

Our Lady of Lourdes Children's Corner
 The Fourth Sunday of Advent - The Angel Gabriel appears to Mary
 Luke 1:26-38



E	O	U	N	X	B	F	R	Z	T	L	H	Q	V	D	J	S	A	K	I	C	Y	P	W	G	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 18-4-25-1-11 _____
- 25-18-6-8-20-1-11 _____
- 14-20-8-25-20-4 _____
- 16-2-17-1-23-12 _____
- 26-18-8-22 _____
- 18-7-8-18-20-15 _____
- 6-20-8-10-12 _____
- 17-2-4 _____
- 16-1-17-3-17 _____
- 6-2-8-4 _____

GABRIEL	SON	MARY	BORN	VIRGIN
AFRAID	JOSEPH	ANGEL	BIRTH	JESUS



K V G J E U J H T U Z G T J N
 X I Y K V V V Z S H N U B K J
 P D N W U E J N F O R M O O B
 C J K G L L I O W N N O R S D
 H B E E D G X E S N R O N Z B
 I C G S R O F V B E M W D E I
 H N L I U P M I I B P A V Q B
 A Q V B I S H L R M W H R L A
 Z Z J P J P L X T C D Q W Y G
 D F H H D P F P H N A C I K A
 A D A F R A I D W N V X K N B
 E B W Q K U P O V X I J X Y R
 Q G P L T C T L R X D L F H I
 E L I Z A B E T H Q B O C Y E
 Y K C N P O S T D N F E E O L

ELIZABETH	JESUS	JOSEPH	BORN	AFRAID
SON	KINGDOM	DAVID	GABRIEL	BIRTH
MARY	TOWN	ANGEL	THRONE	VIRGIN



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: Bathista Emmanuel 0405833655
Parish Office Team: Mrs Erika Hien, Alison Issanchon
 Kim Dang, Sarah Lenthall
Parish Office Email: secretary@lol7hills.com.au
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall

Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9am - 3.00pm
Telephone: 9622 2920
Parish Website: www.lol7hills.com.au
Parish School: Our Lady of Lourdes 8869 6800
Principal: Ms Keiran Byrnes
Parish Church: 7 Grantham Rd, Seven Hills 2147

WEEKDAY MASS Tuesday-Friday 8.00am
WEEKEND MASS Saturday Vigil 6pm

RECONCILIATION Saturday 4.30-5.30pm
BAPTISMAL PREPARATION 20th January 2021 7.30pm



4th Sunday of Advent
Year B - 20 December 2020

All are welcome to join us for **Our Lady of Lourdes, Seven Hills, Sydney, NSW, Australia Facebook LIVE-STREAM WEEK-END 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/LOL7Hills/>

REMINDER
KEEP COVID SAFE



Let us Pray for the Sick

Chula Abey, Leonila Ahillon, George Alagiah, David Barrow, David Benjamin, John Bourke, Lina Cabaero, Barrie Chamberlain, Gabriel Chung, Myra G Cruz, Paul Daniel, Lola Doyle, Ronald Gomez, Milroy Gunewardena, Anthony Janicska, Wendy & Klaus, Anslan Lawrence, Angelina Lee, Carmenu M, Gerard Marcello, Maria V, Mark McGilligan, Mary Mifsud, Blago Milicevic, Laurel Morris, Anna Mun, Patricia Oreo, Lekisha Grace Panillio, Roger & Kimberley Payoe, Wiranjan Peiris, Salome Pillay, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Susantha Seranayake, Bernie Sivapatham, Rose Stambouliah, Denis Symon, Lourdes Tibig, Sue Tiplado, Natalie Woodward.

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: Philomena Corera, Therese Do, Marissa Gantuangco, Mary Grech, Garetan Motha, Lee Francis Pisch, Stephen Pisch, Gladys Pitel, Bungon Sangchalouy, Verna Soris.

Anniversaries: France Angseesing, Lionel Bosen, Ivan Elisher, John Falzon, MA Fernando, Teodoro Garcia, Barbara Loria, Pauline Meilak, Cecilia Dagvit Mendoza, Anton Motha, Paula Mula, Stephen & Louis Mula, Aurora Nonato, Francis Paiva, Lakshman Perera, Jose Reyes, Rohan Senanayake, Gabriel Singh, Jim & Alison Vella, Jim Vella.

