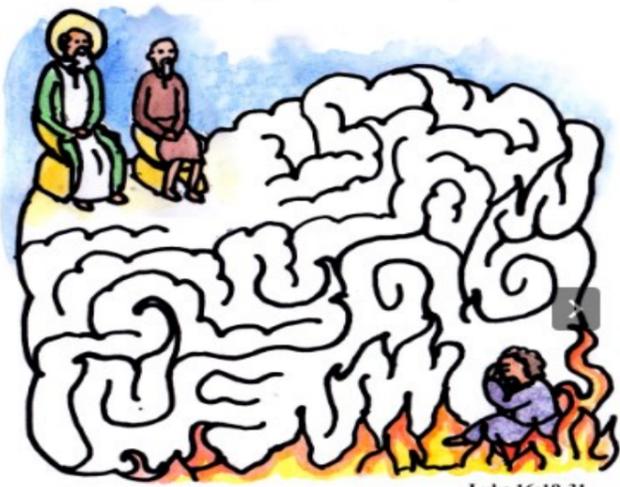


The Kids' Bulletin

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday September 25th, 2022

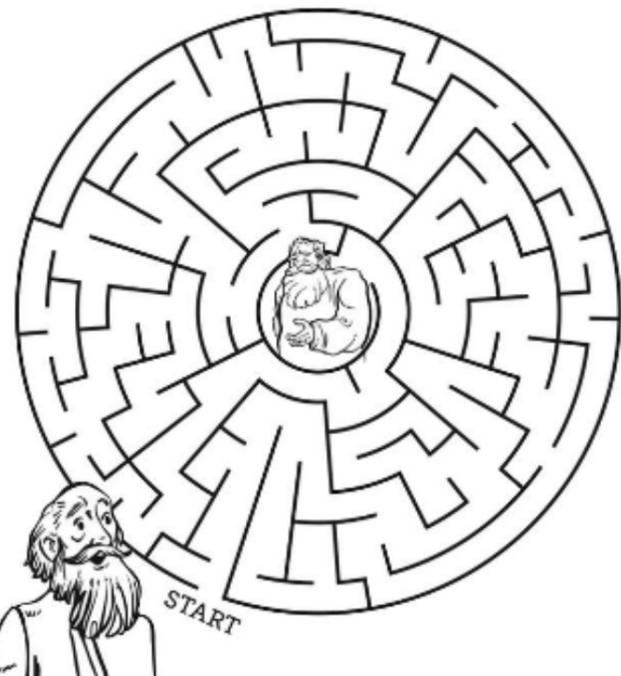
THE RICH MAN & LAZARUS

Guide Lazarus to Abraham



Luke 16:19-31

In today's Gospel reading the rich man asks Abraham to send Lazarus to him with a drop of cool water. But can Lazarus cross between Heaven and Hell? See if the maze will let him cross.



Sort-the-Pictures

Lazarus and the Rich Man

1. If they didn't believe the prophets they won't believe someone who is raised from the dead.

2. And the rich man died.

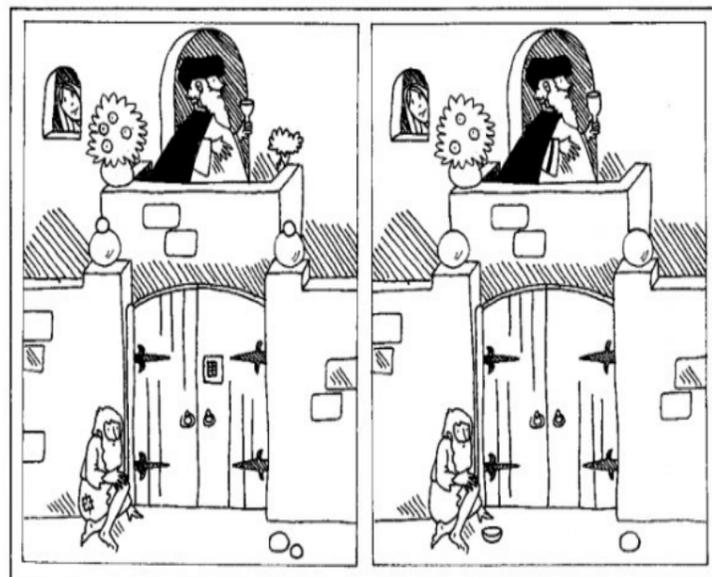
3. If only I could eat the crumbs...

