

The Kids' Bulletin

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 23rd, 2022



What were the two men in the Temple saying to God in today's Gospel reading?

Look in the mirror to find out!

Luke 18:9-14

Be humble.

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the story about two men praying in the temple. One of them, a Pharisee, always looked like he loved God, but on the inside he really only loved himself. The other man was a tax collector. The people in those days hated tax collectors because they took too much money and worked for their enemies.

When the Pharisee was praying he was really just telling God how much better he was than other people. Do you think that God was pleased with his prayer?



The tax collector, on the other hand, was standing far off and prayed to God with his head bowed down, asking God to have mercy on him. He knew that he was a sinner and that he needed God's help. Do you think that God was pleased with the tax collector's prayer?

Being humble isn't a sad or bad thing. It means knowing that all the good things we have and do come from God. Being humble also lets us be sorry for the selfish things we have done, because it lets us admit that it was our own fault and God can help us overcome our selfishness.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner!

Answers to Match-up: 1. like good fight 2. like race 3. like faith 4. strength 5. like message 6. glory for ever and ever.



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

parable	righteousness	temple
Pharisee	collector	prayer
humanity	greedy	dishonest
adulterous	fast	tithes
income	heaven	merciful
sinner	justified	humbled



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:

Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am
Thursday 9.00am
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:

16th November 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/>

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 23 October 2022 • Year C

Let us Pray for the Sick



Leonila Ahillon, George Alagiah, Mario Attard, 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, Blago Milicevic, N. Muscat Family, 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 who 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: Elaine Bosen, Sr Christina Morrissey RSJ, Elias Niadas, Maricel Nonato, Adrian Pereira, Eunice Sagge, Helen Salem, Edwin Tabone, Christine Woodward (sister-in-law of Bill and Chris).

Anniversaries: Michelle Azzopardi, Joseph Bartok, Denis Brophy, Ngan Siu Eng, Melvyn Fernandes, Hippol Fernandes, Josefa & Florencio Flores, Evangeline Garcia, Martina Joseph, Tomas Maglaya, Felina & Apolinaria Maglaya, Pauline Meilak, Lourda Motha, Romeo M Palmos, Maria Laberinto Ramos, Iluminada & Cornelio Rondario, Jose Sanchez, Perry Tugano, Loreta L Udan. Remembrance: Maria Olympia Almodovar, France Angseesing, Edna Bacud, Roy Mary & Des Barney, John & Joan Briffa, Frances Buttigieg, Cini Family, Fernandes Family, Candida Irugalbadara, Fr Crispin Loe, Magion Family, Tomasa Maglaya, Gerard Marcello, Mary Mifsud, Anton & Lourda Motha, Stephen & Louis Mula, Muscat Family, Josephine & Charles Muscat, Mary Muscat, John & Roseline Ratnam, Tony Vassallo, Bibiano Villanueva, Susila Wijeratne, Mirella Zulic.

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 December 2021.



**FACE MASKS
ENCOURAGED**

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** are 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

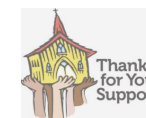
On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you very much for your ongoing support, which has been absolutely vital in keeping our Parish going strong. Projects completed include the Hall Kitchen renovation, Parish Meeting Room painting, Parish Office and Meeting Room Roof painted, Church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

A reading from the second book of Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19

The Lord is a judge who is no respecter of personages. He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man, he listens to the plea of the injured party. He does not ignore the orphan's supplication, nor the widow's as she pours out her story. The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted, his petitions will carry to the clouds. The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds, until it arrives he is inconsolable nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of him, acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement. And the Lord will not be slow, nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. **(R.)**

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The just call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing. The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 18:9-14

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else, 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

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 50s 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
Thursdays at 1.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room. All Welcome.

CHRIST COMMUNITY PRAYER GROUP
Thursdays 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>

CHURCH CLEANING:

Extra help is urgently required for Wednesdays after the 8 am weekly morning Mass. Please phone Mary on 0447 676 371 if you can help.

