

He does all things well!

"Everything he does is wonderful. He even makes the deaf to hear and gives speech to those who cannot speak."
Mark 7:37b (NLT)

Based on Mark 7:31-37



JESUS HEALS A DEAF & MUTE MAN

Mark 7:31-37



Jesus helps this man speak and hear

ACROSS

2. Unable to hear
4. One of the long, thin parts of the hand that bend and hold things
6. To use the voice to say words or converse with someone
7. The Son of God
8. To make healthy again

DOWN

1. The fleshy part inside the mouth used in tasting and in speech
3. The two organs in the head by which people or animals hear sounds
5. To say or to give information to someone; to report

HEAL	DEAF	SPEAK	TELL
JESUS	FINGER	TONGUE	EARS

Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was _____ and could hardly _____, and they begged him to place his _____ on the man.

After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his _____ into the man's _____. Then he spit and touched the man's _____. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means, "Be opened!"). At this, the man's ears were _____, his tongue was loosened and he began to _____ plainly.

Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf _____ and the mute _____."

Mark 7:31-37 (NIV)

ears	speak	tongue	opened	talk
speak	fingers	deaf	hear	hand



OUR LADY OF LOURDES
PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS
"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. NSW. 2147

Ph. 9622 2920

Email: secretary@lol7hills.com.au

Parish Priest: Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran

Parish Office Team: Mrs Erika Hien, Alison Lette, Kim Dang, Sarah Lenthall.

Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall

Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9am - 3.00pm

WEEKEND MASS: Saturday Vigil 6pm LIVE-STREAM
Sunday 8am & 9:30am LIVE-STREAM

Parish School: Our Lady of Lourdes 8869 6800

Principal: Ms Keiran Byrnes

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30-5:30pm -TBA

Baptismal Preparation: 17th November 2021 7:30pm

Baptism: 2nd & 4th Sunday 11am -TBA

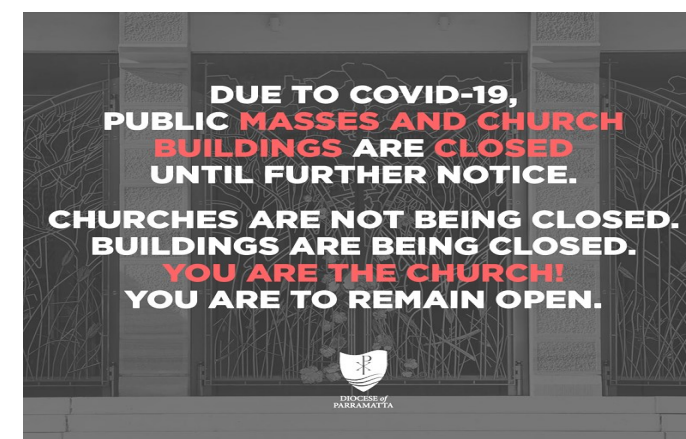
Parish Website: www.lol7hills.com.au

Pastoral Care of the Sick: Bathista Emmanuel 0405833655



Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time •Year B—5 September 2021•

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**
<https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/>



GET VACCINATED FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

SECOND COLLECTION or 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. Projects completed include 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

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church.

BSB: 067 950

ACC: 000552

Reference: (Your Planned Giving envelope number or please write 'DONATION')

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

Seven Hills Catholic Church

BSB: 062 315

Acc Id # - 00901486

AGENT # - 660

FIRST COLLECTION—ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

The first collection is for the support of priests here and throughout the diocese. Parishioners can donate/contribute to the First Collection using the bank details below;

