

# Our Lady of Lourdes Children's Corner 6TH March 2022

# Lent:

## Getting ready for Jesus' death and resurrection

Lent is the special time when we prepare for the celebration of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. We get our souls ready by doing prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Prayer is talking with God. We need to talk with God even more than we need to talk to our



family and friends. Lent is a good time to get into a habit of talking with God every day.



Fasting is eating less than you normally would. It's a good idea to give up a little something you like for Lent. Giving things up helps us remember we need

God, not just food.

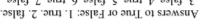
Almsgiving means giving to those who are in

www.thekidsbulletin.com

need. It helps us to be generous like God. Maybe you have a bit of money you can give to the poor or to the Church.



3. false. 4. true. 5. false. 6. true. 7. false.



# **The Kids' Bulletin**

First Sunday of Lent March 6th, 2022



Jesus spent 40 days in the desert preparing for His work. During Lent we spend 40 days getting ready to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection.

# Can you find your way into the desert to be with Jesus?

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	Lent	D	J	G	Ε	0	R	v	R	м	А	
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Unscramble these Lenten Words												
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ls. NSW. 2147	Ph. 9	
Fr Henry Huu Duc Tra	n	
Mrs Erika Hien, Alison Lette, Kim Dang, Sarah Lenthall.		
Mrs Artelle Lenthall		
9am - 3.00pm		
Tuesday—Friday 8.00a	m	
Saturday Vigil 6pm Sunday 8am & 9:30am		
	Mrs Erika Hien, Alison I Kim Dang, Sarah Lenth Mrs Artelle Lenthall 9am - 3.00pm Tuesday—Friday 8.00a Saturday Vigil 6pm	

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.

Recently Deceased: Randy Farparan, Jose Fatlaunag, Sammy Formosa, Emily Galea, Dolly Huertas, Garie Monteclaro, Hyacinth Perera, Amor Sadsad, Michelle Scully, John Thomas, Thelma Valdez Spetter, Rev Fr Dindo Rei Tesoro, Josephine Walton, Mimi Wong.

Anniversaries: Apolinario Maglaya, Fredy Alphonse, Michelle Azzopardi, Fortunata Baiada, Josephine Bartolo, Sam Borg, Herman Chelliah, Domini, Conception & Monica D'Souza, Barbara Dodd, Tran Thi Mai Dung, Rose Fernandes, Fernandes Family, Zaren Formosa, Joseph and Carmena Formosa, Sheela Franklin, E. Franklin, Jean, Elsie & Marc Garrick, Ronnie Giller, Harold, Rosine & Marc Lafleur, Cecilia Dayrit Mendoza, William & Emilia Mifsud, Fr Joseph Tran Minh, Felix & Andranna Muscat, Jim & Alison Muscat, Joshep Nguyen, Myra Raymond, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondi, Sam Serna, Rosary Silva, Juana Yu Sing, Bernard & Pauline Soares, Helen & John Tanti, Joseph Taroti, Joshep Trinh, John William.

Remembrance: Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Ngan Pin, Ngan Siu Eng, France Angseesing, Carmen Attard, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Silvia and Sam Debbathista, Charlie Galea, Pauline Meilak, Mary Mifsud, Doris Mifsud, Anton & Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula, Mary Muscat, Muscat Family, John & Roseline Ratnam, Jim & Alison Vella, Michelle Azzopardi, Georgina Falzon.



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 book of Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the pannier from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement: "My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill -treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.' The word of the Lord.

# **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

# (R.) Be with me Lord, when I am in trouble.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty Say to the Lord: "My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' (R.)

Upon you no evil shall fall, no plaque approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels to keep you in all your ways. (R.)

They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. (R.)

His love he set on me. so I will rescue him: protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: "I am with you." I will save him in distress and give him glory. (R)

# SECOND READING A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Romans 10:8-13

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. The word of the Lord.

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

# GOSPEL

# A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.' Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time. 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 AUDIENCE: COMMUNION OF SAINTS JOINS ALL CHURCH'S MEMBERS By Devin Watkins

The Pope turned his attention at the Wednesday General Audience to the communion of saints, calling it an expression of God's love.

