

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

The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ 11 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 Dumlao, 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 Formusa, Maria, Anton Motha, Apolinario Maglaya, Tomasa & Nicanor Magpayo, Thomas Snr Morrissey, Mary Muscat, Jason Muscat, Jim & Philippa Muscat, Alberto Nahoy, Thirucheluum, Philomina, Theanmolish, Nirmala, John Portelli, John Ratnam, Felicissimo 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')

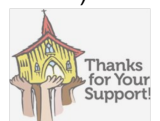
IN-PERSON BANK DEPOSIT (at a Bank Inst / Branch)

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 Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord. 'Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

1. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you. **(R.)**

3. He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees. **(R.)**

2. He has established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.
He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command. **(R.)**

SECOND READING A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 10:16-17

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the Jews:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said.

Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

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 - *Corpus Christi* John 6:51-58

As the Jews wandered through the desert after escaping from Egypt, they started grumbling because they did not have enough food to eat. God heard their complaint and provided them with bread from heaven, which they called manna. God saved his people from starvation by feeding them much like a mother feeds her children with food they need to grow strong and healthy. Therefore, the Jews considered manna to be a symbol of God's saving power and a sign of his great love for his people.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus compares his body and blood in the Eucharist to the manna his Father gave the Jews in the desert. Jesus' body and blood is special food from heaven which, like the manna, is evidence of God's saving power and his great love. Although Jesus' body and blood and the manna are similar, they are not identical because those who ate the manna in the desert still died but those who eat Jesus' body and drink his blood will have eternal life.

Therefore, Jesus' body and blood in the Eucharist is greater than the manna and is an even better expression of God's saving power and love for his people.

Jesus promised those who eat his flesh and drink his blood will rise from their graves. This promise is the foundation for the Christian belief that at the end of the world we will rise from the dead just as Jesus rose from the tomb on Easter Sunday morning. Like Jesus' resurrection, our own resurrection will be bodily and not just spiritual.

For Reflection

If we do not eat, our physical body will weaken and we will eventually die. What will happen to our spiritual selves if we do not partake of spiritual food?



PARISH NEWS...

Lourdes: Luminare 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: youtholol7h@gmail.com



SYNOD

Come join us on the journey to develop the Vision for Diocese of Parramatta. Synod listening event for our Parish is on Wednesday 14th June 7:30 - 9:45 pm in the meeting room. You can at the back of the Church.

Also Centrally Deanery Consultation option registration for Saturday 17th June 6:30 - 9:30pm at St Andrews The Apostle Primary School, Marayong.

Contact Terry for more information 0409373715.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

For our Diocesan Synod,
may the inspiration of the
Holy Spirit guide our journey
so that we experience renewal
in our local Church today and
for generations to come.



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.

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.

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK MAGAZINE

Your free copy of the winter edition of Catholic Outlook is now available in the Parish. Read the latest news from the Bishops Conference launch to Pope Francis' prayer intention.

CatholicOutlook
News from the Diocese of Parramatta

FREE ZUMBA CLASSES

Every Tuesday and Thursday 6-7pm in the Hall.
Everyone Welcome!

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.

BECOME A CATECHIST AN SRE VOLUNTEER!

SRE's are parish volunteers who: Teach and share their faith with children of their parish who attend government schools; Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time with young people. OLOL SRE's go into Seven Hills, Seven Hills North, Bert Oldfield, Vardys Road State primary schools & The Hills Sports High School. **New volunteers SRE's will be given support, training, teaching materials and will start as a classroom helper.** For further enquiries please contact Sandy in the parish office 9622 2920

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.

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 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



Sydney Archdiocese & Parramatta Diocese Multicultural Mass: 18 June

Migrant chaplains and people from all ethnic communities in the Diocese of Parramatta and Archdiocese of Sydney are invited to a Multicultural Mass on Sunday 18 June at 2pm at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Bishop Vincent Long will be the principal celebrant and all are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Fr Roland Maurer EV or Kylie Cullen via immigration@sydneycatholic.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/svpscholarship.

