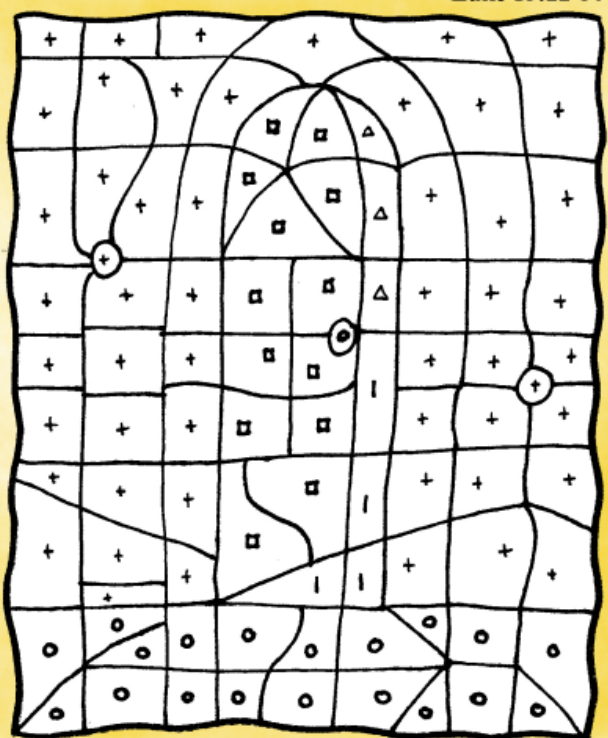


The Kids' Bulletin

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 21st, 2022

Luke 13:22-30



What was the way that Jesus told the people to enter the Kingdom of Heaven by?

Colour in the spaces using the code to find out.

△ Blue ■ Brown + White
| Green ● Grey

The Narrow Door

"Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to." Luke 13:24 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 13:22-30

H I I E J Y K N D V F T F Q O
P L E A D I N G F R S O B Y W
X B N V Q S T A N D A E U M N
C N D E T Q D E Y Q S N I K E
D L A I D F F M J P F D K E R
O T O H Q R O H A T Y X G Y Z
O D Z S E P M M H N P Y E I H
R H Z W E R L G R P Y U K K D
R O S J O D U J B L Z L N F C
T N U Z D A N A R R O W O B D
A E L T T E P M T O V T C A R
E E N S S W X H O U S E K C Y
Q I A T Z I C S T D Q P I D A
A L S T E I D J Y X A T N Q O
V C N M E R V E I P Y F G Q E

TAUGHT	STAND	DOOR	DRANK	KNOCKING
CLOSED	HOUSE	ENTER	ATE	OWNER
NARROW	ANSWER	PLEADING	OUTSIDE	MANY

Being Punished...

In today's second reading, Saint Paul wrote to the Hebrews about being disciplined by God. When we are young God wants our parents to make sure we behave well. When we don't behave He wants them to discipline us so that we will learn to be good.



Our parents don't punish us just because they are angry at us; they do it because they really love us and want us to learn to be better. Saint Paul says that the Lord disciplines the people that He loves.



Being punished is a painful thing, but we will be happy once we have learned our lesson and become a better person. Saint Paul says, "make a straight path for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed." He means that

when you are punished, you should stop doing the wrong thing so that you won't be hurt worse from the punishment, but will get better instead. So the next time you are disciplined or punished, remember that God is allowing it to help you become a better person. If you can, even thank God for giving you the chance to make up for your sin and learn a good lesson!