Pope Francis noted that some forms of devotion to the saints seem to stem more from a "pagan" mindset than a Christian one. He said the difference is that Christians place our trust in God alone, rather than in a person or image. "Even when we rely fully on the intercession of a saint, or even more so that of the Virgin Mary, our trust only has value in relation to Christ."

The Pope pointed out that saints do not "work miracles", but are merely the vessels through which the grace of God works. Saints, he added, are intercessors "who pray for us, and the Lord gives us grace through that Saint." Church is 'community of saved sinners'

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the "communion of saints is the Church." Pope Francis said this means the Church is the "community of saved sinners". "Our holiness is the fruit of God's love manifested in Christ, who sanctifies us by loving us in our misery and saving us from it." As St. Paul notes, each member of the body of Christ is united to one another in Christ, and we all share each other's joys and sorrows

The Pope said the communion of saints means that all Christians are so connected that not even death can separate us, linking us closely to our loved ones who have died.

"The communion of saints holds together the community of believers on earth and in heaven," he said. Heavenly links

Pope Francis then reflected on the theme of devotion to saints, saying we can establish friendships with our forebearers in the faith who can help us throughout our lives.

"What we call devotion is actually a way of expressing love from this very bond that unites us... And we all know that we can always turn to a friend, especially when we are in difficulty and need help.' The Church, added the Pope, has always looked to the saints to guide the community, especially the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph, to whom God entrusted His only Son.

"It is always thanks to the communion of saints that we feel that the men and women saints who are our patrons – because of the name we bear, because of the Church to which we belong, because of the place where we live, and so on - are close to us," he said. "And this is the trust that must always animate us in turning to them at decisive moments in our lives." Devotion to saints, said the Holy Father, is not magic or superstition, but rather "simply speaking to a brother or sister who is with God having lived a just and holy life".

## Trust in difficult times

In conclusion, Pope Francis shared with those present at the General Audience a prayer to St. Joseph which he has recited every day for over 40 years.

Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph,

whose power makes the impossible possible,

come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty.

Take under your protection the serious and troubling situations that I commend to you, that they may have a happy outcome.

My beloved father, all my trust is in you.

Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain,

and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power. Amen.

POPE FRANCIS: LET US ACCOMPANY THE PEOPLE WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM THE BOMBINGS In his greeting to the Polish faithful at the General Audience in the Vatican, the Pope thanks the people of Poland for their generosity towards people fleeing the war in Ukraine and asks all men and women of goodwill to be close to the population that is suffering the bombings and violence.

By Linda Bordoni

"You were the first to support Ukraine, opening your borders, your hearts and the doors of your homes to Ukrainians fleeing the war," said Pope Francis in his greeting to the Polish pilgrims present for the General Audience in the Paul VI Hall. He expressed deep gratitude and bestowed his blessings to the people of Poland noting they are "generously offering [the refugees] everything they need to live in dignity, despite the drama of the moment." The Pope also turned to the friar present during the Audience to do the reading in Polish: "This Franciscan friar who is speaking now, in Polish, but he is Ukrainian!" he said, adding that "His parents are right now in shelters underground, defending themselves from the bombs, in a place near Kyiv. And he continues to do his duty here, with us." By accompanying him, the Pope continued, "we accompany all the people who are suffering from the bombings, his elderly parents and many elderly people who are in the underground to defend themselves. We carry in our hearts the memory of these people."

During his greeting to English-speaking groups at the Audience, the Pope again referred to the Russian invasion in Ukraine reminding us that today we begin the Lenten journey with a Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace in Ukraine.

#### POPE FRANCIS AT ANGELUS: PRAY FOR THOSE WHO WRONG YOU

By Vatican News staff reporter

Dear brothers and sisters, buongiorno!

In the Gospel of today's Liturgy, Jesus invites us to reflect on the way we look and the way we speak. Our gaze and our speech.

First of all, our *gaze*. The risk we run, the Lord says, is that we concentrate on looking at the mote in our brother's eye without noticing the beam in our own (cf. *Lk* 6: 41). In other words, being very attentive to the faults of others, even those as small as a speck, serenely overlooking our own, according them little weight. What Jesus says is true: we always find reasons for blaming others and justifying ourselves. And very often we complain about things that are wrong in society, in the Church, in the world, without first questioning ourselves and without making an effort to change ourselves first. Every fruitful, positive change must begin from ourselves. Otherwise, there will be no change. But, Jesus explains, by doing this, we look blindly. And if we are blind, we cannot claim to be guides and teachers for others: indeed, a blind man cannot lead another blind man, says the Lord (cf. v. 39).