Finding Freedom: Join Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) for an inspiring event featuring participants of the JRS Australia Leadership Program reflecting on this year's Refugee Week theme: 'Finding Freedom'. **Experience a creative showcase including speeches, poetry, short film and art** 6pm, Friday 16 June 2023 at Cloister Room, St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta. Parking available onsite. RSVP: [here](#). A beautiful Persian dinner will be provided prepared by JRS clientele. Donations on the night are appreciated to help cover the cost of your meal and to support the important work of the JRS Leadership Program.

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

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 43721598 or email drcsydney@gmail.com to confirm attendance. Visit www.divineretreatcentre.org for more information.

Catholics in Coalition for Justice and Peace (CCJP) Event: 29 June

Catholics in Coalition for Justice and Peace are hosting a seminar on The Australian Constitution and The Voice on Thursday 29 June from 4pm – 6pm at the Sisters of Mercy Convent, 4-6 Victoria Road, Parramatta. Parking is available in the St Patrick's Cathedral carpark and surrounding streets. The speaker is Dr Anne Twomey AO, the key constitutional lawyer involved in determining the wording of the Referendum. For further information, contact CCJP on (02) 9745 0820 on Wednesdays only or email ccjp@bigpond.com.

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 the website. For more information, email met@parracatholic.org or phone Karin on 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

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 4724 9000.

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..*

A “throwaway” world

18. Some parts of our human family, it appears, can be readily sacrificed for the sake of others considered worthy of a carefree existence. Ultimately, “persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected, especially when they are poor and disabled, ‘not yet useful’ – like the unborn, or ‘no longer needed’ – like the elderly. We have grown indifferent to all kinds of wastefulness, starting with the waste of food, which is deplorable in the extreme”. [13]

19. A decline in the birthrate, which leads to the aging of the population, together with the relegation of the elderly to a sad and lonely existence, is a subtle way of stating that it is all about us, that our individual concerns are the only thing that matters. In this way, “what is thrown away are not only food and dispensable objects, but often human beings themselves”. [14] We have seen what happened with the elderly in certain places in our world as a result of the coronavirus. They did not have to die that way. Yet something similar had long been occurring during heat waves and in other situations: older people found themselves cruelly abandoned. We fail to realize that, by isolating the elderly and leaving them in the care of others without the closeness and concern of family members, we disfigure and impoverish the family itself. We also end up depriving young people of a necessary connection to their roots and a wisdom that the young cannot achieve on their own.

20. This way of discarding others can take a variety of forms, such as an obsession with reducing labour costs with no concern for its grave consequences, since the unemployment that it directly generates leads to the expansion of poverty. [15] In addition, a readiness to discard others finds expression in vicious attitudes that we thought long past, such as racism, which retreats underground only to keep reemerging. Instances of racism continue to shame us, for they show that our supposed social progress is not as real or definitive as we think.

21. Some economic rules have proved effective for growth, but not for integral human development.[16] Wealth has increased, but together with inequality, with the result that “new forms of poverty are emerging”. [17] The claim that the modern world has reduced poverty is made by measuring poverty with criteria from the past that do not correspond to present-day realities. In other times, for example, lack of access to electric energy was not considered a sign of poverty, nor was it a source of hardship. Poverty must always be understood and gauged in the context of the actual opportunities available in each concrete historical period.

Insufficiently universal human rights

22. It frequently becomes clear that, in practice, human rights are not equal for all. Respect for those rights “is the preliminary condition for a country’s social and economic development. When the dignity of the human person is respected, and his or her rights recognized and guaranteed, creativity and interdependence thrive, and the creativity of the human personality is released through actions that further the common good”. [18] Yet, “by closely observing our contemporary societies, we see numerous contradictions that lead us to wonder whether the equal dignity of all human beings, solemnly proclaimed seventy years ago, is truly recognized, respected, protected and promoted in every situation. In today’s world, many forms of injustice persist, fed by reductive anthropological visions and by a profit-based economic model that does not hesitate to exploit, discard and even kill human beings. While one part of humanity lives in opulence, another part sees its own dignity denied, scorned or trampled upon, and its fundamental rights discarded or violated”. [19] What does this tell us about the equality of rights grounded in innate human dignity?