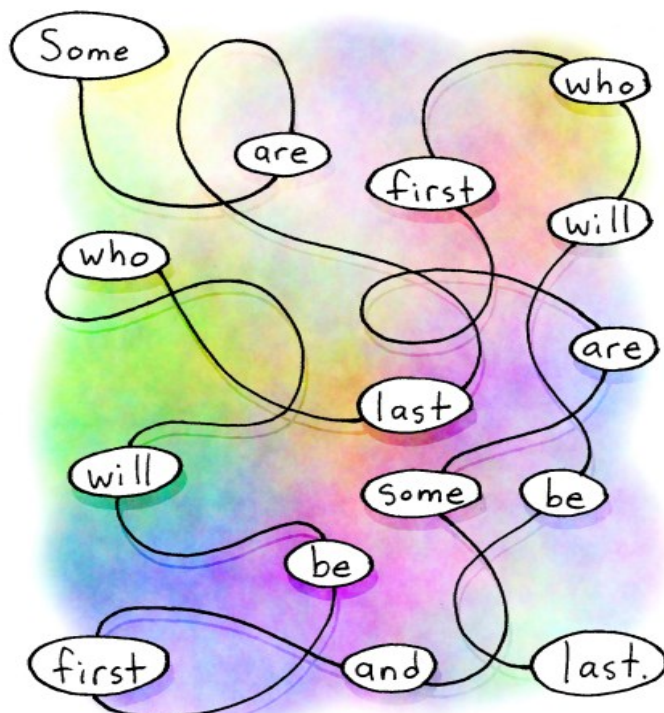
Inside: Some are last and some are first
Picture on front: the narrow door
who will be last



All in the Right Order

What was one of the things Jesus said in today's Gospel reading about the people in the Kingdom of Heaven?

Follow the squiggly line to sort out the words.
Start with "Some" in the top left corner.



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
Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am
Thursday 9.00am

WEEKDAY MASS:

Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8am & 9:30am

WEEKEND MASS:

Parish School:

OLOL 8869 6800

Principal:

Ms Keiran Byrnes

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4:30-5:30pm

Baptismal Preparation:

21st September 2022

Baptism:

9th October 2022

Parish Website:

www.olol7hills.com.au

Pastoral Care of the Sick:

Bathista Emmanuel

0405833655

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

21 August 2022 • Year C



Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, George Alagiah, Mary Attard, David Benjamin, Rosella Booth, Barrie Chamberlain, John Chandler, Ruby Chary, Parakranta Dias, Danilo Dolot, Elizabeth Ehsman, Anush Fernando, Joseph Franco, Anthony Janicska, Spencer Leon, Cynthia Lopez, Carmenu M, Marie Marchand, Wiranjan Peiris, Salome Pillay, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Sandra Roseworn, Susantha Seranayake, Bernie Sivapatham, Joan Spillane, Pummalin Sumcad, Sue Tipaldo, Natalie Woodward,

If you would like to add to our Sick List or know of any Parishioner that is unwell please contact Father Henry or email the Parish office secretary@olol7hills.com.au
We can also arrange for Holy Communion or a visit if required.

Let us Pray for the Deceased

Recently Deceased: Denise Bates, Maureen D'Crus, Jose Garcia, Danilo Gunabe, Candida Irugaldanbara, Maria Menezes, Helen Rose, Michael Sant, Anne Marie St Flour, Edwin Tabone, Susila Wijeratne, Mirella Zulic.

Anniversaries: Giovanni Alvarico, Giovanni Barnaba, Mary Rose Camenzuli, Joseph Caruana, Cini & Mangion Family, Simone & Pau I Commarmond, Clive Diggleman, Melvyn Fernandes, Apolinario Maglaya, Felina Maglaya, Edouard Mahomudally, Laurence Morrissey, Lourda Motha, Helidore & Cordula Paiva, Peppi Portelli, Natalie Spiteri, Tony Vassallo.

Remembrance: F. Angseesing, L. & J. Aristobil, R. M. & D. Barney, Fernandes Family, G. Marcello, P. Meilak, M. Mifsud, A. & L. Motha, S. & L. Mula, J. Muscat, M. Muscat, Muscat Family, B. Paiva, J. & R. Ratnam.

Our Lady of Lourdes



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

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

I come, therefore, with the most unbounded confidence
to implore your maternal intercession.
Obtain most loving mother, my requests,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
Amen.

COVID- 19 UPDATE



FACE MASKS
ENCOURAGED

• MASKS: are no longer mandatory but still encouraged

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

REGULAR COLLECTIONS - First and Second

* FIRST COLLECTION and 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

* SECOND COLLECTION or Planned Giving Program

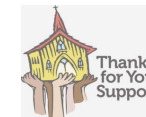
On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you very much for your ongoing support, which has been absolutely vital in keeping our Parish going strong. Projects completed include the Hall Kitchen renovation, Parish Meeting Room painting, Parish Office and Meeting Room Roof painted, Church roof cleaned and ceiling repaired and painted.

ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church.
BSB: 067 950
ACC: 000552
Reference: (Your Planned Giving envelope number or for a one off donation, 'DONATION')

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

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church
BSB: 062 315
ACC ID #: 00901486
AGENT #: 660



All are welcome to join us for Our Lady of Lourdes, Seven Hills, Sydney, NSW, Australia Facebook LIVE-STREAM WEEKEND MASS celebrated by Fr. Henry Huu Duc Tran on Saturdays 6PM (Vigil), <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 66:18-21

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Go out to all the world and tell the Good News

O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! (R.)

Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!
I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 13:22-30

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, ‘Sir, will there be only a few saved?’ He said to them, ‘Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.
‘Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, “Lord, open to us” but he will answer, “I do not know where you come from.” Then you will find yourself saying, “We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets” but he will reply, “I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!”
‘Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.
‘Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.’

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

GENERAL NOTICES...

NEW TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES? HOW CAN WE SERVE YOU?
Welcome. Wherever you are in your faith journey, it is great to have you. Please visit our website or call the parish office. We’re here to serve you.
www.olol7hills.org.au

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>



LOURDES OVER 50's GROUP
Come and make new friends and enjoy social activities. Meetings are at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall from 10.30am to 1pm once a month. Tea and coffee supplied.
Contact Mary for more information; jordanjm@bigpond.net.au

SICK AND/OR HOMEBOUND?
Would you like to receive Communion? Or seriously ill or in danger of death? We have dedicated ministers who can visit and bring you communion. Feel free to approach or call Fr Henry for the Holy Anointing of the Sick. Please call the parish office 96222920

FUNERALS
When a Funeral is to be celebrated, please contact Fr. Henry before contacting the Funeral Home. Funerals are not permitted on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation.

BAPTISM
Parents desiring Baptism for their children are encouraged to contact the parish office to arrange for the required preparation class for parents.

SCAM ALERT!!
Beware of any suspicious emails or text messages. Call the parish office for verification.

MASS INTENTIONS
All Mass intentions must be submitted to the Parish Office on or before Thursday

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP
Meet the second Friday of every month in the Parish Hall at 7pm
For more information contact Ian Epondulan: youtholol7h@gmail.com



KEEP UP TO DATE By visiting our parish website with news, the bulletin, prayers and much more - a great way to stay up to date with what's on in our Parish
Visit www.olol7hills.org.au

LEGION OF MARY
Thursday's at 1.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room. All Welcome

Christ Community Prayer Group
Thursday's at 9.30am in the Parish Meeting Room. All Welcome

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>



**EMERGENCY
Ukraine Appeal**

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to people in Ukraine.

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



OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

20/21 August 2022

Acolytes	Vigil: James Dinning 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am Eugene Miu
Ministers	Vigil: C. Menezes, F. Paiva 8am: Edith Gartner, Ernie Gartner 9.30am: M. Aquino, S. Lenthall
Readers	Vigil: A. Punch, M. Simic 8am: A. Joseph, M. Santos 9.30am F Kennedy
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. Laus, L. Laus, S.Thoms 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am S Cullili, Parish Pastoral Council
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	
Flowers	Fennie & Angela
Church cleaning	20 Aug H. Gonzales, D. Gonzales, N. Paylago, A. Pinto, M. Santos
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Rita Paolini 9.30am: Lena Falzon

27/28 August 2022

Acolytes	Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am Sandy Manamperi
Ministers	Vigil: M. Mifsud, R. Soares 8am: L. Fernandes, S. Nemorin 9.30am: B. Chandler, P. Gow
Readers	Vigil: C. Rodrigues, J. Sarmiento 8am: N. Arambulo, A. Joseph 9.30am C. Diaz, B. Motha
Altar Servers	Vigil: VOLUNTEERS 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am K. Maruthanayagam, F. Wanandy
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ
Flowers	Annette & Mary B
Church cleaning	24 Aug S. Abela, J. Borg, A. McNally, J. Peralta
Welcomers	Vigil: VOLUNTEER 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR

