

Kindness is your super power!

Use it to make
someone happy!

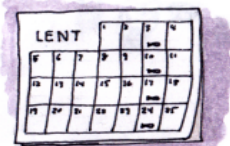


Jesus told his disciples that each
tree is known by the fruit it bears.
Fill the fruit with examples of some
good things we can do that show to
others that we are good people.

John Gaudes Project 2018

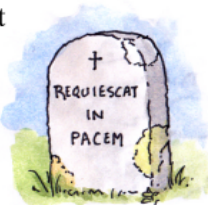
Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday is the first
day of Lent, Ash Wednesday.
Lent is a special time when
we prepare ourselves for Good
Friday and Easter Sunday.



If you go to Mass on Ash
Wednesday, the priest will make a
little cross on your forehead with
ashes. The ashes remind us that
people were made from the dust of the ground
and that some day we will die and go back into
the ground.

It is good for us to remember that
we will die one day. It helps us
realize that God put us here and
that we need Him all the time. If
we remember how much we need
God then we will think of Him
more and love Him more.



What is something you can do this Lent to
remind yourself every day that you need God?

Answers to Front Page: No good tree bears bad fruit, not does a bad tree bear good fruit.
Answers to Psalm 127 Unscramble: thanks, name, love, night, palm, grow, house, God, fruit, green, rock

The Kids' Bulletin

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 27th, 2022



In today's Gospel reading Jesus
told a parable about trees.
What did He say?
Use the code to find out!



A B D E F G I N O R S T U



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS
"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. NSW. 2147

Ph. 9622 2920

Email: secretary@olol7hills.com.au

Parish Priest:

Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran

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:

LOL 8869 6800

Principal:

Ms Keiran Byrnes

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4:30-5:30pm

Baptismal Preparation:

16th February 2022

Baptism:

27th February 2022

Parish Website:

www.olol7hills.com.au

Pastoral Care of the Sick:

Bathista Emmanuel
0405833655

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

27February • Year C • 2022



Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, George Alagiah, David Benjamin, Rosella Booth,
Barrie Chamberlain, Elizabeth Ehsman, Anush Fernando, Melvyn
Fernandes, Joseph Franco, Jose Garcia, Anthony Janicska, 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 Spil-
lane, Pummalin Sumcad, Sue Tiplado, 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: Randy Farparan, Garie Monteclaro, John Thomas Solis,
Paula Farrugia, Jose Fatlaunag, Sammy Formosa, Emily Galea, Amor Sadsad,
Michelle Scully, Thelma Valdez Spetter, Rev Fr Dindo Rei Tesoro, Josephine
Walton, Mimi Wong.

Anniversaries: Fredy Alphonse, Michelle Azzopardi, Michael Bartolo, Jose-
phine Bartolo, Sam Borg, Herman Chelliah, Barbara Dodd, Rose Fernandes,
Fernandes Family, Zaren Formosa, Joseph and Carmena Formosa, Sheela
Franklin, E. Franklin, Ronnie Giller, Harold, Rosine & Marc Lafleur, Cecilia
Dayrit Mendoza, William & Emilia Mifsud, Felix & Andranna Muscat, Jim &
Alison Muscat, Joshep Nguyen, Mile Perak, Myra Raymond, Cornelio & Ilu-
minada Rondi, Sam Serna, Juana Yu Sing, George Stambouliah, Helen & John
Tanti, Maria Trinh, John William.

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



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.
Amen.

COVID- 19 UPDATE

25 February 2022

- **MASKS:** are no longer mandatory but still
strongly encouraged
- **CHECK- IN & RECORD KEEPING :** no longer required
- **SINGING:** Both choir and congregation are able to sing
at our Churches

As previously communicated, density limits are no longer
applicable for our Churches and other buildings within the
Parish since December 2021.

HOWEVER OUR SAFETY PLAN STILL RECOMMENDS
SOCIAL DISTANCING WHERE POSSIBLE.

**PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND IF YOU ARE
EXPERIENCING ANY FLU LIKE SYMPTOMS.**

Please Help Us Keep Our Community Safe.

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

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church.

BSB: 067 950

ACC: 000552

Reference: (Your Planned Giving envelope number
or please write 'DONATION')

IN-PERSON BANK DEPOSIT (at a Bank Institute/ Branch)

Seven Hills Catholic Church

BSB: 062 315

Acc Id # - 00901486

AGENT # - 660

FIRST COLLECTION or Matt's Point is for the support
of Priests throughout the Diocese.

