

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

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 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.lol7hills.com.au
Catechist Coordinator : Sandy Manamperi
 0480 266 339
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/>

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time 18 June 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@lol7hills.com.au We can also arrange for Holy Communion or a visit if required.

Let us Pray for the Deceased

Recently Deceased: Neil Amarutunga, Mansour Ahmad, Agnes Bonello, Anton, Philomena & Clarence Corera, Felisa Conejos, Sarojini Chary, Rita Leon, Aurora Dumlaio, Joan Falzon, Ranjan Fernando, Teodoro Garcia, Maria Garufo, Steve Gauci, Helen Hili, Dot McLandsborough, Ernesto Mendes, Michelle Muscat, Debbie Mifsud, Francis Muscat, Margie Silva, Jessica Neodama, Eddie Tabone, Elizabeth (Betty) Taiarol.

Anniversaries: Fredy Alphonse, Gay & Jacqueline Angley, Sam Borg, Michelle Azzopardi, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Rolily Burac, Josephine Calleja, Simeon Carlos, Charlie Chircop, Antonia, Melvyn Fernandes, Josephine Francis, Sheela Franklin, Emilia Galea, Jean Garrick, Elsie & Karl Garrick, Zoltan Gartner, Charlie Gravina, Ginny Heke, Chinedu Joseph & Family, Sammy Formosa, Maria, Anton Motha, Apolinario Maglaya, Tomasa & Nicanor Magpayo, Mary Muscat, Jason Muscat, Jim & Philippa Muscat, Alberto Nahoy, Thirucheluum, Philomina, Theanmolish, Nirmala, John Portelli, John Ratnam, Felicisimo Prahinog, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Vivian Silva, Rosary Silva, Pauline & Santan Soares, S. Susainathan, Melchor Usman, Shane Vaz, Salvu Zammit.

Remembrance: France Angseeing, Cynthia Avery, Gregorio Almodovar, Carmen & Tony Attard, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sam Borg, Lina Cabaero, Cini Family, Dennis Clarke, Myrna Cruz, Silvia & Sam Debattista, Emerenciana Dizon, Anacleto Dizon, Ngan Siu Eng, Julian Epondulan, Melvyn Fernandes, Felina & Apolinario Maglaya, Zaren & Sam Formosa, John & William Formosa, Charlie Gauci, Francisca Garcia, Sam & Mary Galea, Joe, Lonsan & Loui Deguire, Dolly Huertas, Selvam Irudayaraj, Sheena Landagan, Norma Lorenzo, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Pauline Meilak, Mangion Family, 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, Karen Reyes, Rodrigues Family, Sem Serna, Cua Sing, 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.lol7hills.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.

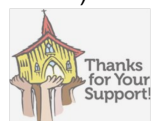
ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

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/LOL7Hills/>

FIRST READING A reading from the book of Exodus 19:2-6

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation." '

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. **(R.)**

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. **(R.)**

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **(R.)**

SECOND READING A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:6-11

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is near;
repent and believe the Good News!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 9:36 – 10:8

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him.

These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION - 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 9:36-10:8

As the owner of a large company, you have just hired an ad agency to promote your product. You'll probably expect the agency to recruit someone famous to be your company's spokesperson but if that's not possible, you'll at least want your company represented by people who are attractive, well respected, reasonably intelligent, and able to get the message across. These expectations would be normal. Considering these criteria, we might wonder why Jesus chose the people he did to be his spokesmen.

Today's Gospel reading contains a list of the twelve apostles, some of whom were fishermen from Galilee.

Making a living casting nets into the sea was a strike against them because most fishermen in Jesus' day could neither read nor write. They were most likely poor, ill-mannered, and a little rough around the edges.

Being from Galilee didn't help either because Galileans were the ancient world's version of the Beverly Hillbillies. They were low class, they talked funny, and they weren't very well respected.

