

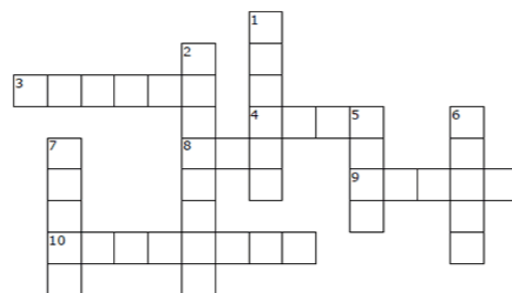


I can follow Jesus by sharing.

The Widow's Mite

But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Mark 12:42

Based on Mark 12:38-44



ACROSS

3. A reddish-brown metal which is sometimes used in making coins
4. Having little or no wealth
8. The entire amount; everything
9. A small piece of flat, circular metal, used for money
10. A contribution or gift made at a religious service

DOWN

1. A building used for worship
2. A place where funds are received, kept, and dispensed
5. Having great material wealth
6. The official currency issued by a government
7. A woman whose husband has died and who has not remarried

POOR	COINS	TREASURY	COPPER	TEMPLE
ALL	WIDOW	OFFERING	MONEY	RICH

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
X	I	U	F	Y	R	N	J	K	S	M	C	L	Q	T	G	E	Z	H	B	P	D	W	O	V	A

1. 11-24-7-17-5 _____
2. 24-4-4-17-6-2-7-16-10 _____
3. 12-24-2-7-10 _____
4. 21-17-7-7-5 _____
5. 15-17-11-21-13-17 _____
6. 23-17-26-13-15-19 _____
7. 6-2-12-19 _____
8. 21-24-24-6 _____
9. 21-24-25-17-6-15-5 _____
10. 12-24-21-21-17-6 _____



PENNY	OFFERINGS	RICH	POOR	POVERTY
COPPER	WEALTH	MONEY	COINS	TEMPLE

Jesus
Loves
me

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

BEWARE
SCRIBES
SYNAGOGUES
MARKET
BANQUETS
LONG
SEVERE
PRAYERS
POOR
TREASURY
WIDOW
PENNY



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

Parish School: Our Lady of Lourdes 8869 6800

Principal: Ms Keiran Byrnes

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30-5:30pm

Baptismal Preparation: 17th & 24th November 2021 7:30pm

Baptism: Dec 12th & 19th Sunday 11am

Parish Website: www.olol7hills.com.au

Pastoral Care of the Sick: Bathista Emmanuel 0405833655

Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

•Year B - 7 November 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/>

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

COVID 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

Join us online or in person!

WELCOME BACK

TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES, SEVEN HILLS



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 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: Deacon Owen Rogers, Fr. Renato Mario Paras, Leo Vinci, Frank Papallo, Denis Brophy, Mary Grace Cepe, David Quan Hien Dang, Peter Diab, Denisa Fantillo, Wilfredo Faunal, Marie Hossen, Shanil Jayatilake, Paul Mowbray, Hanh My Thi Nguyen, Salvacion Palmos, Thai Tran Van, Maria Ly Thi Tran.

Anniversaries: Carmen Attard, Antonio, Alberto, Charlie Axiak, Carolina Borg, Bertram Bosen, Gladys Bosen, Sam Debattica, Silvia Debattica, Christiansen Dias, Cini Family, Mr & Mrs Francis, Michael and Alice de Robillard, Rose Fernandes, Martha Joseph, Ajay Kallukalam, Mangion Family, Edouard Mahomodally, Pauline Meilak, Joe Moutia, Lourda Motha, Connie and Vincent Muscat, Joseph Thang Xuan Nguyen, Romeo M Palmos, Alex Pinto, Roseline Ratnam, Felcy Rodrigues, Cyprian Rodrigues, Jose Sanchez, Tony Vassallo, Mr & Mrs Zan

Remembrance: France Angseesing, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Fortunata & Frank Baiada, Lourdes de Venecia, Lazaro Fernandez, Cruz Fernandez, Mary Mifsud, Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula,

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

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING ANY FLU LIKE SYMPTOMS PLEASE STAY HOME AS THE MASS IS STILL AVAILABLE ON LIVE-STREAM THROUGH OUR LOL FACEBOOK PAGE.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS TO THE CHURCH SAFE.