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

22/23 October 2022

Acolytes	Vigil: Kilifi Huihui 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am Fayelene Kennedy	
Ministers	Vigil: K. Huihui, L. La Guidara 8am: S. Nemorin, M Santos 9.30am: B. Chandler, S. Lenthall	
Readers	Vigil: C. Menezes, Volunteer 8am: N. Arambulo, P. Ferriols 9.30am:C. Diaz, B. Motha	
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. & C.La Guidara, Volunteer 8.00am: Volunteers 9.30am: L. Culili, Volumteer, F. Wanandy Couples for Christ	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)		
Flowers	Annette & Mary B	
Church cleaning	26Oct	Sue Abela, Jessie Borg, Anne McNally
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Urge 8am: Joyce Hillbrick 9.30am: Lena Falson	

29/30 October 2022

Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am Eigene Miu	
Ministers	Vigil: H & C Gonzales 8am: E Gartner, A McNally 9.30am: MAquino, A Bellissimo	
Readers	Vigil: Noreen Do Rasario, A Punch 8am: E Hien, A Joseph 9.30am L Bellissimo. S Manamperi	
Altar Servers	Vigil: A Gagatella, Volunteers 8.00am Volunteers 9.30am C Attard, S Culili, M Pieris	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Volunteers	
Flowers	Team	
Church cleaning		VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED
Welcomers	Vigil: John Jordan 8am: Rita Paolini 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain	

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR

OCTOBER

24	Saint Vincent de Paul	7:00pm
27	Finance Meeting	8:00am
27	Christ Community Prayer Group	9:00am

POPE FRANCIS AT AUDIENCE: ‘REREAD YOUR LIFE STORY TO DISCOVER CHRIST’

By Devin Watkins

“Recounting the events of our life also enables us to grasp important nuances and details, which can reveal themselves to be valuable aids, hitherto concealed.” Pope Francis offered that insight on Wednesday as he spoke to pilgrims in St. Peter’s Square for the weekly General Audience. Continuing his catechesis on the theme of discernment, the Pope focused his attention on how our life’s story can reveal God’s hidden actions. “*Our life is the most precious ‘book’ that is given to us, a book that unfortunately many do not read, or rather they do so too late, before dying.*” **Truth dwells within** The Pope recalled St. Augustine’s reflections on the topic in his Confessions, in which the 5th century Saint recounts how he realized that he had sought God outside of himself for many years before discovering Him within. As the great Saint said, “Come back into yourself. It is in the inner self that Truth dwells.” Pope Francis noted that we too often get stuck in self-condemnation and fail to see God working within us. By rereading our own past, we can learn to set aside “toxic” habits and find the deeper meaning in the events of every day. We are able, he said, to “notice other things, making it richer, more respectful of complexity, succeeding also in grasping the discreet ways in which God acts in our life.” **Uncovering the hidden silence of goodness** Pope Francis went on to say that even things which in the moment seem of little importance can reveal to us something deeper upon further reflection. These events, he said, are like “precious, hidden pearls the Lord has sown” in our daily lives.

“Good is hidden, silent. It requires slow and continuous excavation. Because God’s style is discreet, it does not impose; it is like the air we breathe. We do not see it but it allows us to live, and we realize this only when it is missing.” The more we reread our life’s story, added the Pope, the more refined our perception becomes, making it easier to discover God’s action in our lives.

Heart to heart talks

In conclusion, Pope Francis urged Christians to find someone to whom to tell our life’s story, which helps us enter into “one of the most beautiful and intimate forms of communication.”

The lives of the Saints offer another path to become familiar with God’s ways of interacting with His friends.

“Discernment is the narrative reading of the consolations and desolations we experience in the course of our lives,” concluded the Pope. “It is the heart that speaks to us about God, and we must learn to understand its language.”

POPE FRANCIS’ LATEST INTERVIEW (CONTINUED)

Loup Besmond de Senneville, LA CROIX

“Your Holiness, thank you very much for this these days in Central Asia. During this trip, there was a lot of talk about values and ethics, particularly during the Interfaith Congress, and some religious leaders evoked the loss of the West because of its moral degradation. What is your opinion on this? Do you consider that the West is in a state of perdition, threatened by the loss of its values? I am thinking in particular of the debate that there is about euthanasia, about the end of life, a debate that there has been going on in Italy, but also in France and Belgium.”