4. Could I have a drop of cool water? We can't come across to you.

5. Well then can Lazarus go and warn my brothers?

6. Lazarus died...

In this story are Lazarus, the rich man, and Abraham. The pictures are not in order, though. Can you put the numbers from 1 to 6 in the corners to show their proper order?



Spot 10 differences between the pictures

Y	S	A	E	D	E	M	R	O	T
N	O	D	O	N	A	S	U	P	N
O	E	U	R	T	S	E	U	S	E
G	O	N	H	C	I	R	D	R	M
A	S	F	I	E	P	O	E	E	R
F	A	L	M	L	I	S	R	H	O
F	L	A	E	S	S	R	O	T	T
D	A	M	S	G	M	O	S	O	B
I	A	E	L	E	N	I	B	R	O
M	G	N	I	N	R	A	W	B	E

RICH PURPLE LINEN
SORES ANGELS TORMENT
BOSOM FLAMES AGONY
BROTHERS WARNING DEAD



OUR LADY OF LOURDES
PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS
"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay"

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. NSW. 2147

Ph. 9622 2920

Email: secretary@olol7hills.com.au

Parish Priest:

Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran

Parish Office Team:

Mrs Erika Hien, Alison Lette,
Kim Dang, Sarah Lenthall.

Sacrament Co-Ordinator:

Mrs Artelle Lenthall

Office Hours: Monday-Friday:

9am - 3.00pm

WEEKDAY MASS:

Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am
Thursday 9.00am

WEEKEND MASS:

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

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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 25 September 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, Alfredo Fernandez, Anush Fernando, Joseph Franco, Anthony Janicska, Spencer Leon, Cynthia Lopez, Carmenu M, Marie Marchand, N. Muscat Family, 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: Maureen D'Crus, Candida Irugalbandara, Benedicto Pacanza, Antonio Pellicano, Susila Wijeratne.

Anniversaries: Maria Clarke, Vough Clarke, Joan Falzon, Melvyn Fernandes, Charlie Galea, Julio Ho Tan Luat, Paul Ho Quang Thay, Marie Le Thi Men, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Antonio Marra, Pauline Meilak, Lourda Motha, Emmanuel Falson, Rupert Pacanza, Theckla Percoumal, John Ratnam, Arsenio Rivera Sr, Caroline Susainathan, Floriana & Eugino Usero, Bibiano Villanueva, Victor, Juana, Philip Yu Sing.

Remembrance: France Angseesing, Roy Mary & Des Barney, Myrna Cruz, Josefa Flores, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Gerard Marcello, Mary Mifsud, Anton & Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula, Muscat Family, Josephine & Charles Muscat, Mary Muscat, Andreana & Felix Muscat, Roseline 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



• **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



First Reading

A reading from the prophet Amos 6:1, 4-7

The almighty Lord says this: Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria. Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal; they bawl to the sound of the harp, they invent new instruments of music like David, they drink wine by the bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all. That is why they will be the first to be exiled; the sprawlers' revelry is over.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul.