AUGUST

25	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.30am
25	Legion of Mary	1.30pm
25	Finance Committee Meeting	8.00pm
27	FIRST HOLY COMMUNION — 3rd meeting— repeat	4:30-5:30pm
31	FIRST HOLY COMMUNION — 3rd meeting	6.30pm

POPE FRANCIS’ LAST PAPAL FLIGHT INTERVIEW

Eva Fernandez, Cope: Holy Father, at the end of August we will have a consistory. Lately many people have been asking if you have thought about resigning. Don’t worry, we won’t ask this time. But we are curious: Holy Father, have you ever thought of what characteristics you would like your successor to have? Thank you.

Pope Francis: This is the work of the Holy Spirit. I would never dare to think that. The Holy Spirit can do this better than me and better than all of us because He inspires the decisions of the pope, always inspires because He is alive in the Church. You cannot conceive of the Church without the Holy Spirit. He is the one who makes the differences, who makes the noise — think about the morning of Pentecost — and then leads to harmony. It is important to talk about harmony rather than unity. Unity, but harmony, not as a fixed thing. The Holy Spirit gives a progressive harmony that goes on.

I like what St. Basil says about the Holy Spirit: *Ipse Armonia Est*, he is harmony. He is harmony because first he makes noise with the differences of charisms. Let us leave this work to the Holy Spirit.

On the topic of my resignation, I would like to thank a nice article that one of you wrote on all the signs that could lead to a resignation and all the signs that are appearing. And that is a nice journalistic work by a journalist who then ultimately gives an opinion. But to see those signs as well, not just the statements, that subterranean language, and other signs as well. That is being able to read signals or at least make an effort to interpret that it may be this or it may be that. This is good work and I thank you very much.

Bruni: Now perhaps one last question from Phoebe Nathanson of ABC.

Phoebe Nathanson, ABC: I know you’ve had a lot of questions like this, but I wanted to ask: At this time, with the health difficulties and everything, has the idea occurred to you that it may be time to retire? Have you had any problems that made you think about this? Were there any difficult moments that made you think about this?

Pope Francis: The door is open. It’s one of the normal options, but up to today I haven’t knocked on that door ... I haven’t felt like thinking about that possibility. But maybe that doesn’t mean the day after tomorrow I will start thinking. But right now I honestly haven’t.

It’s true that this trip was a bit of a test; you can’t take trips in this condition. You have to maybe change your style a bit, lessen, pay off the debt of the trips you still have to take, rearrange. But the Lord will say. The door is open, that’s true.

Before I take my leave I would like to talk about something that is very important to me. The trip to Canada was very much related to the figure of St. Anne, and I said some things about women, but especially about the elderly, mothers about grandmothers, and I emphasized one thing that is clear: faith should be transmitted in dialect, and the dialect, I said it clearly, the dialect of grandmothers. We received the faith in that female dialect form. And that is very important. The role of the grandmother, in faith transmission and faith development.

It is the mother or grandmother who teaches how to pray, it is the mother or grandmother who explains the first things that the child does not understand about the faith. I can tell that this dialectal transmission of faith is feminine. Someone may say to me: but theologically, how do you explain it?

Before I take my leave I would like to talk about something that is very important to me. The trip to Canada was very much related to the figure of St. Anne, and I said some things about women, but especially about the elderly, mothers about grandmothers. And I emphasized one thing that is clear: faith should be transmitted in dialect, and the dialect, I said it clearly, the accent of grandmothers. We received the faith in that form of female dialect. And that is very important: The role of the grandmother, in faith transmission and faith development.

It is the mother or grandmother who teaches how to pray. It is the mother or grandmother who explains the first things that the child does not understand about the faith. I can tell that this vernacular transmission of faith is feminine. Someone may say to me: but theologically how do you explain it?

I will say: The one who transmits the faith is the Church, and the Church is a woman. The Church is bride. The Church is not male. The Church is female, and we have to enter into this thought of the Church as woman, the Church as mother, which is more important than any macho ministerial fantasy or any macho power. The Church is *mater*, the motherhood of the Church, that which is the figure of the Mother of the Lord.