23. Similarly, the organization of societies worldwide is still far from reflecting clearly that women possess the same dignity and identical rights as men. We say one thing with words, but our decisions and reality tell another story. Indeed, “doubly poor are those women who endure situations of exclusion, mistreatment and violence, since they are frequently less able to defend their rights”. [20]

24. We should also recognize that “even though the international community has adopted numerous agreements aimed at ending slavery in all its forms, and has launched various strategies to combat this phenomenon, millions of people today – children, women and men of all ages – are deprived of freedom and forced to live in conditions akin to slavery... Today, as in the past, slavery is rooted in a notion of the human person that allows him or her to be treated as an object... Whether by coercion, or deception, or by physical or psychological duress, human persons created in the image and likeness of God are deprived of their freedom, sold and reduced to being the property of others. They are treated as means to an end... [Criminal networks] are skilled in using modern means of communication as a way of luring young men and women in various parts of the world”. [21] A perversion that exceeds all limits when it subjugates women and then forces them to abort. An abomination that goes to the length of kidnapping persons for the sake of selling their organs. Trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of enslavement are a worldwide problem that needs to be taken seriously by humanity as a whole: “since criminal organizations employ global networks to achieve their goals, efforts to eliminate this phenomenon also demand a common and, indeed, a global effort on the part of various sectors of society”. [22]

Conflict and fear

25. War, terrorist attacks, racial or religious persecution, and many other affronts to human dignity are judged differently, depending on how convenient it proves for certain, primarily economic, interests. What is true as long as it is convenient for someone in power stops being true once it becomes inconvenient. These situations of violence, sad to say, “have become so common as to constitute a real ‘third world war’ fought piecemeal”. [23]

26. This should not be surprising, if we realize that we no longer have common horizons that unite us; indeed, the first victim of every war is “the human family’s innate vocation to fraternity”. As a result, “every threatening situation breeds mistrust and leads people to withdraw into their own safety zone”. [24] Our world is trapped in a strange contradiction: we believe that we can “ensure stability and peace through a false sense of security sustained by a mentality of fear and mistrust”. [25]

Continued over page

27. Paradoxically, we have certain ancestral fears that technological development has not succeeded in eliminating; indeed, those fears have been able to hide and spread behind new technologies. Today too, outside the ancient town walls lies the abyss, the territory of the unknown, the wilderness. Whatever comes from there cannot be trusted, for it is unknown, unfamiliar, not part of the village. It is the territory of the “barbarian”, from whom we must defend ourselves at all costs. As a result, new walls are erected for self-preservation, the outside world ceases to exist and leaves only “my” world, to the point that others, no longer considered human beings possessed of an inalienable dignity, become only “them”. Once more, we encounter “the temptation to build a culture of walls, to raise walls, walls in the heart, walls on the land, in order to prevent this encounter with other cultures, with other people. And those who raise walls will end up as slaves within the very walls they have built. They are left without horizons, for they lack this interchange with others”. [26]

28. The loneliness, fear and insecurity experienced by those who feel abandoned by the system creates a fertile terrain for various “mafias”. These flourish because they claim to be defenders of the forgotten, often by providing various forms of assistance even as they pursue their criminal interests. There also exists a typically “mafioso” pedagogy that, by appealing to a false communitarian mystique, creates bonds of dependency and fealty from which it is very difficult to break free.

GLOBALIZATION AND PROGRESS WITHOUT A SHARED ROADMAP

29. With the Grand Imam Ahmad Al-Tayyeb, we do not ignore the positive advances made in the areas of science, technology, medicine, industry and welfare, above all in developed countries. Nonetheless, “we wish to emphasize that, together with these historical advances, great and valued as they are, there exists a moral deterioration that influences international action and a weakening of spiritual values and responsibility. This contributes to a general feeling of frustration, isolation and desperation”. We see “outbreaks of tension and a buildup of arms and ammunition in a global context dominated by uncertainty, disillusionment, fear of the future, and controlled by narrow economic interests”. We can also point to “major political crises, situations of injustice and the lack of an equitable distribution of natural resources... In the face of such crises that result in the deaths of millions of children – emaciated from poverty and hunger – there is an unacceptable silence on the international level”. [27] This panorama, for all its undeniable advances, does not appear to lead to a more humane future.