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA COVID UPDATE

As NSW has reached its 80% double dose vaccination target, parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are opening their doors for private prayer, Reconciliation and for the celebration of Mass and sacraments such as baptisms, weddings and funerals. Please contact your local parish to check Mass and liturgy times and the COVID-Safe arrangements in place.

www.parracatholic.org/covid19

FIRST READING
A reading from the book of Kings 17:10-16

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, ‘Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.’ She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. ‘Please’ he said, ‘bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.’ ‘As the Lord your God lives,’ she replied, ‘I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.’; But Elijah said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel: “Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth.”’ The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah. 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.)**

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

SECOND READING *A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 7:24-28*

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him. 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 12:38-44

In his teaching Jesus said, ‘Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.’ He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.’ 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



POPE FRANCIS INFILGHT INTERVIEW FROM THE RECENT EUROPEAN TRIP

Istávan Károly Kuzmányi (Magyar Kurír): Holy Father, thank you for your visit to Budapest where you quoted the venerable Cardinal Mindszenty who said, "If there are one million Hungarians praying, I am not afraid of the future..." So, hee is my question: Why did you decide, after 21 years, to participate as Pope in the Eucharistic Congress beginning with this event? How do you view Christianity in Europe, and what do you think we can do, we Hungarians, about this? Thank you.

Well, thank you, thank you very much. At the beginning it was not well understood: "But you are coming only for the ceremony, and you aren't going to visit us Hungarians? And some people thought badly. No: I explained that a visit had already been planned -- it was in mind -- to Slovakia and the other began after. But I promised your President whom I met -- this is the third time I have met him -- I promised to see whether it will be possible to come back next year or the following one because the Hungarians have so many values. I was struck by the sense of ecumenism, for example that you have, but with a deep, deep, deep profundity. This is what hit me. In general, Europe - I always say this - must reassume the dreams of the founding fathers of the European Union. The European Union is not a gathering to get things done, there is a spirit behind the EU that Schuman, Adenauer, De Gasperi, these great men: go back there. Because there's the danger to be just a managment office, the European Union, and that is not good. It must move precisely toward mysticism, in search of Europe's roots and bring it forward. And I think all the countries must move forward. It is true that there are some interests, perhaps not European ones, that attempt to use the European Union for ideological colonization, and this is not good. No: the European Union must be indepedent in and of itself, and all the countries on the same level, inspired by the dream of its Great Founders. This is my idea. And you Hungari-ans: I was with you last year [editor: 2 years ago] in Transylvania, that Mass in Hungarian was beautiful.

Bohumil Petrik (Dennik Standard): Vaccination has divided Christians, even in Slovakia. You say that it is an act of love to get vaccinated. So, when someone is not vaccinated, what would you call that? Because some believers even, feel discriminated against. There are different approaches in different Dioceses on this issue. Even prior to your visit only those who were vaccinated could come to the papal events, then it changed and even those with a negative covid test could attend. How do we reconcile on this issue?

This is important, no? It is a bit strange, no? Because humanity has a friendly history with vaccines: we as children, even the measles, the other one for polio... all children were vaccinated and no said "mu", no? This one has come. Perhaps it has come because of the virulence and the uncertainty, not only regarding the pandemic, but also due to the diversity of vaccines, and also the reputation of some vaccines that they are not suitable or that they are little more than distilled water. This has created fear in people. Then, there are others who say they are dangerous because with the vaccine the virus iinside, and a lot of argu-mentation that have created this division. Even in the College of Cardinals, there are some anti-vaxxers, and one of them, poor man, was hospitalized with the virus. But, life is ironic. Yes, I can't explain it well: some say it's because of the difference of where the vaccines come from that there has not been sufficient testing and they are afraid. But thins need to be clear, clarify and speak sincerely about this. In the Vatican, everyone has been vaccinated except a small group under study to know how to help them.

Daniel Verdú Palay (El Pais): Good afternoon, Your Holiness. How are you? On Sunday morning you met with the pres-ident [editor: prime minister], Viktor Mihály Orbán. It has been noticed and it can be understood some of your differ-ences on themes such as migrants, Europe, nationalism. We wanted to as you and know how the meeting went, wheth-er you touched the topic of migrants that has returned to be very important with the Afghanistan crisis, and what you think about the laws on homosexuals that he has enacted. We are asking you also because we think that you asked him not to let Christian Hungary die. But listening to your discorses these past days, it would seem that at times there are policies that kill Christian values...