As for the rest of the apostles, many of them were shady characters. Matthew was a tax collector and tax collectors were not very popular in Jesus' day because most people suspected them of collecting more than they were supposed to and then pocketing the extra money. Simon was a Zealot, a member of a political party that hated the Romans. Zealots had a reputation for assassinating their political enemies with a well-placed knife in the back.

Because they were sometimes called the sicarii, a name that means "knife, and because Iscariot is a form of the word sicari, some scripture scholars believe Judas may have also been a Zealot.

Finally, the apostles weren't very brave or dependable. One of them betrayed him. Another denied knowing him and they all ran away when Jesus was arrested. Thomas didn't even want to believe Jesus had been raised from the dead. When we consider all this, it's amazing Jesus' message actually did get preached.

For Reflection-

Throughout Scripture, we have examples of God choosing to work through the weak and the helpless rather than those who are strong. Who are the weak and the helpless in your life that God is using to speak to you?



PARISH NEWS...

LOL PARISH SYNOD LISTENING SESSION

Held last Wednesday was an experience of Synodality (walking together with the Holy Spirit). Everybody was heard and their lived experience was valuable to the submission. Each group produced a submission.

The process on the night showed a way to experience walking together with the Holy Spirit. One can describe the process, but experiencing it is very different so if you get the opportunity, please take it. If you would like to participate contact Terry Jordan on 0409373715 or via email socialjustice@lol7hills.com.au

Synod Submission close July 31st. Group and individual submissions can be made up to 1000 words based on questions at the back of the church with St Joseph.

See the website https://parracatholic.org/synod_getinvolved/ for options and resources.



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.

MINISTRY ROSTERS 1 July 2023 - 28 January 2024

are now available. You can find a copy in front of the back sacristy or on the Ministry Pro website. If you require more copies, please contact the Parish office or email secretary@lol7hills.com.au

LOURDES: Luminate Young Adults Group

The next group night is Friday, 23rd June 6:45 - 9:30pm in the Parish Hall.

Theme: The Real Presence of Christ Revealed

All are welcome to join us!

If you would like more information, please contact Ian Epondulan: youthlol7h@gmail.com



CATHOLIC OUTLOOK MAGAZINE

Your free copy of the winter edition of Catholic Outlook is now available in the Parish.

SOCIAL JUSTICE FOOD + COLLECTION

Black boxes have been placed at the back of the church to collect items for Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS).

Items especially needed Red kidney beans, lentils and toiletries (Nappies {large sizes}, toothpaste, 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.

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.

Families called to share their stories with the first Diocesan Synod

Bishop Vincent wants to hear from families and households across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Your stories will inform the direction of our local Church into the future through what is known as a synod. Our Diocesan Synod is both an event and a process where people gather to discuss important matters relating to the life and mission of the Church. Synods are transformative experiences that lead to renewal in the Church's life. The success of the Synod relies on your participation. Families and households are encouraged to participate in the Synod at home using the resources 'Synod at Home' found here: https://parracatholic.org/synod2023_resources/

Online Prayer Service for Refugee Week 2023: 20 June

The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office (ACMRO) and the Office of Justice Ecology and Peace invite you to an online prayer service on Tuesday 20 June at 7.00pm (AEST) to commemorate Refugee Week from 18 to 24 June. The theme of Refugee Week 2023 is Finding Freedom. Please register now at <https://bit.ly/RWPS23>

Divine Retreat Centre offerings in June

The Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, NSW is hosting a variety of single-day and weekend retreats throughout June, including a Couples Growth retreat and its monthly one-day pilgrimage. For more information and bookings, please contact (02) 43721598 or email drcsydney@gmail.com to confirm attendance. Visit www.divineretreatcentre.org for more information.

Aboriginal Catholic Care NAIDOC Celebrations: 4 July

You are warmly invited to attend Aboriginal Catholic Care's NAIDOC Week celebrations on Tuesday 4 July at 252 Luxford Road, Emerton from 10am to 2pm. The event will include Stalls, Entertainment, Rides, Jumping Castle, Creature Feature, Face Painting, Sausage Sizzles & much more.

