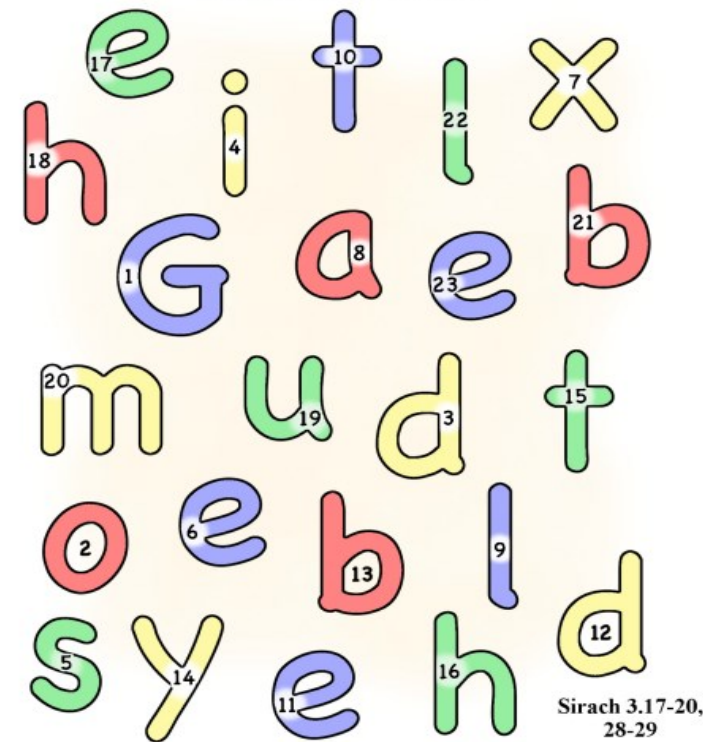


The Kids' Bulletin

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 28th, 2022



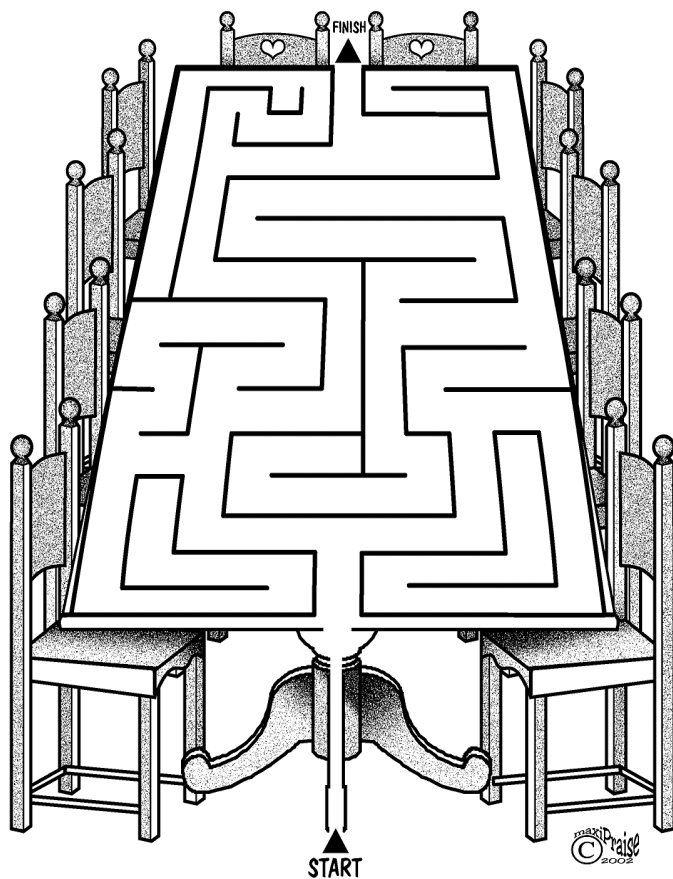
What can we learn from today's first reading?
Sort out the letters by their numbers to fill in the blanks.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

Parable

The Seat to Take

Move from the bottom of the table to the head. Then you can colour in the maze.



