

FIRST READING

A reading from the First book of Kings 19:16, 19-21

The Lord said to Elijah: ‘Go, you are to anoint Elisha son of Shaphat, of Abel Meholah, as prophet to succeed you.’ Leaving there, Elijah came on Elisha son of Shaphat as he was ploughing behind twelve yoke of oxen, he himself being with the twelfth. Elijah passed near to him and threw his cloak over him. Elisha left his oxen and ran after Elijah. ‘Let me kiss my father and mother, then I will follow you’ he said. Elijah answered, ‘Go, go back; for have I done anything to you?’ Elisha turned away, took the pair of oxen and slaughtered them. He used the plough for cooking the oxen, then gave to his men, who ate. He then rose, and followed Elijah and became his servant. The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) You are my inheritance, O Lord.

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: ‘You are my God.’
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize. (R.)

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians 5:1, 13-18

When Christ freed us, he meant us to remain free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery. My brothers, you were called, as you know, to liberty; but be careful, or this liberty will provide an opening for self-indulgence. Serve one another, rather, in works of love, since the whole of the Law is summarised in a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself. If you go snapping at each other and tearing each other to pieces, you had better watch or you will destroy the whole community. Let me put it like this: if you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 9:51-62

As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out, and they went into a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the people would not receive him because he was making for Jerusalem. Seeing this, the disciples James and John said, ‘Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to burn them up?’ But he turned and rebuked them, and they went off to another village. As they travelled along they met a man on the road who said to him, ‘I will follow you wherever you go.’ Jesus answered, ‘Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.’ Another to whom he said, ‘Follow me,’ replied, ‘Let me go and bury my father first.’ But he answered, ‘Leave the dead to bury their dead; your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.’ Another said, ‘I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.’

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 TO BUDDHISTS: ‘LET’S WORK TOGETHER TO CULTIVATE COMPASSION AND HOSPITALITY’.

By Linda Bordoni

“At a time in which our human family and planet are facing manifold threats,” the need for interreligious dialogue and collaboration are increasingly necessary, said Pope Francis, inviting Buddhists to continue to work together with the Catholic Church “to cultivate compassion and hospitality for all human beings, especially the poor and marginalized.” The Pope was addressing a delegation from Thailand composed of thirty-three prominent Buddhist monks of both the Theravada and Mahayana schools, together with 60 lay Buddhists and several representatives of the Thai Catholic Church. They are in Rome to participate in a conference entitled *Friendship between Buddhists and Christians for a Culture of Encounter*, at the Pontifical Urban University.

Golden Jubilee

Thanking them for visiting the Vatican on the 50th anniversary of the historic meeting between Pope Saint Paul VI and the Most Venerable Somdej Phra Wannarat, the 17th Supreme Buddhist Patriarch of Thailand, on 5 June 1972, the Pope expressed his wish to renew the bonds of friendship and mutual collaboration. He also renewed the sentiments expressed by Pope Paul VI when he met the Thai delegation 50 years ago, saying: “We have a profound regard for the spiritual, moral, and socio-cultural treasures that have been bestowed on you through your precious traditions.” “*We recognize the values of which you are the custodians, and we share the desire that they should be preserved and fostered. We hope there will be increasing friendly dialogue and close collaboration between the traditions that you represent and the Catholic Church.*”

A consolidated path of dialogue and collaboration

Pope Francis noted that the past 50 years have seen a gradual and steady growth of “friendly dialogue and close collaboration” between the two religious traditions. He recalled past visits and his Apostolic Journey to Thailand in 2019 “and the wonderful welcome and hospitality I received.” The Holy Father also expressed appreciation for the friendly and fraternal dialogue with the members of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue, as well as with the Catholic community in Thailand.

The Buddha and Jesus understood the need for fraternity

Dialogue and collaboration are even more urgent and precious at a time when the human family and the planet face manifold threats, the Pope noted. “*Sadly, on all sides we hear the cry of a wounded humanity and a broken earth.*” “The Buddha and Jesus understood the need to overcome the egoism that gives rise to conflict and violence,” he said. “The Dhammapada sums up the Buddha’s teachings thus: ‘To avoid evil, to cultivate good, and to cleanse one’s mind – this is the teaching of the Buddha’ (*Dph* 183). Jesus told his disciples: ‘I give you a new Commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another’” (*Jn* 13:34). Pope Francis told his guests that their common task today is “to guide our respective followers to a more vivid sense of the truth that we are all brothers and sisters.” “*We should work together to cultivate compassion and hospitality for all human beings, especially the poor and marginalized.*” In this spirit, the Pope concluded, “I encourage your efforts to deepen and broaden your dialogue and cooperation with the Catholic Church.”

