



Our Lady of Lourdes  
Children's Corner  
12 December 2021

ADVENT

Third Sunday  
of Advent

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | E | Y | H | A | J | I | L | E | A |
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| P | R | O | P | H | E | T | I | H | A |

JOHN      WITNESS      LIGHT

LEVITES      ELIJAH      PROPHET

ISAIAH      PHARISEES      BAPTISE

WATER      BETHANY      JORDAN





**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](mailto: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](http://www.lol7hills.com.au)

**Pastoral Care of the Sick:** Bathista Emmanuel 0405833655

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**12 December • 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:** Alan Kidd, Floyd Fitzgerald, Danielle Blanch, Eric Byrnes, Felicup Carmen, Cruz Fernandez, Zenaida Garcia, Rose Figura, Felina Cabral Mayuyo, Shanil Jayatileke, Daniel Gullifer.

**Anniversaries:** Lionel Bosen, Mary Camenzuli, Ivan Elisher, MA Fernando, Theodore Garcia, Charlie Gauci, Stephen Gravina, Salvam Irudayaraj, Martha Joseph, Ngoc Khoung, Irene Moroney, Thelma Morrissey, Anton & Xavier Motha, Paul Mula, Aurora Nonato, Gil Opina, Lee Pisch, Jose Reyes, Laureano Reyes, Nunelon de los Santos, Jim and Alison Vella.

**Remembrance:** France Angseesing, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Linda Elumba, Bonosa Enfesta, Fernando & Hilda Medina, Medino-Ipor Family, Pauline Meilak, Morales-Martinez family, Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula, Muscat Family, Roseline Ratnam, Sem Serna, Liam Vinci, Sofia Vispo, Vispo-Bica Family.

**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.*




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




**CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

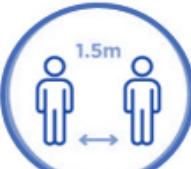
*It is a condition of entry that you:*



**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.**

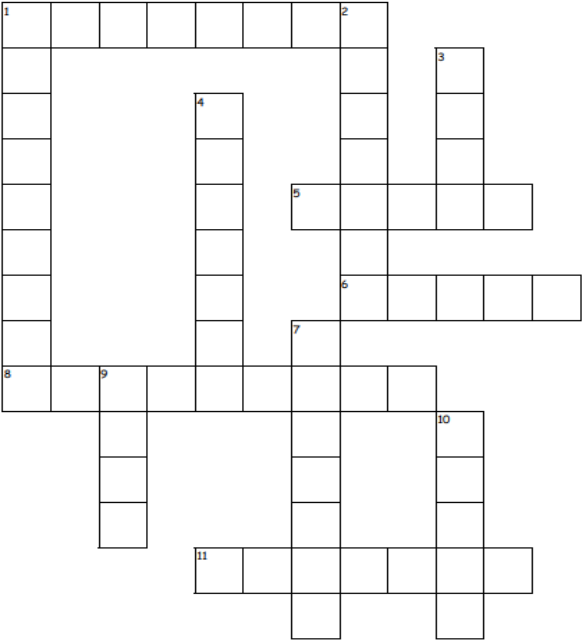
*PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS TO THE CHURCH SAFE.*

**COVID -19 UPDATE** The NSW Government has announced some changes to the reopening roadmap for the COVID-19 restrictions. Based on the announcement, the restrictions will ease further when NSW reaches 95% double vaccination or on 15 December 2021, whichever comes first. The following will apply to places of worship when the state hits the milestone:

- There will no longer be any social distancing
- Masks are not mandatory but strongly encouraged.
- Singing will be permitted for everyone in attendance.

**Check in using the NSW QR CODE of all attendees is still required**

What must we do?



- Across**
- 1: people who fight battles  
5: used in Baptism  
6: to let others use our things  
8: something that is not the same  
11: someone who educates us
- Down**
- 1: to be happy and content  
2: something worn on feet in warm weather  
3: the element that burns  
4: he will \_\_\_\_\_ you in the Holy Spirit  
7: the chosen one  
9: what we eat  
10: what we use to buy things



"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the straps of his sandals."  
Luke 3:16-18








FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah 3:14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has re-pealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on the day of festival. The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength,  
my song, he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. (R.)