It is true that the West, in general, is not at the highest level of exemplarity right now. It is not a child at their first communion, at all. The West has taken wrong paths; we think for example of the social injustice that is among us. There are some countries that have developed a little further on social justice, but I think of my continent, Latin America, which is West. We also think of the Mediterranean, which is West: today it is the biggest graveyard, not of Europe, but of humanity.

What has the West lost in forgetting to welcome, when it needs people? When you think about the demographic winter that we have: it needs people: both in Spain – in Spain especially – even in Italy there are empty villages, only twenty old ladies there, and nothing else.

But why not make a policy of the West where immigrants are included with the principle that the migrant should be welcomed, accompanied, promoted, and integrated? That is very important, to integrate, but instead: “no”, and you leave things empty. It is a lack in understanding values, when the West has experienced this, we are countries that have migrated.

In my country – which I think is 49 million right now – we only have a little less than a million indigenous people, and everybody else is of migrant roots. Everybody: Spaniards, Italians, Germans, Polish Slavs, from Asia Minor, Lebanese, everybody... It’s mixed blood there, and this experience has helped us so much.

Then, for political reasons, it’s not going well in Latin American countries, but migration I think at this time should be taken seriously, because it raises the intellectual and congenial value of the West a little bit.

On the contrary, with this demographic winter, where are we going? The West is decaying on this point; it expires a little bit, it has lost...

Let’s think about the economic aspect: much good is done, but let’s think about the political and mystical spirit of Schuman, Adenauer, De Gasperi, those great men: where are they today? There are great ones, but they can’t take society forward. The West needs to talk, to respect each other, and then there is the danger of populism.

What happens in such a socio-political state? Messiahs are born: the messiahs of populisms. We are seeing how populisms are born, I think a few times I mentioned that book by Ginzberg, *Sindrome 1933*: he says just how a populism is born in Germany after the fall of the Weimar government. That’s how populisms are born: when there is a half level without strength, and one promises a messiah. I think we Westerners are not at the highest level to help other peoples, are we a little decadent? Maybe, yes, but we have to take back the values, the values of Europe, the values of the founding fathers who founded the European Union, the great ones. I don’t know, it’s a little bit confused, but I think I answered that.

Loup Besmond de Senneville

“What about euthanasia?”

Killing is not human, period. If you kill with motivation, eventually you will kill more and more. Let’s leave killing to the beasts.

Iacopo Scaramuzzi, LA REPUBBLICA *“I take up this last question: in your addresses you have emphasized a lot the link between values, religious values, and the vibrancy of democracy. What do you think our continent, Europe, lacks? What should it learn from other experiences? And, if I may, I would add one thing: in a few days Italy will carry out a democratic process with voting in elections and there will be a new government. When you eventually meet the new Prime Minister, what will you recommend? What do you think are the priorities for Italy, what are your concerns, and what are the risks to be avoided?”*

I think I already answered this during my last journey. I have met two Italian presidents of very high regard: Napolitano and the current one. Great men. The other politicians I do not know. On my most recent journey, I asked one of my secretaries how many governments Italy has had in this century: twenty. I cannot explain it. I do not condemn this nor criticize this, but I am simply unable to explain it. If governments change like that, then there are many questions to be asked. Because being a politician today, a great politician, is a difficult road. A politician who puts himself on the line for the values of the country, great values, and does not do so for (personal) interests, positions, convenience... Nations, and among them Italy, must find great politicians, those who have the ability to carry out politics, which is an art. Politics is a noble vocation. I believe one of the popes, I am not sure whether it was Pius XII or St. Paul VI, said that politics is one of the highest forms of charity. We have to struggle to help our politicians maintain a level of high politics, not low-level politics that does not help at all, and even pulls the State down, impoverishing it.

Today, politics in the nations of Europe should take on the problem of the demographic winter, for example, problems related to industrial development, natural development, problems regarding migrants... Politics must address problems seriously in order to move forward. I am talking about politics in general. I do not understand Italian politics: only that figure of twenty governments in twenty years seems a bit strange, but everyone has their own way of dancing the tango... you can dance one way or another and politics is danced one way or another. Europe needs to receive experiences from other places, some will go better, some will not. But it must be open, each continent must be open to the experiences of others.



