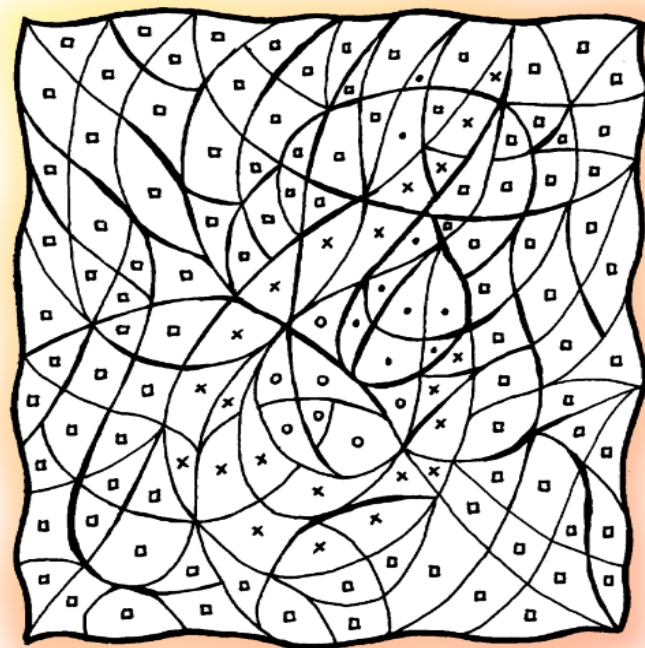


The Kids' Bulletin

Pentecost Sunday
May 28th, 2023



In what form did the Holy Spirit come to the Apostles on Pentecost?

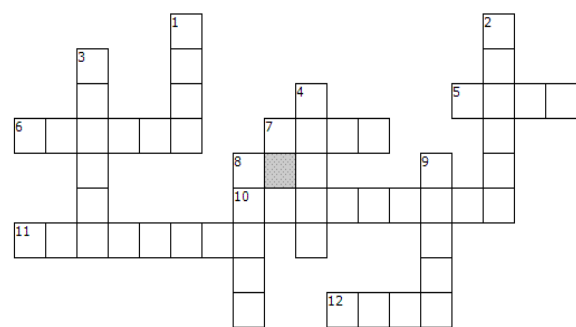
Use this colour code to colour in the picture and find out!

- red
- orange
- blue
- × yellow

Filled with the Holy Spirit

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21 (NIV)



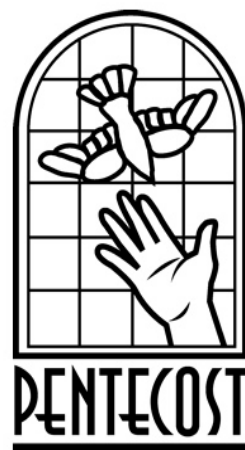
ACROSS

5. Make something to be full
6. To be totally surprised
7. Something that is pure and good, such as God's Word
10. The day the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles
11. Means of communication used by the people of a particular country
12. A destructive burning

DOWN

1. Blowing air, especially that which would move the leaves on a tree
2. A being that cannot be seen, like a ghost
3. The place where God lives
4. Something that can be heard
8. To say words, to use the voice
9. A building which people live in

HEAVEN	SPIRIT	FIRE	HOLY
WIND	PENTECOST	LANGUAGE	SPEAK
SOUND	FILL	HOUSE	AMAZED



WNID

IFER

SIRITP

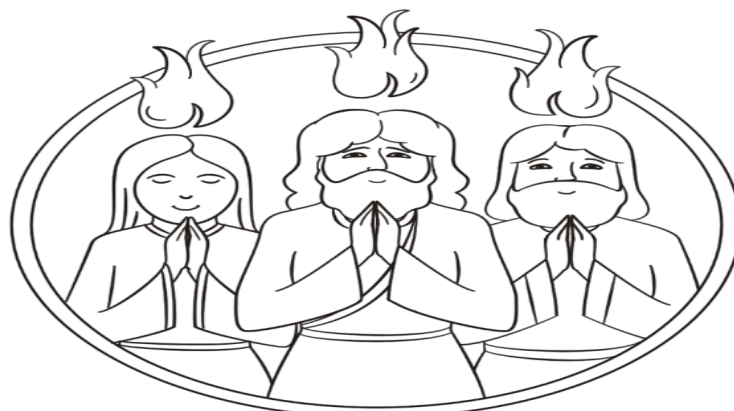
SEKPA

CDORW

Puzzle Clues

Check your answers by looking them up in the Bible.
(Clues are from the NIV)