St Luke's Marsden Park Dinner Dance: 22 July

St Luke's at Marsden Park is holding its first ever Dinner Dance Saturday, July 22 from 7pm at St Luke's Catholic College, Frontier Avenue, Marsden Park. A 3-course Spanish-styled meal with sangria is on offer along with prizes. All profits will go towards funding the St Luke's Church building. Tickets are now on sale. Email marsdenpark@parracatholic.org to arrange your tickets.

Diocesan Adult Confirmation: 5 September

Adult Confirmation 2023 will be held on Tuesday 5 September at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral with the Catechesis and Formation Day to be held on Saturday 2 September at 9:30am – 2pm at the Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown (formerly known as the IFM). Adult Confirmation is a community celebration for those who have reached the age of 16 years and have received both the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist but are yet to receive the Confirmation. If you would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org.

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 such as nourishing faith in children and discovering sacred art. To register, please visit www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1041495, contact mary.gale@parracatholic.org.

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.

FaithLIFE – 3 Night Short Course on Scripture: Beginning 22 August

Want to explore Christian spirituality? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on Scripture with Sr Patty Andrew, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesday: 22, 29 Aug & 5 Sep. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/faithlife/>

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Applications Forms are available on our website pallottine.org.au/svpsscholarship.

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. To find out more about the implications of this decision and to sign the petition please visit: www.savecalvary.com.au

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2023

Getting married in 2023? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via website. For more information, email met@parracatholic.org or phone Karin 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

Soul Food Podcast – Pastoral Formation

Do you find life & faith inspiration by listening to the experiences of others?

Pastoral Formation's Soul Food Podcast features life & faith stories of people from our diocesan family. Listen now for FREE via our website or on Spotify: <https://pfparra.org.au/soulfood/>



ENCYCLICAL LETTER
FRATELLI TUTTI
OF THE HOLY FATHER
FRANCIS
ON FRATERNITY AND SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP *continued..*

AN ABSENCE OF HUMAN DIGNITY ON THE BORDERS

37. Certain populist political regimes, as well as certain liberal economic approaches, maintain that an influx of migrants is to be prevented at all costs. Arguments are also made for the propriety of limiting aid to poor countries, so that they can hit rock bottom and find themselves forced to take austerity measures. One fails to realize that behind such statements, abstract and hard to support, great numbers of lives are at stake. Many migrants have fled from war, persecution and natural catastrophes. Others, rightly, “are seeking opportunities for themselves and their families. They dream of a better future and they want to create the conditions for achieving it”. [36]

38. Sadly, some “are attracted by Western culture, sometimes with unrealistic expectations that expose them to grave disappointments. Unscrupulous traffickers, frequently linked to drug cartels or arms cartels, exploit the weakness of migrants, who too often experience violence, trafficking, psychological and physical abuse and untold sufferings on their journey”. [37] Those who emigrate “experience separation from their place of origin, and often a cultural and religious uprooting as well. Fragmentation is also felt by the communities they leave behind, which lose their most vigorous and enterprising elements, and by families, especially when one or both of the parents migrates, leaving the children in the country of origin”. [38] For this reason, “there is also a need to reaffirm the right not to emigrate, that is, to remain in one’s homeland”. [39]

39. Then too, “in some host countries, migration causes fear and alarm, often fomented and exploited for political purposes. This can lead to a xenophobic mentality, as people close in on themselves, and it needs to be addressed decisively”. [40] Migrants are not seen as entitled like others to participate in the life of society, and it is forgotten that they possess the same intrinsic dignity as any person. Hence they ought to be “agents in their own redemption”. [41] No one will ever openly deny that they are human beings, yet in practice, by our decisions and the way we treat them, we can show that we consider them less worthy, less important, less human. For Christians, this way of thinking and acting is unacceptable, since it sets certain political preferences above deep convictions of our faith: the inalienable dignity of each human person regardless of origin, race or religion, and the supreme law of fraternal love.