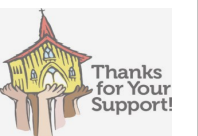
ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

Account name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy

BSB: 067 950

ACC: 00 00 4265

Reference: Seven Hills - 6035



Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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/>

FIRST READING *A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7*

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man’s words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men. The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night. **(R.)**

The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **(R.)**

Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing sap when they are old,
still full sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just,
in him, my rock, there is no wrong.**(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 15:54-58*

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord’s work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain. The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 6:39-45*

Jesus told a parable to his disciples. ‘Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciples will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother’s eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, “Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye,” when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother’s eye. ‘There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit; people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man’s words flow out of what fills his heart. 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



..... (continue) POPE FRANCIS: LESSON OF WRA STILL BEING UNHEEDED

He also stressed that “the one and only symphonic Catholic Church should always listen to the other traditions, to their paths of research and reform, while preserving each one’s own originality.”

Witness of communion

Drawing his speech to a close, Pope Francis said, “let us not forget that the brothers of the Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox Churches are watching us: even if we cannot sit at the same Eucharistic table, nevertheless we almost always celebrate and pray the same liturgical texts. Let us beware, therefore, of experiments that can harm the journey towards the visible unity of all Christ’s disciples.”

In conclusion, the Pope underlined that “the world needs the witness of communion. “If we cause scandal with liturgical disputes, we play into the hands of him who is the master of division,” he said.

POPE FRANCIS: ALLIANCE BETWEEN GENERATIONS MUST BE FOUND AGAIN

By Robin Gomes

Pope Francis begins this week’s General Audience with the dynamics of today’s demographics, where a truly “new people”, the elderly, have never been so numerous in human history. Often seen as ‘a burden’, they risk being discarded even more frequently, as has been seen in the first phase of the pandemic. Already the weakest and the most neglected, they paid the highest price. “We did not look at them much when they were alive, we did not even see them die”, he laments.

In this regard, the Pope draws attention to the charter of rights of the elderly and the duties of the community, saying it is a secular document drafted by governments, not the Church. “It is good to know that the elderly have rights. It will be good to read it.”

Unity of all stages of life

“Together with migration”, the Pope says, “old age is one of the most urgent issues facing the human family at this time.” More than being simply a question of quantitative change, it implies that the unity of the various stages of life is at stake. Hence the importance of understanding and appreciating human life in its entirety, and the need for friendship and cooperation between the different stages of life, or whether separation and being discarded prevail.

The Holy Father points out that in today’s society, the proportion of children, young people, adults, and the elderly living together has changed. “Longevity has become mass and, in large parts of the world, childhood is distributed in small doses” in what is described as the ‘demographic winter’.

This imbalance has many consequences. Today’s dominant culture has as its sole model a self-made individual who always remains young. “The exaltation of youth as the only age worthy of embodying the human ideal, coupled with contempt for old age as frailty, decay, and disability, has been the dominant image of the twentieth-century totalitarianism”, which must not be forgotten.

Sense of life and community

The 85-year-old pontiff points out that the fact that people are living longer has a structural impact on the history of individuals, families, and societies. But we need to ask whether life’s spiritual quality and the sense of the community are consistent with this. Do the elderly need to apologize for living longer, or should they be honoured for contributing to everyone’s meaning of life? Unfortunately, the Pope notes that in the so-called ‘developed’ cultures, the meaning of life has little bearing. This is because old age is regarded as having no special content to offer nor is there any meaning of its own to live.

Besides, people are not encouraged to seek out the elderly and there is a lack of education for the community to recognize them. Despite old age being a decisive part of the community space, extending to a third of the entire life span, there are - at times - care plans, but not projects of existence to help them live fully. This, the Pope says shows a lack of thought, imagination and creativity.

Such a mindset and culture regards the elderly as waste material. Despite old age being a decisive part of the community space, extending to a third of the entire life span, there are - at times - care plans, but not projects of existence. This, the Pope says shows a lack of thought, imagination, and creativity.

Restoring the lost alliance

“Youth is beautiful but eternal youth is a very dangerous illusion”, the Pope warns. We need to remember that “being old is just as important - and beautiful - as being young”. “The alliance between generations, which restores all ages of life to the human level, is our lost gift.” In this culture of waste and culture of productivity, “it must be found again”, he exhorts.

