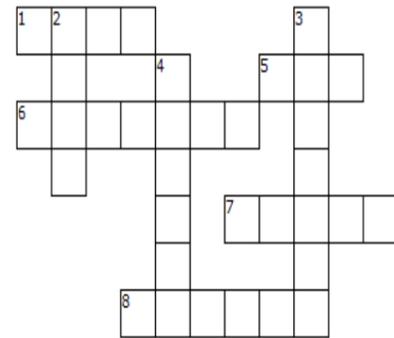
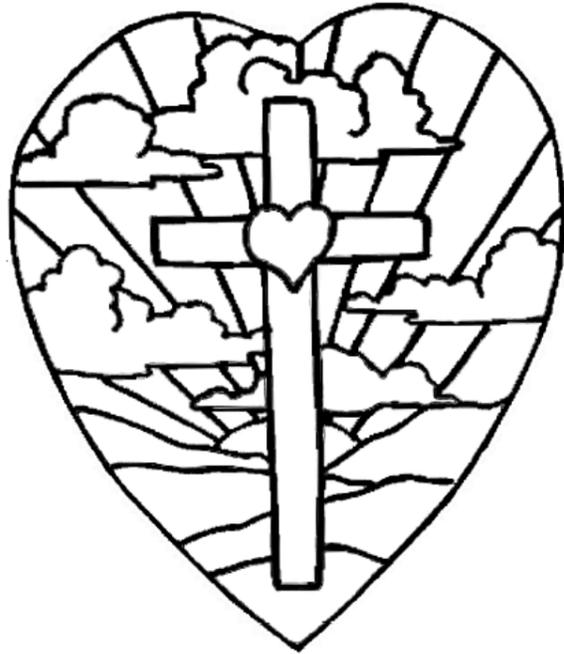


Our Lady of Lourdes Children's Corner  
6th Sunday of Easter 9 May 2021  
John 15:9-17

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command."



ACROSS

- 1. To hold dear, to like or desire greatly
- 5. A state of happiness or delight
- 6. Someone that performs duties for a master
- 7. To gain knowledge, skill, or understanding
- 8. A person that you like very much

DOWN

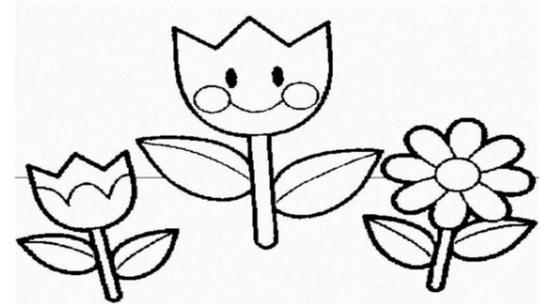
- 2. To do what you are told; follow the rules
- 3. An order which a person is expected to obey
- 4. One who has authority over another person

MASTER	OBEY	LOVE	COMMAND
FRIEND	SERVANT	LEARN	JOY

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

- 1. 17-7-8-11 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. 3-11-22-20-26-12 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. 2-7-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. 10-3-26-11-12-5-21 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. 21-11-3-8-20-12-9 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. 22-20-21-9-11-3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. 10-20-9-13-11-3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. 16-7-22-22-20-12-5 \_\_\_\_\_

MASTER	FRIENDS	COMMAND	LOVE
SERVANT	FATHER	REMAIN	JOY



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  
Sunday 8am & 9.30am

**RECONCILIATION** Saturday 4.30-5.30pm  
**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION** 19th May 2021 7.30pm  
**BAPTISMS** 2nd & 4th Sunday 11am



**Sixth Sunday of Easter Year B — 9 May 2021**

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, Myrna G Cruz, Paul Daniel, Melvin Fernandes, Ronald Gomez, Milroy Gunewardena, Anthony Janicska, Wendy & Klaus, Anslan Lawrence, Angelina Lee, Spencer Leon, Cynthia Lopez, Carmenu M, Gerard Marcello, Marie Marchand, Maria V, Mark McGilligan, Blago & Dragica Milicevic, Laurel Morris, Anna Mun, Ananda Nayana, Patricia Oreo, Lekisha Grace Panlilio, Roger & Kimberley Payoe, Wiranjan Peiris, Salome Pillay, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Susantha Seranayake, Bernie Sivapatham, Rose Stambouliah, Pummalin Sumcad, Denis Symon, Lourdes Tibig, Sue Tipaldo, 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.

