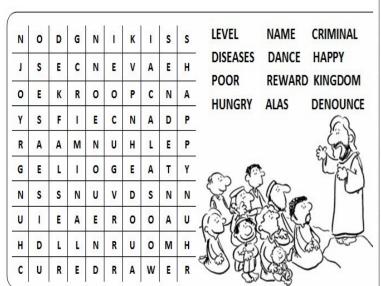
Our Lady of Lourdes Children's Corner

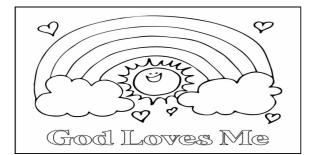
13 February 2022





On February 11, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the title given to Mary when she appeared to Bernadette Soubirous in 1858 in Lourdes, France.



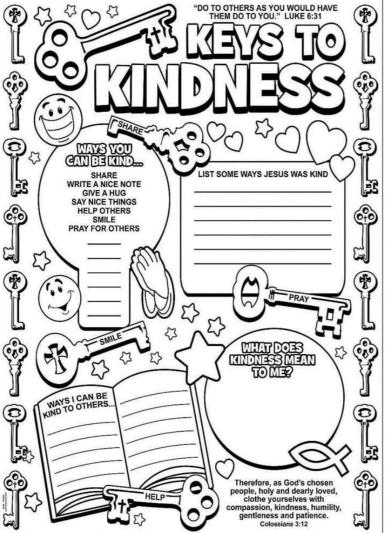


## The Sermon on the Plain

"Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their fathers treated the prophets. Luke 6:23 (NIV)

Choose the word that best matches the definition.

- 1. A feeling of great happiness
  - A. joy B. hungry C. heaven D. laugh
- Something given or received in return for good behavior A. reward B. poor C. laugh D. heaven
- Having very little money or few possessions A. joy B. hungry C. weep D. poor
- To have a desire or need for food A. rich B. reward C. joy D. hungry
- Having a great amount of money A. laugh B. weep C. rich D. poor
- The sound which expresses happiness or delight A. heaven B. poor C. rich D. laugh
- A. weep B. rich C. joy D. heaven
- The home of God, the angels, and those who have been saved A. poor B. reward C. heaven D. weep





7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. NSW. 2147

Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran **Parish Priest:** 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

Ph. 9622 2920 Email: secretary@olol7hills.com.au

OLOL 8869 6800 Parish School: Ms Keiran Byrnes Principal:

Saturday 4:30-5:30pm Reconciliation: **Baptismal Preparation:** 16th February 2022 Baptism: 27th February 2022

Parish Website: www.olol7hills.com.au

0405833655

Bathista Emmanuel



### SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 13 February • Year C • 2022



### THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES **DIAMOND JUBILEE • 60th ANNIVERSARY**

#### Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, George Alagiah, David Barrow, David Benjamin, Rosella Booth, Barrie Chamberlain, Myrna G Cruz, Elizabeth Ehsman, Anush Fernando, Melvyn Fernandes, Jose Garcia, Anthony Janicska, Wendy & Klaus, Anslen Lawrence, Spencer Leon, Cynthia Lopez, Carmenu M, Gerard Marcello, Marie Marchand, Ananda Nayana, Wiranjan Peiris,

Salome Pillay, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Sandra Roseworn, Susantha Seranayake, Bernie Sivapatham, Joan Spillane, Pummalin Sumcad, Sue Tipaldo, Natalie Woodward, Jane Zammit.

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: Fr Joseph Thanh Ngoc Tran OP, Paula Farrugia, Jose Fatlaunag, Sammy Formosa, Emily Galea, Fred MaCarton, Amor Sadsad, Michelle Scully, Thelma Valdez Spetter, Rev Fr Dindo Rei Tesoro, Josephine Walton, Mimi Wong,

Anniversaries: Fredy Alphonse, Michael Bartolo, Sam Borg, Herman Chelliah, Cini Family, Dennis Clarke, Philomena Corera, Barbara Dodd, Rita de Silva, Rose Fernandes, Fernandes Family, Mangion Family, Zaren Formosa, Joseph and Carmena Formosa, Sheela Franklin, E. Franklin, Harold, Rosine & Marc Lafleur, Cecilia Davrit Mendoza, Felix & Andranna Muscat, Joshep Nguyen, Myra Raymond, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondi, Sam Serna, Juana Yu Sing, Helen & John Tanti, Maria Trinh, John William.

