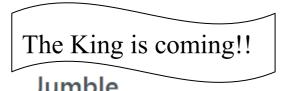
Our Lady of Lourdes Children's Corner Palm Sunday Year A - 5 April 2020





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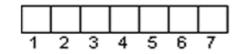
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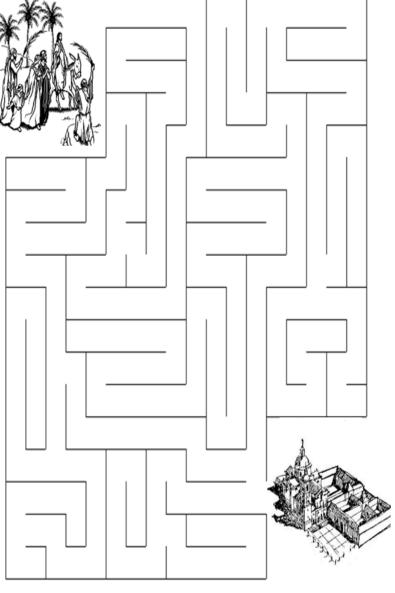
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The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted " the Son of David!" Matthew 21:9a (NIV)





Follow Jesus through the streets of Jerusalem.



Office Hours: Monday-Friday:

Parish Website: www.olol7hills.org.au

9am - 3.00pm

9622 2920

8869 6800

Parish Priest: Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran

Pastoral Care of the Sick: Bathista Emmanuel 0405833655 Telephone:

Parish Office Team: Mrs Erika Hien, Alison Issanchon

Kim Dang, Sarah Lenthall

Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall

Parish School: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Office Email: secretary@olol7hills.org.au Principal: Ms Keiran Byrnes

Parish Church: 7 Grantham Rd, Seven Hills 2147

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year A • 5 April 2020 •

••All are welcome to join us for Our Lady of Lourdes Seven Hills, Sydney, NSW, Australia Facebook Live-stream Weekend Masses celebrated by Fr. Henry Huu Duc Tran on Saturdays 6PM (Vigil), Sundays: 8AM, 9:30AM and 5PM (Vietnamese) AEDT (UTC +11): https://

www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/•• masses will be streamed is the 'Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Community Seven Hills NSW' People do not necessarily need a Facebook account as it will be appear publicly.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 50:4-7.

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed. The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know that I shall not be ashamed

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. ' He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.' R.

Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. R.

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! R.

I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' R.



SECOND READING

A reading from the letter Philippians 2:8-9

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high. His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the governor put to him this question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'It is you who say it.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him, 'Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?' But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges. At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?' For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message, 'Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.' The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' they said 'Barabbas'. 'But in that case,' Pilate said to them 'what am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?' They all said, 'Let him be crucified!' 'Why?' he asked 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Let him be crucified!' Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said, 'I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.' And the people, to a man, shouted back, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified. The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort around him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him. On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink.

When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said 'So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!' The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God: now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, "I am the son of God." Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way. From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice. 'Eli. Eli. lama sabachthani?' that is. 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said, 'The man is calling on Elijah,' and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. 'Wait!' said the rest of them 'and see if Elijah will come to save him.' But Jesus again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit. At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth guaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said, 'In truth this was a son of God.'



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Our Lady of Lourdes

Ever immaculate Virgin, Mother of mercy, health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comfort of the afflicted, you know my needs,

my troubles, my sufferings; cast on me a look of pity.

By appearing in the grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary, from which you dispense your favours, and already many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and physical.

I come, therefore, with the most

I come, therefore, with the most unbounded confidence to implore your maternal intercession.

Obtain most loving mother, my requests, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

PARISH NEWS...



FR HENRY'S SILVER JUBILEE....

Due to unknown complications of the Coronavirus development, we dutifully decided to postpone all the celebrations scheduled for both 1st and 3rd of May, 2020.