We must continue to:

- MASKS**  
Masks are MANDATORY
- SANITISE**  
Use hand sanitizer upon entry and exit.
- DISTANCE**  
Please maintain social distancing at all times. Including when lining up for Holy Communion.
- SIGN IN**  
By Law, EVERYONE must SIGN IN. If the church has reached the MAX. capacity of 150 people, please proceed to Hall.
- MARKED SEATING**  
Please sit behind the WHITE TAPE or in family designated areas.

**Let us Pray for the Deceased**

**Recently Deceased:** Rechel Ampo, Celilia Apwra, Miriam Bussetill, Aloyseon Corera, Elias Fortaleza, Stanil Jayatile, Mary Mifsud, Leonardo Naldoza, Rosa & Nelson Ngan, Ramon Nismal, Josefina Roque, Alberto Vasquez.

**Anniversaries:** Gregorio & Maria Almodovar, Cecil Beed, Nicola Caniglia, Carmela Carbone, Simeon & Valentina Carlos, Stella Cini, Cini Family, James & Betty Daly, Zoltan Gartner, Heeni Heke (Jinny), Tria Hili, Richard Hope, Cameron Jones, Oliver Jordan, Giovanni La Rosa, Richard Lin, Nicanor & Tomasa Maepayo, Rosa Mancina, Mangion Family, James McNally, Anton Motha, Paul Mula, Lakshman Perera, Tony Vassallo, Lucy Vasquez, Elena Zoratto.

**Remembrance:** France Angseesing, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sharon & John Lawrence, Felina Apolinario Maglaya, Pauline Meilak, Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula, Mary & Muscat family, Roseline Ratnam, Jose Sanchez, Jim & Alison Vella, Natalie Vella.

**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.*

**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 Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48*

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.' While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**(R.)** The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **(R.)**

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **(R.)**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

*A reading from the first letter of St John 4:7-10*

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 15:9-17*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you, I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

## 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.**



## POPE FRANCIS TO ALTAR SERVERS: 'OFFER YOUR HANDS, THOUGHTS AND TIME TO JESUS.'

Pope Francis sends a message for the 25th National Pilgrimage of the altar servers of Portugal (3 May 2021), urging them to "put the enthusiasm of their age into the encounter of Jesus" and to "be original" as they bring forth the gifts and the unique personal talents the Lord has given them.

*By Fr. Benedict Mayaki, SJ*

Pope Francis has sent a message to the acolytes (altar servers) of Portugal for their 25th National Pilgrimage, which took place on Saturday at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima.

In a letter addressed to the President of the Portuguese Bishops' Commission for Liturgy and Spirituality, Bishop José Manuel Garcia Cordeiro of Bragança-Miranda, the Holy Father said that Our Lady will be happy to see the altar servers around her and that she will whisper to them in the same manner as she did the servants at the first miracle of Jesus at Cana: "Do whatever He tells you."

### "Be holy"

"Here is the first thing Jesus says to each one of you: be holy," Pope Francis said to the altar servers.

He reminded them of the good fortune they have to approach the altar where the host and wine are consecrated to become the Body and Blood of Our Lord, adding that though their eyes do not see Jesus, their lips and hearts adore Him.

The Pope urged them to behave as befits the service of holy things, conforming their interior and exterior attitudes to be in accordance with what they do, especially when they are near the altar, or when they make the sign of the cross, sit or participate in prayers and hymns in common.