Remembrance: Maria Almodavar, Camen Attard, Sam & Saiviva Debattista, Bonoza, Nazario Ofelia & Dionisio Enfesta, Maria Fusco, Pauline Meilak, Lourda Motha, Mary and Muscat family, Roseline Ratnam.

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. Current projects being including the Hall Kitchen renovation, Parish Meeting Room painting, Parish Office and Meeting Room Roof painted, Church roof cleaned and ceiling repaired and painted.

ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

BSB: 067 950;
Account Number 000552;
Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church.
 (please include your NAME and ENVELOPE NUMBER in the reference description, or write DONATION if you haven't joined the Planned Giving Prog.

IN-PERSON BANK DEPOSIT (at a Bank Institute/Branch)

Seven Hills Catholic Church
BSB: 062 315
Acc Id # - 00901486
AGENT # - 660

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

We must continue to:

- MASKS** (Icon: Mask) Wearing of Masks is strongly advised but optional.
- SANITISE** (Icon: Hand sanitizer) Use hand sanitizer upon entry and exit.
- DISTANCE** (Icon: 1.5m) Please maintain social distancing at all times. Including when lining up for Holy Communion.
- SIGN IN** (Icon: Clipboard) *By Law, EVERYONE must SIGN IN.* If the church has reached the MAX. capacity of 100 people, please proceed to Hall.
- MARKED SEATING** (Icon: Chair) Please sit behind the WHITE TAPE or in family designated areas.

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING ANY FLU LIKE SYMPTOMS PLEASE STAY HOME AS THE MASS IS STILL AVAILABLE ON LIVE-STREAM THROUGH OUR OLOL FACEBOOK PAGE.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS TO THE CHURCH SAFE.

FIRST READING

A reading from the second book of Samuel 2 Sm 7:1-5. 8-12.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)

I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)

He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.



PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the altar.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

1. A beloved father

The greatness of Saint Joseph is that he was the spouse of Mary and the father of Jesus. In this way, he placed himself, in the words of Saint John Chrysostom, "at the service of the entire plan of salvation".[7] Saint Paul VI pointed out that Joseph concretely expressed his fatherhood "by making his life a sacrificial service to the mystery of the incarnation and its redemptive purpose. He employed his legal authority over the Holy Family to devote himself completely to them in his life and work. He turned his human vocation to domestic love into a superhuman oblation of himself, his heart and all his abilities, a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home".[8] Thanks to his role in salvation history, Saint Joseph has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people. This is shown by the countless churches dedicated to him worldwide, the numerous religious Institutes, Confraternities and ecclesial groups inspired by his spirituality and bearing his name, and the many traditional expressions of piety in his honour. Innumerable holy men and women were passionately devoted to him. Among them was Teresa of Avila, who chose him as her advocate and intercessor, had frequent recourse to him and received whatever graces she asked of him. Encouraged by her own experience, Teresa persuaded others to cultivate devotion to Joseph.[9]

Every prayer book contains prayers to Saint Joseph. Special prayers are offered to him each Wednesday and especially during the month of March, which is traditionally dedicated to him.[10]

Popular trust in Saint Joseph is seen in the expression "Go to Joseph", which evokes the famine in Egypt, when the Egyptians begged Pharaoh for bread. He in turn replied: "Go to Joseph; what he says to you, do" (Gen 41:55). Pharaoh was referring to Joseph the son of Jacob, who was sold into slavery because of the jealousy of his brothers (cf. Gen 37:11-28) and who – according to the biblical account – subsequently became viceroy of Egypt (cf. Gen 41:41-44). As a descendant of David (cf. Mt 1:16-20), from whose stock Jesus was to spring according to the promise made to David by the prophet Nathan (cf. 2 Sam 7), and as the spouse of Mary of Nazareth, Saint Joseph stands at the crossroads between the Old and New Testaments.

2. A tender and loving father

Joseph saw Jesus grow daily "in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favour" (Lk 2:52). As the Lord had done with Israel, so Joseph did with Jesus: he taught him to walk, taking him by the hand; he was for him like a father who raises an infant to his cheeks, bending down to him and feeding him (cf. Hos 11:3-4).