Good. I received him, because the President came to me, he had the courtesy. This kindness, he came. It is the third time I have met him -- he came with the Prime Minister and the Deputy Minister, there were three of them But the President spoke. The first topic -- that was dominant -- was ecology. Truly, hats off to you Hungarians for the ecological conscience you have. Impressive. He explained how they purify the rivers, things that I did not know! This was the main thing. Then I asked about the average age, because I am concerned about the demographic winter. In Italy, if I am not mistaken, the average age is 47, and I think in Spain it is even worse. Many villages are empty or with a dozon elderly people. It is a serious concern. How can it be resolved? Here, the president explained to me -- still the president -- explained to me the law they have to help young couples marry and have children. It is interesting. It is a law...I do not know if...it is somewhat similar to the French, but more developed. Because of this, the French do not have the tragedy that Spain has or we have.... They explained this to me, and they added something technical, the Prime Minister and the Deputy Minister about what this law is about. And then, what other things did they speak about? On immigration, nothing, no, it did not come up. Then we returned to ecology, and yes, the family, in the sense of what I had asked, you can see that there are so many young people, so many children. But even In Slovakia: I was surprised, there are so many children and many young couples, and this is a promise. Now the challenge is to find jobs, so that they don't go abroad after, because if there are no jobs, they go abroad looking for work. But these were the things... But, the president spoke all the time, and both ministers added some precise data. There was a good atmosphere. The meeting lasted long enough, about 35-40 minutes I think.

Gerard O'Connell (America Magazine): First, we are all happy that the surgery had a wonderful effect, you are rejuve-nated!

Pope Francis: They told me that someone wanted to have the operation, I don't know who it was... But it wasn't cosmetic, eh!

POPE FRANCIS AT AUDIENCE: BELIEVING IN JESUS MEANS FOLLOWING HIM

By Christopher Wells

“To believe in Jesus means to follow Him,” Pope Francis said at Wednesday’s General Audience, adding, “At the same time, it means avoiding the opposite way, that of selfishness, of seeking one’s own interest.” The Holy Father, continuing his catechesis on the Letter to the Galatians, reflected on St Paul’s exhortation to “walk in the Spirit.” The Holy Spirit, he said, is our guide on our “journey along the way of Christ,” – a “stupendous, but difficult journey, that begins in Baptism and lasts our whole life.”

Walking according to the Spirit

Following the path of Jesus, he said, leads Christians to “a positive vision of life,” that does not deny the evils and difficulties seen in life, but means instead “that belief in God is always stronger than our resistance and greater than our sins.” St Paul, the Pope said, includes himself when he invites the Galatians “to walk in the Spirit.” “Even though he knows that Christ lives in him,” St Paul “is also convinced that he has not yet reached the goal.” Pope Francis explains that Paul “does not place himself above his community, but places himself in the midst of the journey that everyone is on, in order to provide a concrete example of how necessary it is to obey God, corresponding more and more to the Spirit’s guidance.”

Not judging others

Pope Francis emphasised that walking according to the Spirit involves us not only as individuals, but also as a community. It is easy, he said, to try to live up to the “exciting, but demanding” call to follow Jesus by having recourse to rigid precepts. But this, he said, “means straying from the path of freedom.” Instead, “journeying along the way of the Spirit requires space to grace and charity.”

The supreme rule of love

In particular, the Pope said, we can often be tempted to judge others if they make a mistake or fall away from the path of Jesus. Pope Francis encouraged the faithful to examine our own lives when we are tempted to judge others. If we do feel the need to correct others, he said, we should do so with gentleness and humility. “In addition to giving us the gift of gentleness,” he said, “the Holy Spirit invites us to be in solidarity, to bear others burdens.” The Pope insisted, “the supreme rule regarding fraternal correction is love: to desire the good of our brothers and sisters.” Pope Francis concluded his audience by encouraging us “to walk along this path with joy and patience, allowing ourselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit.”

PAPAL NOVEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM DEPRESSION

By Devin Watkins

“Overwork and work-related stress cause many people to experience extreme exhaustion —mental, emotional, affective, and physical exhaustion.” Pope Francis opened the video accompanying his prayer intention for November with those words with which most people can probably identify. His intention was released in this month’s The Pope Video, prepared by the [Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network](#). It comes as people living in the Northern Hemisphere enter the Autumn and Winter seasons, during which cooler weather is often accompanied by rainy days and more time spent indoors.