1. A sound like the blowing of a violent _____ came from heaven. (Acts 2:2)
 2. They saw what seemed to be tongues of _____. (Acts 2:3)
 3. All of them were filled with the Holy _____. (Acts 2:4)
 4. They began to _____ in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. (Acts 2:4)
 5. Peter stood up and spoke to the _____ of people. (Acts 2:14)
- FINAL ANSWER: All of these events took place on the day of _____. (Acts 2:1)



Word Search

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

SPIRIT	PENTECOST	HOLY	FIRE	LANGUAGE
SOUND	WIND	TONGUES	HOUSE	HEAVEN
HEAR	DAY	OTHER	SPEAK	FILLED



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: Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang, Jane Nguyen
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: 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: 19th July 2023
Baptism: 23rd July 2023
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.com.au
Catechist Coordinator : Sandy Manamperi, 0480 266 339
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

Pentecost Sunday 28 MAY 2023 • Year A



Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, George Alagiah, Ingrid Ball, Mamerto Angele, Mary Attard, Cynthia Avery, Rosenda Bolano, Barrie Chamberlain, Rosella Booth, Jock Clark Snr, Anthony Janicska, Ian & Irene Hall, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Debra Price, Trent Ross, Sue Tipaldo, Natalie Woodward, Vinnie Zarha.

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: Neil Amaratunga, Mansour Ahmad, Agnes Bonello, Anton, Philomena & Clarence Corera, Sarojini Chary, Aurora Dumlao, Rita Leon, Ranjan Fernando, Teodoro Garcia, Maria Garufo, Helen Hili, Michelle Muscat, Dot McLandsborough, Debbie Mifsud, Jessica Neodama, Margie Silva, Myrna Pomperada, Eddie Tabone, Elizabeth (Betty) Taiarol.

Anniversaries: Fredy Alphonse, Gay & Jacqueline Angley, T.F Augustine, Michelle Azzopardi, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Cecil Beed, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Sam Borg, Carmela Carbone, Simeon Carlos, Charlie Chircop, Antonia, Melvyn Fernandes, Josephine Francis, Sheela Franklin, Emilia Galea, Jean Garrick, Elsie & Karl Garrick, Zoltan Gartner, Charlie Gravina, Ginny Heke, Leonie Jordan, Chinedu Joseph & Family, Sammy Formosa, Maria, Apolinario Maglaya, Tomasa & Nicanor Magpayo, Thomas Snr Morrissey, Anton Motha, Jason Muscat, Jim & Philippa Muscat, Mary & Francis Muscat, Alberto Nahoy, Thirucheluum, Philomina, Theanmolish, Nirmala, Custodio Palmos Jr, Juliet Peter, John Portelli, John Ratnam, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Helen Salem, Vivian Silva, Rosary Silva, John & Mary Silva, Pauline & Santan Soares, Domingo Villarta Jr, Shane Vaz, Salvu Zammit.

Remembrance: France Angseeing, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sam Borg, Lina Cabaero, Lim Cho, Cini Family, Dennis Clarke, Myrna Cruz, Emerenciana Dizon, Anacleto Dizon, Julian Epondulan, Felina Maglaya, Melvyn Fernandes, Zaren & Sam Formosa, John & William Formosa, Charlie Gauci, Francisca Garcia, Selvam Irudayaraj, Sheena Landagan, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Pauline Meilak, Mangion Family, Ernesto Mendes, Mary Mifsud, Emilia & William Mifsud, T.Then Mozhi, Marcel Mohsen, Anton & Lourda Motha, Louis & Stephen Mula, Muscat Family, Josephine & Charles Muscat, Josefina Lim, Adrian Pereira, Jose Reyes, Jude Ranasinghe, John & Rosaline Ratnam, Laureano Reyes, Maria Reyes, Yolanda Reyes, Carlos Reyes, Rodrigues Family, Sem Serna, Tony Vassallo, Jim Vella, Hector & Rita Welgampola.