In Joseph, Jesus saw the tender love of God: "As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him" (Ps 103:13).

In the synagogue, during the praying of the Psalms, Joseph would surely have heard again and again that the God of Israel is a God of tender love,[11] who is good to all, whose "compassion is over all that he has made" (Ps 145:9). The history of salvation is worked out "in hope against hope" (Rom 4:18), through our weaknesses. All too often, we think that God works only through our better parts, yet most of his plans are realized in and despite our frailty. Thus Saint Paul could say: "To keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me: 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness'" (2 Cor 12:7-9).

Since this is part of the entire economy of salvation, we must learn to look upon our weaknesses with tender mercy.[12] The evil one makes us see and condemn our frailty, whereas the Spirit brings it to light with tender love. Tenderness is the best way to touch the frailty within us. Pointing fingers and judging others are frequently signs of an inability to accept our own weaknesses, our own frailty. Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser (cf. Rev 12:10). That is why it is so important to encounter God's mercy, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where we experience his truth and tenderness. Paradoxically, the evil one can also speak the truth to us, yet he does so only to condemn us. We know that God's truth does not condemn, but instead welcomes, embraces, sustains and forgives us. That truth always presents itself to us like the merciful father in Jesus' parable (cf. Lk 15:11-32). It comes out to meet us, restores our dignity, sets us back on our feet and rejoices for us, for, as the father says: "This my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found" (v. 24).

Even through Joseph's fears, God's will, his history and his plan were at work. Joseph, then, teaches us that faith in God includes believing that he can work even through our fears, our frailties and our weaknesses. He also teaches us that amid the tempests of life, we must never be afraid to let the Lord steer our course. At times, we want to be in complete control, yet God always sees the bigger picture.



Year of St. Joseph

Apostolic letter of Pope Francis

Patris Cordes

ON THE 150th ANNIVERSAR OF THE PROCLAMATION OF SAINT JOSEPH AS PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

WITH A FATHER'S HEART: that is how Joseph loved Jesus, whom all four Gospels refer to as "the son of Joseph".[1]

Matthew and Luke, the two Evangelists who speak most of Joseph, tell us very little, yet enough for us to appreciate what sort of father he was, and the mission entrusted to him by God's providence.

We know that Joseph was a lowly carpenter (cf. *Mt* 13:55), betrothed to Mary (cf. *Mt* 1:18; *Lk* 1:27). He was a "just man" (*Mt* 1:19), ever ready to carry out God's will as revealed to him in the Law (cf. *Lk* 2:22.27.39) and through four dreams (cf. *Mt* 1:20; 2:13.19.22). After a long and tiring journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, he beheld the birth of the Messiah in a stable, since "there was no place for them" elsewhere (cf. *Lk* 2:7). He witnessed the adoration of the shepherds (cf. *Lk* 2:8-20) and the Magi (cf. *Mt* 2:1-12), who represented respectively the people of Israel and the pagan peoples.

Joseph had the courage to become the legal father of Jesus, to whom he gave the name revealed by the angel: "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (*Mt* 1:21). As we know, for ancient peoples, to give a name to a person or to a thing, as Adam did in the account in the Book of Genesis (cf. 2:19-20), was to establish a relationship.

In the Temple, forty days after Jesus' birth, Joseph and Mary offered their child to the Lord and listened with amazement to Simeon's prophecy concerning Jesus and his Mother (cf. *Lk* 2:22-35). To protect Jesus from Herod, Joseph dwelt as a foreigner in Egypt (cf. *Mt* 2:13-18). After returning to his own country, he led a hidden life in the tiny and obscure village of Nazareth in Galilee, far from Bethlehem, his ancestral town, and from Jerusalem and the Temple. Of Nazareth it was said, "No prophet is to rise" (cf. *Jn* 7:52) and indeed, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (cf. *Jn* 1:46). When, during a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, Joseph and Mary lost track of the twelve-year-old Jesus, they anxiously sought him out and they found him in the Temple, in discussion with the doctors of the Law (cf. *Lk* 2:41-50).