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

I hope many of you still remembre the first interview Pope Francis had with Fr Antonio Spadaro on Monday, Aug. 19, 2013 making him probably the first pope to confess himself as a sinner in public. It’s quite extraordinary to read Fr Spadaro’s reflection upon his famous interview and the way Pope Francis responded to his question about who he is.

This is what he writes in his ‘Interview With Pope Francis’ publised in the Vatican website, “*I have the first question ready, but then I decide not to follow the script that I had prepared for myself, and I ask him point-blank: “Who is Jorge Mario Bergoglio?” The pope stares at me in silence. I ask him if this is a question that I am allowed*

to ask.... He nods that it is, and he tells me: “I do not know what might be the most fitting description.... I am a sinner. This is the most accurate definition. It is not a figure of speech, a literary genre. I am a sinner.” The pope continues to reflect and concentrate, as if he did not expect this question, as if he were forced to reflect further. “Yes, perhaps I can say that I am a bit astute, that I can adapt to circumstances, but it is also true that I am a bit naïve. Yes, but the best summary, the one that comes more from the inside and I feel most true is this: I am a sinner whom the Lord has looked upon.” And he repeats: ‘I am one who is looked upon by the Lord. I always felt my motto, Miserando atque Eligendo [By Having Mercy and by Choosing Him], was very true for me’.”

I myself have found Pope Francis’ daring self-confession profoundly inspiring, for he literally makes me remain humble before God, for we are nothing before Him, and this is exactly the thought Jesus seems to invite us to think about the parable in the Gospel this Sunday, depicting the prayer of the Pharisee, highly regarded by the society then as a righteous, and the one of the tax collector, considered by their community then as sinner and often looked down upon by the Pharisees and the like.

The Pharisee was so boastful of his strict observance of God’s commandments and other religious regulations. He was over confident while standing in the temple of God and thought of himself as a perfect man, and worst of all, he even dared to single out the tax collector as unworthy.

The tax collector, on the other hand, was very much aware of his unworthiness, so he decided to stay far away from the sanctuary and had no courage to look upward, and kept asking God to show him mercy, for he was a sinner, while beating his breast continuously.

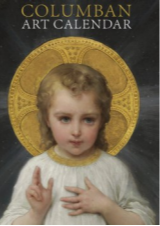
At the end, Jesus gives his verdict in favour of the tax collector, to whom he said was ‘at rights with God’, and the Pharisee was in the opposite. He even openly singled out humility as a Christian virtue, and warned us to avoid any kind of self-exaltation, self-promotion at any cost.

In the spirit of humility Jesus invites us to walk along as his disciples in the world today, let us pray for the grace to help us walk humbly with the Lord and with one another in our calls to bear witness to Him.

Have a humility-oriented week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...



COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR 2023 :

We have a limited number of Columban Art Calendars now available from our Piety Store at the back of the church.

The cost for each Calendar is \$10.00.

THANK YOU FOR FR HENRY’S SILVER JUBILEE MASSES

What a wonderful way to mark my Silver Jubilee in style with two days filled with Thanksgiving Masses and festivities last week.

I was deeply touched to see lot of relatives, friends and parishioners present with me over last Friday and Sunday, particularly the way my Mum was warmly embraced and welcomed to bring her to tears at the function. She truly appreciated such a precious moment.

I would like to thank all for coming, particularly our Parish staff, ministers and volunteers, especially the Organizing Committee led by Evelyn Beed for everything they have done, such as investing lot of time into the planning and executing, decorating the church and the hall, preparing the slides and booklets, helping the music ministry, serving Masses, providing the entertainment, bringing in food and serving it, setting up and clearing the hall, and other nameless tasks, so that I could have some of the best moments to enjoy and treasure.

May the Lord reward you manyfold and more for your generosity.