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

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.

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

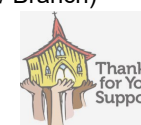
On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you very much for your ongoing support, which has been absolutely vital in keeping our Parish going strong. Projects completed include the Hall Kitchen renovation, Parish Meeting Room painting, Parish Office and Meeting Room Roof painted, Church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



COVID- 19 UPDATE

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING ANY FLU LIKE SYMPTOMS.
Please Help Us Keep Our Community Safe.

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 Acts of the Apostles Acts 2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

- (R.) Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. **(R.)**

2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. **(R.)**

SECOND READING A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit. There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 20:19-23

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:
'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven:
for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

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
Over 50s Meeting Thursday 8th June 10.30am-1pm.
Please bring a plate for a shared lunch.
Look forward to seeing you there.

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.

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

Lourdes: Luminate Young Adults Group
The next group night is Friday, 9th of June, 2023 6:45-9:30pm in the Parish Hall. If you would like more information please contact Ian Epondulan: youtholol7h@gmail.com

LEGION OF MARY
Thursdays at 1.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room. All Welcome

Christ Catholic 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>

OFFERTORY PROCESSION FOR OUR WEEKEND MASSES
With the intention to help our community to get more involved at Mass and better appreciate our share in the priesthood of the faithful, meaning our call to be priests, prophets and kings or queens of Jesus through baptism that Fr David Orr reminded us in our recent Parish retreat, I would like to invite all our parishioners to take part in the offertory procession, especially families that have some special celebrations in the families, such as wedding anniversaries, baptisms, birthdays, or death anniversaries. Please see Fr Henry or Ernie before Mass to arrange it.

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR		
MAY 2023		
29	Over 50's Bus Trip	8.45am
31	Sisters of St. Elisabeth Convent Stall visit	8.00am
JUNE		
1	Fr Henry Annual Leave	
8	Over 50's Meeting	10.30am
9	Lourdes Luminate YAG	6.45pm
12	King's Birthday Public Holiday	

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

Acolytes, Ministers, Readers and Altar Servers, please remember to arrive 15 minutes before the beginning of Mass.

27/28 MAY 2023		
Acolytes	Vigil: John Jordan 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am Ramzee Michael	
Ministers	Vigil: M.Mifsud, SUB RQ 8am: E. Gartner, S. Nemorin 9.30am: B.Chandler, M.Michael	
Readers	Vigil: SUB RQ, C.Rodrigues 8am: E.Hien, K.Walker 9.30am I.Epondulan, F.Kennedy	
Altar Servers	Vigil: VOLUNTEERS 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am S.Culili, F.Wanandy J.Kingston	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ	
Flowers	Annette & Mary B	
Church cleaning	1 June	Beth Paiva Lourdes Spiteri
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Maria Michael	

3/4 June 2023		
Acolytes	Vigil: James Dinning 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am Sandy Manamperi	
Ministers	Vigil: L. La Guidara, VOLUNTEER 8am: F. Balatbat, A. McNally 9.30am: C.Brooks, P.Gow	
Readers	Vigil: B.Motha, M.Simic 8am: A.Joseph, M.Santos 9.30am M. Aquino, A.Walker	
Altar Servers	Vigil: A.Bagatella, A.La Guidara, C.La Guidara 8am: S. Park, P.Park 9.30am C.Attard, M.Pieras, J.Kingston	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir	
Flowers	Fenty, Gaby, Flo & Liz	
Church cleaning	10 June	Tongan Community
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Urge 8am: Joyce Hillbrick 9.30am: VOLUNTEER	

POPE FRANCIS'S ADDRESS TO ITALIAN BISHOPS *By Salvatore Cernuzio*

Pope Francis opens the 77th General Assembly of the Italian Bishops' Conference, and holds an open dialogue on the issues of peace, finances, the environment, the ministry of bishops and priests, and charity towards the poor and refugees. The dialogue between Pope Francis and the Italian Bishops on Monday afternoon was frank and serene. On 22 May, the Holy Father met with over 200 bishops of the Italian Bishops' Conference (CEI), gathered for the 77th General Assembly at the Vatican. They spoke of young people and vocations, finances and ideologies, the ministry of priests and seminaries, peace, the environment and concern for charity, the latter of which the Pope expressed great appreciation for the Italian Church. The Pope opened the work of the bishops' spring meeting, which runs from Monday until 25 May in the Aula Nuova of the Synod, on the theme "Listening to what the Spirit is saying to the Churches: Steps towards discernment".