Sing a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

Give thanks to the Lord,  
give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)

SECOND READING A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, ‘What must we do?’ he answered, ‘If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same. There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, ‘Master, what must we do?’ He said to them, ‘Exact no more than your rate.’ Some soldiers asked him in their turn, ‘What must we do?’ He said to them, ‘No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!’ A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, ‘I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.’ As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them. 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 AT ANGELUS: BE VIGILANT AND PRAY ALWAYS

By Vatican News staff writer

Reflecting on the Gospel reading for this First Sunday of Advent, which speaks to us about the Lord’s coming at the end of time, Pope Francis says we are invited to be hopeful as the Lord comes to save us and "we await Him with joy", even in the midst of life’s trials and tribulations. The Lord invites us to “stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand”.

Be vigilant at all times and pray

At the same time, the Pope recognized the challenge of remaining focused on our redemption when day-to-day challenges and suffering can overwhelm us. He recalled the words of Jesus that we must not fall asleep and "be vigilant at all times and pray". This vigilance is a key aspect of Christian life, he noted, and it requires that we remain alert and avoid distraction from what is really important in life. Vigilance means keeping our hearts on guard from becoming lazy or "sleepy Christians" lacking spiritual dynamism and intensity in prayer. We can fall into apathy, he warned, and become indifferent to all except what is comfortable for us.

"With all vigilance guard your heart"

Vigilance means not letting our daily life become just a routine, or becoming preoccupied only with worldly concerns, the Pope went on to say, encouraging us to reflect on what weighs on our own spirit causing us to fall into the "lazy chair", mediocrity and succumb to vices. He also suggested we look at the burdens that weigh on the shoulders of those around us and ask ourselves if we are aware of them and doing something about it. This all will help us avoid falling into apathy, something he described as a negative spirit that "traps the soul" and takes away its joy. As the Book of Proverbs says, “With all vigilance guard your heart, for in it are the sources of life”.

Come, Lord Jesus

"The secret to being vigilant is prayer," the Pope stressed, saying that prayer always keeps the lamp of our heart lit, bringing us back to God, reawakening the soul from slumber and focusing it "on what matters, on the purpose of existence". We must never neglect prayer, he underscored, and to avoid that we can consider prayer of the heart, repeating brief invocations. The Pope suggested that during Advent we make a habit of saying "Come, Lord Jesus" through the day. He invited everyone in St. Peter’s Square to repeat this invocation three times.

In conclusion, he prayed that the Blessed Mother, who "awaited the Lord with a vigilant heart", may accompany us in a special way throughout Advent.

POPE FRANCIS: WHEN THE SMALLNES OF THE CHURCH IS NOT INSIGNIFICANT

By Adrea Tornielli

On Saturday, Pope Francis spoke to the Church of Greece about the value of smallness, because being a small Church - as in the case of the Catholic flock of this country - makes it an eloquent sign of the Gospel. The God announced by Jesus chooses the little ones and the poor, He reveals Himself in the desert and not in the palaces of power. The Church, not only the Greek one, is being asked not to boast and pursue big numbers, but to abandon the worldly desire of wanting to be important and a relevant global player.

However, Pope Francis also explained that being small is not the same as being insignificant. Being a yeast that ferments silently hidden “within the dough of the world” is indeed the opposite of resigning to a quiet life moved by inertia. As a way forward, the Pope indicates the path of openness to the others, of service, accompaniment, listening, and of concrete witness of closeness to everyone: this is the opposite of a withdrawn Church that does not come out of her shell and is complacent with her own smallness.

Faced with secularization and the difficulties Christians are confronted with today in transmitting their faith, we might be tempted to close up, trying to create perfect communities that withdraw from the world to preserve their small, or very small, flock, waiting for the storm to pass, looking with nostalgia to a past that no longer exists.

On the other hand, another real risk today is that of hyperactivity: we might be tempted to invest all our energies in missionary strategies, thinking that proclamation, witness, and even conversion are not fruits of the Spirit we should give space to, but the result of our skills and protagonism. As a consequence – and, unfortunately, this happens more and more often in our digital age – the risk is that the evangelizer and his ruses rather than the Gospel and its Protagonist become the focus evangelization. Indeed, we need to leave space to the Protagonist: this is the real meaning of conversion as a *metanoia*, a change of mentality in light of the Gospel.

The smallness Pope Francis refers to is therefore a gift. It is being aware that without the Lord we can do nothing and that it is God who precedes us, converts, supports, changes. And this awareness is also precious for the Churches that are still numerically significant: the opportunity offered by the synodal path that has just begun can help the Christian communities to free themselves from the snares of bureaucracy, clericalism, institutionalism, to build, or rebuild, a fabric of human relationships, in which witness flourishes.