40. “Migrations, more than ever before, will play a pivotal role in the future of our world”. [42] At present, however, migration is affected by the “loss of that sense of responsibility for our brothers and sisters on which every civil society is based”. [43] Europe, for example, seriously risks taking this path. Nonetheless, “aided by its great cultural and religious heritage, it has the means to defend the centrality of the human person and to find the right balance between its twofold moral responsibility to protect the rights of its citizens and to assure assistance and acceptance to migrants”. [44]

41. I realize that some people are hesitant and fearful with regard to migrants. I consider this part of our natural instinct of self-defence. Yet it is also true that an individual and a people are only fruitful and productive if they are able to develop a creative openness to others. I ask everyone to move beyond those primal reactions because “there is a problem when doubts and fears condition our way of thinking and acting to the point of making us intolerant, closed and perhaps even – without realizing it – racist. In this way, fear deprives us of the desire and the ability to encounter the other”. [45]

THE ILLUSION OF COMMUNICATION

42. Oddly enough, while closed and intolerant attitudes towards others are on the rise, distances are otherwise shrinking or disappearing to the point that the right to privacy scarcely exists. Everything has become a kind of spectacle to be examined and inspected, and people’s lives are now under constant surveillance. Digital communication wants to bring everything out into the open; people’s lives are combed over, laid bare and bandied about, often anonymously. Respect for others disintegrates, and even as we dismiss, ignore or keep others distant, we can shamelessly peer into every detail of their lives.

43. Digital campaigns of hatred and destruction, for their part, are not – as some would have us believe – a positive form of mutual support, but simply an association of individuals united against a perceived common enemy. “Digital media can also expose people to the risk of addiction, isolation and a gradual loss of contact with concrete reality, blocking the development of authentic interpersonal relationships”. [46] They lack the physical gestures, facial expressions, moments of silence, body language and even the smells, the trembling of hands, the blushes and perspiration that speak to us and are a part of human communication. Digital relationships, which do not demand the slow and gradual cultivation of friendships, stable interaction or the building of a consensus that matures over time, have the appearance of sociability. Yet they do not really build community; instead, they tend to disguise and expand the very individualism that finds expression in xenophobia and in contempt for the vulnerable. Digital connectivity is not enough to build bridges. It is not capable of uniting humanity.

Shameless aggression

44. Even as individuals maintain their comfortable consumerist isolation, they can choose a form of constant and febrile bonding that encourages remarkable hostility, insults, abuse, defamation and verbal violence destructive of others, and this with a lack of restraint that could not exist in physical contact without tearing us all apart. Social aggression has found unparalleled room for expansion through computers and mobile devices.

45. This has now given free rein to ideologies. Things that until a few years ago could not be said by anyone without risking the loss of universal respect can now be said with impunity, and in the crudest of terms, even by some political figures. Nor should we forget that “there are huge economic interests operating in the digital world, capable of exercising forms of control as subtle as they are invasive, creating mechanisms for the manipulation of consciences and of the democratic process. The way many platforms work often ends up favouring encounter between persons who think alike, shielding them from debate. These closed circuits facilitate the spread of fake news and false information, fomenting prejudice and hate”. [47]

Continued over page

46. We should also recognize that destructive forms of fanaticism are at times found among religious believers, including Christians; they too “can be caught up in networks of verbal violence through the internet and the various forums of digital communication. Even in Catholic media, limits can be overstepped, defamation and slander can become commonplace, and all ethical standards and respect for the good name of others can be abandoned”.[48] How can this contribute to the fraternity that our common Father asks of us?