Fr Henry

OFFICE FOR SAFEGUARDING SPRING TRAINING OPPORTUNTIES

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

HSC STUDENTS

Please continue to pray for all students, especially those in our parish in the coming weeks, so that they will enjoy good results in their HSC this year.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

As usual, the meeting began with a prayer followed by a spiritual reading entitled ‘Reformed’ written by Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga, a member of the Council of Cardinals established by Pope Francis since April 2013 with the task to advise him on the governance of the universal Church. Cardinal Oscar highlights in particular concrete works of reform, especially in the Roma Curia initiated by Pope Francis. He mentions two elements most essential to Church lot of people often overlook: One, the central place of Jesus in every attempt to reform in the Church, and two, the need of a reform of mentality or spirit, not just about making changes or introducing new things. So, let us pray for the success of the Synod of Bishops, that all thoughts, ideas and contributions will help to bring forth a renewed spirit to rejuvenate the Church and its people.

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

CHURCH CLEANING: extra help is urgently required for Wednesday’s after the 8 am weekly morning Mass. Please phone Mary on 0447 676 371 if you can help.

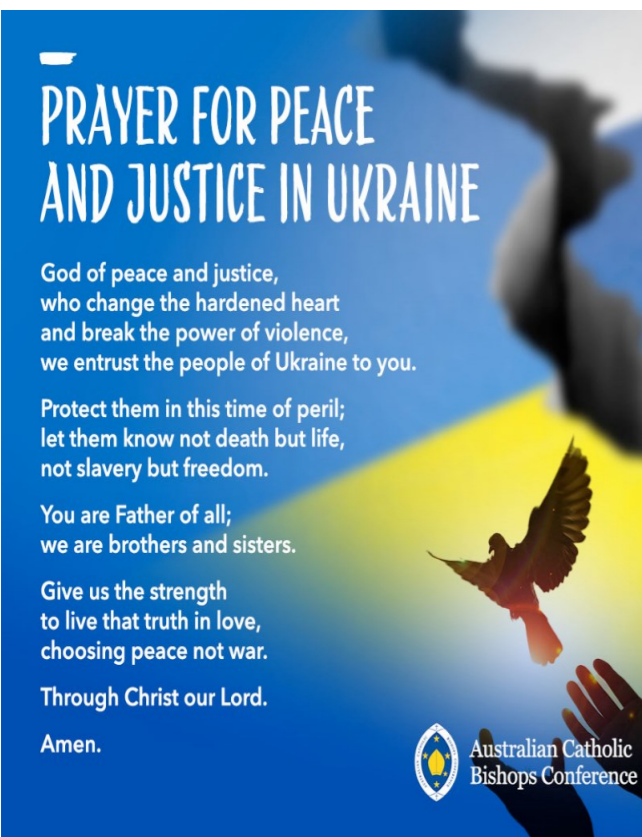


Lourdes Over 50s next meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 1st November Melbourne Cup Day from 10.30am to 2.30 pm. There will be sweeps for the horses. Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided. Parishioners are welcome to join us.

MET WORSHIP FORMATION FOR MINISTERS AT THE ALTAR:

12 November

The Worship – Mission Enhancement Team are organising an Ongoing Formation Day for Ministers at the Altar, Adult servers and Acolytes on Saturday 12 November at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 9.30am to 3pm. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. To register, please contact the Worship team on (02) 8838 3456 or email mary.gale@parracatholic.org



ST BERNADETTS'S LALOR PARK Wednesday Evening Devotions

St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park, is hosting weekly devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette every Wednesday evening at 6.30pm with Adoration and Rosary and special prayers, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. All are welcome. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9672 4037 admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au

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.

POSITION VACANT

Project Coordinator (part-time) – Catholic Youth Parramatta, Diocese of Parramatta
Applications close 10pm Monday 7 November.

CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB

The Sydney-based Catholic Bushwalking Club seeking new members to join their club. Membership is not restricted to Catholics, and is open to all who share an interest in bushwalking and the outdoors. Membership offers a choice of graded walks for a variety of fitness levels on most weekends, and some on weekdays. To learn more about the Club and to become a member, visit <http://www.cbcsnw.org.au/> or call Adriana on 0478 919 427.

NORTH ROCKS PARISH GOLDEN JUBILEE

CELEBRATIONS: 19 November Christ the King Parish, North Rocks, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary with Mass presided by Bishop Vincent on Saturday 19 November, the Feast of Christ the King, at 5.30pm. All are welcome to celebrate this significant parish milestone, with former parishioners particularly invited to the celebration. For catering purposes, please confirm your attendance with the parish office on northrocks@parracatholic.org.