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. **(R.)**

He upholds the widow and orphan
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy 6:11-16

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 16: 19-31

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things come your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning, so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

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>

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

24/25 September 2022

Acolytes	Vigil: J. Dinning 8am: E. Gartner 9.30am R. Michael
Ministers	Vigil: A. Bellissimo 8am: F. Balatbat, E Garner 9.30am: B. Chandler, P Gow
Readers	Vigil: L. Bellissimo, C. Rodrigues 8am: E. Hien, K. Walker 9.30am C. Diaz, B. Motha
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. Laus, L. Laus 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am C. Attard, F. Wanandy
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ
Flowers	Annette & Mary B
Church cleaning	28 Sept S. Abela, J. Borg, A. McNally & J. Peralta
Welcomers	Vigil: R. Ugre 8am: J. Hillbrick 9.30am: M. Michael

1/2 October 2022

Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am Kilifi Huihui
Ministers	Vigil: C. Menezes, M. Mifsud 8am: E. Mui, VOLUNTEER 9.30am: S. Lenthall, S. Manamperi
Readers	Vigil: N. Do Rosario, M. Simic 8am: N. Arambulo, P. Ferriols 9.30am K. Huihui, J. Nonato
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. Bagatella, VOLUNTEERS 8.00am K. Maruthanayagam, VOLUNTEERS 9.30am L. Cullili, M. Pieris
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir
Flowers	Fenty, Gaby, Flo & Liz
Church cleaning	3 Oct Sandy Manaperi, Jerome Peralta
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Suzy Nemorin 9.30am: Lena Falzon

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

25	First Holy Communion Mass	9:30am
29	Finance Committee Meeting	8pm
29	Christ Community Prayer Group	9:30am
29	Legion of Mary	1:30pm

**EMERGENCY
Ukraine Appeal**

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to people in Ukraine.

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

POPE FRANCIS TONE BISHOPS: BE OPEN TO DIALOGUE AND CLOSE TO POOR

By Salvatore Cernuzio

The private audience of Pope Francis with the Bishops marked an informal meeting, with all seated in a circle, consisting of testimonies, suggestions, and encouragement to serve the poor. The meeting topped off days dedicated to 'learning' how to be bishops, the challenges to face, and the issues to bring forward.

Around 200 new bishops participating in the formation course organized by the Dicasteries for Bishops and for Eastern Churches met with the Pope on Monday morning in the Clementine Hall. The meeting was confidential so as to allow free conversation between the Pope and the Bishops, many from Latin America. Those present consisted of participants in the second session of the course from 12-19 September held at the Regina Apostolorum Athenaeum in Rome.

Caring for the poor

The first session, which took place earlier, from 1-8 September, opened with a Mass celebrated by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State. The course was divided into two sessions given the high number of participants and Covid restrictions that required it. Pope Francis received the participants of the course - a tradition that began in 2000 during the pontificate of John Paul II - and dedicated this year to the theme "Proclaiming the Gospel in the Changing Epoch following the Pandemic: the service of the bishop."

Also then, the Pope did not have a prepared address, but held a confidential discussion, as Bishop Angelo Ademir Mezzari, Auxiliary of São Paulo, told Vatican News. He said the Pope welcomed those present with a message, namely not to forget the need to be close to the poor, knowing that everything is interconnected and everything needs care on this planet. Then he wanted to listen directly to his brother bishops, their stories, their situations, and requests. The meeting lasted about an hour and a half.

"Synodal" climate

The same type of meeting took place on Monday morning in a "synodal" atmosphere, according to Brazilian Bishop Maurício da Silva Jardim, who will assume the leadership of the Diocese of Rondonópolis-Guiratinga on 23 October. "Synodal," the prelate explains, also marked the atmosphere of the week's work at the Regina Apostolorum, when in light of Pope Francis' magisterium, the speakers focused on a central theme and then gave the floor to the assembly, then invited to "express itself, raise concrete issues and problems of today, such as hunger, violence, social inequality, migration, political and health crises, ethics and social issues around the world." The new Brazilian bishops were also able to bring to the attention of the course participants and the Pope, the major issues that mar the face of the Amazon, such as mining, exploitation, and illegal deforestation.

Challenges and magisterium

During the formation course, some of the Pope's writings - *Amoris laetitia*, *Fratelli tutti* and *Laudato si'*, in particular - were then explored in depth. Then some of the cornerstones of the pontificate became the focus, such as the family and universal fraternity through integral human promotion. Bishop Jardim says it was, "an opportunity to walk together on different fronts, encouraging us to be 'pastors of the people' and offering ideas on how to act in our dioceses, following the principle established by Pope Francis of a missionary, synodal Church of communion and participation."