Taking the Lowest Place

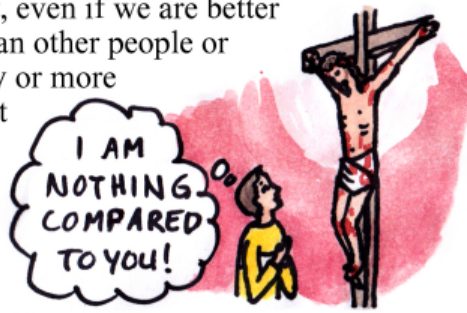


In today's Gospel reading, Jesus was watching to see where the people sat when they were guests at a dinner. Some people thought they were important so they sat in the more important places. Jesus saw that they were proud, so He taught them about being humble.

When we are proud we think that we are more important than other people, and that we deserve to have better things. We start to look down on everyone else, and pretty soon we start thinking that God isn't so great either!

Being humble means knowing that we really are not all that important, even if we are better at some things than other people or have more money or more important jobs. It means we know that God gave us these things to help others, not so that we could be proud about them.

We can only give glory to God when we are humble.



Luke 14:1,7-14

Answers: Front page: God is exalted by the humble.
True or False: 1.false 2.true 3.true 4.true 5.false 6.true 7.false

www.thekidsbulletin.com

A Lesson in Humility

"For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." Luke 14:11 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 14:7-14



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

POOR	EXALT	FEAST	HONOR	DINNER
FRIEND	SEAT	TABLE	HUMBLE	RICH
LAME	INVITE	GUESTS	LEAST	BLIND



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 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

28 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, Parakrania Dias, Danilo Dolot, Elizabeth Ehsman, Anush Fernando, Joseph Franco, Anthony Janicska, Spencer Leon, Cynthia Lopez, Carmenu M, Marie Marchand, Wiranjan Peiris, Adrian Pereira, 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, Jesus 'Jet' Fernando, Jose Garcia Snr, Danilo Gunabe, Candida Irugaldanbara, Maria Menezes, Helen Rose, Michael Sant, Anne Marie St Flour, Edwin Tabone, Susila Wijerane, Mirella Zulic.

Anniversaries: Giovani Alvarico, Lina Cabaero, Mary Rose Camenzuli, Joseph Caruana, Cini & Mangion Family, Simone & Paul Commarmond, Clive Diggleman, Melvyn Fernandes, Leandro Garcia Snr, Zenaida Garcia, Edouard Mahomudally, Pauline Meilak, Laurence Morrissey, Lourda Motha, Ignacio Nonato Snr, Helidore & Cordula Paiva, Peppi Portelli, Natalie Spiteri, Caroline Susainathan, Tony Vassallo.

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



• **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')

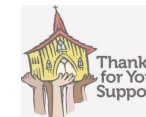
IN-PERSON BANK DEPOSIT (at a Bank Inst / Branch)

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 book of Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man’s malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage’s dream.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy. O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. (R.)

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place. God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. (R.)

You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life. It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a ‘first-born son’ and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 14:1, 7-14

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, ‘When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, “Give up your place to this man.” And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the low-est place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, “My friend, move up higher.” In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you hon-oured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.’ Then he said to his host, ‘When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because re-payment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.’

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

LOLO MINISTRY ROSTER

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	3 Sept Judith Deloso, Michelle Touma
Welcomers	Vigil: VOLUNTEER 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain

3/4 September 2022

Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am Ramzee Michael
Ministers	Vigil: C. Gonzales, H. Gonzales 8am: F. Balatbat, A. McNally 9.30am: A. Bellissimo, M. Michael
Readers	Vigil: N. Do Rosario, VOLUNTEER 8am: P. Ferriols, K. Walker 9.30am L. Bellissimo, J. Nonato
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alexa Bagatella, VOLUNTEERS 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am C. Attard, L. Culili, M. Pieris
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir
Flowers	Fenty, Gaby, Flo & Liz
Church cleaning	7 Sept L.Spiteri, S. Manaperi, J. Peralta
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Joyce Hillbrick 9.30am: VOLUNTEER

LOLO PARISH CALENDAR

AUGUST

29	St Vincent De Paul Meeting	7.00pm
31	FIRST HOLY COMMUNION — 3rd meeting	6.30pm
SEPTEMBER		
1	Christ Community Prayer Group	9.30am
1	Legion of Mary	1.30pm
3/4	Father's Day Appeal	
8	Lourdes Over 50's	10.30am

