

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

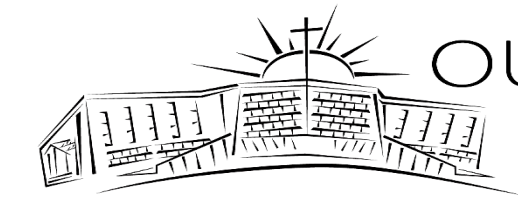
December 29/30	
Acolytes	Vigil 8am David Christian 9.30am Terry Jordan Ramzee Michael
Ministers	Vigil Abel Do Rosario, Marinela Simic
Readers	8.00am Anne McNally, Adrian Walker
	9.30am Carole Brooks, Barbara Chandler
	Vigil Denis Symon, Mariane Descombes
	8.00am Bob McNally, Andrew Millar
Altar Servers	9.30am Mercy Aquino, VOLUNTEER
	Vigil Alexander Bateman-Paul,
	Caron Cyril
	Makayla Dalmati
Musicians	Jesseline Franco
	VOLUNTEER
	8.00am Chrisha Gonzales
	VOLUNTEERS
Children's Rosary	9.30am Jaylen, Riley, Erika Naing
	Gabrielle, Florencia Wanandy
	Vigil Perrys Angels
	8am Fr Henry
Flowers	9.30am Maria Balatbat
	Liturgy 2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month Only
	Milicevic
	10 Grantham Rd, Seven Hills
Bookshop	Vigil 8am Mariane Christian
	9.30am Shelia
	Volunteer
	Tea Imelda
Morning Church Cleaning	2 Jan Carole Brooks, Lourdes Spitieri, Vinnie
	Zahra, Suzy Nemorin
	6pm Mary Jordan, Karen Eleazar, VOLUNTEERS
	8am Rita Paolini, Annette Peatman, VOLUNTEERS
Welcomers	9.30am Lena Falzon, VOLUNTEERS

January 5/6	
Acolytes	Vigil 8am David Christian 9.30am Gerard Marcello Ramzee Michael
Ministers	Vigil Mariane Descombes
	Edith, Ernie Gartner,
	Frank Paiva
	Jemma Sarmiento
Readers	8.00am Vinnie Zahra
	Winnie Marcello, Suzy Nermorin
	9.30am Paul Gow, Kamela Maka
	Vigil Noreen Rosario, Perpetual Fernandes
Altar Servers	8.00am Kathy Walker, Adrien Walker
	9.30am Ian, Ryan Epondulan
	Vigil Madisen, Genevieve Estil,
	VOLUNTEERS
Musicians	8.00am Jayden Cortis,
	Aaron, Isaac Rosario
	9.30am Marc, Carl Gallema,
	Diana, Philip, Sean Park
Children's Rosary	Vigil 8am Fr Henry
	9.30am Grace Notes
	Christine Clarke
	Liturgy 2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month Only
Flowers	Menezes
	39 Winnipeg St
	Seven Hills
	Fenty & Santih
Bookshop	Vigil 8am Vinnie
	9.30am Volunteer
	Edmund
	Tea Young Adults Group
Morning Church Cleaning	10 Jan Elodia Colussi, Elizabeth Mead
	6pm Judith Deloso, Ram Ugre, VOLUNTEERS
	8am Joyce Hillbrick, Rita Paolini, Olivia Cortis, VOLUNTEERS
	9.30am Maria Michael, Lena Falzon, VOLUNTEERS

PARISH DIARY

JANUARY

3	Healing Mass	8am
4	Exposition and Divine Mercy	7:30pm
16	Baptism Preparation Meeting	7:30pm
28	Legion of Mary Meeting	1:30pm



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:	
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		
Principal:	Ms Keiran Byrnes	Public School Catechist Co-Ordinator:	Mr Bob McNally

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 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	YOUTH MASS	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	

READINGS FOR This Sunday	1st Reading: Sam 1:20-22, 24-28 2nd Reading: John 3:1-2, 21-24 Gospel: Luke 2:41-52	For the whole of his life , Samuel shall be lent to the Lord. He calls you his own children, and that is what you are. His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the learned men, listening to them.
READINGS FOR Next Sunday	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 joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards.

RESPONSE TO PSALM: *How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

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



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



Let us Pray for the Sick

Rose Stambouliah, Tony Stambouliah, Debra Price, Maria Zentai, Sue Tipaldo, Letitia Haines, Andrew Fedrigo, Gabriel Chung,

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: Deacon James Phelan , Alexander Balatbat, Roseline Ratnam, Lourdes Fernandez de Venecia, Lazaro Fernandez, Victoria Almeida, Bridgette Fernandes, Alejandro Alvarado, Mary Harnett, Simon D'Souza



Anniversaries: Thelma Morrissey, Fr Bill O'Connor, Sylvia (Abbott) Walker, Louis Mula, Stephen Mula, Paul Mula, M.A. Fernando, Anton Motha, John Azzopardi, Alison Vella, Jose Reyes, Laureano Reyes, Gina and Albert Ammorao, Dennis Clarke, John Bonello, Alison Vella, Manuel Vella, Carmen Camillerie, John Lawrence

Remembrance: Papa Maman Cyril, Harold Lafleur, Rosine Lafleur, Marc Lafleur, Teodoro Garcia, Lakshman Perera, Lourda Motha, Mary Muscat, Pauline Meilak, Albert Randall, Arlene Capistani, Roy, Mary and Des Barney, Sharon and John Lawrence

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 \$ 2140.00
Loose \$ 749.00
TOTAL \$ 2889.00
WEEKLY TARGET: \$3500.00



Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

CUPPA FOR OUR CARPARK

Donated to date \$ 19058.62 Balance \$55941.38

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

FROM POPE FRANCIS

The worship most acceptable to God

We may think that we give glory to God only by our worship and prayer, or simply by following certain ethical norms. It is true that the primacy belongs to our relationship with God, but we cannot forget that the ultimate criterion on which our lives will be judged is what we have done for others. Prayer is most precious, for it nourishes a daily commitment to love. Our worship becomes pleasing to God when we devote ourselves to living generously, and allow God's gift, granted in prayer, to be shown in our concern for our brothers and sisters. Similarly, the best way to discern if our prayer is authentic is to judge to what extent our life is being transformed in the light of mercy. For "mercy is not only an action of the Father; it becomes a criterion for ascertaining who his true children are". Mercy "is the very foundation of the Church's life". In this regard, I would like to reiterate that mercy does not exclude justice and truth; indeed, "we have to say that mercy is the fullness of justice and the most radiant manifestation of God's truth". It is "the key to heaven".

Here I think of Saint Thomas Aquinas, who asked which actions of ours are noblest, which external works best show our love for God. Thomas answered unhesitatingly that they are the works of mercy towards our neighbour, even more than our acts of worship: "We worship God by outward sacrifices and gifts, not for his own benefit, but for that of ourselves and our neighbour. For he does not need our sacrifices, but wishes them to be offered to him, in order to stir our devotion and to profit our neighbour. Hence mercy, whereby we supply others' defects, is a sacrifice more acceptable to him, as conducing more directly to our neighbour's well-being".

Those who really wish to give glory to God by their lives, who truly long to grow in holiness, are called to be single-minded and tenacious in their practice of the works of mercy. Saint Teresa of Calcutta clearly realized this: "Yes, I have many human faults and failures... But God bends down and uses us, you and me, to be his love and his compassion in the world; he bears our sins, our troubles and our faults. He depends on us to love the world and to show how much he loves it. If we are too concerned with ourselves, we will have no time left for others. Hedonism and consumerism can prove our downfall, for when we are obsessed with our own pleasure, we end up being all too concerned about ourselves and our rights, and we feel a desperate need for free time to enjoy ourselves. We will find it hard to feel and show any real concern for those in need, unless we are able to cultivate a certain simplicity of life, resisting the feverish demands of a consumer society, which leave us impoverished and unsatisfied, anxious to have it all now. Similarly, when we allow ourselves to be caught up in superficial information, instant communication and virtual reality, we can waste precious time and become indifferent to the suffering flesh of our brothers and sisters. Yet even amid this whirlwind of activity, the Gospel continues to resound, offering us the promise of a different life, a healthier and happier life".

Pope Francis, apostolic exhortation, GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE

Feast Days this Week

Tuesday 1st January
Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Wednesday 2nd January
Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Many Vietnamese families are proud to preserve an ancestor house, a place where family members can gather together at family occasions, especially ancestral anniversaries. Ancestor house, in fact, is a multi-purpose house, since it functions more than just a gathering building, it also serves as a place to connect the living and the dead, and also various generations of the living in the same clan, or even as an educational centre to keep on reminding people entering the space of traditional social values left behind by generations before and inscribed in ancient Vietnamese writings on lacquered tablets.

Sadly, many of such houses failed to survive the cruelty of the Vietnam War and I remember my mother was always keen to talk about how big her grandparents' house was and beautifully adorned with great decorative objects. However, all were burned to the ground in the early days of the war. On the annual commemoration of the feast of the Holy Family that we are a part of by means of Baptism, I would like to invite you all to re-visit the virtues left behind to us by its original members, namely Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and carefully recorded by the writer of the Gospel of Luke in this Sunday's account of Jesus' loss in the temple of Jerusalem. According to the Gospel writer, Mary is presented as a dedicated, and yet reflective mother, who 'stored up all these things in her heart', Jesus as a dream boy, who 'increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men', and Joseph as a true gentleman, who endured the whole ordeal in silence.

Let us pray for all parents and children in our parish, that they may be able to learn and follow the inspiring examples of the Holy Family's members. May mums and dads be deepened in their faith to God and be gentle and patient with their young ones, and may children be filled with God's wisdom and grow in Jesus' path of love.

Wishing everyone a happy New Year to be filled with grace and blessing from Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Fr. Henry



PARISH NEWS...

Christmas Thank You

Thank you so much to all our parish staff, ministers, musicians, singers and helpers of all kinds for their generous dedications and hard works to make our Christmas celebrations this year so special and wonderful.

I would also like to acknowledge the kindness of so many of our parishioners in keeping me in their prayers or sending me cards and presents.

May the Child Jesus bless you manifold for your labours of love.

Petition to Blacktown Council

Thank you all for your support to sign the petition to the Blacktown Council recently. Let us pray for a favourable response from the council.

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.

LOURDES OVER 50S

Next meeting Thursday 14th February 2019

TAI CHI 2019: Classes will resume in January 2019. Start date will be announced in the coming weeks.

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.

Parish Directory 2019

Our annual parish directory is a very useful source of information for anyone new to our parish or for those who are parishioners and would like to stay informed with important information and events. Pick up your copy from one of the doors of the church today!



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.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Upper Blue Mountains

We will be celebrating two special Masses early next year: Sunday 20 January Santo Nino holy Mass and celebration according to the Filipino tradition (English language). The Mass will take place at St Canice's Church, Katoomba at 12pm, followed by refreshments. All are welcome. Sunday 10 February Holy Mass in Spanish. The Mass will take place at St Canice's Church, Katoomba at 12pm, followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

Grief to Grace - Healing the Wounds of Abuse

This is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held May 26-31 2019. To request and application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0478599241. For more information visit www.griegtograce.org