After Mary, the Mother of God, no saint is mentioned more frequently in the papal magisterium than Joseph, her spouse. My Predecessors reflected on the message contained in the limited information handed down by the Gospels in order to appreciate more fully his central role in the history of salvation. Blessed Pius IX declared him "Patron of the Catholic Church",[2] Venerable Pius XII proposed him as "Patron of Workers"[3] and Saint John Paul II as "Guardian of the Redeemer".[4] Saint Joseph is universally invoked as the "patron of a happy death".[5] Now, one hundred and fifty years after his proclamation as *Patron of the Catholic Church* by Blessed Pius IX (8 December 1870), I would like to share some personal reflections on this extraordinary figure, so close to our own human experience. For, as Jesus says, "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks" (*Mt* 12:34). My desire to do so increased during these months of pandemic, when we experienced, amid the crisis, how "our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people, people often overlooked. People who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines, or on the latest television show, yet in these very days are surely shaping the decisive events of our history. Doctors, nurses, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caregivers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests, men and women religious, and so very many others. They understood that no one is saved alone... How many people daily exercise patience and offer hope, taking care to spread not panic, but shared responsibility. How many fathers, mothers, grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday ways, how to accept and deal with a crisis by adjusting their routines, looking ahead and encouraging the practice of prayer. How many are praying, making sacrifices and interceding for the good of all".[6] Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all.



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Once again we have a chance to listen to the world-changing account of the Annunciation highlighting the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary to break the news that she was chosen by God to bear his Son. Historically the angel's first words to Mary today, 'Rejoice, so highly favored! The Lord is with you', together with the greeting from Elizabeth, her cousin at the Visitation, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.' (cf. *Lk* 1.42) had inspired Christians in the sixth century to compose the first part of our beloved Hail Mary, and one had to wait for one thousand years for the second part to be added to make the prayer completed as we know today.

To become the mother of the Son of the Most High was extraordinary, but to be the mother of God's Son as a virgin was beyond any human imagination and reasoning, and Mary was very brave to ask Gabriel for a clarification, 'how can this come about, since I am a virgin?'

In response to her sensible query, the angel was quick to reveal to her the powerful place of God and his Holy Spirit in all this, and also let her know that her elderly cousin Elizabeth, someone humanly considered as infertile, had conceived a son for six months already.

The angel then summed up these two remarkable stories of wonder in one simple line, 'for nothing is impossible to God.' In other words, Gabriel seemed to remind Mary of the miraculous power of God at work through her call to bear God's Son and through the conception of the elderly Elizabeth, which meant to tell everyone that everything is possible to God and nothing is beyond his reach.

As we give praise and thanks to God today for showing us his wonderful love and almighty power through the Annunciation of Mary, let us also ask the Lord for his grace to strengthen our faith and renew our trust in God's power, the one that is capable of making all things in this world possible.

Have a faith-filled week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Due to the restrictions we are still limited in the number of people who can join us for our Christmas Celebration Mass, in the Church and live-stream in the Parish Hall.

To reserve a seat please contact the Parish Office, by phone only 9622 2920

The first 140 reservations for each Mass will be allocated to the Church then to the Parish hall where Mass will also be live streamed.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Vigil Masses Thursday, December 24th :

6:00pm Family/Childrens Mass
9:00pm Christmas Mass

MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS MORNING MASSES

Friday, December 25th
8:00am Mass
9:30am Mass

We need Volunteers for all Masses:

If you would like to serve at one of our Christmas Masses, please add your name to the sheet at the back of the Church or call the Parish office.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Available after Mass 23rd and 24th December from 8:30-9:30am (The First Rite of Reconciliation)

Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated on TUESDAY 22nd December at 7:30pm.



PARISH OFFICE HOURS The Parish Office will be closed between Christmas and New Year. We wish you a wonderful Christmas and many blessings and a warm welcome for 2020. 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. These messages are checked daily and we will endeavour to assist you as soon as possible. Thank You.

PARISH SECOND RITE Frs Joseph Lam and Ed Kenny will be available to help me with the celebration of the Second rite of Reconciliation for the parish on **Tuesday 22 December at 7.30pm**. Please spare your time to join our community for this sacramental exercise.