Dear brothers and sisters, the Lord invites us to clean up our gaze. To clean up our gaze. He first asks us to look within ourselves to recognize our failings. Because if we are not capable of seeing our own defects, we will always be inclined to magnify those of others. If instead we acknowledge our own mistakes and our own flaws, the door of mercy opens up to us. And after looking within ourselves, Jesus invites us to look at others as he does – this is the secret, to look at others as he does – looking first not at evil, but at goodness. God looks at us in this way: he does not see irredeemable errors in us, but children who make mistakes. It is a change in outlook: he does not concentrate on the mistakes, but on the children who make mistakes. God always distinguishes the person from his errors. He always saves the person. He always believes in the person and is always ready to forgive errors. We know that God always forgives. And he invites us to do likewise: not to look for evil in others, but good.

After our way of looking, today Jesus invites us to reflect on our *speech*. The Lord explains that "out of the abundance of the heart [the] mouth speaks" (v. 45). It is true, from the way a person speaks, you can tell straight away what is in their heart. The words we use say who we are. At times, though, we pay scarce attention to our words and we use them superficially. But words carry weight: they enable us to express thoughts and feelings, to give voice to the fears we have and the plans we intend to realize, to bless God and others. Unfortunately, though, through language we can also feed prejudices, raise barriers, harm and even destroy; we can destroy our brothers with language. Gossip hurts and slander can be sharper than a knife! These days, especially in the digital world, words travel fast; but too many of them convey anger and aggression, feed false news and take advantage of collective fears to propagate distorted ideas. A diplomat, who was the Secretary General of the United Nations, said that "to abuse words is to scorn the human being! (D. HAMMARSKJÖLD, *Waymarks*, Magnano BI 1992, 131). Let us then ask ourselves what type of words we use: words that express care, respect, understanding, closeness, compassion, or words that aim mainly to make us look good in front of others? And then, do we speak mildly or do we pollute the world by spreading venom: criticizing, complaining, feeding widespread aggression?

May Our Lady, Mary, whose humility God has watched over, the Virgin of silence to whom we now pray, help us purify our gaze and our speech.

#### After the Angelus

#### Dear brothers and sisters!

In recent days we have been shaken by something tragic: war. Time and again we have prayed that this road would not be taken. And let us not stop talking; indeed, let us pray to God more intensely. For this reason, I renew to all the invitation to make 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a day of prayer and fasting for peace in Ukraine. A day to be close to the sufferings of the Ukrainian people, to feel that we are all brothers and sisters, and to implore of God the end of the war.

Those who wage war forget humanity. They do not start from the people, they do not look at the real life of people, but place partisan interests and power before all else. They trust in the diabolical and perverse logic of weapons, which is the furthest from the logic of God. And they distance themselves from ordinary people, who want peace, and who – the ordinary people – are the real victims in every conflict, who pay for the follies of war with their own skin. I think of the elderly, of those who seek refuge in these times, of mothers fleeing with their children... They are brothers and sisters for whom it is urgent to open humanitarian corridors, and who must be welcomed. With a heart broken by what is happening in Ukraine – and let us not forget the wars in other parts of the world, such as Yemen, Syria, Ethiopia... – I repeat: put down your weapons! God is with the peacemakers, not with those who use violence. Because those who love peace, as the Italian Constitution states, "reject war as an instrument of aggression against the freedom of other peoples and as a means for the settlement of international disputes". Yesterday, the priest Gaetano Giménez Martín and fifteen companion martyrs, killed in *odium fidei* during the religious persecution of the nineteen-thirties in Spain, were proclaimed blessed in Granada, Spain. May the witness of these heroic disciples of Christ inspire in everyone the desire to serve the Gospel with fidelity and courage. A round of applause for the new Blesseds!