Scriptures on generational alliance

Regarding this generational alliance, Pope Francis says the Word of God has much to say. Drawing attention to the prophecy of Joel, who says, “Your elders shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions”, the Pope says that “when the elderly resist the Spirit, burying their dreams in the past, the young can no longer see the things that must be done to open up the future”. But when they communicate their dreams, the young see clearly what they have to do. Without the dreams of the elderly, the young people will struggle to carry their present and bear their future. “If grandparents retreat into their melancholy, young people will look even more to their smartphones”, and life will soon die. In this sense, the disenchantment of young people is perhaps the most serious repercussion of the pandemic. The old have resources of life already lived that they can call upon [resort to]. Will they stand by and watch young people lose their vision, or will they accompany them by warming their dreams?”

Hence, the wisdom of the long journey that accompanies old age to its farewell is to be lived as an offering of life’s meaning. The Pope warns that if old age is not restored to the dignity of a humanly worthy life, it is destined to close itself off in a despondency that robs everyone of love. Pope Francis says that with the series of catechesis on old age, he would like to encourage everyone to invest their thoughts and affections in gifts old age brings to other stages of life. Old age is a gift of maturity and wisdom for every stage of life.

Referring to the prophet Joel, the Holy Father stresses that the elder people are not just known for their wisdom of life they have lived, but both they and the young people need to engage in conversation and interact with each other. And this bridge is the transmission of wisdom to humanity. According to Joel, the elderly can give dreams that the young can carry forward. Using the analogy of a tree, the Pope says that the elderly with their history are the roots and the young are the flowers and fruits. If they lack this ‘sap’ from the roots, they will never be able to flourish. All that is beautiful in society is related to the roots of the elderly, who are no waste matter.

POPE FRANCIS AT ANGELUS: PRAY FOR THOSE WHO WRONG YOU

By Vatican News staff reporter

In his catechesis during the Sunday Angelus, Pope Francis turned his thoughts to the Gospel of the day focusing on the basic life guidance that Jesus gives his disciples. He noted that the Lord is referring “to the most difficult situations, those that constitute the litmus test for us.”

The Pope explained that the disciple “is called not to give into instinct and hatred, but to go further, much further.”

Drawing from the Gospel of Luke, Pope Francis underlined that Jesus says: "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you" and "If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also.”

The Pope went on to consider that sense of injustice that we feel in "turning the other cheek".

He described how Jesus, during his unjust trial before the high priest, receives a slap from one of the guards. “The Lord then asks for an account of the evil received,” said the Pope.

“Turning the other cheek,” commented Pope Francis, “does not mean suffering in silence, giving into injustice. With his question, Jesus denounces what is unjust. But he does so without anger nor violence, rather with kindness.”

Overcoming evil with good

The Pope explained that Jesus' meekness is a stronger response than the beating he received. Turning the other cheek is not the retreat of the loser, but the action of one who has greater inner strength, who overcomes evil with good.”

Addressing the faithful in St Peter’s Square, Pope Francis said “it is the freely given, undeserved love we receive from Jesus that generates in the heart a way of doing things that is similar to his, that rejects all vengeance.”

Asking if it was possible for a person to come to love his enemies, the Pope remarked, “if it depended only on us, it would be impossible.” But with the Spirit of Jesus “we can respond to evil with good, we can love those who hurt us.”

Pope Francis lamented how sad it was when people who are proud to be Christians “see others as enemies and think of waging war against each other.”

In conclusion, the Pope urged people to pray for those who do us wrong and ask the Holy Spirit to act in our hearts. Follow the example of Jesus, he said, “meek, during his trial.”

POPE FRANCIS: LESSON OF WRA STILL BEING UNHEEDED

By Lydia O’Kane

Addressing participants taking part in the Plenary Assembly of the Congregation for Eastern Churches in the Vatican on Friday, Pope Francis drew inspiration from one of his predecessors, Pope Benedict XV, founder of the Congregation and of the Pontifical Oriental Institute.

He noted that this Pope had stressed the importance of equality, stating that "in the Church of Jesus Christ, which is neither Latin, nor Greek, nor Slavonic, but Catholic, there is no discrimination among its children.”

Incivility of war

During his pontificate, Pope Benedict XV denounced the incivility of war as "useless slaughter".