POPE FRANCIS AT AUDIENCE: OLD AGE ‘A TIME TO FIND STRENGTH IN FRAILTY

By Devin Watkins

Focusing his catechesis at the Wednesday General Audience on the conversation Jesus had with Peter at the end of John’s Gospel (21:15-23), Pope Francis reflected on the gradual wasting away of physical strength with age, which he said offers a chance to embark upon a new way to follow Christ. He noted that Peter’s relationship with Jesus was tender, direct, free, and open, but not melancholic: “a relationship in truth.”

Sugarcoating the truth

In their exchange, Jesus asks Peter if he loves Him, and invites him to “tend my sheep.” Yet, said the Pope, the two argue as they always had. “*Are we capable of preserving the tenor of this relationship of Jesus with the disciples, according to that style of His that is so open, so frank, so direct, so humanly real?*” The Pope said our tendency is to “sugarcoat” the truth revealed in the Gospel, distancing ourselves from Jesus.

Faithfulness in frailty

Pope Francis said Jesus warns Peter that when he was young he was master of his own life, but that when he grows old his testimony would be “accompanied by weakness.” Besides alluding to Peter’s martyrdom and death, Jesus’ words can also be understood as inviting him to learn to bear witness in a new way in his old age. “Your *following* will have to learn to allow itself to be instructed and moulded by your *frailty*, your helplessness, your dependence on others, even in dressing, in walking,” said the Pope. In old age, he added, we learn to bear consistent witness “in the conditions of a life largely entrusted to others.” “*Do we have a spirituality truly capable of interpreting the season – now long and widespread – of this time of our weakness entrusted to others, rather than to the power of our autonomy?*”

Trial and testimony

Old age is certainly a time of trial and temptation, said the Pope, noting that Peter points to this truth in his question to Jesus referring to the younger, beloved disciple: “What about him?” Jesus’ response was “frank and even coarse: ‘What does it matter to you? You follow me.’” The elderly, said Pope Francis, should not be envious of the young who will outlive them. “*The honour of their faithfulness to their sworn love, their fidelity to following the faith they have believed, even in the conditions that bring them nearer to the moment of taking leave of life, is their title of admiration for the generations to come and of grateful recognition from the Lord.*”

Best part of life

Pope Francis concluded his catechesis ensuring the elderly that their “forcibly inactive act of following” the Lord—listening to Him and contemplating Him—will become “the best part of their lives.”

Remember Ukraine

In his greetings in Italian at the end of the Audience, the Pope urged everyone to remember Ukraine, as Russia’s invasion grinds on. He said the children riding with him in the popemobile (pictured, top) were refugees from Ukraine. “Let us not forget Ukraine,” he appealed. “Let us not lose the memory of the suffering of that martyred people.”

POPE FRANCIS AT ANGELUS: ‘IN THE EUCHARIST IS JESUS’ LIFE GIVEN FOR ALL OF US’

By Linda Bordoni

Pope Francis on Sunday reminded believers that the Lord, who is present in the Eucharist, takes each and every one of us to heart, cares for us and satisfies our need for nourishment, companionship, consolation. Addressing pilgrims gathered for the Angelus in St. Peter’s Square, the Pope noted that on this Sunday, 19 June, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ is celebrated in Italy and in other countries.

“Instituted during the Last Supper,” he explained, “the Eucharist was like the destination of a journey along which Jesus had pre-figured it through several signs, above all the multiplication of the loaves” narrated in the Gospel according to Luke (Lk. 9:11b-17).

Everyone can experience the Lord’s loving attention

He recalled how Jesus took care of the huge crowd that had followed him to listen to his word and to be freed from various evils, and of how “He blesses five loaves and two fish, breaks them, the disciples distribute them, and “they all ate and were satisfied.” In the Eucharist, the Pope said, “everyone can experience this loving and concrete attention of the Lord.”

“Those who receive the Body and Blood of Christ with faith not only ‘eat’, but are ‘satisfied’. To eat and to be satisfied: these are two basic necessities that are satisfied in the Eucharist.”

Jesus takes care of everything

Pope Francis reflected on how the miracle of the loaves and fish does not happen in a spectacular way, but almost secretly, “the bread increases as it passes from hand to hand.”

As the crowd eats, he said, they realize that Jesus is taking care of everything: “This is the Lord present in the Eucharist.”

“He calls us to be citizens of Heaven, but at the same time he takes into account the journey we have to face here on earth.”

The Eucharist is not distant to everyday life

The Pope said that “sometimes there is the risk of confining the Eucharist to a vague dimension, perhaps bright and perfumed with incense, but rather distant from the straits of everyday life,” but in reality, he explained, “the Lord takes all our needs to heart, beginning with the most basic.”

“We can evaluate our Eucharistic adoration when we take care of our neighbour like Jesus does.”