Audience to Bishops from mission lands

Pope Francis met with another group of Bishops in audience last Saturday, Bishops from mission lands who participated in Rome in another training seminar, one organized by the Dicastery for Evangelization. In an open dialogue also in a private audience, the Pope urged the Bishops to always deepen their relationship with the Lord, their communion among Bishops and with their priests, while being close to the faithful. The vicar apostolic of Caroní in Venezuela, Bishop Gonzalo Ontiveros, told Vatican News that the bishops had the opportunity to share their experiences of missionary work with the Pope, thus giving the Pope food for thought. In particular, the Pope reiterated the importance of prayer in episcopal ministry, because if a bishop does not pray, he distances himself from God and "withers away." Also, Bishop Ontiveros said the Pope called for greater unity among bishops as "brothers in the episcopate" and to draw close to their priests, co-workers, and parish communities: "Answer them, call them. Be attentive to their needs," the Pope said. Also among the recommendations were to avoid protagonism, self-referentiality, and proselytism, which is different from "evangelization" to be carried out "in the style of Jesus."

POPE FRANCIS: IT IS TIME FOR HUMANITY THE CHANGE COURSE

In an interview published Sunday by "Il Mattino" for the 130th anniversary of the Neapolitan newspaper, Pope Francis addresses a wide-range of topics, from war to the difficulties of the Italian south to those of the world; from politics as the highest form of charity to the scourge of organized crime and the devastation of the environment, with a particular reference to the Terra dei fuochi and the floods in the Marche region of Italy.

By Christopher Wells

In a wide-ranging interview with Neapolitan newspaper *Il Mattino*, Pope Francis emphasizes once again the need to address the ongoing problems of war, pandemic, and poverty by working together for the common good. "Only by discovering what unites us, brothers and sisters, will we find the way out of the crisis we are going through, which did not begin today..."

Although the interview focused especially on issues facing Naples and southern Italy, Pope Francis made it clear that the problems they are facing "are global issues," questions that "concern the future of the whole world."

"We have not awakened to wars and planetary injustice, we have not listened to the cry of the poor, and of our gravely ill planet."

A time to change course

Pope Francis insisted on the need to "change course," saying we are all challenged to do so. Today, he said, "is a time of trial, a time of choice... It is time to reset the course." In particular, he pointed to the need for sustainable and integral development and new ways of understanding the economy and progress; of debt-relief for developing countries; and the need to put an end to the exploitation of the earth, the arms race; and, the exploitation of people, especially children.

In order to respond to these crises, the Pope said creativity directed to the common good is necessary, while repeating once again that the course we choose to pursue is important.

Justice and forgiveness, the pillars of true peace

Addressing the question of war, Pope Francis said that today we are measured by the war in Ukraine, but also by many other wars. He quoted St John Paul II, who, writing in the wake of the terrorist attack on 9/11, said that "the shattered order cannot be fully restored until justice and forgiveness are combined." "The pillars of true peace are justice and forgiveness, which is a particular form of love," he said, adding, "There is a time for everything. Before forgiveness comes the condemnation of evil.

It is essential, however, not to cultivate war, but to prepare peace, to sow peace."

Ecological commitment must be a priority

The Pope also addressed the issue of care for the environment, especially in the context of the *Terra dei Fuochi* (the "land of fires") near Naples, and the recent devastating floods in the Italian region of Marche. He repeated once again that "everything is connected," saying we must "start again" from this awareness. "Today, it is indispensable," he said, "that every single person and the entire international community assume as a priority the ecological commitment to collegial, solidarity-based, and far-sighted actions."

Politics, the highest form of charity

The interview with the Holy Father touched on a number of other topics, including the role of the Church in politics, which the pope described as "the art of encounter" and "the highest form of charity"; the "scourge" of organized crime; and what the world can learn from the Global South in terms of solidarity and its relationship with time, with history, and with the land.