"Animated by respect and interior recollection, your service as an altar server will become a Profession of faith for the community," the Pope said.

### Offer yourselves to Jesus

Pope Francis further encouraged the altar servers to put all the enthusiasm of their age into the encounter with Jesus hidden under the Eucharistic veil. "Offer Jesus your hands, your thoughts and your time," he urged, "and He will not fail to reward you, giving you true joy and making you feel where the most complete happiness is."

He highlighted the examples of the saints who found nourishment for their journey toward perfection in the Eucharist, including Blessed Alexandrina of Balazar who lived only on Holy Communion for fourteen years, and Saint Francisco Marto - the little shepherd boy of Fatima whom they have chosen as their model and heavenly protector.

### "Be original"

Recalling his message in the 2019 Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Christus Vivit*, Pope Francis reminded the altar servers that they "will not become holy and find fulfillment by copying others."

He pointed out that the testimonies of the saints are useful for motivating us towards holiness, yet imitating the saints does not mean copying their way of being and living holiness because that could "lead us astray from the unique and specific path the Lord has in mind for us."

"You have to discover who you are and develop your own way of being holy, whatever others may say or think. Becoming a saint means becoming more fully yourself, becoming what the Lord wished to dream and create, and not a photocopy," the Pope stressed, adding that their lives "ought to be a prophetic stimulus to others and leave a mark on this world, the unique mark that only you can leave."

Further urging the altar servers, the Pope recalled the words of Blessed Carlo Acutis: "All are born as originals, but many die as photocopies." He noted that although they may seem different, many end up just like others and do not bring forth the gifts and the unique personal talents the Lord has given to them.

"Please, dear acolyte, don't let yourself fall into mediocrity," the Pope said... "Don't follow negative people, but keep radiating around you the light and hope that come from God! As you know, this hope does not disappoint; it never does! With God, nothing is lost, but without Him all is lost. Don't be afraid, then, to throw yourself into the arms of the Father in Heaven, and trust in Him, who will see to it that you become the original saint that He wants."

### The example of St. Joseph

Pope Francis went on to hold up the example of St. Joseph for the altar servers, highlighting that though he did not serve at Mass, St. Joseph became a great altar boy of Jesus by his role as the husband of Mary and the foster-father of Jesus.

He added that St. Joseph set aside his plans to follow God's plans, taking Our Lady and the Son in her womb into his home, and he refused to lose Mary or Jesus for anything in this world.

"And for nothing in this world does St. Joseph want to lose you, generous and good acolyte," the Pope said, urging the altar servers to "confidently invoke and zealously imitate St. Joseph, and to worthily serve the miracle of Jesus' descent to earth that takes place daily on our altars."

Pope Francis, concluding his message, imparted a blessing on them and prayed that St. Joseph, Guardian of the Holy Family and Patron of the Universal Church may protect all the altar servers of Portugal, together with those who accompany and instruct them, including their families and catechists, as well as their diocesan and national structures and priests and parish priests.

Reechoing Pope St. John Paul II's 2004 message in his letter to priests on Holy Thursday, Pope Francis urged the priests to be "fathers, teachers and witnesses of Eucharistic piety and holiness of life" to the altar servers, who see the Eucharist "take place" in the priest's hands, see its mystery reflected on their faces, and in their hearts, as they sense the summons toward a greater love.

## POPE FRANCIS AT REGINA COELI: A TRULY CHRISTINA LIFE BEARS WITNESS TO CHRIST

By Linda Bordoni

Commenting on the Gospel of John (Jn 15, 1-8) in which the Lord presents himself as the true vine, and speaks of us as the branches that cannot live without being united to him, Pope Francis explained that just as we need the Lord, Jesus needs us. Speaking during the Regina Coeli prayer in St Peter's Square, the Pope said that "There is no vine without branches, and vice versa. The branches are not self-sufficient, but depend totally on the vine, which is the source of their existence."