Remembrance: France Angseesing, Carmen Attard, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Silvia and Sam Debbathista, Charlie Galea, Salvam Irudayarai, Pauline Meilak, Mary Mifsud, Anton & Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula, Muscat Family, John & Roseline Ratnam.



#### Our Lady of Lourdes

Ever Immaculate Virgin, Mother of mercy, health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comfort of the afflicted, you know my needs, my troubles, my sufferings; cast on me a look of pity.

By appearing in the grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary, from which you dispense your favours. and already many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infir-

mities, both spiritual and physical. I come, therefore, with the most unbounded confidence to im-

> plore your maternal intercession. Obtain most loving mother, my requests, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

#### 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.

**ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS** 

Pastoral Care of the Sick:

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



#### **CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

It is a condition of entry that you;



Check in/ out using the QR CODE



Wear a face mask

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.

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, 9:30AMhttps://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/

#### FIRST READING A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 17:5-8

The Lord says this: 'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, hose heart turns from the Lord. He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited. 'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

'The word of the Lord

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord..

Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night. (R.)

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper.(R.)

Not so are the wicked, not so! for they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom.(R.)

#### SECOND READING A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The word of the Lord.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad; Your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia!

#### **GOSPEL**

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 6:17, 20-26

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

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.

You above all things, and I desire to receive You into re-

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

2

**Divisions in the world-** Asked about this point by the presenter, Pope Francis urged his listeners to reflect on what seems to be a tremendous division in the world – a division that sees one part of the world developed, where people have "the possibility of school, university, work"; and another part where "children dying, migrants drowning, injustices that we see also in our own countries." There is a very "ugly" temptation, to look the other way, to avoid looking at the needs of others.

The Pope acknowledged that media outlets show what is happening in the world – but complained that "we take distance," we draw back from the realities that we see.

"We complain a little, [saying] 'It's a tragedy!' but then it's as if nothing had happened," he said. "It is not enough to see, it is necessary to feel, it is necessary to touch," Pope Francis insisted. "We miss 'touching' the miseries; touching leads us to heroism. I think of the doctors and nurses who gave their lives in this pandemic: they touched the evil and chose to remain with the sick."

**Care for creation-** The same principle applies to the Earth, he said. Once again, Pope Francis reiterated his call to care for creation, saying, "It's a lesson we have to learn." The Pope pointed to the Amazon and the problems of deforestation, lack of oxygen, climate change, noting there is a risk of "the death of biodiversity," a risk of "killing Mother Earth."

Turning his gaze closer to Italy, he pointed to the example of the fishermen of San Benedetto del Tronto, who discovered some three million tonnes of plastic in one year and took action to remove all waste from the sea. "We have to get it into our heads: we must take care of Mother Earth," the Pope said.

An attitude of care-Pope Francis called for an attitude of "care," which, he said, also seems to be lacking from a social point of view. What we are experiencing today is in fact a problem of "social aggression," as seen with the phenomenon of bullying.

With the focus still on young people — who, despite being hyper-connected, sometimes suffer "an incredible sense of loneliness" — Pope Francis spoke directly to parents of teenagers, who sometimes struggle to understand "the suffering of others."

For the Bishop of Rome, the relationship between parents and children can be summed up in one word: "closeness."

"When young couples come to confession or when I talk to them, I always ask a question: 'Do you play with your children?' That generosity of dad and mum with the child. Sometimes I hear distressing answers: 'But Father, when I leave home to work they are sleeping and when I come back at night they are sleeping again.' It is a cruel society that detaches itself from its children."