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

Perhaps most of us might still remember the night of 13 March 2013 when Pope Francis made his first appearance as the newly elected pope on the balcony at the Vatican to greet around 150,000 pilgrims gathered at St Peter's Square and many million others around the world watching him live on TV.

We remember that particular moment perhaps because he made such a good impression by lowering his head and asking the global audience to pray for him at the commencement of his papal ministry, and later on he had even impressed us more as he revealed the reason why he picked the name for his papacy.

According to him, his good friend, cardinal Hummes of Brazil inspired him with the idea as he came up and whispered to him at the conclusion of the conclave that 'don't forget the poor,' so he chose the name Francis, our popular saint, famous for his commitments for the poor and a life in poverty, and since he has never stopped asking and even challenging the Catholic Church and the world to pay more attention to the poor and more importantly help improve their condition.

Pope Francis's love and care for the poor, of course, have both impressed and inspired us, such a commitment of his, however, is nothing new in the Church, since Jesus always asks us to do so by means both of his example, and of his teaching, and the case in point is the Gospel this Sunday.

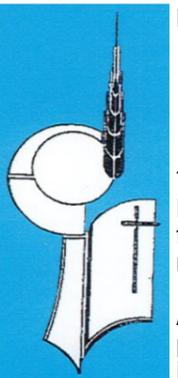
Through the story of the rich man who enjoyed a luxurious life with plenty to eat and wear, but paid no attention to such a miserable life that Lazarus, his neighbour had to go through and did nothing to help, consequently he ended up living in hell when he died, while Lazarus received a post-life reward in the company of Abraham, Jesus aims to send out a strong message warning us not to close our eyes before the suffering of the poor around us and forget about their presence and needs, for we shall be harshly judged for failing to assist them, and the terrible fate of the rich man in Hades serves as a powerful image telling us which way to go in our relationship with the poor in our world, consequently we got to take actions and do something to help alleviate their burdens.

Let us pray for the grace to open (1) our eyes to see social issues the marginalised have to face and unable to overcome, (2) our mind, to realise our charitable duty to help, and (3) our hearts, to help us be ever generous to all relief efforts both in the community and beyond.

Have a mercy-filled week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...



FR HENRY'S 25th SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION

FRIDAY 14th OCTOBER 2022
6:30pm

To our Parishioners & Friends,
For those who have acquired or have paid for their tickets, please be informed of the new date.

Any enquiries or if you would like to purchase your tickets please call:
Evelyn Beed on 0437 572 636

REPORT FROM OUR LAST PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Apart from the spiritual reading we had based on the article by Timothy Radcliff, OP entitled Joy highlighting the spirit of joy Pope Francis has done so much to promote it in this papacy, and the group reports to follow, the Council dedicated a good amount of time to go through Fr Henry's Silver Jubilee program including a Jubilee Mass and formal dinner on Friday 14 October, and a Jubilee Thanksgiving Mass for all children and families with post-Mass activities on Sunday 16 October.

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK SPRING/SEASON OF CREATION EDITION OUT NOW!

Get your free copy of the Spring edition of *Catholic Outlook* now. This month, we talk about pilgrimages, the Season of Creation, and focus in on how our parishes are working towards sustainability. There's great kids activities too. Pick up your copy from our church now!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOU

On behalf of the parish, I would like to congratulate 43 children making First Holy Communion in the last two week, and thank (1) their parents for providing support to them along the Preparation process, (2) our Parish ministers and choir members and musicians for their generosity to serve the First Holy Communion Mass, and particularly (3) Artelle for taking both the parents and children through every step through the Sacramental program.

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NEW ALTAR SERVERS ARE WANTED

to help serve at Mass. Please join our team in helping serve at weekend Masses. To become an Altar Server your child must have completed their First Holy Communion, and must be in year 4 or higher. For more information, please email our Youth Coordinator Sarah - s.lenthall8@gmail.com



DIOCESAN NEWS

SEASON OF CREATION CAMPING TRIP:

30 September – 2 October

Set aside your busy lifestyle for a few days to join with friends, family and other members of the Christian community to celebrate the Season of Creation. Enjoy a relaxed camping experience with optional activities to engage in fun, creative and prayerful ways with creation and our Creator.