Account Name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy

BSB: 067 950

ACC: 00004265

Reference: 6035 Seven Hills

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Let us Pray for the Sick



Leonila Ahillon, George Alagiah, David Barrow, David Benjamin, Myrna G Cruz, Elizabeth Ehsman, Melvin Fernandes, Wendy & Klaus, Anslan Lawrence, Spencer Leon, Cynthia Lopez, Carmenu M, Gerard Marcello, Marie Marchand, Salome Pillay, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Sandra Roseworn, Susantha Seranayake, Bernie Sivapatham, Joan Spillane, Pummalin Sumcad, Sue Tipodi, 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: Zenaida Garcia, Pat Slavik, Jose T.Maestrecampo, Lina Cabaero, David Quan Hien Dang, Cruz Fernandez, Marie Arlette Yolan Sheik Amode Hossen, Noly Diaz Limbawan, Elenoa Ahomana Matavesi, Sylroy Menezes, Nancy Mulholland, Hanh My Thi Nguyen, Adelaide Nonato.

Anniversaries: Ana Batorek, Nazarene (Ronnie) Borg, Marie Therese Descombes, Monica, Christiansen Dias, Rose Fernandez, Leandro Garcia Sr, Salvatore, Antonio, Alberto, Edouard Mahomudally, Lourda Motha, Paul Mula, Caroline Susai Nathan, Peter Sandaman,

Remembrance: France Angseesing, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Fortunata & Frank Baiada, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula, Muscat family, Romeo M. Palmos, Mile Perak.



BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

Caring for
retired clergy

Donate at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 35:4-7

Say to all faint hearts, ‘Courage! Do not be afraid. ‘Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.’ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water. The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord,
who sets prisoners free. (R.)

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion’s God, from age to age. (R.)

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)

SECOND READING A reading from the letter of St James 2:1-5

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, ‘Come this way to the best seats;’ then you tell the poor man, ‘Stand over there’ or ‘You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.’ Can’t you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him. The word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 7:31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man’s ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, ‘Ephphatha,’ that is, ‘Be opened.’ And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. ‘He has done all things well’, they said, ‘he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.’ The Gospel of the Lord.



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 spiritually 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. Amen



AFGHANISTAN: POPE’S REQUEST FOR FASTING AND PRAYER ‘A REVOLT’ AGIANST WAR

By Francesca Merlo

In light of the tragedy engulfing Afghanistan, marred by recent attacks and the desperate flight of thousands of people, Pope Francis is once again asking the faithful throughout the world to gather in prayer and to abstain from meals. He made that appeal during his Sunday Angelus address, which was repeated on his Twitter account @Pontifex. On numerous occasions during his pontificate, the Pope has called for this type of action, in the face of humanitarian tragedies. “I appeal to everyone to intensify prayer and practise fasting: prayer and fasting, prayer and penance. Now is the time to do it.” Adding emphasis to his appeal, he continued, “I’m serious: Intensify prayer and practice fasting, asking the Lord for mercy and forgiveness.”

Prayer and fasting in the face of humanitarian tragedies

In an interview with Vatican News' Salvatore Cernuzio, Andrea Riccardi, the founder of the Sant'Egidio Community, spoke about the Pope's request for fasting and prayer for the war-torn country. "Praying and fasting are not at all anachronistic practices, let alone spiritualistic," he says. "On the contrary, I believe that we pray too little for peace in our churches. On Sundays we hardly ever hear prayers for Afghanistan or, for example, for northern Mozambique with 800,000 refugees, or for so many forgotten wars. We pray little for peace." Prayer is a strength, he adds. Andrea Riccardi notes that there is indeed an urgency to launch these prayer and fasting marathons. "Faced with distant wars, with situations that we do not know how to resolve, it seems as if we cannot do anything and a sense of impotence is created." From this impotence, he warns, "comes indifference".