It is important in this sense to emphasize the importance of this maternal dialect. I discovered this by reading, for example, the martyrdom of the Maccabees: two three times it said that the mother gave soul in maternal dialect. Faith has to be transmitted in dialect and that dialect is spoken by women, and that is the great joy of the Church because the Church is a woman. The Church is a bride, and this I wanted to say clearly thinking of St. Anne.

Thank you for your patience. Thank you for listening, and have a good trip.

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - REFLECTION

Being a Baptised Christian doesn't guarantee we will have a spot in the Kingdom of God. We have to be Christian in deed and not just in name. Besides going to Church on Sunday, how is your faith in Jesus obvious to those around you?

It is frustrating to arrive at a shop a few minutes after it has closed. There is nothing we can do about it. The same applies to God's Kingdom. Asking to know numbers of people entering the Kingdom of God is a sin of pride and vanity. Even King David was well rebuked on God's behalf by Gad, David's Seer and required to accept one of three penances; 3 years of famine, fleeing for 3 months before a pursuing army or have three days of epidemic. David chose the epidemic for it was much better to fall into God's hands for His mercy is so great that it is the lesser of his penance!

In the Gospel today, Jesus was asked much the same numbers question as King David did and ignored it. He put the onus back on the speaker reminding him to try his best to enter by the narrow door and many will find that the Lord will not know them as they die without loving him.

As for ourselves, we can rely on Thomas Merton when he says "to have hope in the Lord is to already possess Him". Jesus himself has also confirmed this same promise when he said, "Anyone who loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make a home in him." (John 14-23). This should give us all great comfort!

PARISH NEWS...

HAVE YOU WRITTEN YOUR SHORT PIECE FOR THE DIAMOND JUBILEE – CALLING ALL PARISH GROUP COORDINATORS To commemorate the 60th Anniversary of OLOL, we would like to publish a Parish Book, linking the theme from our previous parish book, OLOL Diamond Jubilee: Ongoing Blessings. We ask you to write a short piece, between 500 to 1000 words which **briefly** tells us about the group's origin/history, what you do now and your hopes for the group's future direction. If you could email Artelle by **31st August 2022**. artellel@olol7hills.com.au

THURSDAY MASS TIME As part of our School mission, we have changed 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.

PARISH BIN ROSTER - VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED We are seeking **12 volunteers** each to assist 4 times a year to place the Parish bins on the kerbside (Grantham Road) once a week on Tuesday. Please contact the Parish Office 9622 2920 if you are able to help out. *Thank you.*

BISHOP'S FATHERS DAY APPEAL for Retired and Sick Priests is traditionally held on Father's Day, this year being the weekend of Sunday 4 September. This annual appeal raises much needed funds for our Diocese's Clergy Support Foundation to continue its work of supporting retired clergy and those in ill-health. We currently care for 21 retired clergy in our Diocese – 1 bishop, 18 priests and 2 deacons. This year's appeal will highlight the faithful service of our retired clergy, and in particular, Mons John Boyle, Fr Chris Dixon and Fr Bob Sheridan. With your enthusiastic support for our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal, our Clergy Support Foundation can better care for our 21 retired priests and those clergy who are unwell, giving them comfort, professional health care, and guidance. As you know, our faithful parish priests never truly retire!

WE NEED YOU! BECOME A CATECHIST AN SRE VOLUNTEER! SRE's are parish volunteers who:

- Teach and share their faith with children of their parish who attend government schools.
- Have a passion for sharing the gift of faith with young people.
- Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time and talents with young people.
- Are people who respond to the central mission of the Church to make Jesus known and loved.

In this parish Special Religious Educators, SRE's (previously known as Catechists) go into Seven Hills, Seven Hills North, Bert Oldfield, Vardys Road State primary schools and The Hills Sports High School.

Day	Tuesday	Wednes-day	Thursday	Friday
School	Seven Hills North	Seven Hills	Vardy's Rd	Hills Sport High
Class/ Time	Infants 10.30-11.00am	Kindy– Yr6 11.20-12.00pm	Primary 9.15-9.45am	TBA
Class/ Time	Primary 11.30-12.00pm		Infants 10.00-10.30am	

New volunteers SRE's will be given support, training, teaching materials and will start as a classroom helper.