Pope Francis underlined how his warning “went unheeded by the leaders of the nations involved in the First World War. Just as St John Paul II’s appeal to avert the conflict in Iraq went unheeded.”

Turning his attention to the world today, the Pope said, “humanity still seems to be groping in the dark.” He highlighted the massacres from conflicts in the Middle East, in Syria and Iraq; those in the Ethiopian region of Tigray, and the “drama” facing Lebanon.

“They are the motherland of the Eastern Catholic Churches: they have developed there, preserving millenary traditions, and many of you, members of the Dicastery, are their children and heirs,” he said.

“It seems that the greatest prize for peace should be given to wars: a contradiction. We are attached to wars, and this is tragic. Humanity, which prides itself on being ahead in science, in thought, in so many beautiful things, is lagging behind in weaving peace. It is a champion in making war. And this makes us all ashamed. We must pray and ask forgiveness for this attitude.”

Pope Francis also shone the spotlight on the “threatening winds” that are still blowing across the steppes of Eastern Europe, “lighting the fuses and fires of weapons and leaving the hearts of the poor and innocent cold.”

Eastern Catholic tradition

The Pope told those present that their life was like a mixture of the “precious dust of the gold” of their past and “the heroic witness of faith of many in the present.”

However, he stressed there is also “the mud of the miseries for which we are also responsible and the pain that is caused to you by external forces.”

Pope Francis emphasized the paths forged by Eastern Catholics in distant continents, and the Eparchies that have been established in Canada, in the United States, in Latin America, in Europe, in Oceania, and many others that are entrusted, at least for the moment, to the Latin Bishops.

The power of listening

During his address, the Pope noted the importance of evangelisation and the need to “listen more to the richness of the different traditions.”

In particular, he spoke of the itinerary of the catechumenate for adults, a custom which in the Eastern Churches is preserved and practiced also for children.

“There is an experience in which the ‘clay’ of our humanity allows itself to be shaped, not by changing opinions or by the necessary sociological analyses, but by the Word and the Spirit of the Risen Lord,” the Pope said.

A Liturgical Conference marking the 25th anniversary of the Instruction on the application of the liturgical prescriptions of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches has been taking place in Rome this week. With that in mind, Pope Francis told those gathered, “it an opportunity to get to know each other within the liturgical commissions of the different Churches sui iuris; it is an invitation to walk together with the Dicastery and its Consultors, according to the path indicated by the Second Vatican Ecu-
menical Council.”



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

I remember back in my village many years ago, it was usual to see men setting up makeshift sawmills by placing a log between two crossed wooden bars with one man standing on top of the log, and the other staying beneath it. They kept pushing and pulling a long saw to cut the log lengthwise.

Their job looked rather tedious since they had kept repeating the same movement for a whole day long, and sometimes it took them the whole week or even month to complete their work.

As the man under the log had to look up while working, sawdust might fall into his eye, and he had to ask his sawing mate to take a break, so that he could clear his eyes. Obviously his friend could not see what happened beneath him, because the log completely blocked his view.

This similar scene, as we know, was rather popular in Jesus’ time, as there were no sawmills available then, so people had to rely on the same technique to turn logs into planks of wood. Such a scene might have inspired Jesus to come up with the practical advice we have in the Gospel this Sunday about taking the plank out of our own eye before asking others to take the splinter out of their eye, though the splinter and the plank in his story turn to become two symbolic objects indicating small and big issues we need to deal with in the process of self-development.

The splinter symbolizes a venial fault, and the plank a grave one. Jesus through such a highly symbolic advice today seems to encourage us all to focusing on improving ourselves through an ongoing process of self-criticism, and be less critical of little things that others around might have to deal with. Just let them do what they are required to do, and it is better for us to see whether there is a plank in our eye that we need to get rid of, so that our spiritual sight might improve, and we may be able to safely lead those entrusted to us either at home or in the parish community along the path of faith by means of our good actions and words, living reflections of our good heart.

Have a heart filled with Christian charity this week.
Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...



ASH WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH
Mass times: 8am & 7pm

A zoomed service will be available for the school at 9.15am. With the celebration of Ash Wednesday we enter the season of Lent, a time for prayer, self-denial and helping others to prepare us for the commemoration of the Holy Week and Easter. Both the fasting and abstinence we are asked to observe by the Church for Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are parts of such a preparation package. From the Church perspective, the law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year, until the beginning of their 60th year, and the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year. Moreover, all Catholics are obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday.