He insisted on the importance of "generosity with one's children: playing with the children and not being frightened of the children, of the things they say, of their speculations; or even staying close to an older child, an adolescent when they slip up, speaking to them as a father, as a mother."

**Closeness-** On the subject of 'closeness,' Mr Fazio, the interviewer, brought up a well-known saying of Pope Francis: "The only reason a person should look down on another person is to help him up."

"It's true," the Pope said. "In society, we see how often people look down on others to dominate them, to subdue them, instead of helping them get up." He continued, "Just think — it's a sad tale, but an everyday story — of those employees who have to pay the price of job stability in their own bodies, because their bosses look down on them, domineering." But on the other hand, the act of looking at another from above is only permissible in order to do a "noble" act, namely to hold out one's hand and say, "Stand up brother, stand up sister."

Freedom The conversation expanded to touch on larger topics, including the concept of freedom, which, the Pope said, is a gift from God by

**Freedom-**The conversation expanded to touch on larger topics, including the concept of freedom, which, the Pope said, is a gift from God, but which "is also capable of doing much evil." He said, "Since God made us free, we are masters of our decisions, and are also [capable] of making wrong decisions."

The Pope also dwelt on the concept of evil. "Is there anyone who does not deserve God's forgiveness and mercy or the forgiveness of men?" the presenter asked.

Pope Francis warned that his answer might "shock some people". "The ability to be forgiven is a human right."

"We all have the right to be forgiven if we ask for forgiveness. It is a right that comes from the very nature of God and has been given as an inheritance to men. We have forgotten that someone who asks for forgiveness has the right to be forgiven. [Some might say] 'You've done something [wrong], you have to pay for it.' No! You have the right to be forgiven, and if you owe a debt to society, you can find a way to pay it, but with forgiveness."

**Evil**-But there is another kind of evil, he said, the evil that sometimes strikes the innocent, and that seems inexplicable, causing people to wonder why God does not intervene.

"So many evils," explained the Bishop of Rome, "come about precisely because man has lost the ability to follow the rules, has changed nature, has changed so many things, but also because of his own human frailties. And God allows this to go on," he said. But some questions remain unanswered: "Why do children suffer?"

Pope Francis admitted, "I can find no explanation for this. I have faith, I try to love God who is my Father, but I ask myself, 'But why do children suffer?' And there is no answer. He is powerful, yes, omnipotent in love. On the contrary, hatred and destruction are in the hands of another who through envy has sown evil in the world."

Future of the Church

The future, of the world and of the Church, took up a good part of the interview. The future of the world, as foreshadowed in *Fratelli tutti*, with humanity at the centre of economies and choices. This is a priority that the Pope says he shares with many heads of state who have good ideals. These, however, clash with "political and social conditioning, even in world politics, which put an end to good intentions". These are "shadows" that put pressure on society, on the people, on those who have roles of responsibility. "And then," the Pope said, "you have a lot of negotiating to do."

On the future of the Church, Pope Francis recalled the image of the Church outlined by St Paul VI in the apostolic exhortation *Evangelii nunti-* andi, the inspiration for his own *Evangelii gaudium*: "A Church on pilgrimage."

Today "the greatest evil facing the Church, the greatest," Pope Francis said emphatically, "is spiritual worldliness" which, in turn, "gives rise to a bad thing: clericalism, which is a perversion of the Church." He pointed specifically to the clericalism found in "rigidity," insisting that "underneath every kind of rigidity there is rottenness, always." Among the "ugly things" in the Church today, the Pope noted "rigid, ideologically rigid positions" that take the place of the Gospel.