Information without wisdom

47. True wisdom demands an encounter with reality. Today, however, everything can be created, disguised and altered. A direct encounter even with the fringes of reality can thus prove intolerable. A mechanism of selection then comes into play, whereby I can immediately separate likes from dislikes, what I consider attractive from what I deem distasteful. In the same way, we can choose the people with whom we wish to share our world. Persons or situations we find unpleasant or disagreeable are simply deleted in today’s virtual networks; a virtual circle is then created, isolating us from the real world in which we are living.

48. The ability to sit down and listen to others, typical of interpersonal encounters, is paradigmatic of the welcoming attitude shown by those who transcend narcissism and accept others, caring for them and welcoming them into their lives. Yet “today’s world is largely a deaf world... At times, the frantic pace of the modern world prevents us from listening attentively to what another person is saying. Halfway through, we interrupt him and want to contradict what he has not even finished saying. We must not lose our ability to listen”. Saint Francis “heard the voice of God, he heard the voice of the poor, he heard the voice of the infirm and he heard the voice of nature. He made of them a way of life. My desire is that the seed that Saint Francis planted may grow in the hearts of many”.[49]

49. As silence and careful listening disappear, replaced by a frenzy of texting, this basic structure of sage human communication is at risk. A new lifestyle is emerging, where we create only what we want and exclude all that we cannot control or know instantly and superficially. This process, by its intrinsic logic, blocks the kind of serene reflection that could lead us to a shared wisdom.

50. Together, we can seek the truth in dialogue, in relaxed conversation or in passionate debate. To do so calls for perseverance; it entails moments of silence and suffering, yet it can patiently embrace the broader experience of individuals and peoples. The flood of information at our fingertips does not make for greater wisdom. Wisdom is not born of quick searches on the internet nor is it a mass of unverified data. That is not the way to mature in the encounter with truth. Conversations revolve only around the latest data; they become merely horizontal and cumulative. We fail to keep our attention focused, to penetrate to the heart of matters, and to recognize what is essential to give meaning to our lives. Freedom thus becomes an illusion that we are peddled, easily confused with the ability to navigate the internet. The process of building fraternity, be it local or universal, can only be undertaken by spirits that are free and open to authentic encounters.

FORMS OF SUBJECTION AND OF SELF-CONTEMPT

51. Certain economically prosperous countries tend to be proposed as cultural models for less developed countries; instead, each of those countries should be helped to grow in its own distinct way and to develop its capacity for innovation while respecting the values of its proper culture. A shallow and pathetic desire to imitate others leads to copying and consuming in place of creating, and fosters low national self-esteem. In the affluent sectors of many poor countries, and at times in those who have recently emerged from poverty, there is a resistance to native ways of thinking and acting, and a tendency to look down on one’s own cultural identity, as if it were the sole cause of every ill.

52. Destroying self-esteem is an easy way to dominate others. Behind these trends that tend to level our world, there flourish powerful interests that take advantage of such low self-esteem, while attempting, through the media and networks, to create a new culture in the service of the elite. This plays into the opportunism of financial speculators and raiders, and the poor always end up the losers. Then too, ignoring the culture of their people has led to the inability of many political leaders to devise an effective development plan that could be freely accepted and sustained over time.

53. We forget that “there is no worse form of alienation than to feel uprooted, belonging to no one. A land will be fruitful, and its people bear fruit and give birth to the future, only to the extent that it can foster a sense of belonging among its members, create bonds of integration between generations and different communities, and avoid all that makes us insensitive to others and leads to further alienation”.[50]

HOPE

54. Despite these dark clouds, which may not be ignored, I would like in the following pages to take up and discuss many new paths of hope. For God continues to sow abundant seeds of goodness in our human family. The recent pandemic enabled us to recognize and appreciate once more all those around us who, in the midst of fear, responded by putting their lives on the line. We began to realize that our lives are interwoven with and sustained by ordinary people valiantly shaping the decisive events of our shared history: doctors, nurses, pharmacists, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caretakers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests and religious... They understood that no one is saved alone.[51]

55. I invite everyone to renewed hope, for hope “speaks to us of something deeply rooted in every human heart, independently of our circumstances and historical conditioning. Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love... Hope is bold; it can look beyond personal convenience, the petty securities and compensations which limit our horizon, and it can open us up to grand ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile”. [52] Let us continue, then, to advance along the paths of hope.