I greet in particular *las niñas Quinceñeras* of Panama, the young university students from the diocese of Porto, the faithful of Mérida-Badajoz and Madrid, Spain, those from Paris and Poland, the groups from Reggio Calabria, Sicilia and the Alta Langa pastoral unit, confirmands from Urgnano and the young people from Petosino, in the diocese of Bergamo.

A special greeting goes to those who have come on the occasion of Rare Disease Day, which takes place tomorrow. I encourage the various Associations of the sick and their families, along with the researchers who work in this field. I am close to you! I warmly greet the peoples present here today. And I see many Ukrainian flags! [In Ukrainian]: *Jesus Christ be praised*! I wish you all a blessed Sunday. Please, do not forget to pray for me. Enjoy your lunch, and *arrivederci*!

#### FROM FR. HENRY DUC Dear Friends, With the celebration of Ash designed to lift up our hear

With the celebration of Ash Wednesday a few days ago, we begin the forty-day long journey of Lent designed to lift up our hearts to come closer to God, to the needy and to ourselves through prayer, good deeds and works of penance.

Forty days of Lent help us to prepare well for the annual commemoration of the Death and Resurrection of the Lord, and to connect us with significant biblical events, such as the Great Flood which lasted for forty days in Noah's time to purify the earth (Gen 7.12), the forty year long journey the Israelites had the spend in the

desert before the Lord allowed them to enter the Promised Land (Deut 8.2-5), and the length of time Jesus stayed in the wilderness fasting, praying and going through the temptations thrown at him by the devil, as Luke presents to us in the Gospel today. By means of these temptations, the devil means to lure Jesus into making shortcuts to reveal his divine identity and power.

For the first temptation, the devil incites a hungry Jesus to make a quick fix by turning stones into bread with his own power, and Jesus is quick to say no to such an easy solution and let his tempter know that food alone is not enough for the Son of God, as he also needs the nourishment of God's words and prayers, too. The devil then turns around to ask Jesus to bow down before him, and in return, he will offer the Son of God all the power and glory of the world. Jesus, in response, makes it very clear to the poor devil that it has to be the other way around, that he must both worship and serve Him.

Undisturbed by his failed attempts, the devil goes on to try one more time, and this time he challenges Jesus to jump off the parapet of the Jerusalem Temple. Biblical scholars believe that a stairway inside the Temple leading to the roof where a two meter-plus wall (the parapet) ran along the roof's edge. The devil unashamedly brings in the angels factor to reinforce his last lure, and Jesus proves himself more than a match to the devil by the statement reminding him of who he is and who God is, that he is in no position to match God's power.

As expected, Jesus comes out of this contest as a clear winner. He frustrated his tempter, defeated him, and pushed him out of his way.

However, the last words of Luke's account are truly significantly. Luke said, 'the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.' It means to remind us that though the devil was defeated, he would never give up, for he did come back to keep teasing Jesus during his public ministry, and he had to use his divine power to cast them off those possessed by him. Jesus' temptations today remind us of the real presence of Satan and his force in our world and in our lives, something Pope Francis has continued to bring to our attention. They constantly pose a spiritual threat to us and we need to remain alert and get ready to fight against them always.

Let us pray today for the wisdom to realize the gravity of such a dark force in our lives, and the grace to support us, so that we may be able to overcome it.

Have a grace-filled week. Fr Henry

# PARISH NEWS...

#### **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.

#### "A SHOE IN" PROJECT COMPASSION INITIATIVE

This year the student of Our Lady of Lourdes are taking part in the Project Compassion initiative 'A Shoe In" To bring awareness for people who do not have easy access to clean water, food and basic sanitation. On the 11th of March, the students will be "Walking in the Shoes of Others" by sharing the history of the shoes to one another; because each pair of shoes tells a story. If you want to learn more about Project Compassion this year or donate, head to the Caritas website: Caritas.org.au

CHRIST COMMUNITY PRAYER GROUP Thursday 9am in the Parish Meeting Room. All Welcome

**LEGION OF MARY** Thursdays at 1.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room. All Welcome

#### NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY

Thank you to all those who participated in the National Church Life Survey last weekend. OLOL is one of 301 participating Catholic parishes around Australia. In total there are 3,000 individual churches from over 20 denominations participating.