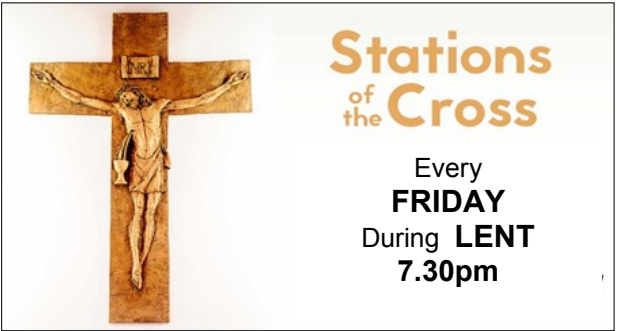
LENTEN EXERCISE

Instead of a spiritual exercise in the form of retreats like previous years, I would like to invite you to join me in a physical exercise this year in the form of a WORKING BEE on SATURDAY 12 MARCH from 9.30am. The aim of this working bee is to remove the mulch left behind in the carpark from our recent trimming. We need lot of hands with gloves, shovels and wheelbarrows to top our church gardens. Please spare this day to join this community exercise and lunch will be provided.

NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY– 26/27th February
You are invited to reflect on your experiences of church life. This is a voluntary and anonymous survey that will take place during Mass this weekend.

LOURDES OVER 50’S MEETING will be held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 10 March from 10.30am to 1.00pm. Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee supplied. Parishioners very welcome.

DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES IN TIME OF PANDEMIC The Priest says the prayer for blessing the ashes. He sprinkles the ashes with holy water, without saying anything. Then he addresses all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: “Repent, and believe in the Gospel:; or “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”. The Priest then cleanses his hands, puts on a face mask and distributes the ashes to those who come to him or, if appropriate, he goes to those who are standing in their places. The priest takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each one without saying anything. From the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 12 January 2021. Robert Card. Sarah Prefect Arthur Roche. Archbishop Secretary





ENCYCLICAL LETTER **FRATELLI TUTTI** OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON FRATERNITY & SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP
CHAPTER TWO—A STRANGER ON THE ROAD [Neighbours without borders](#)

80. Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan in answer to the question: Who is my neighbour? The word “neighbour”, in the society of Jesus’ time, usually meant those nearest us. It was felt that help should be given primarily to those of one’s own group and race. For some Jews of that time, Samaritans were looked down upon, considered impure. They were not among those to be helped. Jesus, himself a Jew, completely transforms this approach. He asks us not to decide who is close enough to be our neighbour, but rather that we ourselves become neighbours to all.

81. Jesus asks us to be present to those in need of help, regardless of whether or not they belong to our social group. In this case, the Samaritan became a neighbour to the wounded Judean. By approaching and making himself present, he crossed all cultural and historical barriers. Jesus concludes the parable by saying: “Go and do likewise” (Lk 10:37). In other words, he challenges us to put aside all differences and, in the face of suffering, to draw near to others with no questions asked. I should no longer say that I have neighbours to help, but that I must myself be a neighbour to others.

82. The parable, though, is troubling, for Jesus says that the wounded man was a Judean, while the one who stopped and helped him was a Samaritan. This detail is quite significant for our reflection on a love that includes everyone. The Samaritans lived in a region where pagan rites were practised. For the Jews, this made them impure, detestable, dangerous. In fact, one ancient Jewish text referring to nations that were hated, speaks of Samaria as “not even a people” (Sir 50:25); it also refers to “the foolish people that live in Shechem” (50:26).

83. This explains why a Samaritan woman, when asked by Jesus for a drink, answered curtly: “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jn 4:9). The most offensive charge that those who sought to discredit Jesus could bring was that he was “possessed” and “a Samaritan” (Jn 8:48). So this encounter of mercy between a Samaritan and a Jew is highly provocative; it leaves no room for ideological manipulation and challenges us to expand our frontiers. It gives a universal dimension to our call to love, one that transcends all prejudices, all historical and cultural barriers, all petty interests.