Silent listening

The Pope took note of that seasonal situation in his timely prayer intention. “Sadness, apathy, and spiritual tiredness end up dominating people’s lives, who are overloaded due to the rhythm of life today,” he said. Pope Francis thus encouraged everyone to reach out to those around us who are depressed, desperate, or without hope. And he advised against comforting others with too many words. “Often,” he said, “we should just simply listen in silence, because we cannot go and tell someone, ‘No, life’s not like that. Listen to me, I’ll give you the solution.’” “There is no solution,” remarked the Pope

Jesus’ offer of comfort

However, he continued, besides “indispensable psychological counseling”, Jesus’ words can help us and others to find solace: “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” With that advice in mind, Pope Francis wrapped up his prayer intention video message with a renewed invitation to assist those around us. “Let us pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life,” he prayed.

Choosing life amid depression

The November edition of The Pope Video was created in conjunction with the [Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers](#), which offers spiritual support for people suffering various forms of mental illness. According to a press release accompanying the video, around 1 in 10 people worldwide lives with a mental health disorder, amounting to 792 million people or 11 percent of the population. Depression and anxiety account for around 3 and 4 percent, respectively, of those illnesses. They can sometimes lead to suicide when left untreated or are severe and recurrent. Some 700,000 people commit suicide each year, making it the fourth leading cause of death in people aged 15 to 29.

Covid-related difficulties

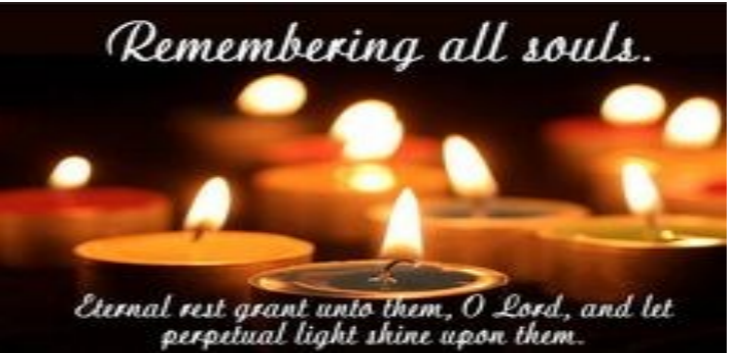
As has been well-noted, the Covid-19 pandemic, and its associated restrictions on daily life, has led severely tested the mental and emotional resilience of many people.



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,
Recently David Beasley, director of the United Nations’ World Food Programme, had a go at world billion-aires for accumulating lot of wealth and failing to care for the hungry, and went on to say that a 6 billion contri-bution could help solve world’s hunger. His comment was immediately challenged by Elon Musk who sent out a message on Twitter asking Beasley to describe how to fix the world’s hunger with 6 billion and he would be happy to sell off his Tesla stocks to do it. Mr Musk also added a clause asking for transparency and accountability with the program. Let’s hope that UN could satisfy his request to get him on board in the attempt to fix once for all the global hunger. Talking about charity, we have the second part of the Gospel account this Sunday highlighting a beautiful example of what it means to be charitable. After warning his disciples about the greedy and hypocrisy of the scribes who were more interested in seeking honour, recogni-tion and money than anything else in their relationship with others. Jesus invited them to pay attention to a poor widow, who donated a small amount of money, the equivalent of a penny according to Mark. Compared to what other rich people put into the temple treasury, her contribution was really insignificant, but Jesus singled her out as giving the most to the temple, be-cause she, according to Jesus, donated all she had to survive, while the others just offered the extra money they had. Jesus obviously appreciated her generosity by offering to God everything she had, though the size of her donation was just a tiny bit compared to others who could afford to give so much more. So Jesus through this story probably meant to encourage us to be generous to God in giving the most we can afford, and what counts before God is not about how much we give to those in need or to a good cause, but about the desire and the effort we put into our charity works. Pray that the example of the poor widow much admired by Jesus in the Gospel today might inspire us to be most generous to the Lord in whichever way we can to make His name glorified in the world. Have a charity-filled week. Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...



NOVEMBER MASS INTENTIONS

November is the month dedicated to all our deceased. Each year we compile a book of deceased loved ones who we pray for during the month of November. If you would like to add your loved ones names to the book of Remembrance, it is located at the front of the Church. Special November Mass envelopes are also available which will be placed on the al-tar for the month of November.

A PRAYER FOR OUR HSC STUDENTS

We dedicate this weekend to pray especially for all HSC stu-dents this year, especially for those in our parish. Pray that they might get the best results they have aimed for with the help of God’s grace, despite the circumstances they have been made to go through this year.