"Concerning pastoral attitudes," he said, "I will mention only two, which are old: Pelagianism and Gnosticism." Pelagianism, he explained, "is believing that I can go forward through my own power." On the contrary, he said, "the Church goes forward with the strength of God, the mercy of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit." He described Gnosticism, as a kind of mysticism, "without God," an "empty spirituality." Instead, he asserted, "without the flesh of Christ there is no possible understanding; without the flesh of Christ there is no possible redemption." Pope Francis said, "We must once again return to the centre 'The Word was made flesh." The future of the Church, he said, lies "in this scandal of the Cross, of the Word made flesh." (TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

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# POPE FRANCIS AT ANGELUS: WITH GOD IN OUR LIVES THERE WILL ARE ALWAYS NEW POSSIBILITIES By Linda Bordoni

Taking his cue from the Gospel of today's Liturgy, Pope Francis narrated the parable that tells of how Jesus invites some disappointed fishermen, including Simon Peter, to go back out to sea and cast their nets again (*Lk* 5:1-4).

Speaking during the Sunday Angelus in St. Peter's Square, he said that "Jesus climbs into Simon's boat and invites him to put out into the open water."

"Jesus gets into Simon's boat. To do what? To teach. He asks for that very boat, which is not full of fish but rather has returned to the shore empty, after a night of toil and disillusionment."

"It is a beautiful image," the Pope said, explaining that "every day the boat of our life leaves the shores of our home to sail out into the sea of daily activities; every day we try to 'fish from the sea', to cultivate dreams, to pursue projects, to experience love in our relationships."

But often, he continued, like Peter, we experience the disappointment of trying so hard and not seeing the desired results: "We are left with a sense of defeat, while disappointment and bitterness arise in our hearts."

#### The empty boat: a symbol of our incapacity

That empty boat, he explained, is the symbol of our incapacity, the pulpit from which Jesus proclaims the Word.

It's what the Lord loves to do, Pope Francis noted: "to climb into the boat of our lives when we have nothing to offer him; to enter our voids and fill them with his presence; to make use of our poverty to proclaim his wealth, our miseries to proclaim his mercy."

He reiterated the fact that God "does not want a cruise ship: a poor "ramshackle" boat is enough for him, as long as we welcome him," and he invited the faithful to ask themselves whether they "let Him into the boat of their lives?" Whether they "make available to Him the little they have?"

Feeling unworthy because we are sinners is an excuse, he said, that the Lord does not like because it distances Him from us.

"He is the God of closeness: He does not seek perfectionism, but welcome. He says to you too: "Let me get into the boat of your life, just as it is"."

In this way, the Pope continued, the Lord reconstructs Peter's trust. He climbs into his boat and tells him to put out from the land. And even though it was not a good time of the day for fishing. Peter trusts in Jesus.

#### Never yield to disappointment

"He does not base his trust on the strategies of fishermen, which he knows well, but on the newness of Jesus. It is the same for us too: if we welcome the Lord into our boat, we can put out to sea," he said.

"With Jesus, we navi-

gate the sea of life without fear."

The Pope urged believers to not yield to disappointment "when we catch nothing", to not give up. Always, he said, "in personal life as well as in the life of the Church and society, there is something beautiful and courageous that can be done."

He concluded saying: "We can always start again – the Lord always invites us to get back on our feet because He opens up new possibilities. So let us accept the invitation: let us chase away pessimism and mistrust, and put out to sea with Jesus!"

#### POPE FRANCIS: FORGIVENESS IS A HUMAN RIGHT By Savatore Cernuzio

"War is a contradiction," said Pope Francis during his conversation on Sunday night with Italian television presenter Fabio Fazio on the programme Che tempo che fa.

Speaking from his residence at the Casa Santa Marta, Pope Francis answered questions about a wide variety of issues: wars, migrants, safe-guarding creation, the relationship between parents and children, evil and suffering, prayer, the future of the Church, and the need for friends. He also affirmed that forgiveness is "a human right," adding, "the ability to be forgiven is a human right. We all have the right to be forgiven if we ask for forgiveness."

Migration-The focus was primarily on migration, a theme dear to the Pope — a theme that, tragically, is still topical after the recent news of the twelve migrants found dead of frostbite on the border between Greece and Turkey. For the Pope, "this is a sign of the culture of indifference." And it is also "a problem of categorisation": wars, in first place: people, in second place.