When: Friday, September 30 – Sunday, October 2, 2022

Where: Wooglemai Catholic Bush Retreat Centre, Oakdale

Cost: Individual campers \$20; Camping couples \$40; Family camping groups \$50

DIOCESE JOURNEY Walking with Refugees" Team, together with Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, and diverse community groups will host this event of fun, food and friendship. 2pm: Mass with Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv at St Patrick's Church, 51-59 Allawah St. 3:30pm – 5:00pm: Afternoon event at All Saints Of Africa Centre, 63 Allawah St.

Sat 8 October 9am-4pm Diocesan Ecological Spirituality Retreat Day

Following the Season of Creation, the Diocese of Parramatta's Laudato Si' Action Team invites you to a retreat day about ecological spirituality. Guest speaker Trish Hindmarsh to explore the deeply spiritual foundations of caring for our common home. Enjoy the hospitality of Winbourne Retreat Centre and the beautiful nature surrounding the site. Copies of Trish's new book will be provided to all participants for the day and can be purchased afterwards. Cost: \$25 (incl. morning/afternoon tea and lunch). Please register at parracatholic.org/PJRetreat (limited availability; registrations close 30 Sept, 12 noon).

World Day of Migrants and Refugees - "Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees": 25 September

The Diocese of Parramatta's "Diocesan Journey... Walking with Refugees" Team invites you to a family friendly event on the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Sunday 25 September in Blacktown. Mass will be celebrated at 2pm by Bishop Vincent Long at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown, followed by an afternoon of fun, food and fellowship at the All Saints of Africa Centre, 63 Allawah St, Blacktown. Please register at www.shorturl.at/ahxyZ or call 0476 873 519.

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: 30 October

The annual Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday 30 October at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Solemn Mass, followed by a light lunch at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending at marriage@parracatholic.org by 21 October. Family and friends are welcome.

ABORIGINAL CATHOLIC SERVICES NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATION: 27 September

Catholic Care's Aboriginal Catholic Services is hosting a community celebration to commemorate NAIDOC Week on Tuesday 27 September 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.

PRAY FOR OUR HSC CLASS OF 2022

Year 12 students and their families are invited to attend local HSC Masses being organised by parish teams across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains to recognise their hard work and dedication ahead of their exams. Parishes will be blessing students over the weekends of 1-2 and 8-9 October. Check with your local parish for their dedicated HSC Mass times or visit facebook.com/catholicyouthparra to download the flyer.

MET WORSHIP FORMATION FOR MINISTRY OF COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND DYING 22 October

MET – Worship will be hosting a formation session for those already active in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying on Saturday 22 October from 9.30am – 3pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. The formation day includes a reflection on the Spirituality of Suffering, Working within Safeguarding Guidelines and the Practicalities of this ministry. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org

SEASON OF CREATION: 1 September – 4 October

Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops invite all Catholics to join the ecumenical Season of Creation from 1 September to 4 October. They encourage us all to make this a special time of prayer and action in caring for our common home. Learn more and find events and resources at www.parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation

OFFICE FOR SAFEGUARDING SPRING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Office for Safeguarding is offering a range of opportunities to complete your Safeguarding training this spring.

- Full-day training session on Monday 17 October from 9.30am to 2.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown
- Weekly training sessions on Monday 24 and 31 October and Monday 7 November from 10am to 11.30am at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong.

Full-day training session on Saturday 29 October from 10am to 3pm at St Matthew's Parish, Windsor.

To register for one of these options, please email safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

POPE FRANCIS AT ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters, buongiorno!