He noted that the Gospel reading of the day repeats the verb "to abide" seven times,

"Before leaving this world and going to the Father, Jesus wants to reassure his disciples that they can continue to be united with him," the Pope explained, adding that "This abiding is not a question of abiding passively, of "slumbering" in the Lord, letting oneself be lulled by life."

The abiding in him that Jesus proposes, he said, is abiding actively, and reciprocally.

### A reciprocal need

In fact, he continued, the branches cannot grow and bear fruit without the vine, just as the vine needs branches since fruit does not grow on the trunk of the tree.

"It is a reciprocal need; it is a question of abiding reciprocally to bear fruit," he said.

First of all, Pope Francis said, we need Him: "before the observance of his commandments, before the beatitudes, before works of mercy, it is necessary to be joined to him, to abide in him."

"We cannot be good Christians if we do not abide in Jesus. And yet with him, we can do everything," he said.

But Jesus too, he added, like the vine with the branches, needs us.

### An audacious concept?

Noting that this, of a reciprocal need, may appear to be an audacious concept, Pope Francis invited the faithful to ask themselves "in what sense does Jesus need us?"

"He needs our witness," he said.

After He ascended to the Father, He recalled, it was the disciples' task, and it is our task, to continue to proclaim the Gospel in words and deeds.

We must do so, he said, by bearing witness to His love: "the fruit to be borne is love."

Only by remaining united to Christ, the Pope explained, do we "receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and in this way we can do good to our neighbour and society, to the Church."

"A truly Christian life bears witness to Christ," he said.

### The fruitfulness of our lives depends on prayer

Concluding, the Pope recalled Jesus' words "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you," and explained that the fruitfulness of our life depends on prayer:

"We can ask to think like him, to act like him, to see the world and to see things with Jesus' eyes. And in this way, to love our brothers and sisters, starting from the poorest and those who suffer the most, as he did, and to love them with his heart and to bring to the world fruits of goodness, charity and peace."

## Pope allows cardinals and bishops to be tried by Vatican tribunals

By Vatican News

Cardinals and Bishops accused of criminal offences by Vatican magistrates, can now be tried by the Tribunal of the Vatican City State instead of the Court of Cassation presided over by a cardinal, as had been the case until now. Pope Francis made the change in an Apostolic Letter issued *motu proprio*, which amends the judicial system of the Vatican State promulgated in March 2020. However, trials will still require the Pope's prior authorization before they can proceed.

The change in legislation comes after Francis himself had addressed the issue at the inauguration of the judicial year in the Vatican on 27 March. In Friday's *motu proprio*, Pope Francis, citing his own words on that occasion, recalls "the overriding need for the current procedural system — also by means of appropriate changes in the law — to ensure the equality of all members of the Church and their equal dignity and position, without privileges that date back to earlier times and are no longer in keeping with the responsibilities that each person has in building up the Church."

Pope Francis' decision to abolish Article 24 of the law "on the judicial order of the Vatican City State," — which provided for Cardinals and Bishops accused of criminal offences within Vatican City State to have recourse to the Court of Cassation — is therefore based on the principle of the equality of all members of the Church. The Court of Cassation is the Vatican's Supreme Court, and in such cases would consist of three Cardinals and two or more associate judges.

When the new *motu proprio* comes into effect (the day after it is promulgated through publication in *L'Osservatore Romano*, Cardinals and Bishops put on trial for common criminal offences (i.e., offences not related to the violation of ecclesiastical laws regulated by Canon Law) will therefore be judged like everyone else and by the same Vatican Court, according to the three degrees of adjudication. The *motu proprio* also introduces a new paragraph Article 6 of the judicial order: "In cases involving the Most Eminent Cardinals and the Most Excellent Bishops, outside the cases envisaged by canon 1405 § 1, the tribunal judges with the prior consent of the Supreme Pontiff."

