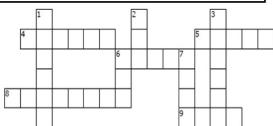
Our Lady of Lourdes Children's Corner 10 October 2021



ACROSS

- 4. A small, slender implement used for sewing
- 5. A long-necked animal with humps
- 6. To go into
- 8. Something considered to be especially precious or valuable
- 9. Difficult; requiring considerable skill or effort

- 1. The home of God and the angels
- 2. An adult male human
- 3. Less difficult; something accomplished with little effort
- 6. An opening in a needle
- 7. Possessing great material

rich	easier	eye	hard	heaven
man	camel	needle	enter	treasure

Each line of the puzzle has one word hidden in a list of random letters. The blank space is a missing letter that belongs to that word. Fill in the missing letter.

DOWN

EVYOUEJKFM ITEKDNRFUPN MEENETLEECE

HTESTIMONYEONNC

KWVDLAMTITO

"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of

God." Mark 10:25 (NIV)

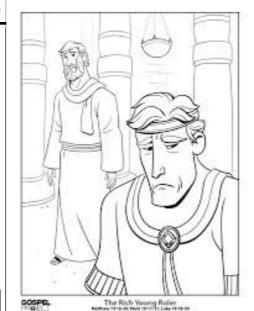
- TARGAXCYLT
- IPNGWMESTRGYI BLXIKZLBASZXMXH

adultery	false	inherit	mother	steal
camel	father	lack	murder	teacher
commandments	give	life	needle	testimony
eternal	honor	loved	poor	wealth

Alphabet Soup



rich	inherit	life	give	great
teacher	eternal	sell	poor	wealth







WEEKEND MASS:

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@olol7hills.com.au

Parish Priest: Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran Our Lady of Lourdes 8869 6800 Parish School: Principal: Ms Keiran Byrnes Parish Office Team:

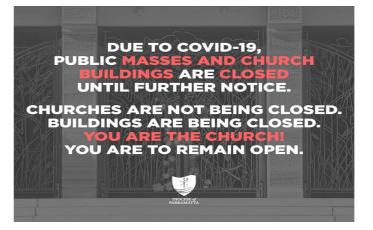
Mrs Erika Hien, Alison Lette, Kim Dang, Sarah Lenthall. **Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:30-5:30pm -TBA Baptismal Preparation: 17th November 2021 7:30pm Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall Baptism: 2nd & 4th Sunday 11am -TBA Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9am - 3.00pm

> **Parish Website:** www.olol7hills.com.au Saturday Vigil 6pm LIVE-STREAM

> > Pastoral Care of the Sick: Bathista Emmanuel 0405833655

Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B - 10 October 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/OLOL7Hills/



GET VACCINATED FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Sunday 8am & 9:30am LIVE -STREAM

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, Anslen 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 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.

Let us Pray for the Deceased

Recently Deceased: Victor Azzopardi, Lina Cabaero, David Quan Hien Dang, Peter Diab, Emilia Fallarcon, Vivante Fenis, Rosie Flame, John Flores, Zenaida Garcia, Oscar Garin Sr., Marie Hossen, Aurora Javellana, Elizabeth Rios Losa, Noly Diaz Limbawan, Elenoa Ahomana Matavesi, Sylroy Menezes, Loren Mombay, Tony Duque Ngan, Hanh My Thi Nguyen, Pablo Naobre, Macrina Noble, MA. Celina Palacios, Isabel Satumbaga, Pat Slavik, Thai Tran Van, Maria Ly Thi Tran

Anniversaries: Maria Tagle Almodovar, Ana Batorek, Horace Baptist, Bertram Bosen, Gladys Bosen, Marie Descombes, Christiansen Dias, Hippol Fernandes, Leandro Garcia Sr., Ajay Kallukalam, Salvatore, Antonio, Alberto, Edouard Mahomudally, Herbert McKertich, Denis Morrisseey, Lourda Motha, Caroline Susai Nathan, Joseph Thang Xuan Nguyen, Jose Sanchez, Peter Sandaman, Bibiano Villanueva.