The parable in the Gospel of today's liturgy (cf. Lk 16:1-13) seems a bit difficult to understand for us. Jesus tells a story about corruption: a dishonest manager who steals, and then after being discovered by his master, acts shrewdly to get out of the situation. We ask ourselves: what is this shrewdness of the corrupt manager about and what does Jesus want to tell us?

In this story we see how the corrupt manager ends up in trouble because he took advantage of his master's property. Now he must give an account, and he will lose his job. But he does not give up, he does not resign himself to his fate and does not play the victim. On the contrary, he acts immediately with shrewdness, he looks for a solution and is creative. Jesus uses this story as a way to put before us a provocation when he says: "The children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light." (v. 8) It happens that those who move in darkness, by certain worldly standards, know how to get by even when in trouble, they know how to be more shrewd than others. Instead, Jesus' disciples, namely ourselves, sometimes have fallen asleep or are naive, not knowing how to take the initiative to find ways out of difficulties (cf. *Evangelii gaudium*, 24). For example, I am thinking of times of personal or social crisis, but also of Church crisis: sometimes we allow discouragement to overcome us or we start to complain and play the victim. Instead, Jesus says we can also be clever in following the Gospel, awake and attentive to discern reality and be creative to find good solutions for us and others.

But there is another teaching that Jesus gives us. Indeed, what is the shrewdness of the manager about we ask? He decides to give a discount to those who were in debt, and so they become his friends and he hopes they can help him when his master fires him. Before he was accumulating wealth for himself, but now he uses it in the same way by stealing to make friends who can help him in the future. Jesus then gives us a teaching on how we use material goods: "And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes." (v. 9). To inherit eternal life then, there is no need to accumulate goods in this world, but what matters is the love we will have expressed in our fraternal relations. This is what Jesus asks of us: do not use the goods of this world only for yourselves and selfishly, but use them to create friendship, to create good relationships, to act with charity, to promote fraternity and to show care for the weakest.

Brothers and sisters, even in our world today there are stories of corruption like the one in the Gospel: dishonest conduct, unfair policies, selfishness that dominates the choices of individuals and institutions, and many other murky situations. But we Christians are not allowed to become discouraged, or worse, to let go of things, remaining indifferent. On the contrary, we are called to be creative in doing good with the prudence and the cleverness of the Gospel, using the goods of this world, not only material but all of the gifts we have received from the Lord, not to enrich ourselves, but to generate fraternal love and social fellowship. This is very important: through our behavior we can create social friendship.

Let us pray to the Blessed Virgin Mary so that she may help us be like herself poor in spirit and rich in works of charity for one another.

After the Angelus, the Pope continued:

Dear brothers and sisters!

I thank God for the journey I was able to make in recent days to Kazakhstan for the VII Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions. I am going to talk about it next Wednesday at the General Audience.

I am saddened by the recent fighting between Azerbaijan and Armenia. I express my spiritual closeness to the families of the victims, and I urge the parties to respect the ceasefire in view of a peace agreement. Let us not forget that peace is possible when weapons are silenced and dialogue begins! And let us continue to pray for the suffering people of Ukraine and for peace in every land bloodied by war.

I wish to assure my prayers for the people of the Marches (region of Italy) hit by severe flooding. I pray for those who died and their families, for the injured and for those who have suffered serious damage. May the Lord give strength to those communities!

I greet all of you, Romans and pilgrims from various countries. In particular, I greet the Religious of Mary Immaculate from various communities in Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe; as well as the faithful of Seville and the "Gruppo Secolare Nostra Signora del Cenacolo."

I greet the group from Caturano, the Diocese of Capua; the young people of the "Cresima of Gazzaniga" (Bergamo) and those from Soliera (Modena); members of the "Figli in Cielo" community; the Pro Loco of Lazio and the group of veterinary doctors from the province of Verona with their families. I also greet the young people of the "The Economy of Francesco", who are here in the square today: always go forward! I will see you soon in Assisi.

I address a special thought to the poor and the volunteers of the "Casa di Zaccheo" in Mesagne: may the Lord bless you and may Our Lady keep you.

I wish everyone a good Sunday. Please