Yemen is an example, he said: "How long has Yemen been suffering from war and how long have we been talking about the children of Yemen? A clear example, and there has been no solution to the problem for years. I don't want to exaggerate, more than seven for sure, if not ten. There are categories that matter, and others are at the bottom: children, migrants, the poor, those who have no food. These don't count, at least they don't count in the first place, because there are people who love these people, who try to help them, but in the universal imagination what counts is war, the sale of weapons. Just think that with a year without making weapons, you could give food and education to the whole world, free of charge. But this is in the background," said Pope Francis.

He then turned his thoughts to Alan Kurdi, the little Syrian boy found dead on a beach, and to the many other children like him "whom we do not know" and who "die of cold" every day. War remains, however, the primary category: "We see how economies are mobilised and what is most important today, war: ideological war, war of powers, commercial war and so many arms factories," the Pope said.

**War-**And speaking of war, the Pope — when asked about the ongoing tensions between Ukraine and Russia — recalls the roots of this horrible reality, which he called "a contradiction of creation", which go back to Genesis, with the 'war' between Cain and Abel, and that of the Tower of Babel.

"Wars between brothers" appeared shortly after God's creation of man and woman, he said.

"There is something like an 'anti-sense' of creation; that is why war is always destruction. For example, to work the land, to look after children, to raise a family, to make society grow: this is building. To wage war is to destroy. It is a mechanics of destruction."

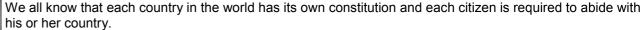
Criminal treatment of migrants —Pope Francis places the "criminal" treatment reserved for thousands of migrants within the same dynamic. In order to reach the sea "they suffer so much," said the Pope. Once again, he denounced the "concentration camps" in Libya, lamenting "how much those who wish to flee suffer in the hands of traffickers." There are films that show this, he said, including many that can be found in the Migrants and Refugees Section of the Dicastery for Human Development.

"They suffer and then they risk crossing the Mediterranean. Then, sometimes, they are rejected by someone who, out of a sense of local responsibility says 'No, they can't come here'; there are these ships that go around looking for a port, that have to return [to where they came from] or they die at sea. This is happening today," the Pope reiterated.

As he has done on other occasions, he repeated the principle that "each country must determine how many migrants it can accept." This, the Pope said, "is a problem of internal politics that must be considered thoroughly," with the different countries coming up with different numbers. "And the others?" he asked? "There is the European Union, we have to agree, so we can achieve a balance, in communion." Instead, only "injustice" seems to emerge: "They come to Spain and Italy, the two closest countries, and they are not received elsewhere," he said. Pope Francis repeated four key words that he has consistently emphasized: "The migrant must always be welcomed, accompanied, promoted and integrated. Welcomed because there are difficulties, then [there is a need of] accompanying, promoting, and integrating them into society." Above all, he insisted, it is necessary to integrate them into the receiving countries to avoid ghettoization and extremism born of ideologies.

#### FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,



My impression with our Australian Constitution lies on the fact that it clearly gives God a place in the introduction of our most important document.

Much different to ours, the one of the US makes it very clear of what the people of the United States means to do for their citizens, that is to 'establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense,

promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty.' It sounds very inspiring, though the question of its real achievements has still remained debatable.

As citizens of the Kingdom of God, we do have a constitution also known as the Beatitudes to guide and inspire us, and the Gospel of Luke today presents to us such an important document for us to know and put into practice, though it is much shorter and condensed compared to Matthew's version (cf. Mt 5.1-12).

It's worth to keep in mind that the word 'HAPPY' comes from the Latin 'Beati' and the Greek 'makarioi' which also means blessed or rich. So, it is right for us to read Jesus' instruction in the Gospel account today either as 'how happy are you', or 'how blessed are you', or 'how rich are you'. However, don't forget that Jesus means to talk about a spiritual richness, happiness and blessedness instead of a richness in wealth.

Four groups of people, as we see, are particularly honored by Jesus in these Beatitudes including those who are poor, those who are hungry, those who weep, and those who are given a hard time due to their Christian faith.