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



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.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom 7:7-11

I prayed, and understanding was given me; I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me. I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones; compared with her, I held riches as nothing. I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer, for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand, and beside her silver ranks as mud. I loved her more than health or beauty, preferred her to the light, since her radiance never sleeps. In her company all good things came to me, at her hands riches not to be numbered. The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Fill is with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants.(R.)

In the morning, fill us with your love; We shall exult and rejoice all our days. Give us joy to balance our affliction for the years when we knew misfortune. (R.) Show forth your work to your servants; let your glory shine on their children. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

SECOND READING A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 4:12-13

The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves. The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 10:17-30

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up to him, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must to kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; you must not bring false witness; you must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said,

'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth. Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them, 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men,' he said 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.' Peter took this up. 'What about us?' he asked him. 'We have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father, children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and land – not without persecutions – now in this present time and, in the world to come, eternal life.' The Gospel of the Lord.

2



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

POPE FRANCIS RECENT INTERVIEW (CONTINUED)

By Carlos Herrera

There are things that are firmly established in the popular imagination. One of them, the most talked about, is the crisis of the theatre. Your Holiness knows that the theatre has been in crisis since Your Holiness and I were born. Another is the reform of the curia. It is constantly said "the curia must be reformed", but the curia seems unreformable. It is like a thorny jungle into which it is impossible to enter, or so it is said from the outside. Does the Pope still dream of a Church very different from the one you see now?

Well, if you see that from the beginning, what the cardinals said in the pre-conclave has been put into action up to the present moment; the reform is proceeding step by step and well. The first document that marks the line, trying to resume what the cardinals said, is *Evangelii gaudium*. And there is a problem in *Evangelii gaudium* that I would like to point out, which is the problem of preaching. Subjecting the Christian faithful to long classes of theology, philosophy or moralism is not Christian preaching. In *Evangelii gaudium* I ask for a serious reform of preaching. Some do, others don't understand... To make a point, right? But *Evangelii gaudium* tries to summarize in general the attitudes of the cardinals in the pre-conclave. And regarding the apostolic constitution *Praedicate Evangelium*, this is already being worked on, and the last step is for me to read it —and I must read it because I have to sign it and I have to read it word for word—and it is not going to have anything new in terms of what is being seen now. Perhaps some detail, some change of dicasteries that are joining together, two or three more dicasteries, but it has already been announced: for example, Education is going to join with Culture. Propaganda Fide is going to join with the New Evangelization dicastery. It has been announced. There is not going to be anything new with respect to what was promised to be done. Some people say to me, "When is the apostolic constitution on the reform of the Church coming out, to see what's new?" No. There is not going to be anything new. If there is anything new, it's little things of tweaking. It's nearly finished, but it got delayed with this thing about my illness. It is simmering, so take all this into account. Be clear that the reform will be nothing other than to put in place what we asked for in the pre-conclave, and that is being seen. It is already being seen.

On the first visit to the Vatican's communications department, the Holy Father expressed his concern that the message was not reaching where it should. Audience numbers were poor. Was that a serious reprimand?

I was amused by the reaction. I said two things. First, a question: how many people read *L'Osservatore Romano*? I did not say whether many or few read it. It was a question. I think it is licit to ask, don't you? And the second question, which was more of a theme, [I asked] when after having seen all the new work of union, the new organization chart, the functionalization, I spoke of the sickness of the organization charts, which gives a reality [that has] a more functional rather than a real value. And I said: with all this functionality, which is necessary for it to work well, we must not fall into functionalism. Functionalism is the cult of organization charts without taking reality into account. It seems that someone did not understand these two things I said, or maybe someone did not like it, or I don't know what, and interpreted it as a criticism. But it was just a question and a warning. Yes... Maybe someone felt offside. I think the dicastery has a lot of promise, it is the dicastery with the largest budget in the Curia at the moment, headed by a layman—I hope that soon there will be others headed by a layman or a laywoman—and that it is taking off with new reforms. *L'Osservatore Romano*, which I call "the newspaper of the Party," has made great progress and it is marvellous how it is making the cultural efforts it is making.