## AN ADVENT KINDNESS CALENDAR, Based on our names for Jesus

Select a card each day, read the name for Jesus and the Scripture. Read the 'Action' and live it out that day. These actions will help you, as you wait and prepare for Jesus to come into your hearts this Christmas.

*Jesus brings peace into our hearts. Share with a friend or family member, three other things that bring you peace.*



For a child has been born for us a son given to us, authority rests upon his shoulders and he is named Wonderful Counselor. Mighty God. Everlasting Father. Prince of Peace.  
Isaiah 9:6

*God loves everyone! Today, try to work, play or spend time with someone Whom you would not normally do so.*



For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing.  
Deuteronomy 10:17-18

*We are all part of God's Family. Make an effort to include people in your game, conversation or group today.*



I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit because apart from me you can do nothing.  
John 15:5

*Tonight when you get into bed, think of one thing you heard, one thing you saw and one thing you did today, that would have pleased God.*



And a voice came from heaven, You are my Son the Blessed, With you I am well pleased.  
Mark 1:11

*We are all God's children and God loves us so much. Today, offer a hug to the people you care about and remind them how much you love them.*



I say, 'You are God's children of the Most High all of you.'  
Psalm 82:5

*Go outside, and notice five things around you that God created. Notice how wonderfully made they are.*



On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed. "King of Kings" and Lord of lords.  
Revelation 19:16



### FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

When I was young, I often saw my mum used a bamboo sieve to get good quality rice for cooking during the quiet time after lunch. She began by filling the sieve with a small quantity of the rice kernels mixed with the chaff, and then twisted and turned it around skillfully, just enough to allow the kernels to jump up and down within the sieve and the unwanted chaff out of it.

Sometimes she teamed up with my grandmother to bring the separation process to a larger scale in having grandmother to use the mat as a fan. Mum steadily poured down from a basket and grandmother kept the papyrus mat between her legs, held its two ends with her hands and constantly moving them in and out to create the wind, strong enough to blow the chaff away from the kernels.

These scenes of course have completely disappeared in Vietnam these days thanks to new grinding technologies, but I can't help recall them as I read the Gospel this Sunday, particularly when John takes up the symbols of the winnowing-fan, the wheat, the chaff and the fire to send a serious message to his contemporaries that unless they listen to him and change their wicked way of life, they will end up like the chaff, blown away from the wheat by the master using the winnowing –fan. From a biblical perspective, winnowing was a symbol for divine judgement; the unwanted chaff blown away by the wind from the fan symbolized wicked people, and the kernels gathered into the barn by the farmer stood for those who remained faithful to God, those who would be prepared to listen to John's challenge to transform their lives to improve themselves.

Besides, it's worth noting John's reference to the Holy Spirit as the One he was going to baptize his candidates with. Scripture scholars sometimes call Luke's Gospel of the Holy Spirit, because he, more than the other three evangelists, regularly mentioned the name Holy Spirit throughout his Gospel. He has done it thirteen times, while Matthew mentioned it five times, Mark four times and only once in John's.

Let us pray today for the grace to open our hearts and minds to heed John's call to identify the chaff we have to get rid of our lives, and the willingness to turn into the wheat pleasing to God, worthy of a place in his barn in eternity.

Have a life-transforming week.

Fr Henry

## PARISH NEWS...

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION CONGRATUALIONS AND THANK YOU

Congratulations to all children in our parish making the Confirmation last Tuesday and those having First Holy Communion in the last two Sundays. May they continue to grow in faith with the firm support of the community and their families.

I would like to thank Artelle our Sacramental coordinator, our volunteers, our ministers, our choir members and musicians and our IT team for their generosity to provide such excellent prayerful occasions for all to experience.

**MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES:** if you are coming to our parish for one of our Christmas masses and would like to assist, please add your name to the sign up sheet at the back of the church.

**VINNIE'S GIFT TAG CHRISTMAS HAMPERS:** We would like to thank all our Parishioners for their generosity and giving for the Hampers. Please return all hampers this weekend so that delivery can be organised.



