

Our Lady of Lourdes Children's Corner  
1<sup>ST</sup> Sunday of ADVENT  
28 November 2021

1.	C	C	A	R	E	F		L	R	C	N	Q	T
2.	T	Z	G	L	O	R		S	W	G	Q	C	H
3.	D	B	F	L	S	I		N	S	B	C	K	R
4.	Q	B	K	N	H	L		R	A	Y	D	L	Z
5.	Q	F	V	J	L	I		T	J	O	F	W	V
6.	U	J	G	K	Z	E		A	T	C	H	J	L
7.	H	Q	H	E	A	D		I	B	W	A	A	S
8.	M	J	E	F	C	P		L	O	U	D	S	C

## Christ Is Coming Again

At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Luke 21:27 (NIV)  
Words are taken from Luke 21:25-36 (NIV).



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

Careful	glory	moon	redemption	stars
cloud	heads	nations	sea	sun
earth	heaven	power	signs	watch
escape	lift	pray	stand	world



Families are the domestic Church, where Jesus grows. -Pope Francis

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## My Advent Promises

How can I be Hopeful



How can I be Joyful



How can I be Peaceful



How can I be Loving



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  
**WEEKDAY MASS:** Tuesday—Friday 8.00am  
**WEEKEND MASS:** Saturday Vigil 6pm  
Sunday 8am & 9:30am

**Parish School:** OLOL 8869 6800  
**Principal:** Ms Keiran Byrnes  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:30-5:30pm  
**Baptismal Preparation:** 16th February 2022  
**Baptism:** 30th January 2022  
**Parish Website:** www.lol7hills.com.au  
**Pastoral Care of the Sick:** Bathista Emmanuel 0405833655

## First Sunday of Advent 28 November • Year C •

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/>



### Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, George Alagiah, David Barrow, David Benjamin, Barrie Chamberlain, Myrna G Cruz, Elizabeth Ehsman, Melvyn Fernandes, Jose Garcia, Wendy & Klaus, Anslan Lawrence, Spencer Leon, Cynthia Lopez, Carmenu M, Gerard Marcello, Marie Marchand, Ananda Nayana, 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:** Fe Licup Carmen, Shanil Jayatileke, Most Rev Bill Wright, Clarissa Flores, Edna Bacud, Vicki Oddo, Eric Balagtas,

Des Adams, Denis Brophy, David Quan Hien Dang, Peter Diab, Cruz Fernandez, Marie Hossen, Shanil Jayatilake, Paul Mowbray, Hanh My Thi Nguyen, Fr. Renato Mario Paras, Deacon Owen Rogers, Thai Tran Van, Maria Ly Thi Tran. Leo Vinci,

**Anniversaries:** Carmen Attard, Carolina Borg, Mary Camenzuli, Sam Debattica, Silvia Debattica, Christiansen Dias, Ngan Siu Eng Florencio Flores, Mr & Mrs Francis, Michael and Alice de Robillard, Charlie Gauci, Martha Joseph, Ajay Kallukalam, Felicidad Maglaya, Ngoc Khuong Mai, Edouard Mahomudally, Pauline Meilak, Joe Moutia, Lourda Motha, Paul Mula, Connie and Vincent Muscat, Joseph Thang Xuan Nguyen, Romeo M Palmos, Alex Pinto, Lee Pisch, Felcy Rodrigues, Cyprian Rodrigues, Nunelon de los Santos, Natalie Spiteri, Jim and Alison Vella.

**Remembrance:** France Angseesing, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Fortunata & Frank Baiada, Cruz Fernandez, Felicidad Abarca Maglaya, Mary Mifsud, Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula, Mary Muscat, Muscat family, Liam Vinci.

### 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

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**This Christmas, will you help homeless women and children?**

Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal

We have a COVID-19 Safety Plan and are committed to keeping you safe.

### CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

It is a condition of entry that you;

- Check in/ out using the QR CODE
- Wear a face mask
- Maintain physical distancing

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 prophet Jeremiah 33:14-16*

See, the days are coming– it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: 'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord - our - integrity. The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**

Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
For you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

His ways are faithfulness and love  
For those who keep his covenant and will.  
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;  
To them he reveals his covenant. **( R.)**

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
He guides the humble in the right path;  
He teaches his way to the poor.**(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 3:12-4:2*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus. The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia!