Traditionally, these types of people were often looked down and belittled by those who happened to be fortunate due to the misconception that they were cursed and punished by the Divine for their sins.

Jesus obviously aims to challenge such a negative outlook, and encourage his followers to change their attitude toward human sufferings and hardships. Perhaps this is why he adds on the Alas part to send out warnings to four groups of people often enjoy high regard from the community for their material success, such as those who are rich, those who are filled, those who laugh, and those whom the world speaks well of.

In sum, Jesus through his Constitution presented to us by Luke today invites us to be compassionate to the downtrodden around us, and also to appreciate the testing times we might have to face as opportunities for us to gain credits before God and get ourselves a place in the heavenly Kingdom.

Let us pray for grace to keep us stay happy and focused on the path of Jesus' Constitution, and finally reach the place he came to lead us to. May Our Lady of Lourdes, our Patroness in the last 60 years continue to support us with your healing grace and keep our company throughout this earthly journey of ours.

3

Have a happy feast Day and Diamond Jubilee.

Fr Henry

### PARISH NEWS...

# PARISH FEAST DAY – FIRST CELEBRATION OF OUR PARISH DIAMOND JUBILEE

Please join us in the Thanksgiving Mass this Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30am for the first celebration of our Parish 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Though we can't afford to get any diamonds for the parish, we manage to add some silverware to our liturgical collection such as the new ciborium, the cruets, and the altar candles.

An outdoor BBQ in the grass area between the church and parish office will be available to all and everyone is invited to join in after Mass, and a musician will provide live entertainment for our community, as well.

On behalf of the parish I would like to thank all our parish staff, ministers and volunteers who helped decorate the church, serve Mass, do the shopping, mow the lawn, arrange the live entertainment, set up tables and chairs, cook and serve food, bring along a plate, and clean up the place. May Our Lady of Lourdes continue to fill you with her Motherly grace.

#### CHURCH FLOWERS—VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Anyone interested joining the Flower Team? We need someone to join our team to do flowers every 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of the month.

Start in March You will be partnered with someone else. Please call Parish Office 9622

### NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY- 26/27th February

You will be invited to reflect on your experiences of church life. This is a voluntary and anonymous survey that takes about 20 minutes to complete.

Further details will be provided next week.

#### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING REPORT

For our first Parish Pastoral Council meeting of the year last Wednesday night, after the groups' report we spent a good deal of time to discuss arrangements for our Parish Feast day this year.

The meeting started with the Opening prayer followed by a spiritual reading entitled 'Service' by Phyllis Zagano, taken from the book called 'A Pope Francis Lexicon.' In this article, Zagano helps readers re-visit Pope Francis' thoughts on the topic of service, a Christian virtue known by its Greek word as 'diakonia'.

Pope Francis has reminded all of us that we Catholics are called and inspired by the Holy Spirit to serve with humility and genuine love or charity. Through service we bring Christ to others around us. A life of prayer has to go hand in hand with service, since service is the fruit of a good prayer life, and without service people's prayer might become a shield for self-centredness entertaining no one but our own egos. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to inspire and empower us all with his grace to make service part of our prayer lives and by this prayer + service may we bring Jesus to all people around us.

**OLOL MORNING TEA VOLUNTEERS:** If you can assist and make the workload for all our volunteers a little easier and are able to join our roster for 2022 please contact Alison in the Parish Office. We need Morning Tea Volunteers once a month after the 9.30am Mass, everything is supplied. If you are interested and please contact the Parish Office on 9622 2920.