What remains unchanged is the need for prior authorisation from the Pope before Cardinals and Bishops can be tried. The new provisions are similar to procedures in States that require authorization from parliaments in order to try heads of state or government ministers.



### FROM FR. HENRY DUC

For art-lovers in our community, perhaps some of you might have heard of a twenty eight year-old African-American painter, who has made waves in the art world recently both in the US and the world stage as well.

Since her graduation from the Academy of the Fine Arts, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania in 2006, the artist has gone from strength to strength and continued to gain one success after another thanks to her creative skills to weave her former cultural heritage into the current one, and command great respects both from individual art fans and institutions worldwide.

Consequently, she was awarded Financial Times' Women of the Year, 2016, alongside the Future Generation Art Prize 2017 Shortlist, the recipient of the Prix Canson Prize, 2016, Foreign Policy's Leading 100 Global Thinkers of 2015, the Next Generation Prize, New Museum of Contemporary Art, 2015, the Joyce Alexander Wein Artist Prize, 2015, and the Smithsonian American Art Museum's James Dicke Contemporary Art Prize, 2014. What an impressive professional track record for such a rather young painter.

Recently I happened to read an interview of hers, and was deeply impressed by what she said of her mother when asked about her artistic journey from Nigeria to the United States of America. She proudly made it very clear that,

*'My mother instilled in me a global worldview and desire to experience life beyond Enugu, the small town where I was raised. I was sent to boarding school in Lagos at 13, and later moved to the US after secondary school when we won the Green Card Lottery – my mother entered us so that my siblings and I would have bigger goals than we could in a Nigeria stifled by military dictatorship.'*

Just in case you might wonder who she is and how her works look like, please type this name [Njideka Akunyili Crosby](#) on Google and you will find more information about her.

Anyway, the main reason why I talk about this particular lady this week is twofold: number one, because she is extremely talented and very intelligent at the same time, and number two, because she has a great sense of love, respect and appreciation to her mother, so it's rather appropriate to dwell on her story this weekend, marked by the celebration of Mother's Day and the Sunday Gospel dealing with Jesus' fundamental commandment of love.

In no doubt, the most basic motherly qualities, such as love, care, tenderness, dedication, generosity, help us to relate well to Jesus' message of the self-giving and sacrificing love in the Gospel account. It's worthy to refresh our memory of Jesus' choice of language when he dealt with the topic of love, that he deliberately used the Greek word 'AGAPE', meaning a highest form of love without condition and string-attachments.

According to Jesus, he has loved his Father and each of us with such a love, and he has earnestly invited us to participate in the mission of dual love: love for him and love for others based on his self-giving example, and made it multiplied and fruitful by means of our witnessing lives.

As we each give praise and thanks for the gift of our own mother, and also for Mary, Jesus' inspiring Mother, let us ask our Risen Lord for his grace to keep us firm and steady in our mission to bear witness to his commandment of love in the community where we are called to be.

Happy Mother's day and have an AGAPE-oriented week.

Fr Henry

## PARISH NEWS...

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

All members of our Parish Pastoral Council are invited to join our monthly meeting on Wednesday 12 May, 2021 at 7.30pm in the Parish meeting Room.



### NEW ALTAR SERVERS INDUCTION FOR 2021

All children in year 4 and higher are warmly invited to join our Altar Servers ministry starting with two training sessions on Friday 14 May after lunch for those attending Our Lady of Lourdes School, and Sunday 6 June after the 9.30 Mass for all children from both Our Lady of Lourdes and others'. Please fill out the permission slip and return before Thursday 13 May, 2021. (enrolment form at entrance door) For further information, please contact the Parish Office on 9622 2920 or email [s.lenthall8@gmail.com](mailto:s.lenthall8@gmail.com)

**LOURDES OVER 50's meeting** will be held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 13th May from 10.30am till 1.00pm. Covid-19 restrictions apply. Please bring your own packed lunch to comply with current restrictions, tea and coffee supplied. Visitors and new members most welcome.