Questions and answers

The Pope's conversation with the bishops of all the regions of Northern, Southern and Central Italy lasted about three hours. It began in advance with a moment of common prayer and the Pope's greeting to the bishops of the areas hit by the storm in Emilia-Romagna. The entire meeting, held behind closed doors, was then interspersed - as is customary on these occasions with questions (about fifteen) and answers. Among the main topics, as reported by some bishops on the sidelines of the meeting, was the decline in vocations, seminaries and their possible mergers. Their conversation also focused on the ministry of priests, to whom, as always, the Pope asked the bishops to show closeness.

Encouragement to charity

There was no lack of reference to peace, in Ukraine and in the world, an urgency that concerns everyone, then to the ideologies of our time, then to the various cultural problems and the issue of finances, which often represent a difficulty for the Church. Also at the centre were environmental issues for which a change of mentality is needed. A 'new style' is also what is called for by the synodal path involving the Church of the five continents. Along with this came the invitation to pay attention to poverty, old and new, and above all to never let charity be lacking. On the charitable aspect, the Pope expressed his esteem for the Italian Bishops' Conference, which has been committed to welcoming migrants and refugees for years. On the subject of migrants, Pope Francis presented each of the Italian bishops with the book '*Fratellino*', a volume that lucidly and at times crudely recounts the life of migrant Ibrahim Balde, transcribed by the poet Amets Arzallus Antia. It is the story of a young man from Guinea who left his country to search for his little brother, who in turn left to reach Europe, a destination which he never reached. The author reports the dramas he experienced first-hand: the desert crossing, human trafficking, imprisonment, torture, the sea journey, death. Pope Francis has quoted the book on several occasions, both in some press conferences on the plane on his return from apostolic trips, and in some audiences. The most recent was the one with the refugees who came to Europe through the joint initiative of Sant'Egidio, the Evangelical Churches, the Waldensian Table and the Italian Church, received in the Vatican on 18 March. A 'booklet', the Pope defined it, which outlines in all its dramatic nature 'the Via Crucis' of so many brothers and sisters in the world.

Greetings to the bishops of Emilia-Romagna affected by the floods

On the sidelines of the Assembly, the Pope greeted the bishops of the Italian region of Emilia-Romagna, hit in recent days by incessant and devastating floods. After listening to the account of the drama that people are experiencing and learning of the many gestures of solidarity that have been put in place, Pope Francis asked them to bring his closeness to the communities by assuring them of his personal prayer. At the beginning of the meeting, Cardinal Matteo Zuppi, president of the Italian Bishops' Conference and Archbishop of Bologna, recounted what had happened with the storm, the various situations of difficulty experienced by the people and the many gestures of solidarity and help. Then at the end, Cardinal Zuppi, together with Bishops from the northern regions had the opportunity to personally greet the Pope and express their gratitude "for his message of solidarity in recent days". In a note, the bishops stressed that they had "welcomed" the Pope's stimulus "for further reflection on respect for Creation and the custody of the common home". "We have reminded him," they said, "that the people of Romagna are tenacious but the trials are being repeated too often and that we need his prayers and closeness."

Baturi: papal invitation to a new momentum of evangelisation

As for the Pope's closed-door dialogue with the bishops, the secretary general of the Bishops' Conference, Archbishop Giuseppe Baturi, also offered a few details. He spoke to Italian Catholic TV channel TV2000 of "an important meeting because he was in contact with the problems of the country and the Church". "The Pope," the bishop explained, "stressed the urgency of a new momentum of evangelisation that passes through a credible witness... Bishops are called to have compassion for man, to care for him especially in situations of difficulty and need. It was a meeting that encouraged us to continue along this path, which finds in the synodal path a privileged place for discussion and work."