All ticket-holders are invited to hang on to their tickets in the meantime, and a new date is to be discussed and announced when available. We are sorry for any inconvenience you might have in this regard.

LOYOLA PRESS-JESUIT MINISTRY

Loyola Press is a Catholic religious Education, offering 3-Minute Retreat, books, ministry resources, articles, and educational program support https://www.loyolapress.com/



Please continue with your Project Compassion Box and return it to the church when things come back to normal.

COVID-19 Update issued from the Diocese of Parramatta, please refer to the website: https://parracatholic.org/covid19

Pope Francis prays for the homeless and those who suffer out of sight. In his opening words at Mass at the Casa Santa Marta last Friday April 2, Pope Francis said "these days of sorrow and sadness highlight so many hidden problems."

He mentioned a photograph featured in the daily papers, which he said, touches the heart: "So many homeless people in a city, huddling in a parking lot... there are so many homeless people today."

And he invited the faithful to ask St. Teresa of Calcutta to awaken in us a sense of closeness to those who live, hidden, in the cracks of society, like the homeless whose plight is particularly evident in this moment of crisis.

We have been chosen by God

In his homily, the Pope explained that Christians must be conscious of having been chosen by God, joyful as they tread the path of salvation, and faithful to the Covenant. Commenting on the readings of the Day, from the Book of Genesis and from the Gospel according to John, the Pope noted they both focus on the figure of Abraham, on the Covenant with God and on how Jesus comes to "remake" creation by forgiving our sins.

"The Lord has made us a promise and now He asks us to enter into a Covenant, a Covenant of faithfulness," he said. We are Christians, Pope Francis explained, "because we are elected, chosen by God, and we have received a promise of fruitfulness, to which we must respond with fidelity to the Covenant."



EASTER CARDS available from Piety Shop. Please contact the Parish Office, 9622 2920

Urgent Notice Regarding the Sacramental Program



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As a result the Novel Caronavirus Covid-19 pandemic we have regretfully decided to postpone our Sacramental Program until further notice. The health and safety of our children and families is of paramount importance to us, which is the reason we are taking these precautions and preventative measures, These necessary measures are being taken in accordance with both the recommendations of the Australian Government and the Diocese of Parramatta. The meetings which were due to run over the months of April and May to support you in assisting your child prepare for the sacrament, the

Parent Information Meeting which was due to be held on Tuesday 31st of March and the actual

celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday 26th May 2020 will now move to dates to be advised, later this year.

For further information, please contact the parish office on 9622 2920 or email

artellelolol7hills.com.au

God Bless you & your family during this Lenten Season,

Artelle Lenthall
Sacramental Coordinator
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
Seven Hills

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FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Five weeks ago, we started this Lenten season in a rather tranquil and peaceful spirit with Ash Wednesday, our annual retreat, Friday Nights Stations of the Cross,

the Rite of Election for our catechumens in Parramatta and our usual Masses, of course.

We could surely enjoy another marvellous Holy Week and Easter, if there were no presence of a biological typhoon called Coronavirus. We could never expect it to land this hard on our soil, and spread its devastate wings through our communities and succumb us into such an unbelievable position we have experienced for a few weeks, though we saw and heard of its destructive power causing isolations, illness, fears and deaths in China, particularly in Wuhan city.

The last Sunday Masses we had in church, then in the school playground as a physical community seem to be a long time ago, and I can't help to scratch my head and ask myself, 'when am I able to welcome the community back in church again?'

Two weeks ago we talked about Pope Francis' definition of the Church as a Field Hospital, and many of us had very little or no idea what it was about, for we neither heard of nor saw it in real lives. Perhaps we by now can expertly talk about the topic, as we see not one, but lot of them as white as snow suddenly popping up in New York, and probably in other big cities in the US with a sole aim to cope with extra demands from Covid-19 potential patients. Let us pray to the Lord that our Australia shall be spared of that experience in the days ahead.