GOSPEL  
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 21:25-28, 34-36*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.' 'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

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**



....**Process criticized**

Coming a year after that extraordinary assembly of the Synod, the issue featured evaluations from some leading theological and canonical experts of the time. They included Avery Dulles SJ, Joseph Komonchak and James Provost from the United States; the French-Canadian Dominican Jean-Marie Tillard; and other internationally known figures such like Peter Huizing, Herman Pottmeyer, Jan Kerkhofs and Ronaldo Munoz.

In his contribution as a canonist, Provost dealt with one of the topics that out of the 1985 Synod assembly – Reform of the Roman Curia (again!).

**Relations between Church structures**

He denoted three eras of structure in the Church.

In the First Millennium the Roman Church operated in much the same way as the other patriarchal Churches; that is, in a synodal way (which at this time was confined largely to the presbyterate in Rome and occasional larger, more international gatherings).

A second era began in the 11th century when the Church took on the trappings of a Western-style princely court. Then, in the wake of the Reformation, it became the first modern bureaucracy.

For Provost that is what it remained in 1985, though in the preparatory period and in the Synod itself the relationship between the Curia and the Synod was a key point of discussion (as it is once again today, but now with a broader vision of synodality). Relationships between Church structures was a constant theme of discussions at the 1985 Synod assembly.

How was collegiality to be understood? What was the relationship between the pope and the bishops? How did a synod fit into this? What standing in the Church might be given to national and regional episcopal conferences?

All these questions, and more, were much debated during this process. They are not so different from questions that are pored over today, but now in a very different context.

**From optimism to pessimism**

By 1985 the (naïve?) optimism of the ending of the Council twenty years earlier had dissipated. World events had led people to move away from the high hopes of the early 1960s into a more pessimistic view of human nature.

A very stark contribution to this perspective was given by the German-language group at the Synod assembly, which included powerful conservative cardinals such as Ratzinger, Joseph Höffner (of Cologne), and Joachim Meisner (then of Berlin).

"The present crisis in the Church is widely due to the secularised world being imported into it, above all in the form of spiralling emancipation, subjectivism, horizontalism and consumerism," the German said.

This critical mood pervaded discussions about how sociological categories had infected theological understandings of the Church.

Thus, Lumen Gentium key image of the Church as the People of God was criticised as having led to a 'false' levelling of the Church.

Communion had also been reduced to its horizontal dimension, according to these German critics. In its place "Mystery" was once again put to the fore as a corrective and a fillip to the restoration, in the eyes of its proponents, of the vertical dimension of the Church.

**Subsidiarity, episcopal conferences and dialogue**

Although positive in his evaluation of the Final Report of the 1985 Synod assembly, Jean-Marie Tillard OP, noted that there were some outstanding issues which needed further discussion.

These included "subsidiarity" and the role of episcopal conferences.

These had only the year before been heavily critiqued in a report of the International Theological Commission, chaired by Ratzinger. The idea that they were in some way expressions of collegiality was deemed "theologically impermissible"!

How times have changed!

The main outcome of the 1985 extraordinary assembly of the Synod of Bishops was, ultimately, the production of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, something for which many prelates had been calling.

Another outcome, however, was an effective brake on dialogue both within the Church and between the Church and other groups.

**A prophetic voice from Latin America**

Thankfully, even if belatedly, almost forty years later a different atmosphere prevails in what Pope Francis is calling for in preparation for the current "Synod on Synodality".

Francis has had vast experience of synodal ways in his native Latin America and he regularly quotes from documents produced by bishops' conferences across the world in his own writings.

In fact, in that 1986 issue of Concilium it was left to two voices from that continent to be prophetic about the needs for the future. Cardinal Lorscheider, who was at the time engaged in supporting his fellow Franciscan Leonardo Boff in the action taken against him by the CDF, concluded his reflections by writing the following:

The idea that the Church should change its position in society has still made very little headway at the level of the universal church. Care was even taken to avoid the word "liberation" in the final report.