### National Count of Mass attendance

Throughout all the weekends of May, our parish is invited to take part in the National Mass Count project. For the very last weekend of the Mass Count, you will be asked to share with the Committee your age group and Mass attending frequency, such as weekly, fortnightly, monthly or occasionally. Thank you everyone for your patience and co-operation.



**ITS COMING BACK -TAI CHI & QIGONG for health and well being** Wednesdays in the Parish Meeting Room. Watch this space for more details to come.





**FROM POPE FRANCIS**

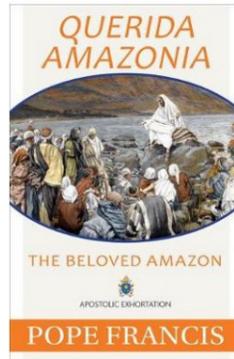
**CHAPTER FOUR: *Starting points for an Amazonian holiness***

77. This will give rise to witnesses of holiness with an Amazonian face, not imitations of models imported from other places. A holiness born of encounter and engagement, contemplation and service, receptive solitude and life in community, cheerful sobriety and the struggle for justice. A holiness attained by “each individual in his or her own way”, but also by peoples, where grace becomes incarnate and shines forth with distinctive features. Let us imagine a holiness with Amazonian features, called to challenge the universal Church.

78. A process of inculturation involving not only individuals but also peoples demands a respectful and understanding love for those peoples. This process has already begun in much of the Amazon region. More than forty years ago, the bishops of the Peruvian Amazon pointed out that in many of the groups present in that region, those to be evangelized, shaped by a varied and changing culture, have been “initially evangelized”. As a result, they possess “certain features of popular Catholicism that, perhaps originally introduced by pastoral workers, are now something that the people have made their own, even changing their meaning and handing them down from generation to generation”. Let us not be quick to describe as superstition or paganism certain religious practices that arise spontaneously from the life of peoples. Rather, we ought to know how to distinguish the wheat growing alongside the tares, for “popular piety can enable us to see how the faith, once received, becomes embodied in a culture and is constantly passed on”.

79. It is possible to take up an indigenous symbol in some way, without necessarily considering it as idolatry. A myth charged with spiritual meaning can be used to advantage and not always considered a pagan error. Some religious festivals have a sacred meaning and are occasions for gathering and fraternity, albeit in need of a gradual process of purification or maturation. A missionary of souls will try to discover the legitimate needs and concerns that seek an outlet in at times imperfect, partial or mistaken religious expressions, and will attempt to respond to them with an inculturated spirituality.

80. Such a spirituality will certainly be centred on the one God and Lord, while at the same time in contact with the daily needs of people who strive for a dignified life, who want to enjoy life’s blessings, to find peace and harmony, to resolve family problems, to care for their illnesses, and to see their children grow up happy. The greatest danger would be to prevent them from encountering Christ by presenting him as an enemy of joy or as someone indifferent to human questions and difficulties. Nowadays, it is essential to show that holiness takes nothing away from our “energy, vitality or joy”.



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

**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,



**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 unbounded confidence to implore your maternal intercession. Obtain most loving mother, my requests, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. *Amen.*

May 2021		
9	Mother’s Day	
10	St Vincent de Paul Meeting	7.00pm
12	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	7.30pm
13	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.00am
13	Legion of Mary	1.30pm
13	Lourdes Over 50’s Meeting	10.30am
14	Young Adults group Meeting	7.00pm

**DIOCESAN NEWS**



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
*good works*

If You Need Assistance Ph 1800 606 724  
or Blacktown VSC (02) 8861 9777

**What we are about and how we can provide assistance**

Did You Know!

**Vinnies Support Centres and Local Conferences of Vinnies Operate Separately to Vinnies Shops?**

**We can Provide a Hand up when you need it**

You may contact us by phoning 1800 606 724 (NSW) where you will be directed to you your local Support Centre or phone the Blacktown Support Centre (02) 8861 9777.