Like never before, we have to celebrate Palm Sunday online with Masses to be livestreamed and no room for a usual Palm procession, and we are having a simple Palm blessing in the beginning of each Mass to refresh our memories, instead, and a shorter Passion narrative. With Matthew's Passion story this year, may I invite you to pay your special attention on Symon of Cyrene, the by-passer accidently caught by Jesus' beaters to help him carry the cross to his final destination of death. What does his example tell us today in this unprecedented moment of history? Well, it perhaps inspires us to be less about ourselves and more about others beyond our family circles, meaning more generous in our care and prayer for people around us, especially (1) those gravely affected by the pandemic, its victims and their families, (2) those courageously fighting the virus on the front line as doctors, nurses, paramedics, and the police, and (3) those working hard to make sure items essential for our everyday lives constantly available as super market employers and

Let us ask the Lord Jesus to incorporate our lack of freedom, our discomfort and suffering at the moment into his Passion and turn them into merits for us both now and in the world to come.

Have a grace-filled Holy Week.

Fr. Henry



MORE FROM POPE FRANCIS

Pope offers heartfelt thanks for efforts to combat coronavirus

At the Wednesday General Audience – which was livestreamed from the Apostolic Library - Pope Francis turned his thoughts towards all those, in Italy and around the world, who are struggling against the coronavirus epidemic. As of Tuesday, more than 120,000 cases of the coronavirus had been identified worldwide, and more than 4,300 people have died from the disease. Almost 67,000 people affected have recovered, and internationally, doctors and scientists are working to find a vaccine. Several of the most severely hit countries, including Italy, have seen their healthcare systems sorely tried by the outbreak, and are adopting stringent measures to halt the spread of the disease.

In his remarks at the General Audience, Pope Francis turned his thoughts to those on the frontlines of the struggle against Covid 19.

Right now, I would like to speak directly to all those ill with the coronavirus, who are suffering from this sickness, and to the many people suffering uncertainty related to their own illnesses. I offer my heartfelt thanks to hospital personnel, doctors. nurses, and volunteers who in this difficult moment are close to people who are suffering.

The Holy Father also expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the faithful who are praying for relief for those who are suffering, thanking "all Christians, and men and women of goodwill, who are praying - united together, no matter the religious tradition to which they belong. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your efforts".



KEEP UP TO DATE By visiting our parish website with news, the bulletin, prayers and much more - a great way to stay up to date with what's on in our parish Visit www.olol7hills.org.au

Planned Giving Program

On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you so much for your ongoing support, which has been very vital to keep our Parish going strong.

As there are no mass to give envelope collections, all members of our parish are invited to join a Direct Debit program.

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.

Let us Pray for the Sick



Mark McGilligan, Leonila Ahillon, David Barrow, John Bourke, Barrie Chamberlain, Gabriel Chung, Myrna G Cruz, Maureen Daley, Paul Daniel, John Doraisamy, Andrew Fedrigo, Anthony Janicska, Wendy & Klaus, Lawrence Family, Maria V, Blago Milicevic, Laurel Morris, Nguyen Kim Dung, Patricia Oreo, Lekisha Grace Panlilio, Roger & Kimberley Payoe, Debra Price, Susanth Sennayake, Bernie Sivapatham, Rose 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: Christina Apolinario, Eleonora Leslie Bringas, Emilio Caperal, Maureen Thelma Carter, Dr Conrad Castellino, Shanti Fernando, Neil Joines, Ruth Marsden, Nalini Ravindren, Sem Mangahas Serna, Victorio Sing, Jim Vella, Sunimal Wijeratne.