The expression "integral salvation" was preferred. For my part I do not see much difference between integral liberation in Jesus Christ and integral salvation in Jesus Christ.

Chilean theologian Ronaldo Munoz, commenting on the report the International Theological Commission published just before the 1985 Synod assembly, noted that it presented a "markedly clerical and hierarcho-centric ecclesiology which, it is to be hoped, will provoke a crisis – for the good of the Church – at the next world synod, to be devoted to the laity."

The "crisis" has been brewing for quite some time now, but perhaps it is about to bear fruit "for the good of the Church", at last.

POPE FRANCIS: SYNODALITY EXPRESSES THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH

By Francesca Merlo

Addressing the faithful of the Diocese of Rome, Pope Francis described the upcoming Synod — with the theme "For a synodal Church: communion, participation, mission" — as a journey in which the whole Church is engaged. He noted that the Synod will take place between October 2021 and October 2023, and that the itinerary has been conceived as "a dynamism of mutual listening, conducted at all levels of the Church, involving the whole the people of God".

Stage one

The first stage of the process (October 2021 - April 2022) is the one concerning the individual diocesan Churches. "That is why I am here, as your bishop, to share, because it is very important that the Diocese of Rome commits itself with conviction to this journey", said the Pope.

He explained that "synodality expresses the nature of the Church, its form, its style, its mission". The word "synod", in fact, contains everything we need to understand: "walking together".

The book of Acts

Referring to the book of Acts as "the first and most import 'manual' of ecclesiology", the Pope noted that it recounts the story of a road that starts in Jerusalem and after a long journey ends in Rome. This road, he said, tells the story in which the Word of God and the people who turn their attention and faith to that Word walk together. "Everyone is a protagonist," said the Pope, "no one can be considered a mere extra". At times it may be necessary to leave, to change direction, to overcome convictions that hold us back and prevent us from moving and walking together.

The Pope noted that there are problems that arose in organising the growing number of Christians, and "especially in providing for the needs of the poor". The way to find a solution, said the Pope, quoting the Book of Acts, "is to gather the assembly of disciples together and make the decision to appoint those seven men who would commit themselves full time to diakonia, the service of the tables".

Diocesan phase

Returning to the synodal process, Pope Francis said the diocesan phase is very important because it involves listening to the totality of the baptised. He stressed that "there is much resistance to overcome the image of a Church rigidly divided between leaders and subordinates, between those who teach and those who have to learn, forgetting that God likes to overturn positions. Walking together discovers horizontality rather than verticality as its line".

The sensus fidei

"The sensus fidei (Latin: "sense of the faith") qualifies everyone in the dignity of the prophetic function of Jesus Christ", the Pope said, "so that we can discern what are the ways of the Gospel in the present".

He explained that "The exercise of the sensus fidei cannot be reduced to the communication and comparison of opinions that we may have about this or that theme, that single aspect of doctrine, or that rule of discipline." He added, "Nor could the idea of distinguishing majorities and minorities prevail".

For all

"It is necessary to feel part of one great people who are the recipients of the divine promises", continued Pope Francis, "open to a future that awaits everyone to participate in the banquet prepared by God for all peoples". Here, the Pope said, "I would like to point out that even on the concept of 'the people of God' there can be rigid and antagonistic hermeneutics, remaining trapped in the idea of an exclusivity, of a privilege, as happened with the interpretation of the concept of 'election', which the prophets corrected, indicating how it should be correctly understood". It is not a privilege, he stressed, "but a gift that someone receives for everyone, that we have received for others, a responsibility".

In the synodal journey, in fact, listening must take into account the sensus fidei, but it must not overlook all those "hunches" embodied where we would not expect them: there may be a "hunch without citizenship", but it is no less effective.

"I have come here to encourage you to take this synodical process seriously and to tell you that the Holy Spirit needs you", concluded the Pope. "Listen to Him by listening to yourselves and do not leave anyone out or behind". This, he said finally,

Insights and lessons from a previous Synod assembly (from La Croix International)

By Sean Hall

As we embark on reflections for the so-called "Synod on Synodality", it might be interesting to take a further look at a Synod assembly that took place in another era!