Years ago I was impressed by something you recounted, Your Holiness, when years ago in the streets of Buenos Aires some parents shouted to their son not to approach you because you were dressed as a priest and could be a paedophile.

This is how it was.

There still seems to be doubts about all the priests, who during this pandemic, for example, have shown that they are working their fingers to the bone with those who are least. Are the bishops of all countries doing the assignments you sent them when you summoned them to Rome so that paedophiles would no longer exist among their ranks? Before answering your question, I would like to pay tribute to a man who began to speak about this with courage, even though he was a thorn in the side of the organization, long before the organization was created on this subject, and that is Cardinal O'Malley. It fell to him to settle the matter in Boston and it was not easy. There have been very clear steps taken on this, haven't there? The Commission for the Protection of Minors, which was Cardinal O'Malley's invention, is now functioning. Now I have to renew half of its staff because every three years half of its staff is renewed. Top-notch people from several different countries with these problems. And I think they are doing well. I think the statistics I gave to the journalists at the meeting of the presidents of the Bishops' Conferences, on the one hand, and then the final speech I gave at the end of the Mass at that meeting, were key in this. Someone said: "At the end of the day, the Pope said that it is everyone's problem, he blamed the devil and washed his hands of it." That was a media comment; that I blamed the devil, yes. As an inciter of this. But I blamed him when I talked about paedo-pornography. I said that abusing a boy to film a paedo-pornographic act is demonic. It cannot be explained without the presence of the devil. I did say that. Well, there in that speech I talked about everything, along with the statistics. I think things are being done well. In fact, progress has been made and more and more progress is being made. However, it is a global and serious problem. I sometimes wonder how certain governments allow the production of paedo-pornography. Let them not say they don't know. Nowadays, with the intelligence services, everything is known. A government knows who in its country produces paedo-pornography. For me, this is one of the most monstrous things I have ever seen. (to be continued)

7

POPE FRANCIS AT AUDIENCE: TRUE FREEDOM FLOWS FROM THE CROSS OF CHRIST

By Robin Gomes

Christian freedom is the gift of God based on the truth of Jesus, who revealed the depth of God's love in His supreme sacrifice on the Cross. This freedom is the way to happiness, Pope Francis said in his General Audience of 6 October at the Vatican's Paul VI Hall

Starting from the common concept of freedom, the Holy Father explains that we appreciate freedom only when we lose it. For many, freedom is an acquired right, preserved.

Slavery of sin

However, Christian freedom, as St. Paul explains to the Galatians, is a gift. The Apostle of the Gentiles feels pained at seeing Christians who, after having known and accepted the truth of Christ and His liberating presence, move to the slavery of sin, legalism, and so forth, by allowing themselves to be attracted by deceptive proposals.

Even Christians today, the Pope points out, seek refuge in legalism and casuistry. St. Paul thus urges his Christians to remain firm and guard this freedom they had received with baptism, as he is aware there were some "false brothers" who wanted to bring them back into bondage. "You cannot make anyone a slave in the name of Jesus who makes us free," the Pope stresses, adding, "Freedom is a gift given to us in baptism."

"A proclamation that would preclude freedom in Christ," the Pope says, "would never be evangelical." It would perhaps be Pelagian, Jansenist or something like that but not evangelical.

Truth that frees

The teaching of St. Paul on freedom, the Pope continues, is in line with what Jesus says in John's Gospel: "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free". Hence, the call to remain in Jesus, the source of truth who makes us free.

Pope Francis further explains that Christian freedom is based on two fundamental pillars: first, freedom is the grace of Jesus; and second, it is Christ the Truth, who reveals Himself to us.

Freedom is a gift of love

According to Pope Francis, freedom is a gift from the Lord as it is the fruit of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Liberated by Christ from the bonds of his past life, St. Paul concentrates his entire proclamation on Jesus.

"In fact," the Pope says, "the truest freedom from the slavery of sin flows from the Cross of Christ," the source of the liberation of the human person.

In fact, the truest freedom, the freedom from the slavery of sin, sprang from the Cross of Christ. Right there where Jesus allowed Himself to be nailed down, to become a slave, God has placed the source of man's liberation. The fact that the cross, where we are stripped of every freedom in death, could become the source of freedom is a paradox that never ceases to amaze us.