The Church: Sacrament of the Body of Christ

14. As [Vatican Council II](#) reminded us (cf. [Sacrosanctum Concilium](#), n. 5), citing the scriptures, the Fathers, and the Liturgy — the pillars of authentic Tradition — *it was from the side of Christ as He slept the sleep of death upon the cross that there came forth “the wondrous sacrament of the whole Church.”* [4] The parallel between the first Adam and the new Adam is striking: as from the side of the first Adam, after having cast him into a deep sleep, God draws forth Eve, so also from the side of the new Adam, sleeping the sleep of death on the cross, there is born the new Eve, the Church. The astonishment for us lies in the words that we can imagine the new Adam made his own in gazing at the Church: “Here at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh.” (Ge 2:23) For our having believed in His Word and descended into the waters of Baptism, we have become bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh.

15. Without this incorporation there is no possibility of living the fullness of the worship of God. In fact, there is only one act of worship, perfect and pleasing to the Father; namely, the obedience of the Son, the measure of which is his death on the cross. The only possibility of being able to participate in his offering is by becoming “sons in the Son.” This is the gift that we have received. The subject acting in the Liturgy is always and only Christ-Church, the mystical Body of Christ.

The theological sense of the Liturgy

16. We owe to the Council — and to the liturgical movement that preceded it — the rediscovery of a theological understanding of the Liturgy and of its importance in the life of the Church. As the general principles spelled out in [Sacrosanctum Concilium](#) have been fundamental for the reform of the liturgy, they continue to be fundamental for the promotion of that full, conscious, active, and fruitful celebration (cf. [Sacrosanctum Concilium](#), nn. 11; 14), in the liturgy “the primary and indispensable source from which the faithful are to derive the true Christian spirit” ([Sacrosanctum Concilium](#), n. 14). With this letter I simply want to invite the whole Church to rediscover, to safeguard, and to live the truth and power of the Christian celebration. I want the beauty of the Christian celebration and its necessary consequences for the life of the Church not to be spoiled by a superficial and foreshortened understanding of its value or, worse yet, by its being exploited in service of some ideological vision, no matter what the hue. The priestly prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper that all may be one (Jn 17:21) judges every one of our divisions around the Bread broken, around *the sacrament of mercy, the sign of unity, the bond of charity.* [5]

The Liturgy: antidote for the poison of spiritual worldliness

17. On different occasions I have warned against a dangerous temptation for the life of the Church, which I called “spiritual worldliness.” I spoke about this at length in the exhortation [Evangelii gaudium](#) (nn. 93-97), pinpointing Gnosticism and neo-Pelagianism as two versions connected between themselves that feed this spiritual worldliness.

The first shrinks Christian faith into a subjectivism that “ultimately keeps one imprisoned in his or her own thoughts and feelings.” (EG 94) The second cancels out the role of grace and “leads instead to a narcissistic and authoritarian elitism, whereby instead of evangelizing, one analyses and classifies others, and instead of opening the door to grace, one exhausts his or her energies in inspecting and verifying.” (EG 94) These distorted forms of Christianity can have disastrous consequences for the life of the Church.

18. From what I have recalled above it is clear that the Liturgy is, by its very nature, the most effective antidote against these poisons. Obviously, I am speaking of the Liturgy in its theological sense and certainly not, [as Pius XII already affirmed](#), Liturgy as *decorative ceremonies or a mere sum total of laws and precepts that govern the cult.* [6]

19. If Gnosticism intoxicates us with the poison of subjectivism, the liturgical celebration frees us from the prison of a self-referencing nourished by one’s own reasoning and one’s own feeling. The action of the celebration does not belong to the individual but to the Christ-Church, to the totality of the faithful united in Christ. The liturgy does not say “I” but “we,” and any limitation on the breadth of this “we” is always demonic. The Liturgy does not leave us alone to search out an individual supposed knowledge of the mystery of God. Rather, it takes us by the hand, together, as an assembly, to lead us deep within the mystery that the Word and the sacramental signs reveal to us. And it does this, consistent with all action of God, following the way of the Incarnation, that is, by means of the symbolic language of the body, which extends to things in space and time.