In 1984 John Paul II announced that an extraordinary assembly of the Synod of Bishops would take place the following year to mark the 20th anniversary of the closing of Second Vatican Council (1962-65).

By the time that assembly took place in 1985 the Church had already lost many of the key theological experts from the Council. Karl Rahner SJ had died in 1984. Yves Congar OP was in very poor health. Hans Küng and Edward Schillebeeckx OP had, effectively, been side-lined.

Joseph Ratzinger, by contrast, was now the prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. It was during this period that he issued his two statements questioning the validity in the Church of Liberation Theology.

It seems that it was largely at Ratzinger's behest that this extraordinary assembly of the Synod was called.

In short order preparatory questions and a basic document were prepared for the discussions and the bishops finally met over a brief two-week period from November 24-December 8, 1985.

Process criticized

Invoked to celebrate and to come to a better understanding of the Council, and to lay the foundations for its future help in appreciating the current signs of the times, the process came in for some heavy criticism.

"The great difficulty in attaining the objectives fixed was the short duration of the Synod (...a mere 11 days for real work) and the lack of time for preparation," said Brazilian Cardinal Aloisio Lorscheider OFM.

He thought that while the celebration and deepening aspects had been covered reasonably well, how the Council's work was to help in addressing current signs of the times was not done adequately at all.

The cardinal expressed those thoughts in an article that appeared in a special edition of the international theological review Concilium.



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

Firstly allow me to say happy New Year to you, since this Sunday marks the Church's New Year, the beginning of another liturgical year of the Church.

As always we begin our Church year with the First Sunday of Advent, but with a little difference compared to last year and the one before that. I say a little difference, because we use a different set of Sunday Scripture readings with most of the Gospel readings for our Sunday Masses in the next twelve months will be taken from the Gospel of Luke.

As we know, the author of Luke's Gospel have also been thought as the same person writing the Acts of the Apostles, a book about the Early Church, though nowhere in these books does the author specifically mention his name.

However, Irenaeus, a bishop living at the end of the second century, was the first to name Luke, a companion of St Paul, as the author of Luke's Gospel.

Luke's name was also mentioned three times in what we call St Paul's letters, and once he was even identified as a physician, probably someone who made salves and other medicines of herbs and roots. Obviously he was not an apostle or an eyewitness to the events relating to the Lord, Jesus that he records.

It is believed that Luke could had written his Gospel probably fifteen years after the fall of Jerusalem in 70AD, and like the Acts of the Apostles, he dedicated to someone called Theophilus, meaning 'friend of God.' This detail led some biblical scholars to believe that Theophilus could have been a wealthy nobleman, who kept supplying Luke with enough papyrus scrolls, expensive materials then, for him to write his books. Others, however, thought that Theophilus was not a real person, but rather a character created by Luke as a symbol to stand for all Christians who were friends of God.

Similar to the Gospel of Mark we had two weeks ago, this account of Luke also deals with the topic of the end time written in a typical writing style called apocalyptic, a literary genre using symbolic and somehow futuristic language to describe the unbearable hardship ordinary people were made to face without upsetting the authority, and to raise hope in the oppressed community, and the hardship that the community of Mark and the one of Luke both had gone through was the ongoing persecution carried out by the Romans.

In Luke's account today, Jesus goes into more details of what was to come prior to the Second Coming compared to Mark's we heard a few weeks ago. Apart from the movements of the sun, moon and the stars above, there will be the clamour of the seas and the unrest and fear amongst peoples on earth.

However, no matter what is going to happen, Jesus' followers are advised to live a life of prayer of vigilance, not to be tainted by worldly attachments, and this way of life will help them to 'stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

During the season of Advent, we need to prepare ourselves both for the commemoration of Jesus' nativity and his return in glory at the end time, and are invited to remain ever spiritually vigilant and prayerful. Let us ask for the grace to pray better and live a life worthy of the birth of God's Son.

Have a prayerful and vigilant week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to the first group of our children making their First Holy Communion this Sunday. Please keep them in your prayer, so that the grace of Communion will keep nourishing their lives and help them to live their lives worthy of Jesus' gift in the Eucharist.

First Holy Communion in 2022 enrollment

Mass will be held Sunday 6th February.