Overcoming indifference

He notes that Pope Francis has often spoken against the globalisation of indifference. He explains that our indifference comes from the feeling that "we can do nothing" to help. "Instead," he continues, "I believe that in this global world, every man and woman can do something. If small groups can sow terror, small groups can sow peace. And they can do it through prayer which, together with fasting, which is also detachment from daily life, is a 'revolt' against war, as well as an invocation to the Lord, the Lord of history, so that He may open up paths of peace and arouse, through His spirit, the good will of men, of the powerful, of institutions." Speaking of the value the Pope's request can have for non-Catholics, and making reference to the Pope's consistent invitation for brothers and sisters of different religious demoninations to unite in prayer, Andrea Riccardi recalls the Pope's meeting in Bari in 2018 as a "purely evangelical image". "The agreement between 'brothers' can move us, can open a history of peace," he notes. "It is the Spirit of Assisi, the invitation to the prayer for peace, that revolutionary and decisive breakthrough introduced in 1986 by John Paul II: praying together for others, not against each other."

Audience with the Pope

On Monday, Mr. Riccardi met the Pope in a private audience. Regarding his meeting, Mr. Riccardi notes that "the Pope is deeply concerned about Afghanistan; he follows the situation day by day." However, he adds, the Pope has "not abandoned the dream and the vision of building a new post-Covid world, in which social solidarity goes hand in hand with international solidarity." "We live with too many emotions linked to the news, often forgetting that we are truly in a historical phase of great change, in which there is an urgent need to build a different world from the one before. And now we are faced with a drama like that of Afghanistan, which calls for spiritual and concrete solidarity in welcoming." Concluding the interview, Mr. Riccardi urges us to "ask ourselves: what kind of society do we want to build? The societies of walls and fear or the societies of hope and welcome? Hope and welcome that are nourished by prayer." Prayer, he says, makes us both bold and capable of dreaming up new formulas for living together.

POPE FRANCIS AT ANGELUS: LOOK AT LIFE STARTING FROM THE HEART

By Vatican News staff writer

The Gospel for today's liturgy shows a few scribes and Pharisees amazed by Jesus' attitude. They are scandalized because his disciples pick up food without first performing the traditional ritual ablutions. They think among themselves "This way of doing things is contrary to the religious practice" (cf. Mk 7:2-5).

Pope Francis recalled the day's Gospel reading, which recounts when a few scribes and Pharisees were scandalized because Jesus' disciples did not perform the traditional ablutions before eating. The Pope asked why they did not conform to these traditions, especially since they offer good ritual habits, such as simple washing before eating. The answer, he said, was more about making sure we keep faith at the centre of our focus in all matters and avoiding being focused solely on outward formality. This can become a religious practice where outward devotion and appearances matter most and we overlook the worship which Jesus desires with "a faith that touches the heart".

In the Gospel reading, Jesus says, "There is nothing outside a man which by going into him can defile him; but the things which come out of a man are what defile him" (v. 15). The Pope explained that it is "'from within, out of the heart' (v. 21) that evil things are born." Jesus' teaching was a novelty for His time, changing the traditional perspective which saw externals as the cause of evil.

This truth concerns us today as well, the Pope said, especially since we tend to think that all problems arise due to other people's actions and behaviour. We put the blame on everyone else, on society or on the world, for what happens to us. It is as if all problems come from the outside; and so we blame others, saying it is their fault or the fault of those who govern. Blaming everything and everyone outside ourselves is a waste of time, the Pope stressed, and can cause us to become angry and bitter, keeping God far from our hearts. He added, one cannot be truly religious when these problems creep into your heart, since anger, resentment and sadness close the door to God.

To remedy this we need to ask the Lord to free us from these temptations, the Pope said. We need to pray for the grace not to waste time "polluting" our world with complaints, since this is not Christian. "Jesus instead invites us to look at life and the world starting from our heart", he said, and by sincerely asking God to purify our hearts. "Then we will start making the world cleaner," since a winning way to defeat evil is "by starting to conquer it within yourself."