They will offer to either assist you at the centre or refer you to your local parish Vinnies Conference who will then contact you and arrange with you to visit you at your place of residence.

If you qualify you may be able to be assisted with food, household goods and if needed referral to specialist assistance.

Kindly pass this information to anyone whom you may know is in need of assistance.

Thank you

Home Visitation · Emergency Assistance · Vinnies Stores · Social Justice · Community Programs Support & Referral · Long Day Care · No Interest Loans · Budget Counselling and Youth Programs

**DIOCESAN NEWS**



**RAMADAN FOOD DRIVE: MAY 2021**

The Lourdes Young Adults Group have teamed up with the Ismaili Muslim Civic (Young Adults) Seven Hills for the annual Ramadan Food Drive as a gesture of solidarity between the two neighbouring faith communities during the holy month of Ramadan.

Parishioners are invited to donate non-perishable items in the boxes at church which will be donated to Vinnies Blacktown the weekend of Eid Al-Fitr (End of Ramadan) May 16. The following items are suggested for donations: Cereal, dry pasta, rice, muesli bars, snack packs, long life milk, tinned items (with pull rings) - protein items, soup, fruit, vegetables, meals.

**GLENBROOK PARISH WOMEN’S RETREAT: 12 JUNE**

St Finbar’s Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a women’s retreat filled with peace, prayerfulness, adoration, Mass, Reconciliation, guest speakers and praise and worship. It will be held at the parish on 12 June from 8.30am to 8.30pm. Registration is \$60, and with places limited, register now at <https://forms.gle/KkBaTAvm1qkYYCzm8>. For enquiries, email [beloved2021info@gmail.com](mailto:beloved2021info@gmail.com)

**Positions Vacant:**

- Head: Formation for Mission – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close Monday 10 May**
- Head: Mission Engagement – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close Monday 10 May**

8/9 May 2021		
Acolytes	Vigil: John Jordan 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am Kilifi Huihui	
Ministers	Vigil: Charmain Jansz, Marinela Simic 8am: Lorrain Fernandes, VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Noel Emmanuel, Kamela Huihui	
Readers	Vigil: Noreen Rosario, Jemma Sarmiento 8am: Nina Arambulo, Pepito Ferriols 9.30am: Christina Diaz, Jeanine Nonato	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alexander Bateman-Paul, Thomas Osbourne, Zachary Osbourne 8am: Diana Park, Philip Park, Sean Park , 9.30am Eric Da, Victor Da, VOLUNTEER	
Flowers	Priya & Claudette	
Church cleaning	13 May	Cathy Hutchings, Melvyn Fernandes, Annette Peatman, Sandy Manamperi
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso, VOLUNTEER 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain, Lena Falzon	

15/16 May 2021		
Acolytes	Vigil: Ernie Gartner 8am: Ramzee Michael 9.30am James Dinning	
Ministers	Vigil: Anna Bellissimo, Laura Bellissimo 8am: Priya Joachim, Maria Michael 9.30am: Mercy Aquino, Eugene Miu	
Readers	Vigil: Crystal Menezes, Alison Punch 8am: Megan Michael, Maricel Santos 9.30am: Ian Epondulan, Helen Katopau	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Noah Ebb, Chrisha Gonzales, Samuel Thoms 8am: Erika Naing, Jaylen Naing, Riley Naing , 9.30am Celestina Kotopau, Oliana Katopau, Daniel Tenn	
Flowers	Fennie & Angela	
Church cleaning	22 May	Helen & Dennis Gonzales, Novelo Paylaga, Adrian Pinto, Johnson Rozario, Maricel Santos
Welcomers	Vigil: Helen Gonzales, Ram Ugre 8am: Joyce Hillbrick, Rita Paolini 9.30am: VOLUNTEER, Lena Falzon	