To register your interest please call Bob McNally 0439604203 email: mcnallyanne@yahoo.com.au or contact the parish office. 96222920

DIOCESAN NEWS

OLMC PARRAMATTA - Class of '90, '91 & '92 30 Year Reunion Function Saturday 17th September Parramatta Park Royal . Come and join your old schoolmates and teachers for a reunion for the Classes of 1990, 1991 and 1992. There will be roaming canapés throughout the evening, with an on-consumption bar and a live DJ to dance the night away.

OLMC Alumnae Day Sunday 18th September 10am Mass in the Chapel followed by College Tours. 12:30pm High Tea at Lachlan's Restaurant, Old Government House Click on the link to secure your ticket! <https://bit.ly/3nOIPD3> Reunion Committee: belindahildaclarke@gmail.com natalie_galea@yahoo.com.au sarahken-ny767@gmail.com

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS' SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT for 2022-23 has been released. It is entitled **"Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse"** and points out that the roots of domestic and family violence "lie in the abuse of power to control and dominate others" and that "this stands in contrast to the relationships to which God calls us". The statement calls for faith communities to support and believe those going through domestic and family violence and abuse, to hold perpetrators to account and work towards individual and social transformation. You can **download the statement** + accompanying resources and find out more at socialjustice.catholic.org.au



THE CAMPION COLLEGE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION invites you to attend a medieval masquerade ball. 10th September 2022, 5.30pm Vigil Mass, 6.45pm Ball commences. 8-14 Austin Woodbury Place, Toongabbie 2146 Open to youth/young adults (ages 16-35)... All welcome \$80 per person. Purchase your tickets at campion.edu.au/events

THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA IS HEADING TO WYD23 IN LISBON

Bishop Vincent has announced a pilgrimage to the next World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal from July 21 – August 11, 2023. Young people 16-35 and their families are encouraged to learn more at www.parrawyd.org and register for the upcoming Launch Event featuring Fr Rob Galea on August 18. For all enquiries contact James Camden, Head Mission Engagement – james.camden@parracatholic.org

KNITTING4JUSTICE Do you want to learn or teach knitting? We will knit anything that is useful for human beings to wear to protect themselves, scarfs, shawls, bed covers, jumpers, socks for infants and children. Even articles for your pets, if you ask us. The works emerging from love, skilled hands and artistry will be sold during TLC's Annual Community Fund-raising Dinner and other events organised and conducted by TLC. We will commit to donating a percentage of our goods each year to those in need. Please register your interest by emailing us on: knitting4justice@tlc.asn.au or through our web-site: www.tlc.asn.au/knitting4justice. It will initially start at the hall next to St Anthony's Catholic Church, 27 Aurelia Street, Toongabbie.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER VIRTUAL MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND: 19 – 21 August

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter team are hosting a Virtual Marriage Enrichment Weekend from 19 August at 7pm to 21 August at around 4pm via Zoom. Learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love. Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Mercy and James Bvirakare on 0409 183 676 or vicbook-ings@wwme.org.au



APOSTOLIC LETTER DESIDERIO DESIDERAVI OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS

TO THE BISHOPS, PRIESTS AND DEACONS,
TO CONSECRATED MEN AND WOMEN
AND TO THE LAY FAITHFUL
ON THE LITURGICAL FORMATION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

1. My dearest brothers and sisters, with this letter I desire to reach you all – after having written already only to the bishops after the publication of the *Motu Proprio Traditionis custodes* – and I write to share with you some reflections on the liturgy, a dimension fundamental for the life of the Church. The theme is vast and always deserves an attentive consideration in every one of its aspects. Even so, with this letter I do not intend to treat the question in an exhaustive way. I simply desire to offer some prompts or cues for reflections that can aid in the contemplation of the beauty and truth of Christian celebration. *The Liturgy: the "today" of salvation history*

2. *"I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer."* (Lk 22:15) These words of Jesus, with which the account of the Last Supper opens, are the crevice through which we are given the surprising possibility of intuiting the depth of the love of the persons of the Most Holy Trinity for us.