**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.

**RECONCILIATION** will be held in the church, on **Saturdays 4:30pm-5:30pm**.

Stations Stations ff Cross Every FRIDAY During LENT 7.30pm

	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: <b>SUB REQ</b> 9.30am Sofia Culili <b>SUB REQ</b>				
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir				
Flowers	Fenty, Gaby & Flo				
Church cleaning	10 March Cathy Hutchings, Annette Peatman Jerome Peralta				
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Urge 8am: Rita Paolini 9.30am: Volunteer				

12/13 March 2022					
Acolytes	Vigil: Abel D 8am: Louis I 9.30am Eugen	Fernandes			
Ministers	Vigil: Noreen Do Rosario, Crystal Menezes 8am: Pepito Ferriols, Kathy Walker 9.30am: Christina Diaz, Noel Emmanual				
Readers	Vigil: Chrisha Gonzales, Helen Gonzales 8am: Lorraine Fernandes, Benno Motha 9.30am Carole Walker, Sara Lenthall				
Altar Servers	Vigil: SUBS REQ 8am: Diana Park, Philip Park, Sean Park 9.30am Leaonardo Costello, Saoirse Costello, Sebastian Costello				
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group				
Flowers	Claudette & Volunteer Required				
Church cleaning	19 March	Helen & Dennis Gonzales Novelo Paylaga, Adrian Pinto, Maricel Santos			
Welcomers	U U	NTEER REQUIRED Hillbrick Chamberlain			



OUR LADY OF LOURDES Seven Hills

2023 ENROLMENTS ARE OPEN. Please contact the school Office for an enrolment

pack. e: OLOLSHills@parra.catholic.edu.au p: 02 8869 6800

# PRAYER FOR PEACE **AND JUSTICE IN UKRAINE**

God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.

Protect them in this time of peril; let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom.

You are Father of all; we are brothers and sisters.

Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace not war.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



# 🂵 Caritas 🖉 🔊 AUSTRALIA

Caritas Australia's Lenten Project Compassion campaign has begun and will lead us all the way towards Easter. This vear'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.

Anatercia 12, was struggling to cope with adult responsibilities after her father died. Then she participated in Caritas Australia- supported training and gained access to psychosocial supports.

Now, Anatercia can easily access clean drinking water, community members are able to grow healthy crops all year round, and there is enough nutritious food to eat. Anatercia

feelsbetter supported by her community, has more time to study and do her homework, and hopes to fulfil her dream of becoming a nurse.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 to help youngpeople succeed in the future and have stability to vulnerable youth like Anatercia.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au.or by calling 1800 024 413.

# **DIOCESAN NEWS**

#### AUSTRALIAN BISHOP"S RESPONSE TO THE UKRAINE

**CRISIS** The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has prepared a statement on the unfolding violence in Ukraine, quoting Conference president Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Bishop Mykola Bychok, the leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia. A Prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine has also been created and is attached. The media release and prayer card can also be accessed here: https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/bishops-call -for-peace-in-ukraine-generous-australian-response/

#### 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

# MARCH

9	Sacrament of Reconciliation-4th Meeting	6.30pm
9	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	7.30pm
10	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.00am
10	Legion of Mary	1.30pm
10	LOURDES OVER 50's	10.30am
11	Young Adults Group	7.00pm
11	Stations of the Cross	7.30pm
12	Parish Lenten WORKING BEE	9.30am
12	Sacrament of Reconciliation—4th Meeting <b>RPT</b>	4.30pm
14	Saint Vincent De Paul Meeting	7.00pm
16	Sacrament of Reconciliation- 5th Meeting	6.30pm
19	Sacrament of Reconciliation- 5th Meeting <b>RPT</b>	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.

### SYNOD OF BISHOPS LOCAL SUBMISSION EXTENDED!

The local consultation period for the global Synod on Synodality has been extended. Submissions can now be received through the online portal until Sunday 13 March. Don't miss out on this chance to take part in a global conversation about the Catholic Church. How are we called to walk together as Christians? How can we listen to one another in making important decisions about our faith and our mission? Find out more and share your contribution at: https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch

#### **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

## 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

## 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 <a href="http://vinnies.org.au/">http://vinnies.org.au/</a> covidsupportnsw

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