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
For all enquiries contact James Camden, Head Mission Engagement – james.camden@parracatholic.org



PARISH OF RICHMOND POSTION VACANT

The Parish of Richmond is looking for a Parish Coordinator of Ministries (PCM) on a casual, 14 hour a week status. The successful candidate will be accountable to the Parish Priest and be responsible for providing support for the parish clergy in their ministry. The coordinator will develop four key focus areas of ministry: coordination, promotion and recruitment, formation and communication. To obtain an application pack, please contact the parish office on admin@parishofrichmond.org.au or phone (02) 4578 1410. **Applications close Friday 25 November 2022.**

POPE FRANCIS AT ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno!*

The Gospel from today's Liturgy concludes with a troubling question posed by Jesus: "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (Lk 18:8) It's almost like he was saying, "When I come again at the end of time" – or we could also think, even now, at this time of life – "will I find a bit of faith in you, in your world?" This is a serious question. Let us imagine that the Lord came today on earth. Unfortunately, he would see many wars, much poverty and many inequalities. At the same time, he would see tremendous technical conquests, modern means, and people who are always running, who never stop. But would he find someone who dedicates time and affection to him, someone who would put him in first place? Above all, let us ask ourselves, "What would he find in me, if the Lord were to come today, what would he find in me, in my life, in my heart? What priorities would he see in my life?" We often focus on so many urgent but unnecessary things. We occupy and preoccupy ourselves with so many secondary realities. And perhaps without even recognizing it, we neglect what counts the most and we allow our love for God to grow cold, to grow cold bit by bit. Today, Jesus offers us the remedy to rekindle a tepid faith. And what is the remedy? Prayer. Yes, prayer is the medicine for faith, it is the restorative of the soul. It needs to be *constant prayer*, however. If we must undergo treatment to get better, it is important to follow the treatment plan well, to take the medicine faithfully and regularly in the right way and at the right times. This is necessary in all of life. Let us think of a houseplant: we need to water it consistently every day. We cannot soak it and then leave it without giving it water for a week! Even more so with prayer. We cannot live only on strong moments of prayer or occasional intense encounters, and then "go into hibernation". Our faith would dry up. We need the daily water of prayer, we need time dedicated to God, so that he can enter into our time, into our lives; we need consistent moments in which we open our hearts to him so that he can daily pour out on us love, peace, joy, strength, hope, thus nourishing our faith. This is why Jesus tells his disciples – to everyone, not only to some! – "that they ought *always to pray* and not lose heart" (v. 1). Now someone might object: "But, how can I do that? I don't live in a convent. I don't have much time to pray!" Perhaps a wise spiritual practice for this real difficulty that the elderly, especially our grandparents, know well can come to our aid, which is a bit forgotten today. These are so-called *aspirations*. The name is a bit outdated, but the substance is good. What are they? They are very short, easy to memorize prayers that can be repeated often throughout the day, in the course of various activities, to remain "in tune" with the Lord. For example, as soon as we awaken, we can say: "Lord, I thank you and I offer this day to you". This is a short prayer. Then, before an activity, we can repeat, "Come, Holy Spirit". Between one thing and another, we can pray thus, "Jesus, I trust in you. Jesus, I love you". Really short prayers that help us stay in contact with the Lord. How often we send instant messages to the people we love! Let's do this with the Lord as well so that our hearts remain connected to him. And let's not forget to read his responses. The Lord always responds. Where do we find them? In the Gospel which should always be kept at hand and should be opened several times every day, to receive a Word of life directed to us. And let's go back to the advice I have given many times – carry a pocket-size Gospel in your pocket in your purse. And when you have a minute, open it and read something, and the Lord will respond.

May the Virgin Mary, faithful listener, teach us the art of praying always, without losing heart.