LOURDES OVER 50’s meeting is on Thursday 18th November at 10.30am in the Parish Hall. Please bring your own lunch. Tea/coffee cake and sweets supplied. Parishioners are welcome to join us.

DEACON OWEN ROGERS, assistant Deacon at Corpus Christi Cranebrook, died on 2 November. May he rest in peace. A 2017 article in Catholic Outlook provides some information about Owen. <https://catholicoutlook.org/life-blessed-gods-presence/>

OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

All members of our Parish Pastoral Council are invited to join a meeting on Wednesday 10 November at 7.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room, our first since the end of the lockdown.



SACRAMENT PROGRAM RETURNING

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

MINISTERS - NEW ROSTER

Forms are now available at the back of the church for ministers to renew their information for the next roster-ing period January - June 2022 You can either complete the form and leave it in the box at the back of the church or update your details on the Ministry Scheduler Pro login; www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/ololsevenhills

All updates must be received by 15th November, so the roster can be completed and Published by Christmas.



LOLO PIETY SHOP—we have new gifts for Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation, The 2022 Daily Missal and Ordo. 2022 Columban Art Calendar or the Josephite Calendar with inspirations from St Mary of the Cross Mackillop, Advent and Christmas prayer books....come and have a look. Please call Alison in the parish office to make an appointment, Tuesday—Friday 10-2pm 96222920 Alisoni@olol7hills.com.au



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

37. Certain populist political regimes, as well as certain liberal economic approaches, maintain that an influx of migrants is to be prevented at all costs. Arguments are also made for the propriety of limiting aid to poor countries, so that they can hit rock bottom and find themselves forced to take austerity measures. One fails to realize that behind such statements, abstract and hard to support, great numbers of lives are at stake. Many migrants have fled from war, persecution and natural catastrophes. Others, rightly, “are seeking opportunities for themselves and their families. They dream of a better future and they want to create the conditions for achieving it”.

38. Sadly, some “are attracted by Western culture, sometimes with unrealistic expectations that expose them to grave disappointments. Unscrupulous traffickers, frequently linked to drug cartels or arms cartels, exploit the weakness of migrants, who too often experience violence, trafficking, psychological and physical abuse and untold sufferings on their journey”. Those who emigrate “experience separation from their place of origin, and often a cultural and religious uprooting as well. Fragmentation is also felt by the communities they leave behind, which lose their most vigorous and enterprising elements, and by families, especially when one or both of the parents migrates, leaving the children in the country of origin”. For this reason, “there is also a need to reaffirm the right not to emigrate, that is, to remain in one’s homeland”.

39. Then too, “in some host countries, migration causes fear and alarm, often fomented and exploited for political purposes. This can lead to a xenophobic mentality, as people close in on themselves, and it needs to be addressed decisively”. Migrants are not seen as entitled like others to participate in the life of society, and it is forgotten that they possess the same intrinsic dignity as any person. Hence they ought to be “agents in their own redemption”. No one will ever openly deny that they are human beings, yet in practice, by our decisions and the way we treat them, we can show that we consider them less worthy, less important, less human. For Christians, this way of thinking and acting is unacceptable, since it sets certain political preferences above deep convictions of our faith: the inalienable dignity of each human person regardless of origin, race or religion, and the supreme law of fraternal love.

40. “Migrations, more than ever before, will play a pivotal role in the future of our world”. At present, however, migration is affected by the “loss of that sense of responsibility for our brothers and sisters on which every civil society is based”. Europe, for example, seriously risks taking this path. Nonetheless, “aided by its great cultural and religious heritage, it has the means to defend the centrality of the human person and to find the right balance between its twofold moral responsibility to protect the rights of its citizens and to assure assistance and acceptance to migrants”.

41. I realize that some people are hesitant and fearful with regard to migrants. I consider this part of our natural instinct of self-defence. Yet it is also true that an individual and a people are only fruitful and productive if they are able to develop a creative openness to others. I ask everyone to move beyond those primal reactions because “there is a problem when doubts and fears condition our way of thinking and acting to the point of making us intolerant, closed and perhaps even – without realizing it – racist. In this way, fear deprives us of the desire and the ability to encounter the other”.