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

Sunday 26/27 February 2022		
Acolytes	Vigil: John Jordan 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am Faylene Kennedy	
Ministers	Vigil: Chrisa Gonzales, Helen Gonzales 8am: Maricel Santos, SUB REQ 9.30am: Mercy Aquino, SUB REQ	
Readers	Vigil: Alison Punch, SUB REQ 8am: Kathy Walker, SUB REQ 9.30am Adrian Walker, Christina Diaz	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alexa Bagatella, Karuniya Marutha - nayagam 8am: SUB REQ 9.30am Chloe Attard, Leo Culili	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couple for Christ	
Flowers	Annette & Mary B	
Church cleaning	2 March	Carole Walker, Sandy Manamperi, Lourdes Spiteri
Welcomers	Vigil: Mary Bonnici 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Lena Falzon	

5/6 March 2022		
Acolytes	Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Ryan Epondulan 9.30am Kilifi Huihui	
Ministers	Vigil: Rosey Soares, Marinela Simic 8am: Fennie Balatbat, Benno Motha 9.30am: Adrian Walker, Paul Gow	
Readers	Vigil: Catherine Rodrigues, Stefanie Menezes 8am: Maricel Santos, Nina Arambulo 9.30am Jeanine Nonato, Kamela Huihui	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Amelia Laus, Lucas Laus, Alex Spadaro 8am: SUB REQ 9.30am Sofia Culili SUB REQ	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir	
Flowers	Fenty, Gaby & Flo	
Church cleaning	10 March	Cathy Hutchings, Annette Peatman
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Urge 8am: Rita Paolini 9.30am: Volunteer	



PROJECT COMPASSION Please take home a Project Compassion box to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations.**

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2022 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come to build better future for all.

As Pope John II said, “This future starts today, not tomorrow.”



DIOCESAN NEWS

GLENBROOK PARISH LENTEN ECUMENICAL GATHERINGS

This Lent, three Glenbrook Christian Churches, including St Finbar's Catholic Parish, are sharing a bowl of soup in ecumenical friendship and to help those in need in the local community. Gatherings will be held on Sunday 6 March at St Finbar's, 20 March at Glenbrook Baptist Church and 3 April at St Andrew's Uniting Church and the cost is a donation to a local Blue Mountains charity. For more information, contact the St Finbar's parish office on (02) 4742 6958 or glenbrook@parracatholic.org

World Meeting of Families: 22 – 26 June 2022

Every three years since 1994, the Church has celebrated the World Meeting of Families in a different city of the world. In 2022 the event will be hosted by the Diocese of Rome with Pope Francis leading special celebrations. However, the Holy Father has also asked that the World Meeting of Families be celebrated concurrently in every diocese of the world in 2022. The idea is for families to gather locally in Parishes and/or Deaneries and explore and celebrate the theme of "Family love: a vocation and a path to holiness". Stay tuned for exciting opportunities to participate with the Diocese of Parramatta in 2022

LENT 2022 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY BRUCE DOWNES

Be inspired, Be refreshed, Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: : <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent22>
Call 1300 734 880 for more info

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR		
FEBRUARY		
28	St Vincent De Paul Meeting	7.00pm
MARCH		
2	ASH WEDNESDAY	8am, 7.30pm
3	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.00am
3	Legion of Mary	1.30pm
4	Stations of the Cross	7.30pm
9	Sacrament of Reconciliation-4th Meeting	6.30pm
9	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	7.30pm
10	LOURDES OVER 50's	10.30am
11	Young Adults Group	7.00pm
11	Stations of the Cross	7.30pm
12	Sacrament of Reconciliation—4th Meeting RPT	4.30pm

PALMS AUSTRALIA INTERNATIONAL MISSION INFORMATION SESSION: 17 March

Palms Australia has 60 years of experience preparing and assisting Australians to learn and pass on their skills in another culture. Is one of [their assignments](#) your opportunity to Reach Beyond? Join their online forum on Thursday 17 March at 5.30pm via Zoom and hear and engage with a panel of their most experienced program participants. To find out more and to register for the forum, visit palms.org.au/ or phone 0422 742 567.

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YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP PATHWAY

A new pathway for leadership in youth ministry is here! Duc In Altum is an initiative of Catholic Youth Parramatta designed to provide practical youth ministry training, build community between youth leaders across the Diocese, and offer intentional time for prayer and reflection. For more information and details to sign up visit parracatholic.org/ducinaltum/ or email gwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org

YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE -WE ARE WITH YOU

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

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>

ACU DATABASE OFFERS EASILY ACCESSIBLE CHURCH TEACHING ON ETHICS QUESTIONS

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