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

The characters of the story—continued

76. Let us turn at last to the injured man. There are times when we feel like him, badly hurt and left on side of the road. We can also feel helpless because our institutions are neglected and lack resources, or simply serve the interests of a few, without and within. Indeed, "globalized society often has an elegant way of shifting its gaze. Under the guise of being politically correct or ideologically fashionable, we look at those who suffer without touching them. We televise live pictures of them, even speaking about them with euphemisms and with apparent tolerance"

#### Starting anew

77. Each day offers us a new opportunity, a new possibility. We should not expect everything from those who govern us, for that would be childish. We have the space we need for co-responsibility in creating and putting into place new processes and changes. Let us take an active part in renewing and supporting our troubled societies. Today we have a great opportunity to express our innate sense of fraternity, to be Good Samaritans who bear the pain of other people's troubles rather than fomenting greater hatred and resentment. Like the chance traveller in the parable, we need only have a pure and simple desire to be a people, a community, constant and tireless in the effort to include, integrate and lift up the fallen. We may often find ourselves succumbing to the mentality of the violent, the blindly ambitious, those who spread mistrust and lies. Others may continue to view politics or the economy as an arena for their own power plays. For our part, let us foster what is good and place ourselves at its service.

78. We can start from below and, case by case, act at the most concrete and local levels, and then expand to the farthest reaches of our countries and our world, with the same care and concern that the Samaritan showed for each of the wounded man's injuries. Let us seek out others and embrace the world as it is, without fear of pain or a sense of inadeguacy, because there we will discover all the goodness that God has planted in human hearts. Difficulties that seem overwhelming are opportunities for growth, not excuses for a glum resignation that can lead only to acquiescence. Yet let us not do this alone, as individuals. The Samaritan discovered an innkeeper who would care for the man; we too are called to unite as a family that is stronger than the sum of small individual members. For "the whole is greater than the part, but it is also greater than the sum of its parts". Let us renounce the pettiness and resentment of useless in-fighting and constant confrontation. Let us stop feeling sorry for ourselves and acknowledge our crimes, our apathy, our lies. Reparation and reconciliation will give us new life and set us all free from fear.

79. The Samaritan who stopped along the way departed without expecting any recognition or gratitude. His effort to assist another person gave him great satisfaction in life and before his God, and thus became a duty. All of us have a responsibility for the wounded, those of our own people and all the peoples of the earth. Let us care for the needs of every man and woman, young and old, with the same fraternal spirit of care and closeness that marked the Good Samaritan.

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

12/13 February 2022			
Acolytes	Vigil: Abel D 8am: Terry of 9.30am Kilifi H		
Ministers	Vigil: Michael Mifsud, Marinela Simic 8am: Maricel Santos, <b>SUB REQ</b> 9.30am: Paul Gow, <b>SUB REQ</b>		
Readers	Vigil: Noreen Do Rosario, <b>Sub Req</b> 8am: Erika Hien, Nina Arambulo 9.30am Kamela Huihui, Christina Diaz		
Altar Servers	Vigil: Amelia Laus, Lucas Laus 8am: <b>SUB REQ</b> 9.30am Gabrielle Wanandy, Florencia Wanandy, Sofia Culili		
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	OLOL FEAST DAY BBQ		
Flowers	Claudette & Rosemary		
Church cleaning	19 February	Helen Gonzales, Dennis Gonzales, Novelo Paylaga, Adrian Pinto, Maricel Santos	
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Urge 8am: Rita Paolini 9.30am: Volunteer		

19/20 February 2022			
Acolytes	Vigil: James Dining 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am Eugene Miu		
Ministers	Vigil: Anna Bellissimo, Louise La Guidara 8am: Lorraine Fernandes, Chrisha Gonzales 9.30am: Carole Walker, Sarah Lenthall		
Readers	Vigil: Crystal Menezes, Benno Motha 8am: Jo Cabasa, Pepito Ferriols 9.30am Noel Emmanual, Helen Katopau		
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alex La Guidara, Christina La Guidara, Samuel Thoms 8am: Sean Park, Philip Park, Diana Park 9.30am Oliana Katopau, Celestina Katopau, Majerin Pieris		
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults		
Flowers	Fennie & Angela		
Church cleaning	23 February Sue Abela, Jessie Borg, Anne McNally		
Welcomers	Vigil: <b>Not Filled</b> 8am: Joyce Hillbrick 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain		