3. Peter and John were sent to make preparations to eat that Passover, but in actual fact, all of creation, all of history — which at last was on the verge of revealing itself as the history of salvation — was a huge preparation for that Supper. Peter and the others are present at that table, unaware and yet necessary. Necessary because every gift, to be gift, must have someone disposed to receive it. In this case, the disproportion between the immensity of the gift and the smallness of the one who receives it is infinite, and it cannot fail to surprise us. Nonetheless, through the mercy of the Lord, the gift is entrusted to the Apostles so that it might be carried to every man and woman. 4. No one had earned a place at that Supper. All had been invited. Or better said: all had been drawn there by the burning desire that Jesus had to eat that Passover with them. He knows that he is the Lamb of that Passover meal; he knows that he is the Passover. This is the absolute newness, the absolute originality, of that Supper, the only truly new thing in history, which renders that Supper unique and for this reason "the Last Supper," unrepeatable. Nonetheless, his infinite desire to re-establish that communion with us that was and remains his original design, will not be satisfied until every man and woman, *from every tribe, tongue, people and nation* (Re 5:9), shall have eaten his Body and drunk his Blood. And for this reason that same Supper will be made present in the celebration of the Eucharist until he returns again.

5. The world still does not know it, but everyone is *invited to the supper of the wedding of the Lamb* (Re 19:9). To be admitted to the feast all that is required is the wedding garment of faith which comes from the hearing of his Word (cf. Ro 10:17). The Church tailors such a garment to fit each one with the whiteness of a garment *bathed in the blood of the Lamb*. (Re 7:14). We must not allow ourselves even a moment of rest, knowing that still not everyone has received an invitation to this Supper or knowing that others have forgotten it or have got lost along the way in the twists and turns of human living. This is what I spoke of when I said, "I dream of a 'missionary option', that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self-preservation." (*Evangelii gaudium*, n. 27). I want this so that all can be seated at the Supper of the sacrifice of the Lamb and live from Him.

6. Before our response to his invitation — well before! — there is his desire for us. We may not even be aware of it, but every time we go to Mass, the first reason is that we are drawn there by his desire for us. For our part, the possible response — which is also the most demanding asceticism — is, as always, that surrender to this love, that letting ourselves be drawn by him. Indeed, every reception of communion of the Body and Blood of Christ was already desired by him in the Last Supper.

7. The content of the bread broken is the cross of Jesus, his sacrifice of obedience out of love for the Father. If we had not had the Last Supper, that is to say, if we had not had the ritual anticipation of his death, we would have never been able to grasp how the carrying out of his being condemned to death could have been in fact *the act of perfect worship*, pleasing to the Father, the only true act of worship, the only true liturgy. Only a few hours after the Supper, the apostles could have seen in the cross of Jesus, if they could have borne the weight of it, what it meant for Jesus to say, "body offered," "blood poured out." It is this of which we make memorial in every Eucharist. When the Risen One returns from the dead to break the bread for the disciples at Emmaus, and for his disciples who had gone back to fishing for fish and not for people on the Sea of Galilee, that gesture of breaking the bread opens their eyes. It heals them from the blindness inflicted by the horror of the cross, and it renders them capable of "seeing" the Risen One, of believing in the Resurrection.

8. If we had somehow arrived in Jerusalem after Pentecost and had felt the desire not only to have information about Jesus of Nazareth but rather the desire still to be able to meet him, we would have had no other possibility than that of searching out his disciples so that we could hear his words and see his gestures, more alive than ever. We would have had no other possibility of a true encounter with him other than that of the community that celebrates. For this reason the Church has always protected as its most precious treasure the command of the Lord, "Do this in memory of me."

9. From the very beginning the Church was aware that this was not a question of a representation, however sacred it be, of the Supper of the Lord. It would have made no sense, and no one would have been able to think of "staging" — especially before the eyes of Mary, the Mother of the Lord — that highest moment of the life of the Master. From the very beginning the Church had grasped, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, that that which was visible in Jesus, that which could be seen with the eyes and touched with the hands, his words and his gestures, the concreteness of the incarnate Word — everything of Him had passed into the celebration of the sacraments.