'HANDS OF AFRICA!' POPE FRANCIS' NEW BOOK *By Joseph Tulloch*

"Hands off Africa! Stop choking Africa: it is not a mine to be exploited, or a land to be plundered. May Africa be the protagonist of its own destiny!" These were the words of Pope Francis on his first day in the Democratic Republic of Congo earlier this year. Today, the Vatican Publishing House announced the release of a new book written in Italian called *Hands off Africa!* collecting all the Pope's speeches during that trip, as well as those from his visit to South Sudan immediately afterwards. Crucially, however, the book does not contain only the Pope's voice, but also those of those he met during his journey. In both the DRC and South Sudan two countries torn by vicious conflict Pope Francis listened to the testimonies of war victims, and their stories, too, are included in the volume. The preface, meanwhile, is written by the Nigerian feminist author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, who said that the book "brings me a small sliver of hope for Congo, and for the beloved and broken-hearted continent that I call home."

A 'Pilgrimage of Peace'

Pope Francis visited the DRC and South Sudan from the 31st of January to the 5th February of this year. The week-long visit, which he referred to as a 'Pilgrimage of Peace', aimed at promoting reconciliation in the conflict-ridden countries, as well as promoting their independence from foreign interference. In the DRC, he met with government officials, bishops, and young people, saying that "political colonialism" of Africa has given way to "economic colonialism", which he called "equally enslaving." In South Sudan, meanwhile, he addressed feuding politicians, conflict between whom has devastated the country, stressing that "Now is the time to say: *No more of this!*"



FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,
Historically fifty days after their feast of Passover, Jewish people celebrated a feast called Pentecost, meaning 'fiftieth day' in Greek, and on such a feast after Jesus' Ascension, the Holy Spirit ascended like tongues of fire upon the Apostles, who had gathered in a room for fear of the Jews' retribution, that completely transformed them from a bunch of fearful men into courageous witnesses to Jesus. This is a very important occasion for us to celebrate, since it marks the beginning of the Church, or the Church's birthday if you like, and once again we celebrate Pentecost Sunday this week, also marking the end of the Easter season in the Church liturgy.

In contrast to a detailed account of what happened at the Pentecost in the first reading according to the Acts of the Apostles, the Gospel of John gives us a few sketches about the event. Though not rich in details, it is able to highlight some very significant points about the Holy Spirit. Firstly it's worth to note that Jesus throughout John's Gospel exclusively chose the Greek term PARAKLETOS, meaning PARACLETE, which has multiple meanings, such as: defender, counsel of the defense, helper, comforter, assistant, lawyer, advocate, solicitor, counsellor, mediator, and one who exhorts and makes urgent appeals. Secondly, Jesus again used the same expression that he addressed to the disciples when he first appeared to them. 'Peace be with you,' twice Jesus said that in this Spirit-giving appearance, and once again he showed them his hands and his side as a confirmation of his true presence with them. Remember also that the Jews used in everyday speech the word 'peace' (shalom) as both a greeting and a farewell. Thirdly, the word 'apostle' in Greek means 'the one who is sent', and Jesus sent the disciples to go out for their ministry through his commissioning words 'as the Father sent me, so am I sending you' preaching the forgiveness of sins made possible to humanity through his Death and Resurrection. Fourthly, the concept of God's breath is particularly important in the Scriptural tradition, for instance, the book of Genesis describes God's act to give life to Adam by breathing into his nostrils (cf 2.7), consequently Jesus' breathing the Holy Spirit upon the disciples today could be seen as his act to give new life to the Church.

Let us earnestly ask Jesus to breathe once again his Holy Spirit upon each of us as we celebrate the feast of Pentecost today, so we can receive new life and energy to be more committed disciples sent into the world to bear witness to him.

Have a Spirit-filled week,
Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

CONFIRMATION CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the 30 candidates who made their Confirmation on Friday night (26/5). May God bless them on this sacred and special day and may the gifts of The Holy Spirit they received continue to sustain and strengthen them on their personal Faith Journey. Amen.



OVER 50'S CLUB COURTESY BUS TRIP -29TH MAY

Meet in Church Hall Monday 29th of May at 8.45am for a 9am departure to Mount Annan Gardens.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PARISH MINISTERS

We would like to congratulate Daniel La Guirdara and June Seaman who were commissioned recently as Ministers At The Altar (Acolytes), and Hye Rin Han (Anastasia) commissioned as Minister of the Word, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion & Communion to the Sick and Dying. We also thank them for their generosity to serve the community.