It is the mystery of the love between Jesus and the Father, which leads Him to the Cross. Jesus achieves complete freedom by giving himself up to death, knowing that only in this way could He obtain life for everyone.

St. Paul had experienced this mystery of love first-hand. By nailing "his flesh with its passions and desires" on the Cross he received the greatest gift of his life: freedom. This is the key to his intimacy with Jesus, which encourages us on the path of free life. A Christian is free and not called not to return to be a slave to precepts and strange things.

Journey of truth and freedom

The second pillar of freedom, the Pope explains, is the truth of faith, which is not an abstract theory, but the reality of the living Christ, who touches the daily and overall meaning of personal life.

He points out that there are many who have not gone to school and cannot read and write, yet have understood well the message of Christ and have this wisdom that sets them free. This is the wisdom of Christ that works through the Holy Spirit at baptism. He says there are many who live the life of Christ more than the great theologians, for example, offering a great witness to the freedom of the Gospel.

Freedom makes one free by transforming a person's life and directing it toward the good. In order to be truly free, the Pope says, we need to know ourselves not only on the psychological level, but above all we need to open ourselves to the grace of Christ in the depths of our hearts.

Truth must make us restless. However, the Pope says, there are Christians who are never restless, who live the same way with no movement in their hearts. This restlessness, he says, is the sign that the Holy Spirit working within us. It is an active freedom, aroused by the grace of the Holy Spirit. This is why truth must constantly question and make us restless so that we may always go deeper into what we really are.

This journey of truth and freedom, the Pope says, is an arduous one that lasts a lifetime. It is difficult but not impossible to remain free. He thus urges Christians to take up this path as it does us good. It is a journey on which Love comes from the Cross guides and sustains us. It is Love that reveals the truth and makes us free and happy.

6

FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

Back in Vietnam about thirty something years ago, especially in the North, people were scared of wealth and prosperity, because rich people were classified as belonging to the exploiting class by the communist regime, which expected all to enjoy an equal life, even if it meant everyone had to share their equal part of the poverty cake.

As a result those who could manage to have some savings had to keep theirs in total secret, otherwise one of their ever-alerting neighbors would report them to the authority, and nothing but troubles and miseries would fall

upon them after that. I was told that there were people who never saw meat on their family tables, though they were more than capable of buying it, simply because they were so frightened to be considered as rich. Such an anti-rich syndrome has completely disappeared these days, since the communist party there decided to join the communist China in singing the tune 'to get rich is glorious.'

In Jesus' time, richness was regarded as a divine blessing by the community, for his contemporary seemed to share this belief that rich people could have the best shot at a holy life. So, why this? Because Jewish people simply thought that their laws alone could lead them to holiness. A person who faithfully kept the laws was holy, and the one who broke even just a tiny part of them was branded as a sinner.

In reality, most poor people were required to spend their time at work or labor in the fields, consequently they had just a little or no time at all to study and learn the religious laws in Scripture and tradition, and so, holiness was beyond their reach. On the other hand, the rich could afford to have lot of spare time, which they could spend in studying in depth all aspects of the laws and became well-versed in every matter concerning Scripture and tradition. The more they knew of the laws, the better they could negotiate to get around to avoid violating them, and this way of life lead them to this false belief that they were on the right track to holiness.

Jesus, for sure, was well aware of such a perverted situation all Jewish people then had to face with, and decided to drop his bombshell in the Gospel today by turning around the community perception of rich people by declaring that 'it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for rich man to enter the kingdom of God.'

This statement was more than just his response to the rich man who was incapable of giving up his wealth to follow Jesus, despite his good effort to observe all the commandments of God, it was also a wake-up call warning the rich not to be so proud of themselves, as their riches could buy them no place in God's kingdom due to their unbreakable attachment to them. Though it would be impossible for them to qualify for a spot in God's place from a human perspective, it, however, is not beyond God to whom everything is possible.

It's worth noting that the needle Jesus referred to in this Gospel account is not the one mothers in our community have used at home for sewing. It was rather one of the low and narrow gate, part of the structure including seven main gates and lot of smaller ones around the city of Jerusalem.