In conclusion, the Pope encouraged us to look to Mary, "who changed history through the purity of her heart," in order to help us to purify our hearts and so overcome the vices of blaming and complaining, and keep faith at the center of our lives

POPE FRANCIS AT THE AUDIENCE: TAKE TIME TO REFLECT ON HOW WE LIVE OUR FAITH

By Christopher Wells

Welcoming pilgrims to the Paul VI Audience Hall at the Vatican for his weekly General Audience, Pope Francis continued his catechesis on the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians. In this latest chapter, he recalls how the apostle Paul challenges the first Christians of Galatia to look at where they have strayed from their faith and how they risk nullifying the grace they have experienced if they do not correct course.

The Pope described how the Apostle uses strong terms, like foolishness, to describe their behaviour, because they risked losing their faith in Christ, which they initially received with enthusiasm, and so Paul appealed to their memory of his first proclamation when he offered them the possibility of attaining a new, hitherto un hoped-for freedom in faith.

The love of Christ, the wellspring of salvation

The point is to shake up their consciences, the Pope explained, when Paul reminded the Galatians how the word he preached to them focused on God's love, fully manifested in the death and resurrection of Jesus, and the grace they received from that. In summary, the Pope went on to say, Paul's intention is to compel the Galatians to avoid falling into the trap of a religiosity based solely on the scrupulous observance of precepts, overlooking "the love of Christ, crucified and risen again," which should "remain at the centre of our daily life as the wellspring of salvation".

The Galatians understood what Paul was saying, the Pope pointed out, since they had experienced the action of the Holy Spirit in their communities, through charity and other charisms that manifested themselves among them, "the fruit of the newness of the Spirit." God was bringing them to faith, the Holy Spirit had been the agent of their experience, the Pope added, but the Galatians were putting that all in the background seeing their own works as the protagonists, which Paul described as foolishness.

The Pope added that throughout history, even today, similar situations can arise where some propose a rigid religiosity or an artificial asceticism, with an "inflexibility that takes away from us that freedom in the Spirit that Christ's redemption gives us." We need to be aware of this reality, he noted, and this Letter to the Galatians speaks about it and encourages us to go forward "in the paschal vocation of Jesus"

Christ's love at the centre of our lives

In conclusion, the Pope said we also need to reflect on where our faith is, and how we live it; and to make sure that Christ's love remains at the centre of our lives, the way to our salvation. We must continually keep to this "precious treasure, to the beauty of the newness of Christ," rather than to externals, rather than "something that attracts us momentarily but then leaves us empty inside." He said we can be encouraged by the fact that, "even when we are tempted to turn away, God still continues to bestow His gifts... God does not abandon us but rather abides with us in His merciful love."

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Before imparting his Apostolic Blessing, Pope Francis recalled that today marks the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and the beginning of the Season of Creation, which will conclude on October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. He said this year's theme is, "A Home for All? Renewing God's Oikos", and that a message for the occasion will be released soon together with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. He concluded inviting everyone to "pray and work for our common home in these times of grave planetary crisis," together with our brothers and sisters of different Christian denominations.



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

In a rather under developed country like Vietnam, my country of birth, people's incomes, especially those in rural areas have been very low or even zero, as a result food has become the issue many in the communities have to face, and apart from it medical care seems to be another threat they often have to combat against, as well. So when poor people get sick and have no money to pay for doctors and pills, they have to rely on alternative medicines, such as tree barks and herbs, and even saliva could be found useful for them sometimes.

It was said that people in ancient time had this belief that human saliva had the healing power to cure some illnesses, since they saw animals licking their wounds to ward off infections, and it worked for them. Perhaps due to such a belief, people in Jesus' day did use saliva as a healing means to cure all kinds of ailments, including blindness, deafness, and speech problems. Mind you, we are talking about Jesus' time, so please do not try it yourselves.

This socio-cultural background would help us to better understand the Gospel narrative this Sunday, though it may sound a bit crude to us in this day and age. Particularly during this Delta time to hear the story describing how Jesus placed his fingers into someone's ears and then used his spittle to touch the man's tongue to heal him from his hearing and speech deficiencies. I wonder why Jesus decided to do that, though he was absolutely capable of helping the man to hear and speak by simply telling him 'Ephphatha?' May be this is something we can ask him when he comes again at the end time!