MINISTRY ROSTER UPDATE:

A friendly reminder to submit your roster update details for the next 6 months. Roster Forms are available in front of the back Sacristy, alternatively you can send or print a form from our OLOL Web Page. Please return on or before 30th May 2023. Thank you for your continued support.

SOCIAL JUSTICE FOOD + COLLECTION

Black boxes will be out at back of the church from next week to collect items for Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS). *Items especially needed* Red kidney beans, lentils and toiletries (Nappies {large sizes}, toothpaste and Shampoo, toothbrushes, Sanitary pads and napkins, Razors and shaving foam, Deodorant {male & female} and soap). Other items needed Basmati rice, Cooking oil, Long life milk, Tinned tuna, Chickpeas, Fruit, Biscuits, Muesli bars, Oats and Cereal. Thank you for your support.

FR HENRY'S ANNUAL LEAVE

Fr Henry will take annual leave from the 1st of June till the end of the first week of July. Frs Huy SJ, Vincy OFM Cap, and Luan OFM Cap will be available to help our parish with all Masses, so please make them most welcomed amongst us. In cases of emergency, please contact clergy from our neighbouring parishes, such as Lalor Park, Blacktown or Toongabbie. Our staff in the parish office are more than happy to help provide their contact numbers.

LIVESTREAMED MASS SHORT BREAK

Due to a technical issue, our live-streamed mass will be UNAVAILABLE for 5 weeks during Fr Henry's leave from June 3 to July 1, 2023. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause to our online congregation.

DIOCESAN SYNOD

We all are invited to submit our ideas and suggestions either individually through this link: [synod2023_submissions_Individual - Diocese of Parramatta \(parracatholic.org\)](#), or group through: [synod2023_submissions_group - Diocese of Parramatta \(parracatholic.org\)](#)

SAFE GUARD TRAINING

In keeping with Government regulations, the Diocese requires all volunteers, including our music ministry and choir members to complete a "Safe Guarding Training". This must be done by the end of the year. It can be done online with many modules, however our Parish has organised with Maria from the Diocese to conduct a one day training on Saturday 8th July 2023 10.00am-3.00pm, which will fulfill the requirement. To register please contact the Parish office.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

All children from 5 yrs up are invited to join in the Children's Liturgy at our 9.30am Mass this Sunday. Thank you Jem for helping do the liturgy for the children in our parish.

Diocesan Synod 2023 – Join Bishop Vincent at a listening event!

Over the next six weeks, Bishop Vincent is travelling throughout the Diocese and listening directly to people's stories and suggestions about our Church. Join him at one of four locations to have your say. Events start at 6.30pm with light refreshments:

Saturday 3 June at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

Saturday 17 June at St Andrew the Apostle Primary School, Marayong.

Saturday 24 June at Holy Spirit Primary School, St Clair.

To register for your local consultation and to learn more about the Diocesan synod, visit parracatholic.org/synod2023

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Aboriginal Catholic Care at Emerton

Will you be the face of Christ for our First Nations people in need? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will support a welcoming place where Aboriginal people can express their identity, share their culture and knowledge within our community, access practical support and development opportunities, and make social connections. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you for being a Good Samaritan to our First Nations people.



Save Calvary Hospital

There is a petition to the Members of the ACT Legislative Assembly to reverse a decision of the ACT government to compulsorily acquire Calvary Hospital in Canberra. This removes the ownership and management from Calvary Health Care – a Catholic operator – and gives the ownership to the government-run, non-faith-based Canberra Health Services instead. To find out more about the implications of this decision and to sign the petition please visit: www.savecalvary.com.au

Pentecost Scripture Evening: 30 May

'Pentecost 2023: Be Empowered by the Spirit' in an evening reflection on the Word of God and the season of Pentecost with Br Barry Donaghue! You and your key contacts are most welcome to attend Tuesday 30 May from 6:30pm to 8:30pm downstairs at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/pentecost2023/>

Invitation to Register for CPR Training: 5 June

You are invited to register for an accredited CPR Course being offered by Surf Life Saving NSW. This is being offered as FREE course to the Parishes of the Diocese as part of a project being offered by The University of Sydney, Westmead Applied Research Centre. The course runs for 2.5 hours and will be presented at:

- Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, on Monday 5 June from 4pm.