Please contact Artelle 9622 2920 / artelle@lol7hills.com.au for your enrollment form and timetable before February.

CONFIRMATION

After an unexpected hiccup, year 6 children finally have another date for their Confirmation this year before they complete Primary education and enter their Secondary. Pray that they will have a smooth celebration on 7<sup>th</sup> December.



ADVENT WREATH It is usually constructed around a circular base as you can see ours. This circular base is traditionally taken to symbolize the ever-renewing cycle of the seasons, and the four candles, of course, represents the four

Sundays of Advent. The first candle known as the Prophets' candle symbolises hope. Know that the prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the coming, the Adventus, of the Messiah.



THANK YOU TO FR LUAN LE

Many thanks to Fr Luan for helping to say our weekday Masses last week. His kind help is much appreciated.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

If you would like to brighten someone's Christmas you could take a tag from the Christmas tree and prepare a hamper BEFORE 14th DECEMBER. Thank you for your generosity.



BISHOPS'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL - THIS WEEKEND

No mother or child should be homeless and without support at Christmas. CatholicCare's Houses to Homes provides hope for vulnerable women and children facing abuse and hardship. Your kind donation today will help change the lives of homeless young women, who like Mary, seek a safe haven to raise their newborn child. Please give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal giving envelopes or online at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) Watch Bishop Vincent's Christmas Appeal video here-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ptTCYmyUmk>

PARISH SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Our Parish will celebrate the Second Rite of Reconciliation with the help of our local clergy on Tuesday 21st December at 7.30pm. The First Rite of Reconciliation (one to one) will be held on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd December from 8.30-9.30am





ENCYCLICAL LETTER **FRATELLI TUTTI** OF THE HOLY FATHER **FRANCIS** ON FRATERNITY & SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP  
[CHAPTER ONE](#) - [AN ABSENCE OF HUMAN DIGNITY ON THE BORDERS](#)

#### FORMS OF SUBJECTION AND OF SELF-CONTEMPT

51. Certain economically prosperous countries tend to be proposed as cultural models for less developed countries; instead, each of those countries should be helped to grow in its own distinct way and to develop its capacity for innovation while respecting the values of its proper culture. A shallow and pathetic desire to imitate others leads to copying and consuming in place of creating, and fosters low national self-esteem. In the affluent sectors of many poor countries, and at times in those who have recently emerged from poverty, there is a resistance to native ways of thinking and acting, and a tendency to look down on one's own cultural identity, as if it were the sole cause of every ill.

52. Destroying self-esteem is an easy way to dominate others. Behind these trends that tend to level our world, there flourish powerful interests that take advantage of such low self-esteem, while attempting, through the media and networks, to create a new culture in the service of the elite. This plays into the opportunism of financial speculators and raiders, and the poor always end up the losers. Then too, ignoring the culture of their people has led to the inability of many political leaders to devise an effective development plan that could be freely accepted and sustained over time.

53. We forget that "there is no worse form of alienation than to feel uprooted, belonging to no one. A land will be fruitful, and its people bear fruit and give birth to the future, only to the extent that it can foster a sense of belonging among its members, create bonds of integration between generations and different communities, and avoid all that makes us insensitive to others and leads to further alienation"

#### HOPE

54. Despite these dark clouds, which may not be ignored, I would like in the following pages to take up and discuss many new paths of hope. For God continues to sow abundant seeds of goodness in our human family. The recent pandemic enabled us to recognize and appreciate once more all those around us who, in the midst of fear, responded by putting their lives on the line. We began to realize that our lives are interwoven with and sustained by ordinary people valiantly shaping the decisive events of our shared history: doctors, nurses, pharmacists, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caretakers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests and religious... They understood that no one is saved alone

55. I invite everyone to renewed hope, for hope "speaks to us of something deeply rooted in every human heart, independently of our circumstances and historical conditioning. Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love... Hope is bold; it can look beyond personal convenience, the petty securities and compensations which limit our horizon, and it can open us up to grand ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile" Let us continue, then, to advance along the paths of hope.