Out of defense purposes, these gates were made narrow and low so the enemy could not ride on horseback, but had to dismount first and moved in on foot.

Although these eyes of the needles as those gates were nicknamed, were very useful in blocking the enemy's advance, they did make life very difficult particularly for traders who relied on camels carrying their heavy and bulky supplies to merchants in the city. Their goods had to be unloaded from the camels, which in turn were made to bend down and squeeze through the gates Trader themselves had to arrange a way to carry their goods through the gate, and reload the camels. This entire process was frustratingly tough.

Through his comment prompted by the rich man's decision to turn down his invitation to follow him, Jesus has made us aware of the distracting nature of money and wealth for our spiritual journey, and encouraged us to have the courage to detach ourselves from their seduction. So let us pray for the grace to approach money and wealth the way Jesus prefers his disciples to do.

Have a detachment-oriented week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

SACRAMENT PROGRAM RETURNING

Parents of children **currently enrolled** in the 2021 Sacramental Process for Eucharist, please be advised that First Holy Communion will be held on the 28th of November and the 5th of December this year.

Parents wishing to **enrol t**heir Year 6 (or above) child in the **2021 Confirmation Process** there will be an Information/First Parent Meeting on Tuesday 26th October at 6.30-7.30pm OR Saturday 30th October at 4.30-5.30pm. Confirmation will be administered by Bishop Vincent Long O.F.M Conv. this year on Thursday 18th November.

THANK YOU TO GRANTHAM HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH, SEVEN HILLS for your kind words and prayers for Our Lady of Lourdes Church and community. Pray that we will open our hearts and minds to the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the future good of each Christian and Christian communities world wide.

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/ OLOL7Hills/



OLOL VINNIES PANTRY FOOD DONATIONS

if you would like to donate food for our Vinnies pantry, please leave food parcels outside the parish office door on Thursday or Friday 9-3pm.



25. War, terrorist attacks, racial or religious persecution, and many other affronts to human dignity are

judged differently, depending on how convenient it proves for certain, primarily economic, interests. What is true as long as it is convenient for someone in power stops being true once it becomes inconvenient. These situations of violence, sad to say, "have become so common as to constitute a real 'third world war' fought piecemeal".[23]

- 26. This should not be surprising, if we realize that we no longer have common horizons that unite us; indeed, the first victim of every war is "the human family's innate vocation to fraternity". As a result, "every threatening situation breeds mistrust and leads people to withdraw into their own safety zone".[24] Our world is trapped in a strange contradiction: we believe that we can "ensure stability and peace through a false sense of security sustained by a mentality of fear and mistrust".[25]
- 27. Paradoxically, we have certain ancestral fears that technological development has not succeeded in eliminating; indeed, those fears have been able to hide and spread behind new technologies. Today too, outside the ancient town walls lies the abyss, the territory of the unknown, the wilderness. Whatever comes from there cannot be trusted, for it is unknown, unfamiliar, not part of the village. It is the territory of the "barbarian", from whom we must defend ourselves at all costs. As a result, new walls are erected for self-preservation, the outside world ceases to exist and leaves only "my" world, to the point that others, no longer considered human beings possessed of an inalienable dignity, become only "them". Once more, we encounter "the temptation to build a culture of walls, to raise walls, walls in the heart, walls on the land, in order to prevent this encounter with other cultures, with other people. And those who raise walls will end up as slaves within the very walls they have built. They are left without horizons, for they lack this interchange with others".

 [26]
- 28. The loneliness, fear and insecurity experienced by those who feel abandoned by the system creates a fertile terrain for various "mafias". These flourish because they claim to be defenders of the forgotten, often by providing various forms of assistance even as they pursue their criminal interests. There also exists a typically "mafioso" pedagogy that, by appealing to a false communitarian mystique, creates bonds of dependency and fealty from which it is very difficult to break free.