The Pope said there is hunger for food around us, but also of companionship, consolation, friendship, good humour, attention. “We find this in the Eucharistic Bread – the attention of Christ to our needs and the invitation to do the same toward those who are beside us. We need to eat and feed others,” he said.

In the Eucharist is His life given for each of us

Pope Francis went on to explain that “In addition to eating, however, we cannot forget being satisfied.”

He said not only we need to nourish ourselves, “we also need to be satisfied, to know that the nourishment is given to us out of love.”

“In the Body and Blood of Christ, we find his presence, his life given for each of us.”

Jesus, he continued, not only gives us help to go forward, but he gives us himself: “he makes himself our traveling companion, he enters into our affairs, he visits us when we are lonely, giving us back a sense of enthusiasm.”

“This,” the Pope said, “satisfies us, this gives us that “more” that everyone is looking for – the presence of the Lord! For in the warmth of his presence, our lives change. Without him, everything would truly be grey.”

“Adoring the Body and Blood of Christ, let us ask Him with our heart: “Lord, give me that daily bread to go forward, and satisfy me with your presence!””

POPE FRANCIS: ‘FAMILY LOVE IS A VOCATION AND PATH TO HOLINESS’

By Linda Bordoni

Pope Francis on Sunday reminded Catholics that the Tenth World Meeting of Families (#WMOF22) will kick off in Rome on Wednesday, 22 June.

WMOF is the acronym for World Meeting of Families, created by Pope John Paul II in 1994.

Organized by the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life, the theme for this year’s edition is “Family Love: A Vocation and Path to Holiness”.

In place of a public worldwide gathering this year, it has been decided that the event be celebrated in all dioceses with local bishops, for a customized, local experience of formation, prayer and fellowship.

However, delegations from across the globe will be present from 22 to 26 June in the Vatican’s Paul VI Hall, representing Catholic families all over the world.

In keeping with tradition, the programme includes an international Theological-Pastoral Congress at the start and ending, in the presence of the Pope, with a vigil and Festival of Families along with a great final Eucharistic celebration.

Pope’s words of thanks

Speaking after the Sunday Angelus, Pope Francis noted that the Meeting will take place in Rome and at the same time throughout the world.

He thanked the bishops, parish priests and family pastoral workers who have called families to moments of reflection, celebration and festivity.

“Above all, I thank the married couples and families who will bear witness to family love as a vocation and path to holiness. Have a good meeting!”



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

In the beginning of August 1970, I started my Formation program as a twelve year old country boy at a Minor seminary named after Saint John 23, located in a city called My Tho, about seventy kms South of Saigon. Though the distance between home and seminary was under 200 kms, it took me a day to get there with trips by boat and coach, and finally a half an hour walk. In sum, the trip was time-consuming and tiring, started about 4am and finished around 4pm.

Anyway, it probably mid-way through my first trimester away from home, someone from my village parish happened to travel to My Tho for business, and dropped in to drop the bomb shell on me, which was the unexpected departure of my paternal grandmother as a result of a heart attack. I was told that her funeral took place more than a month before that, and it was too late for me to do anything then but cry and mourn for her, my dear grandma and protector. I was deeply upset for being the only family member absent at her funeral, and had to struggle with the pain for a long time.

Later on, the reason behind my grandfather’s decision to keep me in the dark was explained to me while the family was thrown in such a turbulence. It was twofold: One, because it was the long distance between my village and seminary, and practically it was impossible for the family to keep her body long enough for my viewing, and two, because my grandfather argued along the line of the Gospel today, to be more exact, of what Jesus told the person asking to join his company, when he asked for spare time to bury his father before he could say yes to his invitation, that ‘leave the dead to bury their dead, your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.’

To my grandfather’s understanding then, his duty, I guess, was to bury my grandmother, and mine to learn to preach about the Kingdom of God. However, I don’t think Jesus means to be that tough and heartless to his followers as such, when he made the statement. I rather think he aims to encourage his followers to focus on him and give him the best they can as his disciples, and such an intention of his is much clearer in the advice given to the second person, that ‘once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.’ In other words, Jesus asks for nothing but a total commitment to him from those who follow him and each of us has been one of those. As his disciples called to bear witness to him in various calls in the Church today, such as priest, parish ministers, mums and dads and children at home, let us ask for the generosity (1) to give our best shots in whatever vocation we are called to do to bear witness to Jesus here and now, and (2) make him proud by the way we live our lives as his disciples in the world.

Have a Christocentric week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...



