author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you, forever and ever. Amen.

MONEY MATTERS

Envelopes \$ 2125.00
Loose \$ 711.00
TOTAL \$ 2836.00
WEEKLY TARGET: \$ 3500.00



PARISH PROJECTS

As part of our efforts to raise funds to meet the costs of Parish maintenance and improvements, all members of our parish are invited to join a Direct Debit program by donating the cost of a cup of coffee or a glass of beer either weekly, fortnightly or monthly for this good cause. Keep in mind that though we have some limited funds, we have to meet a long list of costs, including the carpark, the Olive St. pathway, our buildings and properties.

Please add a reference of "Donation". Banking details are below:

DIRECT DEPOSIT:

BSB: 067 950;

Account Number 000552;

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

FROM POPE FRANCIS

CHAPTER FIVE

In friendship with Christ

No matter how much you live the experience of these years of your youth, you will never know their deepest and fullest meaning unless you encounter each day your best friend, the friend who is Jesus. Friendship is one of life's gifts and a grace from God. Through our friends, the Lord refines us and leads us to maturity. Faithful friends, who stand at our side in times of difficulty, are also a reflection of the Lord's love, his gentle and consoling presence in our lives. The experience of friendship teaches us to be open, understanding and caring towards others, to come out of our own comfortable isolation and to share our lives with others. For this reason, "there is nothing so precious as a faithful friend" (Sir 6:15).

Friendship is no fleeting or temporary relationship, but one that is stable, firm and faithful, and matures with the passage of time. A relationship of affection that brings us together and a generous love that makes us seek the good of our friend. Friends may be quite different from one another, but they always have things in common that draw them closer in mutual openness and trust.[80]

Friendship is so important that Jesus calls himself a friend: "I do not call you servants any longer, but I call you friends" (Jn 15:15). By the gift of his grace, we are elevated in such a way that we truly become his friends. With the same love that Christ pours out on us, we can love him in turn and share his love with others, in the hope that they too will take their place in the community of friendship he established. And even as he enjoys the complete bliss of the life of the resurrection, we, for our part, can work generously to help him build his kingdom in this world, by bringing his message, his light, and above all his love, to others (cf. Jn 15:16). The disciples heard Jesus calling them to be his friends. It was an invitation that did not pressure them, but gently appealed to their freedom. "Come and see", Jesus told them; so "they came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day" (Jn 1:39). After that unexpected and moving encounter, they left everything and followed him.

Friendship with Jesus cannot be broken. He never leaves us, even though at times it appears that he keeps silent. When we need him, he makes himself known to us (cf. Jer 29:14); he remains at our side wherever we go (cf. Jos 1:9). He never breaks his covenant. He simply asks that we not abandon him: "Abide in me" (Jn 15:4). But even if we stray from him, "he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself" (2 Tim 2:13). [Pope Francis, apostolic exhortation, CHRISTUS VIVIT —to the young people and the entire people of God]

FROM FR. HENRY DUC

During my annual retreat last November, I had a chance to catchup with Br Bill Tarrant MSF, who used to live in our parish and helped to conduct lots of Spiritual presentations for us. That was delightful to see him again, who now lives with his community near Varroville, where I had the retreat. Apart from a nice meal he offered me, Br Bill also surprised me with an early Christmas present, a book by Fr Richard Leonard SJ, called What Are We Waiting For?, containing of short reflections for Advent and Christmas. Fr Leonard's strengths, perhaps, lie in his storytelling skills and rich life experience I found very captivating. I remember in his reflection upon the feast of the Holy Family, he talked about a recent survey of married couples, who shared their experience about what make their families happy. These couples really had something to say, since they had been together between fifty to seventy years. They named these qualities as the top three ingredients making happiness always present in their families, namely LOVE, GRATITUDE,



and FORGIVENESS.

The love they mentioned in fact, was a sacrificial one, which encouraged them to be happy to give and take, and prepared to put their partner and children first.

The second quality of gratitude very echoes what Pope Francis has been calling our married to put into practice, which is about making the words PLEASE and THANK YOU central to their family life. I was very impressed to hear what a young-at-heart wife talked about her husband, 'I can't think of a time in my sixty-year marriage and family life that my husband hasn't said 'please' and 'thank you.' I have never felt taken for granted. From making a cup of tea to having a baby, he always sincerely says 'please' and 'thank you.' With forgiveness, a more challenging virtue to carry out, one of those couples shared their tip to survive that 'from small annoying things to a few big moments, genuine forgiveness has been essential for us facing a crisis and not getting trapped there. It has enabled us to learn, deal with it, grow, and move on.' Fr Leonard also throws in a practical advice from his master, St Ignatius Loyola for those who may find themselves not ready to forgive others, he invited them to start praying for the desire to want to forgive others.

For the feast of the Holy Family this week, Matthew gives us the story of their escape to Egypt to avoid Herod's persecution. This journey driving them of their homeland does not simply turn them into iconic symbols of all refugees throughout the world, but also make them examples for all married couples to look up, for their ability to remain tightly united and connected in the most difficult moment of their lives. Let us pray for all families in our parish, and also for families of refugees all over the world, that the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph always remains their inspiring example to look upon in time of needs. May it grant them wisdom, strength and support to walk their earthly walk, and one day happily join it in the heavenly home.

Have a New Year filled with love, gratitude and forgiveness.

Fr. Henry

PARISH NEWS...



CHRISTMAS THANK YOU

A big word of thanks to all our church ministers, helpers and volunteers for their generous commitments and hard works to make both our church and liturgies spot on throughout the season and Advent and Christmas. May the Lord of Christmas grant them with

his countless blessings and reward them manifold for their labours of love.

LEGION OF MARY: No meeting 26th December and 2nd January. Meetings will recommence Thursday 9th January 2020 1.30pm. All welcome.

Ministry Rosters are available. For those who **do not** have access to on-line, there are a few copies at the back of the church.

Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will be closed between Christmas and New Year. During January, the office hours will be reduced due to the holiday period. If you require assistance, please call 9622 2920 and leave a voicemail message if no one is in the office. These messages are checked daily and we will endeavour to assist you as soon as possible. Thank You.



DIOCESAN NEWS

CatholicOutlook Catholic Outlook is back! Pick up your FREE copy Now!

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook is back. Catholic Outlook which will be published quarterly as an A4 magazine with a focus on Catholic faith formation, spirituality and a look at what is happening across the agencies and ministries of the Diocese of Parramatta. Available now at the entrances to church.

Epiphany Pilgrimage

It is with sadness that the 2020 Epiphany Pilgrimage has been cancelled in light of the current fire situation in the Blue Mountains. We continue to keep all those affected by the fires in our thoughts and prayers and give thanks for the tireless efforts and generosity of the firefighters. There are discussions about the possible mid-year pilgrimage (July school holidays with dates TBC), with relevant information to be posted to <http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org/> as plans take shape.

CatholicCare Blacktown Neighbourhood Aid Volunteers Needed

Blacktown Neighbour Aid, a program with CatholicCare, is looking for volunteers to support our senior clients in the Blacktown area to remain living independently in their own home. If you feel you would like to make a positive difference to other's lives in this way, please contact the Manager, Deb Woolacott on 0418 114 055 or email deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au.

St Bernadette's Lalor Park is hosting weekly devotions to Mary Immaculate and ST Bernadette and Adoration of the Blessed Sacraments every Wednesday evening at 7pm, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. All welcome. For more information, contact the parish office on 9672 4037 or admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au