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

6/7 November 2021	
Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am Eugene Miu
Ministers	Vigil: Chrisha Gonzales, Helen Gonzales 8am: Lorraine Fernandes, Fennie Balabat 9.30am: Sarah Lenthall, Antony Terrance Joseph
Readers	Vigil: Jemma Sarmiento, Stefanie Menezes 8am: SUB REQ, Pepito Ferriols 9.30am: Laura Bellissimo, Crystal Menezes
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alexander Bateman-Paul, Lucas Laus 8am: Leonardo Costello, Saoires Costello, Sebastian Costello 9.30am Florencia Wanandy, Gabrielle Wanandy
Morning Tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Please bring a plate
Flowers	Fenty, Gaby & Flo
Church cleaning	11 November Cathy Hutchings, Melvyn Fernandes, Annette Peatman, Sandy Manamperi
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Annette Peatman 9.30am: Volunteer

13/ 2021		
Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am Kilifi Huihui	
Ministers	Vigil: Erika Hien, Charmaine Jansz 8am: SUB REQ, Faylene Kennedy 9.30am: Barbara Chandler, Eugene Miu	
Readers	Vigil: Noreen Do Rosario, Benno Mohtha 8am: Anne McNally, Maricel Santos 9.30am: Kamela Huihui, Jeanine Nonato	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alexa Bagatella, Lucas Laus, Amelia Laus 8am: Riley, Erika, Jaylen Naing 9.30am Chloe Attard, Saofia Culili, Majerin Pieris	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Please bring a plate	
Flowers	Claudette and Karen	
Church cleaning	20 November	Helen Gonzales, Dennis Gonzales, Adrian Pinto, Johnson Rozario, Maricel Santos
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Urge 8am: Rita Paolini 9.30am: Lena Falzon	



HSC Live Stream

A short live stream will be broadcasted on the CYP Facebook page for students and their families to tune in to on 7 November 2021 at 8:00pm. It will include a blessing by Bishop Vincent. Here is the link: <https://www.facebook.com/catholicyouthparra>.

A Student's HSC Prayer

Lord, you have loved me into life and I thank you.
In this exam period, give me a calm heart
and quiet confidence in the knowledge
that you hold me in the palm of your hand.
Bless me with keen understanding and a retentive memory.
Give me the ability to grasp things correctly,
and express myself clearly.
Help me to look beyond this time of exams
and see clearly whatever you are calling me to be in life.
Show me my gifts and talents and help me to
have the courage to use them to love others,
to give you glory and to leave this world a better place.
Amen.

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2021

8	SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM for 2022 Info Night (Reconciliation & FHC)	6.30pm
9	CONFIRMATION PRACTICE	6.30pm
10	PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING	7.30pm
17	BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING	7.30pm
18	LOURDES OVER 50'S	10.30am
18	CONFIRMATION	7.00pm
22-26	FR HENRY'S RETREAT	
24	FHC PRACTICE	6.30pm

DIOCESAN NEWS

INVITATIONS ARE OPEN TO JOIN THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv is inviting parishioners across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains to apply for membership to the Diocesan Pastoral Council. If you feel called to serve in this way or know someone in your parish that would be a wonderful candidate, apply today by visiting parracatholic.org/diocesan-pastoral-council/. Applications close Monday 15 November.

SYNOD OF BISHOPS—HAVE YOUR SAY

Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops, which has the theme: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission”. Pope Francis has invited us to embark on this journey together, with the first step being to contribute our thoughts to the conversation. You can contribute to the conversation at bit.ly/listeningchurch and find out more at <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSE 2022 the enrolment form for the Liturgical Ministry Formation Course 2022 which will commence early next year. Please take one and return by Friday 4th February 2022

UPDATE: Social Justice COVID-19 Food and Toiletries Drive During lockdown, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and House of Welcome (HoW) cannot receive physical food and toiletry donations. However, many refugee families are still relying on their foodbanks or the provision of food vouchers. In this difficult time, please support JRS and HoW with a cash donation if you can. Find more information at parracatholic.org/diocesanfooddrive or call JRS on (02) 9356 3888 or HoW on (02) 9727 9290.

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. If you are interested or have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email our Safeguarding office on safe-guardingtraining@parracatholic.org or maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.

PATRICIAN BROTHERS' COLLEGE BLACKTOWN

Enrol now for Year 7 2022/2023. Enquiries on 88110300 100 Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown.

NAGLE COLLEGE, BLACKTOWN

Enrolments for year 7 2022, are now available. Please contact Nagle College on 8887 4501 for an enrolment package.

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>