Regular collections at Mass

There are generally two collections at Mass. The **FIRST COLLECTION** donation to the *Diocesan Priests Pastoral Revenue*.

via **Parramatta Diocese**

BSB: 067950 ACC#: 00004265 REF#: 6035 Donation

The **SECOND COLLECTION**, which includes the planned giving envelopes, is for the maintenance and growth which has been very vital to keep our Parish going strong. Current projects include the Hall Kitchen renovation, Parish Meeting Room painting, Parish Office and Meeting Room Roof painted, Church roof cleaned and ceiling repaired and painted. (**LOL Bank details** on front page of Bulletin)



FROM POPE FRANCIS

CHAPTER FOUR— *An Ecclesial Dream – Paths of Inculturation in the Amazon Region*



70. For the Church to achieve a renewed inculturation of the Gospel in the Amazon region, she needs to listen to its ancestral wisdom, listen once more to the voice of its elders, recognize the values present in the way of life of the original communities, and recover the rich stories of its peoples. In the Amazon region, we have inherited great riches from the pre-Columbian cultures. These include “openness to the action of God, a sense of gratitude for the fruits of the earth, the sacred character of human life and esteem for the family, a sense of solidarity and shared responsibility in common work, the importance of worship, belief in a life beyond this earth, and many other values”.

71. In this regard, the indigenous peoples of the Amazon Region express the authentic quality of life as “good living”. This involves personal, familial, communal and cosmic harmony and finds expression in a communitarian approach to existence, the ability to find joy and fulfillment in an austere and simple life, and a responsible care of nature that preserves resources for future generations. The aboriginal peoples give us the example of a joyful sobriety and in this sense, “they have much to teach us”. They know how to be content with little; they enjoy God’s little gifts without accumulating great possessions; they do not destroy things needlessly; they care for ecosystems and they recognize that the earth, while serving as a generous source of support for their life, also has a maternal dimension that evokes respect and tender love. All these things should be valued and taken up in the process of evangelization.

72. While working for them and with them, we are called “to be their friends, to listen to them, to speak for them and to embrace the mysterious wisdom which God wishes to share with us through them”. Those who live in cities need to appreciate this wisdom and to allow themselves to be “re-educated” in the face of frenzied consumerism and urban isolation. The Church herself can be a means of assisting this cultural retrieval through a precious synthesis with the preaching of the Gospel. She can also become a sign and means of charity, inasmuch as urban communities must be missionary not only to those in their midst but also to the poor who, driven by dire need, arrive from the interior and are welcomed. In the same way, these communities can stay close to young migrants and help them integrate into the city without falling prey to its networks of depravity. All these forms of ecclesial outreach, born of love, are valuable contributions to a process of inculturation.

[*Pope Francis, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation QUERIDA AMAZONIA—to the people of God and to all persons of good will.*]

19 /20 December 2020	
Acolytes	Vigil: John Jordan 8am: Eugene Miu 9.30am Kilifi Huihui
Ministers	Vigil: Benno Motha, VOLUNTEER 8am: Lorraine Fernandes, Suzy Nemorin 9.30am: Ryan Epondulan, Nancy Shami
Readers	Vigil: Jemma Sarmiento, Rob Simpson 8am: Maricel Santos, Kathy Walker 9.30am: Ian Epondulan, Kamela Huihui
Altar Servers	Vigil: Caron Cyril, Jesseline Franco, Alexandra Simpson 8am: Amelia Herczeg, Joshua Herczeg, Karuniya Maruthanayagam 9.30am: Chrisha Gonzales, Ethan Nash, Jayda-Leigh Neish, Daniel tenn
Flowers	Fennie & Angela
Church cleaning	23 December Sue Abela, Jacinta Warner
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso, Ram Ugre 8am: Erika Hien, Annette Peatman 9.30am: Helen Gonzales, Maria Michael

26/27 December 2020	
Acolytes	Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am VOLUNTEER
Ministers	Vigil: Stefanie Menezes, Rosey Soares 8am: Anne McNally, Bob McNally 9.30am: Maria Michael, Eugene Miu
Readers	Vigil: Alison Punch, VOLUNTEER 8am: Pepito Ferriols, Erika Hien 9.30am: VOLUNTEERS
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alexander Bateman-Paul, Noah Ebb, VOLUNTEER 8am: Diana Park, Philip Park, Sean Park 9.30am: Connor Ballment, Ethan Ballment, Riley Ballment, jerard Sarmiento, Matthew Shawcross
Flowers	Priya, Mary B & Annette
Church cleaning	6 Jan 2020 Carole Brooks, Lourdes Spiteri, Anna Bellissimo, Suzy Nemorin
Welcomers	Vigil: Mary Bonnici 8am: Rita Paolini 9.30am: Lena Falzon

Is God Calling You?