**Excerpt from Pope Francis, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation FRATELLI TUTTI—to the people of God and to all persons of good will.]**

27/28 November 2021		
Acolytes	Vigil: Derrick Soares 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am Fayelene Kennedy	
Ministers	Vigil: Jemma Sarimento, Rosey Soares 8am: Lorraine Fernandes, Anne McNally 9.30am: Antony Terrance Joseph, Carole Brooks	
Readers	Vigil: Catherine Rodrigues, Benno Motha 8am: Kathy Walker, Maricel Santos 9.30am Mercy Aquino, Adrian Walker	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Noah Ebb, Alexander Bateman Paul 8am: Leonardo Costello, Saoires Costello, Sebastian Costello 9.30am Chloe Attard, Saofia Culili, Majerin Pieris	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Please bring a plate	
Flowers	Annette & Mary B	
Church cleaning	1 December	Carole Brooks, Lourdes Spiteri, Novelo Paylaga
Welcomers	Vigil: Mary Bonnici 8am: Rita Paolini 9.30am: Maria Michael	

4/5 December 2021		
Acolytes	Vigil: James Dinning 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am Ramzee Michael	
Ministers	Vigil: Helen Gonzales, Chrisha Gonzales 8am: SUB REQ Erika Hien 9.30am: Sarah Lenthall, Crystal Menezes	
Readers	Vigil: Noreen Do Rosario, Alison Punch 8am: Anne McNally, Maricel Santos 9.30am: Stefanie Menezes, Jeanine Nonato	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alexa Bagatella, Lucas Laus, Amelia Laus 8am: Diana Park, Philip Park, Sean Park 9.30am Rynan Michael, Floencia Wanandy, Gabrielle Wanandy	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Please bring a plate	
Flowers	Fenty, Gaby & Flo	
Church cleaning	9 December	Chuck Baquial, Karen Baquial
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Urge 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Maria Michael	

## DIOCESAN NEWS

**CAMPION**  
COLLEGE AUSTRALIA

### SUMMER PROGRAM JANUARY 2022

Registration for the Campion College Summer Program is now open! If you know a 16-20 year old with an interest in history, literature, philosophy and theology, encourage them to sign up for one of the immersive four-day programs in January 2022. Attendance is fully funded but spaces are limited! Find out more and register on the Campion College website: [www.campion.edu.au/summer-program](http://www.campion.edu.au/summer-program)

### VINNIES SUPPORT CENTRES 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>



**This Christmas, will you help homeless women and children?**

**DONATE NOW**

Please give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal giving envelopes or online at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal)

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR		
NOVEMBER 2021		
27-28	BISHOPS CHRISTMAS APPEAL	
28	FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS - GRP 1	11.30am
30	CONFIRMATION PRACTICE	6.30pm
DECEMBER 2021		
1	FHC PRACTICE Group 2	6.30pm
2	CHRIST COMMUNITY PARYER GROUP	9.00am
2	LEGION OF MARY	1.30pm
5	FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS - GRP 2	11.30am
6	ST VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING	7.00pm
7	SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION	7.30pm

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### GLENBROOK PARISH ADVENT REFLECTION DAY: 4 December 2021

You are invited to join the parish of St Finbar's, Glenbrook, for their Advent Retreat on Saturday 4 December from 10.30am to 4pm, followed by Vigil Mass at 5.30pm. The Retreat will reflect on the birth of Jesus, but also on being in touch with God through reflection on creation. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. The retreat will be \$5 per person. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 29 November to [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au).

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES 2022

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will begin early next year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or [anne.stanton@parracatholic.org](mailto:anne.stanton@parracatholic.org) or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

### ADVENT 2021 WITH BRUCE DOWNES, THE CATHOLIC GUY

You are invited to 'Expect the Unexpected' this Advent. Join me each day for a short, free Advent Daily Devotional Video that will guide you on a life-changing journey. Starting November 28th you'll receive short inspirational videos each day from Bruce Downes, full of real life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be! Register now or for more information: <https://brucedownes.org/registerforadvent/>  
Email: [info@brucedownes.org](mailto:info@brucedownes.org)



### EARTHCARE PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Love of the poor, we pray for all families that they may be 'the place in which life, the gift of God, can be properly welcomed and protected.' May they be especially attentive to the Cry of the Poor and work