Excerpt from Pope Francis, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhoration FRATELLI TUTTI—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,
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

DIOCESAN NEWS

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA COVID-19 UPDATE

Due to stay-at-home orders from the NSW Government, all church buildings, adoration chapels and other buildings used for prayer and religious services are closed. Public Masses have ceased. Many parishes around the Diocese are celebrating Masses online. For more information, please visit the Diocesan website www.parracatholic.org/covid19

TUNE IN DAILY TO THE SESSIONS OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL

As the First Assembly of the Plenary Council gets underway on 3 October, you can tune in from home as the almost 300 Members of the Plenary Council discern the future of the Australian Church. The Plenary Council is providing livestreamed Daily Masses from 9.30am AEDT and access to the Plenary session livestreams from 11am AEDT. To find out more and to tune in to the daily sessions, please visit plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1

DIOCESE OF PARRAMTTA LAUNCHES PLENARY

COUNCIL RESOURCE WEBSITE A new website provides resources for parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta to stay involved in the Plenary Council, which is exploring what the future of our Church should look like.

The first assembly starts in October, so visit <u>parracatholic.org/plenary-2021/</u> to find a range of information, a Diocesan prayer and more.

A CARING FOR THE EARTH RETREAT

There is a whole lot more to Laudato Si' and *renewing the oikos of God* than Climate Change and fossil fuel emissions. Yet, this present demand has led people to assume that if we make a few personal and technical changes, we can all get back to the good life. This emphasis on climate justice, although important, is too narrow. We are not hearing clearly, the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.

We need to listen, now, more than ever, to the quiet voice of the Holy Spirit directing the necessary changes we need to make, in the way we regard Creation. Therefore, you are invited to join

Quantum Spirit in Creation"

at the Guntawang Environmental Bush Retreat in Oakdale, NSW, to follow the ecological approach, called for by Pope Francis, to transform our way of living in the world.

Time: 7.00 pm Friday 29th October to 2.00 pm Sunday 31st October, 2021. 45 Sheeheys Creek Road, Oakdale 2570 In the Lands of the Burragorang people of the Gundungarra Nation.

Cost: \$95.00

www.guntawang.org.au
Applications/Information: antiphon1@outlook.com

YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE -WE ARE WITH YOU

"I am with you always" – Matthew 28:20. The Diocese has launched a new website in response to the mental health crisis impacting our young people. The website parracatholic.org/withyou contains links and information about services that can help young people whose wellbeing is suffering. Please share widely with young people and their families.

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK BOOK GIVEAWAY

You have a chance to win one of three copies of "Opening Doors: A Seeker's Reflections on the Rooms of Christian Living" by Kevin Treston. 'Opening Doors' has been described 'an easy read that asks hard questions', designed to help us create a better life and a better world. Entries are now open until Monday 11 October. Enter today via catholicoutlook.org and fill out the form under 'Book Giveaway'.

THE GLOBAL FOUNDATION ROAD TO ASSISI ROUNDTABLE: 21 October

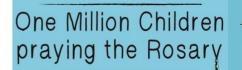
You are invited to The Global Foundation's upcoming 'Road to Assisi' Roundtable, which will be held online on Thursday 21 October from 5pm to 7pm AEST. Hosted by Fr Frank Brennan SJ, the roundtable will speak on climate change and will focus on practical actions which may be undertaken by those taking part. For more information, and to register by 11 October, please contact sg@globalfoundation.org.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ROSALIE RENDU FORUM:

21 October You are invited to the St Vincent de Paul Society's annual Rosalie Rendu Forum, which will be held online on Thursday 21 October from 6pm to 7.30pm. This year's Forum will explore the intersections between gender, poverty and domestic and family violence, as there are rising concerns of a shadow pandemic of domestic and family violence. Bookings are essential and early RSVP is recommended. Register by Monday 18 October by visiting https://bit.ly/RosalieRendu2021

OFFICE FOR SAFEGUARDING OFFERING ONLINE TRAINING TO KEEP OUR PARISHES SAFE.

The Office for Safeguarding is providing an opportunity for all of us to develop our awareness and skills in ensuring our parishes are safe and welcoming places for all. The team are currently offering accompanied online training courses throughout September and October. If you are interested or have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email our Safeguarding office on safeguardingtrain-ing@parracatholic.org or <a href="mailto:mail



on the 18th of October



5