**ADVENT WREATH** It is usually constructed around a circular based 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, represent the four Sundays of Advent. The third candle known as the Shepherd's candle symbolises joy. To the shepherd's great joy, the angels announced that Jesus came for humble people like them, too. This joy is celebrated in the Readings of the Mass

### ADVENT CONFESSIONS

#### Parish Second Rite:

Tuesday 21 December at 7.30pm.

#### First Rite:

22, 23 December from 8.30am-9.30am,  
& 18 December from 4.30pm-5.30pm



### HELP STRUGGLING FAMILIES THIS CHRISTMAS

Donate now to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal, so more families get practical and emotional support they need to have hope for the future. Envelopes are available this week-end only or donations can be made on the Vinnies website <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/>

*Our Lady of Lourdes*  
Seven Hills

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Christmas Eve –</b><br>FRIDAY 24 <sup>th</sup> December   | <b>6pm, Family Mass</b><br><b>9pm Mass</b>                |
| <b>Christmas Day -</b><br>SATURDAY 25 <sup>th</sup> December | <b>12am Midnight Mass</b><br><b>8 am</b><br><b>9.30am</b> |

**Followed by the weekend Masses**  
**Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm**  
**Sunday Mass 8am & 9.30am**

**\* CHRISTMAS MASS - No Bookings required**





## ENCYCLICAL LETTER *FRATELLI TUTTI* OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON FRATERNITY & SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP CHAPTER TWO—A STRANGER ON THE ROAD

### The context

57. This parable has to do with an age-old problem. Shortly after its account of the creation of the world and of man, the Bible takes up the issue of human relationships. Cain kills his brother Abel and then hears God ask: “Where is your brother Abel?” (*Gen* 4:9). His answer is one that we ourselves all too often give: “Am I my brother’s keeper?” (*ibid.*). By the very question he asks, God leaves no room for an appeal to determinism or fatalism as a justification for our own indifference. Instead, he encourages us to create a different culture, in which we resolve our conflicts and care for one another.

58. The Book of Job sees our origin in the one Creator as the basis of certain common rights: “Did not he who made me in the womb also make him? And did not the same one fashion us in the womb?” (*Job* 31:15). Many centuries later, Saint Irenaeus would use the image of a melody to make the same point: “One who seeks the truth should not concentrate on the differences between one note and another, thinking as if each was created separately and apart from the others; instead, he should realize that one and the same person composed the entire melody”.<sup>[54]</sup>

59. In earlier Jewish traditions, the imperative to love and care for others appears to have been limited to relationships between members of the same nation. The ancient commandment to “love your neighbour as yourself” (*Lev* 19:18) was usually understood as referring to one’s fellow citizens, yet the boundaries gradually expanded, especially in the Judaism that developed outside of the land of Israel. We encounter the command not to do to others what you would not want them to do to you (cf. *Tob* 4:15). In the first century before Christ, Rabbi Hillel stated: “This is the entire Torah. Everything else is commentary”.<sup>[55]</sup> The desire to imitate God’s own way of acting gradually replaced the tendency to think only of those nearest us: “The compassion of man is for his neighbour, but the compassion of the Lord is for all living beings” (*Sir* 18:13).

60. In the New Testament, Hillel’s precept was expressed in positive terms: “In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets” (*Mt* 7:12). This command is universal in scope, embracing everyone on the basis of our shared humanity, since the heavenly Father “makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good” (*Mt* 5:45). Hence the summons to “be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (*Lk* 6:36).

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

| 11/12 December 2021                |   |   |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Acolytes                           | Vigil: Derrick Soares<br>8am: Faylene Kennedy<br>9.30am Eugene Miu  |   |
| Ministers                          | Vigil: Rosey Soares, <b>SUB REQ</b><br>8am: Michael Mifsud, Benno Motha<br>9.30am: Barbara Chandler, Paul Gow   |   |
| Readers                            | Vigil: Catherine Rodrigues, Alison Punch<br>8am: Nina Arambulo, Pepito Ferriols<br>9.30am Jeanine Nonato, <b>SUB REQ</b>  |   |
| Altar Servers                      | Vigil: Karuniya Maruthanayagam,<br>Alex Spadaro, <b>VOLUNTEER</b><br>8am: Riley Naing, Erika Naing, Jaylen Naing<br>9.30am Sofia Culili, Chloe Attard, Majerin Pieris |   |
| Morning tea<br>(after 9.30am Mass) | Please bring a plate  |   |
| Flowers                            | Karen and Claudette   |   |
| Church cleaning                    | 18 December   | Helen Gonzales, Dennis Gonzales, Adrian Pinto, Johnson Rozario, Maricel Santos. |
| Welcomers                          | Vigil: Ram Ugere<br>8am: Joyce Hillbrick<br>9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain   |   |