20. If neo-Pelagianism intoxicates us with the presumption of a salvation earned through our own efforts, the liturgical celebration purifies us, proclaiming the gratuity of the gift of salvation received in faith. Participating in the Eucharistic sacrifice is not our own achievement, as if because of it we could boast before God or before our brothers and sisters. The beginning of every celebration reminds me who I am, asking me to confess my sin and inviting me to implore the Blessed Mary ever virgin, the angels and saints and all my brothers and sisters to pray for me to the Lord our God. Certainly, we are not worthy to enter his house; we need a word of his to be saved. (cf. Ma 8:8) We have no other boast but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. (cf. Gal 6:14) The Liturgy has nothing to do with an ascetical moralism. It is the gift of the Paschal Mystery of the Lord which, received with docility, makes our life new. The cenacle is not entered except through the power of attraction of his desire to eat the Passover with us: *Desiderio desideravi hoc Pascha manducare vobiscum, antequam patiar* (Lk 22:15).

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - REFLECTION

A woman dreamt that when she died and went to heaven she was surprised to see some people there whom she considered spiritually inferior. She then noticed that each of these people also looked surprised because, it seems, none of them expected to see her there either. Pray this week that God will teach you how to be humble.

It always seems difficult to understand the sayings of Jesus in today’s Gospel. First as he enters the house of a leading Pharisee he tells his friends that it is better to take the lowly place than take the higher place in the dining room and avoid the embarrassment if he was asked to shift. Then again he says when you give a lunch or dinner do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours for fear they will repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. He says no, when you have a party invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind who cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.

To fully understand this we need to listen to Mary, the Mother of God, when she intones her Magnificat thanking God for the graces, he has given her. First, she acknowledges the great things God has done for her when she says: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, because he has looked upon the humiliation of his servant. Yes, from now onwards all generations will call me blessed for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name.

We now see that all Mary’s praise is centered on her God when she says: Whose faithful love extends from age after to those who fear him. He has used the power of his arm. He has routed the arrogant of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and raised high the lowly. He has filled the starving with good things, sent the rich away empty. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his faithful love; of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

It is very clear that God the Father intended that his Son be like a man in all things and so he was born in a manger, suffered the long Journey into Egypt to get away from Herod who sought to kill him and on his return to Israel he worked as a lowly carpenter until he began his Father’s work and taught his Apostles to act as He and the Father would act. This is what you would expect from an all powerful and everlasting God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

PARISH NEWS...



Lourdes Over 50's: next meeting on Thursday 8th September from 10.30 am to 1.00 pm will be held in the Parish Hall. Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee supplied. Parishioners are welcome to join us.

HAVE YOU WRITTEN YOUR SHORT PIECE FOR THE DIAMOND JUBILEE – DUE Wednesday 31st August- 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

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!



ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

The Diocese of Parramatta wishes to congratulate Fr Andrew Rooney following his ordination to the priesthood on Friday 26 August. Visit catholicoutlook.org in the coming week for an article and photographs from the ordination as well as a video introducing Fr Andrew to the Diocese.



Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT- Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse, invites us to engage with a complex and confronting social reality. It explores the roots of violence and abuse, honours the voices of victims, offers a social and theological exploration of the reality of violence, especially against women and children, and invites us to develop relationships in all parts of our lives ‘marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control.’ We welcome this urgent call from our Church to deepen our faith through full and frank discussion and dialogue, advocacy and action. **If the content of the Statement raises issues or concerns for you**, please refer to the Getting Help page in the Statement for a list of support channels, or speak to a trusted friend, your GP, your parish priest or parish pastoral worker. For more information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or Tel (02) 62019845. You can **download the statement** + accompanying resources including audio files and find out more at socialjustice.catholic.org.au. We have 10 printed copies of the statement at the back of the church.

““LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF CREATION” is the theme and invitation of this year’s Season of Creation. The ecumenical phase begins on 1 September with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and concludes on 4 October with the feast of Saint Francis. It is a special time for all Christians to pray and work together to care for our common home.”“During this Season of Creation, let us pray that COP27 and COP15 can serve to unite the human family (cf. *ibid.*, 13) in effectively confronting the double crisis of climate change and the reduction of biodiversity. Mindful of the exhortation of Saint Paul to rejoice with those who rejoice and to weep with those who weep (cf. Rom 12:15), let us weep with the anguished plea of creation. Let us hear that plea and respond to it with deeds, so that we and future generations can continue to rejoice in creation’s sweet song of life and hope.” **Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the Celebration of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation.**
Family Exploration walk on Saturday 10th Septemeber 10am-noon, suitable for wheelchairs, walkers and scooters. Starting at Grantham Road, Soldiers Settlement Reserve and continuing onto Duncan park. Mark the date. **Contact Laudato Si / Social Justice group** if you would like to help on the day socialjustice@olol7hills.com.au or Terry 0409373715.