In the meantime, we'd better focus on the intention of the evangelist while writing down this account for us, surely his intention is about presenting to us Jesus as the Son of God, the Messiah who came into the world to save people from sin. This Messiah was foretold by the prophets in the Old Testament and Jesus was THE ONE who fulfilled all those prophecies about him, and the first reading from the book of Isaiah is a point in case. When we connect the Gospel reading with the first reading, we can see more clearly Jesus' divine identity, for the Gospel presents to us Jesus as the Divine with the power over human sickness, the one to unseal the ears of the deaf and open the tongues of the dumb, as Isaiah prophesized about him around 700 years before.

From a symbolic perspective, this Gospel seems to send an encouraging message to all who suffer a kind of spiritual deafness and dumbness, meaning those who fail (1) to listen to and hear the word of God or the wisdom of the Holy Spirit speaking to them, and (2) to says words to bring forth the Gospel values around them as love, mercy and forgiveness. These peoples would need a healing word and touch from Jesus, and he could help to cure them from such spiritual illnesses.

From a practical perspective, this Gospel also helps raise our awareness of those who suffer hearing and speaking loss worldwide, especially members of our parish community, let us remember them especially in our prayer this weekend, and pray for Jesus' grace to open our ears to hear his teachings and empower our tongues to says words to bring joy and happiness to those around us, particularly during this time of lockdown.

Have a happy Father's Day and a joy-filled week of Spring.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...



Heavenly Father,
you entrusted your Son Jesus,
The child of Mary,
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.
Bless all fathers as they care for their families.
Give them strength and wisdom,
tenderness and patience;
Support them in the work they have to do,
protecting those who look to them,
as we look to You for love and salvation,
Through Jesus Christ our rock and defender,
In union with the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever.
St Joseph, Pray for all our Fathers, Amen



THE BISHOPS FATHERS DAY APPEAL—CARING FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF OUR RETIRED PRIESTS
Please give generously via the Father's Day Appeal at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or call (02) 8838 3482.

Please do not donate to the Bishops Father s Day Appeal via **LOL on-line Bank** details.

Father's Day, raises much needed funds for the Clergy Support Foundation to continue its work supporting retired clergy and those in ill health. Due to the current lockdown, the Appeal will be held via mail and online. Your thoughtful donation will mean so much to those who have put the care of others before themselves.

OUR PARISH OFFICE

Due to this current lockdown, our Parish Office will remain closed for any physical contact. However, either Fr Henry or one of the staff will be available to receive phone calls and check our parish emails everyday. Please do not hesitate to ring or send us an email.

LIVE-STREAMING we will continue to Live stream all weekend Masses. **Saturdays 6PM (Vigil), Sundays: 8AM, 9:30AM** Follow the link <https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/>



POPE FRANCIS INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.

The season starts 1 September, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.



This year's theme : A HOME FOR ALL? RENEWING THE OIKOS OF GOD

Christians join the Psalmist in proclaiming the Earth is the Lord's and all that is in it. (Psalms 24:1) However, the current climate crisis is accelerating ecological instability, which results in the loss of habitats that are homes for millions of species, including humans whose homes are at risk due to climate conflict, loss and damage.

As people of faith, our baptismal call compels us to till and keep God's garden, and participate in the renewal of the whole inhabited Earth, so that life may flourish and all may have a just and sustainable home.

By focusing the subtheme on the concept of oikos, we hope to lift up the integral nature of the many relationships that hold the web of life together. Within the whole inhabited Earth (oikoumene), the Church (oikoumene) calls all households and societies (oikos) to turn our political, social and economic systems (oikonomia) towards just, sustainable economies of life, which respect the limits and life giving ecological boundaries (oikologia) of our common home.