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 13th July 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, 23rd 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

JUNE		
19	St Vincent De Paul Meeting	7.00pm
23	Lourdes YAG Meeting	6.45pm
29	Finance Committee Meeting	8.00pm
JULY		
8	Safeguard Training	10.00am
13	Over 50's Meeting	10.30am
19	Baptism Preparation Program	7.30pm
30	School Mass—Grandparents Day	9.30am

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

17/18 June 2023

Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am Kilifi Huihui
Ministers	Vigil: A. Bellissimo, E.Hien 8am: S. Nemorin, VOLUNTEER 9.30am: C. Brooks, B.Chandler
Readers	Vigil: N. Do Rosario, A. Punch 8am: J.Cabasa, E.Mui 9.30am K.Huihui, A.Walker
Altar Servers	Vigil: J.Kingston, S.Thoms 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am S.Culili, F.Wanandy
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Parish Pastoral Council
Flowers	Fennie & Angela
Church cleaning	24 June Judith Deloso
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain

24/25 June 2023

Acolytes	Vigil: James Dinning 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am Ian Epondulan
Ministers	Vigil: L. La Guidara, M. Mifsud 8am: F. Balatbat, E. Gartner 9.30am: P.Gow, S.Lenthall
Readers	Vigil: C. Rodrigues, M.Simic 8am: A. McNally, K. Walker 9.30am M. Aquino, F. Kennedy
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. Bagatella, A. La Guidara, C. La Guidara 8am: K.Maruthanayagam, S.Park, P.Park 9.30am L.Culili, C.Attard, M.Pieris
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ
Flowers	Annette & Mary B
Church cleaning	28 June Jessie Borg Anne McNally
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Urge 8am: Joyce Hillbrick 9.30am: VOLUNTEER

The Kids' Bulletin

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 18th, 2023



Jesus sent His Apostles to the surrounding towns to preach and heal. Can you find the way to the nearby town for the Apostles?

The Calling of Matthew

"For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Matthew 9:13 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
K	U	Q	R	M	H	D	J	V	P	T	Z	Y	B	N	W	G	L	X	E	C	O	S	A	F	I

- 11-24-19 _____
- 21-22-18-18-20-21-11-22-4 _____
- 5-20-4-21-13 _____
- 23-26-21-1 _____
- 7-26-15-15-20-4 _____
- 7-22-21-11-22-4 _____
- 23-26-15-15-20-4 _____
- 6-20-24-18-11-6-13 _____

SINNER	MERCY	HEALTHY	DINNER
COLLECTOR	SICK	TAX	DOCTOR

Choose the word that best matches the definition.



- The first book of the New Testament
A. Mark B. Luke C. Matthew D. John
- The opposite of standing
A. flying B. walking C. climbing D. sitting
- Strong and free from illness and disease
A. healthy B. tired C. sick D. fat
- One of the twelve chosen to follow Jesus
A. healthy B. disciple C. follow D. doctor
- A person who treats people who are sick or injured
A. prophet B. sinner C. doctor D. tax collector
- To walk behind someone
A. lead B. sitting C. follow D. sinner

Finish The Picture. Today's Gospel story tells how Jesus sent out the twelve disciples to tell the good news about God's kingdom. What do you think it would have been like if you had been there listening? Here is a picture of two of the disciples telling the good news. Draw yourself into the picture, listening to them.



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

DISCIPLES	MATTHEW	DOCTOR	COLLECTORS
SACRIFICE	DINNER	HEALTHY	TEACHER
MERCY	SITTING	BOOTH	SINNERS
RIGHTEOUS	FOLLOW	HOUSE	SICK