Anniversaries: Zolten Gartner, France Angseesing, Fortunata Baiada, Rosario Cabasa, Aurora Caro, Saviour Caruana, Catherine Chandra, Cini Family. Patrick John Fischer, Martina Galea, Tarcisco Archie Gatt, Josephine Gomez, Oswald Herbert, Mangion family, Irene Moroney, Paula Mula, John Ratnam, Federico de los Santos, Shirley Sexton, Rosary Silva, Maria Trinh, Victoria Vella

Remembrance: Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Paul, Simone Cyril, VA Francis, Elsie, Jean & Karl Garrick, Sharon & John Lawrence, Pauline Meilak, Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula, Mary & Muscat Family, John Nadarajah, Lakshman Perera, Roseline Ratnam, Rev Fr Ambrose Ryan, Amalia & Dominga Usman.

..PRAYER FOR DEVOTION TO THE HOLY NAME

Oh Jesus, grant to me and those I love, as well as to all the faithful the grace of eternal salvation through your holy name. Bestow on us a most ardent love for you that will imprint your sacred name upon our hearts.

May it be always in our minds and frequently on our lips, that it may be our defence in temptation, our refuge in danger, and our consolation and support in the hour of death, Amen.

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary during the coronavirus pandemic

O Mary,

you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

> You, Salvation of all People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

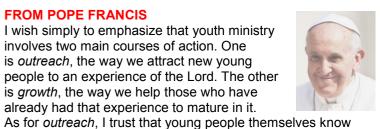
FROM POPE FRANCIS

I wish simply to emphasize that youth ministry involves two main courses of action. One is outreach, the way we attract new young people to an experience of the Lord. The other is *growth*, the way we help those who have already had that experience to mature in it.

how best to find appealing ways to come together. They know

evangelize using social media, through text messages, songs,

how to organize events, sports competitions and ways to



videos and other ways. They only have to be encouraged and given the freedom to be enthused about evangelizing other young people wherever they are to be found. When the message is first brought up, whether at a youth retreat, in a conversation at a bar, on school holidays, or in any of God's mysterious ways, it can awaken a deep experience of faith. What is most important, though, is that each young person can be daring enough to sow the seed of the message on that fertile terrain that is the heart of another young person. In this outreach, we need to use above all the language of closeness. the language of generous, relational and existential love that touches the heart, impacts life, and awakens hope and desires. Young people need to be approached with the grammar of love, not by being preached at. The language that young people understand is spoken by those who radiate life, by those who are there for them and with them. And those who, for all their limitations and weaknesses, try to live their faith with integrity. We also have to give greater thought to ways of incarnating the kerygma in the language of today's As for *growth*. I would make one important point. In some places, it happens that young people are helped to have a powerful experience of God, an encounter with Jesus that touched their hearts. But the only follow-up to this is a series of "formation" meetings featuring talks about doctrinal and moral issues, the evils of today's world, the Church, her social doctrine, chastity, marriage, birth control and so on. As a result, many young people get bored, they lose the fire of their encounter with Christ and the joy of following him; many give up and others become downcast or negative. Rather than being too concerned with communicating a great deal of doctrine, let us first try to awaken and consolidate the great experiences that sustain the Christian life. In the words of Romano Guardini, "when we experience a great love... everything else becomes part of it".[112] Any educational project or path of growth for young people must certainly include formation in Christian doctrine and morality. It is likewise important that it have two main goals. One is the development of the kerygma, the foundational experience of encounter with God through Christ's death and resurrection. The other is growth in fraternal love, community life and service. This was something I emphasized in Evangelii Gaudium, and I consider it worth repeating here. It would be a serious mistake to think that in youth ministry "the kerygma should give way to a supposedly more 'solid' formation. Nothing is more solid, profound, secure, meaningful and wisdom-filled than that initial proclamation. All Christian formation consists of entering more deeply into the kerygma"[113] and incarnating it ever more fully in our lives. Consequently, youth ministry should always include occasions for renewing and deepening our personal experience of the love of God and the living Christ. It can do this in a variety of ways: testimonies, songs, moments of adoration, times of spiritual reflection on the sacred Scriptures, and even an intelligent use of social networks. Yet this joyful experience of encounter with the Lord should never be replaced by a kind of "indoctrination".