| 18/19 December 2021                |   |                                      |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Acolytes                           | Vigil: John Jordan<br>8am: Terry Jordan<br>9.30am Noel Emmanuel   |                                      |
| Ministers                          | Vigil: Anna Bellissimo, Abel Do Rosario<br>8am: Lorraine Fernandes, Louis Fernandes<br>9.30am: Mercy Aquino, Carole Brooks        |                                      |
| Readers                            | Vigil: Laura Bellissimo, Noreen Do Rosario<br>8am: Kathy Walker, Anne McNally<br>9.30am: Helen Katopau, <b>SUB REQ</b>            |                                      |
| Altar Servers                      | Vigil: Samuel Thoms, Noah Ebb<br>8am: Diana Park, Philip Park, Sean Park<br>9.30am Olina Katopau, Celestina Katopau<br>Leo Culili |                                      |
| Morning tea<br>(after 9.30am Mass) | Please bring a plate  |                                      |
| Flowers                            | Fennie and Angela   |                                      |
| Church cleaning                    | 22 December   | Sue Abela, Jessie Borg, Anne McNally |
| Welcomers                          | Vigil: Judith Deloso<br>8am: <b>VOLUNTEER</b><br>9.30am: Lena Falzon  |                                      |

## DIOCESAN NEWS

**DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE ADVENT RETREAT: 17 – 19 December** The Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, NSW is hosting an Advent Retreat from 6pm Friday 17 December to 4pm Sunday 19 December. All retreats are held with NSW COVID-Safe compliance. For more information and bookings, please contact 0468 486 782 or email [drcretre@divineretreatcentre.org.au](mailto:drcretre@divineretreatcentre.org.au) to confirm attendance. Visit [www.divineretreatcentre.org.au](http://www.divineretreatcentre.org.au) for more information.

### 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>

### BLUE MOUNTAINS EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE AND FIESTA 2022: 2 – 3 January 2022

Celebrate the Christmas season with a two-day pilgrimage and fiesta! Choose from a classic pilgrimage experience or family adventure pilgrimage on Sunday, 2 January then join the family-friendly festivities at St Finbar’s Parish, Glenbrook including Mass, a festive meal and children’s movie night. Stay overnight at St Finbar’s, then continue the celebrations on Monday 3 January with a morning pilgrimage and Mass in the bush. For more information and to register visit [www.epiphanypilgrimage.org](http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org).

**INTERCULTURAL CHRISTMAS ALBUM, to raise funds for House of Welcome** A new CD featuring classic Christmas songs in eight languages from the Asia Pacific – Samoan, Filipino, Fijian, Tamil, Tongan, Mandarin, Indonesian and Japanese is raising money for the House of Welcome in the Diocese of Parramatta. Find how to order at [linktr.ee/SoundsChristmasAsiaPacific](http://linktr.ee/SoundsChristmasAsiaPacific)

### 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)

| OLOL PARISH CALENDAR |  |        |
|----------------------|--|--------|
| DECEMBER 2021        |  |        |
| 11                   | YOUNG ADULTS GROUP   | 7.00pm |
| 12                   | ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS DUE BACK                            |        |
| 15                   | END OF SCHOOL TERM   |        |
| 16                   | CHRIST COMMUNITY PARYER GROUP<br>Last meeting for 2021-resume Jan 6 2022 | 9.00am |
| 16                   | LEGION OF MARY   | 1.30pm |
| 21                   | 2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION   | 7.30PM |

### AN ADVENT KINDNESS CALENDAR, Based on our names for Jesus



Select a card each day, read the name for Jesus and the Scripture. Read the ‘Action’ and live it out that day. These actions will help you, as you wait and prepare for Jesus to come into your hearts this Christmas.



### ADVENT PRAYER

Dear Jesus, As a family,  
we gather together in hope for your coming.  
As we prepare our hearts this Advent Season, bring us closer to each other and to YOU. Help us to journey through each day, focusing on YOU and all the wonderful things YOU taught us. Remind us that through daily prayer, acts of kindness and love, we are preparing a way for YOU to enter our hearts and stay there forever. Come, Lord Jesus, fill us with your love and bring light and peace to our world.  
AMEN.