Please contact the Parish Office for information on how to register for the venue of your choice.

SAVE THE DATE – Diocesan Liturgical Conference: 15 July

The Diocesan Liturgy Conference is on again in 2023! Save the date for Saturday 15 July at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong. Fr Peter Williams AM VG will be the Keynote speaker as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Constitution on Sacred Liturgy. The conference will include a variety of workshops. More information to come soon.

MET Worship RCIA Teams Formation Seminars: Beginning 3 August

MET Worship's Formation Seminar for RCIA Teams will be commencing on Thursday 3 August throughout August from 7pm to 9pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. New topics will be covered each week throughout the Seminar including Using Rituals, Mystagogia and more! To RSVP and to learn more about the seminar topics, please contact hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org or call 0460 037 795.

PALMS Australia Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. On our website you can see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know by calling (02) 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567 or visit www.palms.org.au

Social Event: Come see "13-Suitcases" at Lennox Riverside Theatre, Parramatta Wed 7th June Noon or 7:30pm. Cost \$35 or concession \$25. Through the power of storytelling, young, courageous refugees who have recently arrived in Australia, will unpack their true-life stories of treasured memories, and of loved ones and homelands lost to the devastating effects of war and violence. If interested contact Terry on 0409 373 715 or email socialjustice@olol7hills.com.au For more details see website <https://riversideparramatta.com.au/show/13-suitcases/>

Free English and Citizenship Classes

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at its All Saints of Africa Centre, 63 Allawah St, Blacktown. Courses are subsidized by the New South Wales Government. Please register to participate in the program by contacting 0477 952 024. You can also contact Nepean Community College on (02) 47249000.

SAVE THE DATE – Diocesan Liturgical Conference: 15 July

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Penrith Parish Room for Rent

St Nicholas of Myra Parish in Penrith is renting out an upstairs office space next to Catholic Care, Penrith. Contact Rodney (Office Manager) at enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au or call (02) 4721 2509 for photos and more information.

Positions Vacant:

• Claims and Legal Officer – Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close **10pm Monday 5 June 2023**. More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

POPE FRANCIS' REGINA CAELI



Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno!*

Today, in Italy and many other countries, the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated. It is a feast we know well, but which can raise several questions – at least two. The first question: Why celebrate Jesus's departure from the earth? It would seem that his departure would be a sad moment, not exactly something to rejoice over! Why celebrate a departure? First question. Second question: What does Jesus do now in heaven? First question: Why celebrate? Second question: What does Jesus do in heaven?

Why we are celebrating. Because with the Ascension, something new and beautiful happened: Jesus brought our humanity, our flesh, into heaven – this is the first time – that is, he brought it in God. That humanity that he had assumed on earth did not remain here. The risen Jesus was not a spirit, no. He had his human body, flesh and bones, everything. He will be there in God. We could say that from the day of the Ascension on, God himself "changed" from that point on, he is not only spirit, but such is his love for us that he bears our own flesh in himself, our humanity! The place awaiting us is thus indicated; that is our destiny. Thus wrote an ancient Father in the faith: "What splendid news! He who became man for us [...] to make us his brothers, presents himself as man before the Father to bear with himself all those who are joined with him" (St. Gregory of Nyssa, *Discourse on the Resurrection of Christ*, 1). Today, we celebrate "heaven's conquest" – Jesus, who returns to the Father, but with our humanity. And so, heaven is already ours a little bit. Jesus has opened the door and his body is there. The second question: So, *what does Jesus do in heaven?* He is there for us before the Father, continually showing our humanity to him showing him his wounds. I like to think that Jesus, prays like this in front of the Father making him see his wounds. "This is what I suffered for humanity: Do something!" He shows the Father the price of our redemption. The Father is moved. This is something I like to think about. But think about it yourselves. This is how Jesus prays. He did not leave us alone. In fact, before ascending, he told us, as the Gospel says today, "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Mt 28:20). He is always with us, looking at us, and "he always lives to make intercession" (Heb 7:25) for us. To make the Father see his wounds, for us. In a word, Jesus *intercedes*. He is in a better "place", before his Father and ours, to intercede on our behalf. Intercession is fundamental. This faith helps us too – not to lose hope, not to get discouraged. Before the Father, there is someone who makes him see his wounds and intercedes. May the Queen of heaven help us to intercede with the power of prayer.