NEW ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING DAY FOR 2022

All children in year 4 and higher are warmly invited to join our Altar Servers Ministry. Training will begin after the 9.30am Mass **Sunday 31 July** Applications forms are available at the back of the Church. For more information, please call Sarah at the Parish office on Thursday / Fridays or email: secretary@lol7hills.com.au



MASS SERVICE FOR THE LATE MELVYN FERNANDES

Will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Tuesday 28th June at 10.30am

THURSDAY MASS TIME As part of our School mission, we are going to change our Thursday Mass time from 8am to 9am from 7 July this year. Our aim is to offer children from our Parish school a weekly opportunity to attend Mass. So far, we have received positive response from our School Staff and hope that this initiative of ours will help rejuvenate the flame of faith within both the children and parents.

Sunday, June 26, 2022

PETER’S PENCE

“Encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.”
(1 Thess 5:11)

Make your contribution to the Holy Father
Offerings are designated for the Pope’s apostolic and charitable ministry

Promoted by In collaboration with

LOL MINISTRY ROSTER

25/26 June 2022

Acolytes	Vigil: John Jordan 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am Ramzee Michael
Ministers	Vigil: Louise La Guidara, SUB REQ 8am: Lorrain Fernandes, Maricel Santos 9.30am: Paul Gow, Maria Michael
Readers	Vigil: Noreen Do Rosario, Alison Punch 8am: Pepito Ferriols, SUB REQ 9.30am Mercy Aquino, Christina Diaz
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alex La Guidara, Christina La Guidara, Alex Spadaro 8am: Diana Park, Philip Park, Sean Park 9.30am Chloe Attard, Rynan Michael, Majerin Pieris
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ
Flowers	Annette & Mary B
Church cleaning	2 July Judith Deloso, Michelle Touma
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Joyce Hillbrick 9.30am: Lena Falzon

2/3 July 2022

Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am Sandy Manamperi
Ministers	Vigil: Anna Bellissimo, Laura Bellissimo 8am: Fennie Balatbat, Anne McNally 9.30am: Paul Gow, Antony Joseph
Readers	Vigil: Noreen Do Rosario, Alison Punch 8am: Pepito Ferriols, Kathy Walker 9.30am Christina Diaz, Jeanine Nonato
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alexa Bagatella, Dominic Sant, Johnathan Sant. 8am: Karuniya Maruthanayagam, VOLUNTEERS 9.30am Chloe Attard, Leo Culili, Majerin Pieris
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir
Flowers	Fenty, Gaby, Flo & Liz
Church cleaning	2 July Judith Deloso, Michelle Touma
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Joyce Hillbrick 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain

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.



EMERGENCY Ukraine Appeal

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to people in Ukraine.

DONATE TODAY
www.caritas.org.au/ukraine
1800 024 413 toll free



LOL PARISH CALENDAR

JUNE

29	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.00am
29	Legion of Mary	1.30pm

JULY

1	End of School Term 2	
4	St Vincent De Paul Meeting	7.00pm
8	Young Adults Group Meeting - PMR	7.00pm
14	Over 50's Meeting - Hall	10.30am
18	St Vincent De Paul Meeting	7.00pm

DIOCESAN NEWS

LIFTED RETREAT 2022 "Wonder & Awe": 1 – 3 July

You are invited to Catholic Youth Parramatta's annual young adults retreat. Take some time away from the busyness of everyday life and spend a weekend away full of prayer, talks, and community. For 18-35 year-olds. \$100 per person. Register at parracatholic.org/cyp-lifted-retreat.

FREE LECTURE—THE OUTSIDER POPE: Where is Francis leading our Church?

Tuesday 5 July 7.30pm
Novotel Parramatta, 350 Church St Parramatta.
Vatican correspondent from the international *The Tablet* magazine, author and speaker Christopher Lamb will present a free lecture reflecting on Pope Francis' battle to renew the Church and Pope Francis as a human being. RSVP essential by 2 July to mark.oconnor@parracatholic.org

ABORIGINAL CATHOLIC SERVICES NAIDOC WEEK Celebration: 4 July

Catholic Care's Aboriginal Catholic Services is hosting a community celebration to commemorate NAIDOC Week on Monday 4 July from 10am to 2pm at the Holy Family site in Emerton. Everyone is welcome to celebrate the many who have driven and led change in our communities over generations with a variety of entertainment, music, rides, stalls and more. Show your solidarity and have some family fun with members of our local Aboriginal community.

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE FIRST FRIDAY HEALING SERVICE : 1 July

The Divine Retreat Centre is hosting their First Friday Healing Service from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on Friday 1 July at Our Lady of Dolours Parish, Chatswood. The service will include the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Holy Mass and Adoration. To confirm attendance, please email chatswoodoffice@bbccatholic.org.au or call (02) 9410 9000.

Questions to Ask Measuring Integral Ecology in Our Lives

Looking through the Lens of Laudato Si'

REFLECTION 3

Are we responding in a way that is considering ecological economics? Are our economic transactions supporting sustainable, ethical and fair production, consumption and investment? Are they supporting ecology?