We hope that this Season of Creation renews our baptismal call to care and sustain an ecological turning so that life may flourish, and all creatures may find their place to flourish among our common home.

During last year's Season of Creation, people from across the Diocese of Parramatta created a beautiful community reflection video, click the link below to watch and be inspired. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9H2USERF748>



For more information, resources, and activities in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation



DIOCESAN NEWS

SIGN THE PETITION TO WELCOME 20,000 REFUGEES FLEEING AFGHANISTANS

In a sign of unity, major Australian church denominations and Christian organisations have come together to urge the Prime Minister to provide a special intake of an additional 20,000 refugees fleeing Afghanistan and support the ongoing wellbeing of all Afghan refugees and their families. For more information and to sign the petition go to www.unitedforafghanistan.com/?partner=dioceseparramatta

CARITAS AUSTRALIA RESPONDS TO HUMANITARIAN CRISES IN AFGHANISTAN AND LEBANON

In Afghanistan, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection. In Lebanon, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Please donate to Caritas Australia respond to crises like these by visiting caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll-free to provide much needed support.

JAMBEROO ABBEY ONLINE RETREAT 5 September 2021. 'MEET ME IN THE MIDDLE'

This retreat is based on Charles Peguy's Little Girl Hope from the book: "The Portal of the Mystery of Hope." Hope is both a virtue and a mystery. It is desirable yet elusive. Many dismiss it, misunderstand it, shrug it off and turn their backs on it, extolling faith and charity instead. Whilst faith and charity are absolutely critical in these times of uncertainty and fear in society, there is now a need for hope as never before since World War II. Register online at: jambeeroabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats

AUSTRALIAN CARDIJN INSTITUTE WEBINAR— 'Remembering Pierre Hauptmann, Redactor of Gaudium et Spes': 6 September

The Australian Cardijn Institute is presenting a webinar on 'Remembering Pierre Hauptmann, Redactor of Gaudium et Spes', honouring his memory on the 50th anniversary of his death. The webinar will be held on Monday 6 September from 7pm AEST via Zoom. For more information, and to register, visit <https://australiancardijninstitute.org/remembering-pierre-hauptmann-redactor-of-gaudium-et-spes/>

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT VIRTUAL WEEKEND: 10-12 SEPTEMBER

Worldwide Marriage Enrichment is hosting a Virtual Marriage Encounter Weekend on 10 to 12 September via Zoom. Open to married couples, priests and religious, this is an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love. Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au



VINNIES SUPPORT CENTRE ARE STILL AVAILABLE TO THOSE IN NEED

St Vincent de Paul Support Centres across Greater Sydney are still available and taking calls to arrange for food vouchers or other items to be provided to those in need. If you need assistance, call the Support Centres in Blacktown on (02) 8861 9777, Harris Park on (02) 8861 9757 and Penrith on (02) 8861 9770. To find out more about what support is available, visit <http://vinnies.org.au/covidsupportnsw>

'THE WELL' offers spiritual nourishment during lockdown Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement during lockdown? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with during this difficult time. Check it out on www.thewell.org.au

LITURGY HELP Personal and Family Prayer.

In this time of crisis, we are providing Catholics with access to a range of resources for personal and family prayer. To access these free resources, go to: liturgyhelp.com/aus/parra/pray (login / register as a new user)

VACCINATION MESSAGE FROM BISHOP VINCENT OFM CONV

A pastoral letter to the faithful of the Diocese of Parramatta on COVID-19 vaccination from Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, is available to be read on the OLOL website Visit www.olol7hills.org.au



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.

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.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR PARISH WEBSITE LATELY??

Our parish website is updated regularly with news and upcoming events - everything from youth news to social justice to Live-stream Mass times, bulletins, and much more - a great way to stay up to date with what's on in our parish! Visit www.olol7hills.org.au



Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal for Retired and Sick Clergy