After the Angelus, the Holy Father continued:

Dear brothers and sisters,

On 10 October last year, the first phase opened of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the theme, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission". Since then, the first phase of the Synod is being carried out in the local Churches through listening and discernment. The fruits of the synodal process under way are many, but so that they might come to full maturity, it is necessary not to be in a rush. Therefore, in order to have a more relaxed period of discernment, I have established that this Synodal Assembly will take place in two sessions. The first from 4 to 29 October 2023, and the second in October of 2024. I trust that this decision will promote the understanding of synodality as a constitutive dimension of the Church, and help everyone to live it as the journey of brothers and sisters who proclaim the joy of the Gospel. Today, in Boves (Cuneo), Fathers Giuseppe Bernardi and Mario Ghibauda – pastor and assistant pastor, killed in hatred of the faith in 1943 – will be proclaimed Blessed. In extreme danger they did not abandon the people entrusted to them, but assisted them even to the point of shedding their blood, sharing the tragic destiny of other fellow townspeople killed by the Nazis. May their example enkindle in priests the desire to be pastors after Christ's heart, always alongside their people. A round of applause for the new Blesseds! This Tuesday, 18 October, the Foundation "Aid to the Church in Need" is promoting the "A million children praying the Rosary" campaign. I thank all the children who are participating! Let us unite ourselves to them and entrust the suffering people of Ukraine, and other people who are suffering due to war and any form of violence and misery, to Our Lady's intercession. Regarding misery, tomorrow is the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Everyone can give a hand toward a society where no one feels excluded because they are poor. I greet all of you, people from Rome and pilgrims from various countries: families, parish groups, associations. In particular, I greet the musical band from Freiburg that I heard playing. You are really good! The "Comelico" Choir from Santo Stefano di Cadore and the Association of the Militia of the Immacolata, and the representatives of the Spanish Confederation of Business Organizations and the Spanish Federation of the Self-Employed. I also greet those who are here from Chajari, Entre Ríos Province (Argentina). May God bless you!

I hope all of you have a good Sunday. And, please, do not forget to pray for me. Enjoy your lunch and *arrivederci!*

POPE FRANCIS ON WORLD FOOD DAY: 'ON A WORLD AT WAR PUT FRATERNITY FIRST'

By Linda Bordon

"Leave no one behind" is the theme of World Food Day, marked on 16 October 2022. A theme, Pope Francis pointed out in a message to the Director of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) that poses many challenges, in particular today, as "unfortunately, we are also living in a context of war, which we could call a 'third world war'." He recalled that the observance takes place as the UN agency marks 77 years since it was established to respond to the needs of so many people oppressed by destitution and hunger in the context of the Second World War. Work together to leave no one behind In light of the current context, Pope noted, the World Day that calls for "Better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life for all", it will not be possible to address the many crises that affect humanity "if we do not work and walk together, leaving no one behind." *"This requires, first of all, that we see others as our brothers and sisters, as members who make up our own human family, and whose sufferings and needs affect us all."* "If one member suffers, all the others suffer with him," he said, quoting from Gospel. A strategy for just and lasting solutions The Holy Father went on to mention the importance of the organization's strategic framework for the coming decade which aims to contribute to the complete eradication of hunger and malnutrition.

Projects and interventions, he said, must not simply be a response to circumstantial shortcomings or appeals made in emergency contexts, but must aim for just and lasting solutions. *"It is necessary to reiterate the urgency of tackling the problem of poverty, which is closely linked to the lack of adequate nutrition, together and at all levels."* The Holy Father invited all those engaged in international cooperation to never lose sight of the fact that "the axis of any strategy is people, with concrete stories and faces, living in a given place; not numbers, data or endless statistics." Love Introduce 'the category of love' into the language of international cooperation, he said: *"Clothe international relations with humanity and solidarity, pursuing the common good."*

"We are called to redirect our gaze towards the essential," Pope Francis explained, "towards what has been given to us freely, focusing our work on caring for others and for creation." The commitment of the Catholic Church The Pope concluded his message addressed to Qu Dongyu reaffirming the commitment of the Holy See and the Catholic Church "to walk together with the FAO and the other intergovernmental organisations working on behalf of the poor." We do this, he said, putting fraternity, concord and mutual collaboration first, in order to discover horizons that will bring genuine benefit to the world, not only for today, but also for future generations.

Finally, he said, he raises his prayers to the Lord for this intention. *"Knowing that every creature receives sustenance from His hand and that He abundantly blesses those who break bread with the hungry."*