After the Regina Caeli

Dear brothers and sisters,

It is sad, but, a month after the outbreak of violence in Sudan, the situation continues to be serious. While encouraging the partial agreements reached so far, I renew my heartfelt appeal for the laying down of weapons, and I ask the international community to spare no effort to make dialogue prevail and to alleviate the suffering of the people. And let us continue to be near the beleaguered Ukrainian people. Today, World Communications Day is celebrated with the theme *Speaking with the heart*. It is the heart that moves us toward open and receptive communication. I greet the journalists, communication professionals, thanking them for their work. And I hope that they might always work at the service of the truth and for the common good. A round of applause for all the journalists! Today, *Laudato si'* Week begins. I thank the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development and the many participating organizations. And I invite everything to collaborate in the care of our common home. There is such a need to put our capabilities and creativity together! Recent disasters remind us of this, such as the flooding that has hit the people of Emilia Romagna in these days, to whom, with all my heart, I renew my nearness. Today, booklets on *Laudato si'*, which the Dicastery has prepared in collaboration with the Stockholm Environment Institute, will be distributed in the Square. I greet all of you, people from Rome and pilgrims from Italy and from many countries I see many flags there, welcome! I especially greet the Franciscan Sisters of Saint Elizabeth from Indonesia from far away; the faithful from Malta, from Mali, from Argentina, from the Caribbean Island Curaçao, and the musical band from Puerto Rico. We would like to hear you play after! In addition, I greet the diocesan pilgrimage from Alessandria; the Confirmation candidates from the diocese of Genoa whom I met with yesterday. I met with them, with the red hats over there, in Santa Marta they're wonderful!; the parish groups from Scandicci, Grotte and Grumo Nevano; the associations committed to protect human life; the "Emil Komel" young people's Choir from Gorizia; "Catherine of Saint Rose" and "Saint Ursula" schools from Rome; and the people with the Immacolata. I wish all of you a good Sunday. Please, do not forget to pray for me. Please do not forget. Enjoy your lunch and *arrivederci!*

POPE FRANCIS: MAY WE HEAR THE VOICE OF THE UNBORN THROUGH SCIENCE

This book aims to remind the reader of the wonder and joy of each one's coming into the world. It shows the beauty of looking at unborn life as the holder of the highest right that belongs to everyone: that of existing. Beauty, yes, because the spectacle of nature taking its course instills wonder and calls for care, protection, and welcome.

In addressing the subject of this book, above all, I invite everyone around the world to reflect on the reality of abortion not only from the basis of one or another faith or thought tradition, but also with the qualified contribution of science. It is a firm but calm appeal to bring about discussion with my brothers and sisters, with whom I share our vast and magnificent multifaceted humanity.

Central to this book is the input from a scientist, an expert in embryology and one actively involved in mixed bioethics committees (i.e. in dialogue with doctors and lay scientists). Together with the other authors, he has taken up my invitation to return to the theme of abortion by "listening" to the voice of the embryo, questioning us about his or her nature, his or her singularity, on how he or she faces every threat that stands between him or herself and their own existence, guided by processes that nature has fine-tuned over the millennia of evolution.

"Let us return to the wonder of being born" the authors suggest. In this regard, I renew my appeal to all those who, faced with unborn life, do not stop and do not give in to a tragic and definitive solution, such as abortion, but feel they can offer the unborn child and the mother the help of a society that is finally dedicated to defending the dignity of all, starting with the most vulnerable. It is a society that, in short, rejects the "throwaway culture" in every area and at every stage of existence: in the fragility of the unborn child, in the loneliness of the elderly, in the shameful poverty of so many who are deprived of the essential basics and lack prospects for development, in the suffering of those who are victims of wars, in the reality of emigration caused by desperation and persecution found in every part of the world. On behalf of so many innocent victims, may God bless all those who are willing to discuss and reflect together on this "miracle" that is life.