Is God calling you to share your faith with children in our local public schools. An opportunity to do this is available on the following days during school terms. You won't be thrown in at the deep end. Many people start as a classroom helper. You will receive quality training in the curriculum and in classroom management and can focus on sharing the gift of faith.

Day	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
School	Seven Hills North	Seven Hills	Vardys Road	Hills Sports High
Time	10.30-11.30am	11.20am-12.00pm	9.15-9.45am	9.30-10.20am Wk 1
Classes	Primary	Kindergarten - Yr6	Primary	
Time	2.25- 2.55pm (Infants)		10-10.30am (Infants)	10.40-11.30am Wk 2
School	Bert Oldfield Public School	William Rose Special school		
Time	1.55-2.25pm	1.45-2.15pm		
Classes	Primary			
Time	2.25-2.55pm (Infants)			

The Epiphany Pilgrimage 2021

The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. From 2 – 9 January, pilgrims walk through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland and spend time in prayer and fellowship. Limited overnight registrations are available, and day walkers are welcome. For more information and to register, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org. To follow the journey see <https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage/>

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times from parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are available now on our Diocesan website (www.parracatholic.org), on Catholic Outlook (www.catholicoutlook.org) and on our Diocesan social media channels. Merry Christmas from the Diocese of Parramatta.

Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre is taking bookings for 2020/2021

As a COVID-safe registered business, the Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, Mulgoa, is once again available for personal or small group bookings to discern and plan for what the future might look like. They have also begun taking bookings for 2021, with numbers set to increase as restrictions return to normal. For more information, please call (02) 4773 8338, email in-f@schoenstatt.org.au or visit www.schoenstatt.org.au

Discover The Well (thewell.org.au) loads of resources and engaging, homegrown content for faith communities! This includes devotions, kids' shows, prayers and acoustic worship, to resources on leadership and faith for young people and others of all ages. For example, Station of the Crib to Gospels for the Sundays of Advent.

Rouse Hill Parish Christmas Novena Dawn Masses: From 16 December

This Christmas, Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill will be celebrating a Novena of Dawn Masses (also known as Simbang Gabi) leading up to Christmas. Commencing on 16 December, they will be celebrated at 5.00am. Bookings are required via <https://www.trybooking.com/BMWOD>. For details, please contact the parish on rousehill@parracatholic.org or (02) 8883 4063.

Social Justice Group: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All. Thank for all your support this year. If you like to assist with any of these areas please contact socialjustice@olol7hills.com.au

- People Seeking Protection
- Mental Health
- Care for our common home
- Environment and Recycling
- Uluru Statement from the Heart
- Laudato Si
- Affordable Housing
- Power Safety, Reliability and Affordability
- Integral Ecology

Keep the date free. Harmony Week, Everyone Belongs Saturday 20th March 1-4pm 2021 with Blacktown Network of Faith Communities hopefully live but probably zooming for a great afternoon of entertainment. Continuing the tradition from Cultural Fusion.

Visit thewell.org.au a place to be inspired, enriched and connected with a community on mission with Jesus Christ. Explore fresh offerings every week on topical issues that inform, entertain and challenge. Experience the variety for families and friends of all ages, and all those seeking to serve in our church and beyond.

Checkout catholicoutlook.org, News from the Diocese of Parramatta. Your catholic reading for the New Year.

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.



PRAYER TO JESUS, TRUE GOD

O Jesus, you are the Son of God. Hence, not only do you resolve our problems and respond to our aspirations. You also do so with unexpected fullness. As the Son sent to us by the Father, you are the God who comes to meet us and manifests for us the God whom we seek in groping fashion. You are the revelation of God for us, the full, perfect, and definitive revelation, God in person. In you the God who is far off becomes the God who is near, the God-with-us, our companion on life's journey. You alone, O Lord, are the way, the truth, and the life, the Messiah, and the Son of the Living God. Amen. Lord of hopefulness, hear our prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.