#### **DIOCESAN NEWS**

**GLENBROOK PARISH LITURGICAL FORMATION DAY:** 19 FEBRAURY St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a liturgy formation day on 'The Mass – we go there but we don't get it' on Saturday 19 February, beginning with Morning Mass at 9.15am and finishing at 1pm with lunch. Fr Peter Williams AM, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia will present a talk, followed by a Q&A session. Cost is a donation for catering purposes. Please RSVP by 15 February to secre-

HOLY SPIRIT MISSION The Holy Spirit Mission has been shortened to one day and will be held in the Parish Hall on Saturday, 19 February 2022, from 9:15am to 4pm. This Mission will begin with the Rosary followed by morning tea and a talk by Gerry Galam, our new Chairman. After lunch some praise and worship ending with a powerful healing ministry. Please bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be available at morning tea and lunch. Parishioners are most welcome to come along and can be assured of a very personal and spiritually relaxing day. See you there!

#### CARITAS PROJECT COMPASSION 2022 STARTS IN 2 WEEKS Caritas Australia's Lenten Project Compas-

sion campaign will start on Project Compassion Sunday (27 February) and lead us all the way towards Easter. This year's theme For All Future Generations comes from the biblical story of the great flood (Genesis 9:12-15). It reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Find out more at caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or contact our Diocesan Director of Caritas on Sebastian.Salaske-Lentern@parracatholic.org or 0409 399 505.

#### RCIA Lenten Seminar 2022: 16 and 23 February 2022

The Office For Worship will be conducting an RCIA Lenten Seminar early this year on Wednesday nights of 16 and 23 February for RCIA coordinators and teams. This seminar will focus on the understanding of Lent, and will take a closer look at the Scrutiny Readings. To register or for more information, please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or anne.stanton@parracatholic.org

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR				
FEBRUARY				
13	OLOL FEAST DAY - 60th Anniversary	9.30am		
16	Sacrament of Reconciliation-2nd Meeting	6.30pm		
16	Baptismal Preparation Meeting	7.30pm		
17	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.00am		
17	Legion of Mary	1.30pm		
19	Sacrament of Reconciliation—2nd Meeting <b>RPT</b>	4.30pm		
23	Sacrament of Reconciliation-3rd Meeting	6.30pm		

#### DONATE TO CARITAS ASUTRALIA EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR TONGA

Tonga is reeling after a violent underwater volcano eruption triggered tsunamis, destroyed telecommunications and blanketed the country in ash and rock. Roads, bridges and homes are damaged. Water supplies have been contaminated by volcanic ash and saltwater. Tonga needs your prayer and support urgently. Give now to help with emergency response. Visit www.caritas.org.au/donate/ emergency-appeals/pacific or call 1800 024 413 toll free to make your donation.

#### **SYNOD 2023: OUR DECISION MAKING**

Our aim is to make decisions by discerning what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community. How well do we do we do this and which Catholic discernment & decision-making methods include everyone? How can we do better?

Have a prayerful conversation with your family, friends or colleagues, and tell Bishop Vincent and Pope Francis what you find!

Online submissions close 26 February. Find out more at bit.ly/synod2023 Call Wendy 0427 863 149 or email MET@parracatholic.org if you need assistance

#### **Positions Vacant:**

- Project Officer Parramatta Young Christian Workers
- Graduate Accountant Diocesan Development Fund. Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

#### A LAUDATO SI RETREAT FOR ADULTS

Quantum Spirit in Creation - Pope Francis invites believers to reflect on the truth, that their responsibility within creation and their duty towards Nature and the are an essential part of their faith.

The Holy Spirit is the source of all unity, so, Quantum Spirit in Creation starts at the beginning of the New Creation Story to weave a web of connectedness and relationships between God's Creator Spirit and all living beings in an Integral Ecology.

To be held at Wooglemai

Guntawang Environmental Bushland Retreat 45 Sheeheys Creek Rd, Oakdale NSW 2570

at a cost of \$95.00

7.00pm Friday 1st April, To 2.00pm Sunday 3rd April, 2022.

For a brochure or enquiries email to antiphon1@outlook.com

Or phone: 0429 595 231

Br Frank Richardson and Mr Adrian Walker