The Season of Creation commences on September 1 and is the annual ecumenical celebration that unites the world’s 2.4 billion Christians in prayer and action for our common home. To coincide with the Season of Creation Dr Sebastian Selaske-Lentern and James Atanasios from the Diocesan Peace, Justice and Ecology ministry will speak to us on the topic: **Faith and authentic living – Care for neighbour and the care for creation.** This event be held on **Tuesday 6th September** at 7-8.30 in the parish hall, 52 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773 Please register via secretary@stfinbars.org.au



Listen to the
Voice of creation
SEASON OF CREATION 2022



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

The Liturgy: place of encounter with Christ

- 10.** Here lies all the powerful beauty of the liturgy. If the resurrection were for us a concept, an idea, a thought; if the Risen One were for us the recollection of the recollection of others, however authoritative, as, for example, of the Apostles; if there were not given also to us the possibility of a true encounter with Him, that would be to declare the newness of the Word made flesh to have been all used up. Instead, the Incarnation, in addition to being the only always new event that history knows, is also the very method that the Holy Trinity has chosen to open to us the way of communion. Christian faith is either an encounter with Him alive, or it does not exist.
- 11.** The Liturgy guarantees for us the possibility of such an encounter. For us a vague memory of the Last Supper would do no good. We need to be present at that Supper, to be able to hear his voice, to eat his Body and to drink his Blood. We need Him. In the Eucharist and in all the sacraments we are guaranteed the possibility of encountering the Lord Jesus and of having the power of his Paschal Mystery reach us. The salvific power of the sacrifice of Jesus, his every word, his every gesture, glance, and feeling reaches us through the celebration of the sacraments. I am Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman at the well, the man possessed by demons at Capernaum, the paralytic in the house of Peter, the sinful woman pardoned, the woman afflicted by haemorrhages, the daughter of Jairus, the blind man of Jericho, Zacchaeus, Lazarus, the thief and Peter both pardoned. The Lord Jesus who dies no more, who lives forever with the signs of his Passion continues to pardon us, to heal us, to save us with the power of the sacraments. It is the concrete way, by means of his incarnation, that he loves us. It is the way in which he satisfies his own thirst for us that he had declared from the cross. (Jn 19:28)
- 12.** Our first encounter with his paschal deed is the event that marks the life of all believers: our Baptism. This is not a mental adhesion to his thought or the agreeing to a code of conduct imposed by Him. Rather, it is a being plunged into his passion, death, resurrection, and ascension, a being plunged into his paschal deed. It is not magic. Magic is the opposite of the logic of the sacraments because magic pretends to have a power over God, and for this reason it comes from the Tempter. In perfect continuity with the Incarnation, there is given to us, in virtue of the presence and action of the Spirit, the possibility of dying and rising in Christ.
- 13.** How moving, the way in which this comes about. The prayer for the blessing of baptismal water reveals to us that God created water precisely with Baptism in mind. This means that when God created water, he was thinking of the Baptism of each one of us, and this same thought accompanied him all throughout his acting in the history of salvation every time that, with precise intention, he used water for his saving work. It is as if after having created water in the first place, he had wanted to perfect it by making it eventually to be the water of Baptism. It was thus that he wanted to fill it with the movement of his Spirit hovering over the face of the waters (Ge 1:2) so that it could contain hidden within the power to sanctify. He used water to regenerate humanity through the flood (Ge 6:1-9,29). He controlled it, separating it to open the way of freedom through the Red Sea (cf. Ex 14). He consecrated it in the Jordan, plunging into it the flesh of the Word soaked in the Spirit. (cf. Ma 3:13-17; Mk 1:9-11; Lk 3:21-22) At the end he blended it with the blood of his Son, the gift of the Spirit inseparably united with the gift of the life and death of the Lamb slain for us, and from his pierced side he poured it out over us. (Jn 19:34) And it is into this water that we have been immersed so that through its power we can be inserted into the Body of Christ and with him rise to immortal life. (cf. Ro 6:1-11)