30. In today’s world, the sense of belonging to a single human family is fading, and the dream of working together for justice and peace seems an outdated utopia. What reigns instead is a cool, comfortable and globalized indifference, born of deep disillusionment concealed behind a deceptive illusion: thinking that we are all-powerful, while failing to realize that we are all in the same boat. This illusion, unmindful of the great fraternal values, leads to “a sort of cynicism. For that is the temptation we face if we go down the road of disenchantment and disappointment... Isolation and withdrawal into one’s own interests are never the way to restore hope and bring about renewal. Rather, it is closeness; it is the culture of encounter. Isolation, no; closeness, yes. Culture clash, no; culture of encounter, yes”. [28]

31. In this world that races ahead, yet lacks a shared roadmap, we increasingly sense that “the gap between concern for one’s personal well-being and the prosperity of the larger human family seems to be stretching to the point of complete division between individuals and human community... It is one thing to feel forced to live together, but something entirely different to value the richness and beauty of those seeds of common life that need to be sought out and cultivated”. [29] Technology is constantly advancing, yet “how wonderful it would be if the growth of scientific and technological innovation could come with more equality and social inclusion. How wonderful would it be, even as we discover faraway planets, to rediscover the needs of the brothers and sisters who orbit around us”. [30]

PANDEMICS AND OTHER CALAMITIES IN HISTORY

32. True, a worldwide tragedy like the Covid-19 pandemic momentarily revived the sense that we are a global community, all in the same boat, where one person’s problems are the problems of all. Once more we realized that no one is saved alone; we can only be saved together. As I said in those days, “the storm has exposed our vulnerability and uncovered those false and superfluous certainties around which we constructed our daily schedules, our projects, our habits and priorities... Amid this storm, the façade of those stereotypes with which we camouflaged our egos, always worrying about appearances, has fallen away, revealing once more the ineluctable and blessed awareness that we are part of one another, that we are brothers and sisters of one another”. [31]

33. The world was relentlessly moving towards an economy that, thanks to technological progress, sought to reduce “human costs”; there were those who would have had us believe that freedom of the market was sufficient to keep everything secure. Yet the brutal and unforeseen blow of this uncontrolled pandemic forced us to recover our concern for human beings, for everyone, rather than for the benefit of a few. Today we can recognize that “we fed ourselves on dreams of splendour and grandeur, and ended up consuming distraction, insularity and solitude. We gorged ourselves on networking, and lost the taste of fraternity. We looked for quick and safe results, only to find ourselves overwhelmed by impatience and anxiety. Prisoners of a virtual reality, we lost the taste and flavour of the truly real”. [32] The pain, uncertainty and fear, and the realization of our own limitations, brought on by the pandemic have only made it all the more urgent that we rethink our styles of life, our relationships, the organization of our societies and, above all, the meaning of our existence.

34. If everything is connected, it is hard to imagine that this global disaster is unrelated to our way of approaching reality, our claim to be absolute masters of our own lives and of all that exists. I do not want to speak of divine retribution, nor would it be sufficient to say that the harm we do to nature is itself the punishment for our offences. The world is itself crying out in rebellion. We are reminded of the well-known verse of the poet Virgil that evokes the “tears of things”, the misfortunes of life and history. [33]

35. All too quickly, however, we forget the lessons of history, “the teacher of life”. [34] Once this health crisis passes, our worst response would be to plunge even more deeply into feverish consumerism and new forms of egotistic self-preservation. God willing, after all this, we will think no longer in terms of “them” and “those”, but only “us”. If only this may prove not to be just another tragedy of history from which we learned nothing. If only we might keep in mind all those elderly persons who died for lack of respirators, partly as a result of the dismantling, year after year, of healthcare systems. If only this immense sorrow may not prove useless, but enable us to take a step forward towards a new style of life. If only we might rediscover once for all that we need one another, and that in this way our human family can experience a rebirth, with all its faces, all its hands and all its voices, beyond the walls that we have erected.

36. Unless we recover the shared passion to create a community of belonging and solidarity worthy of our time, our energy and our resources, the global illusion that misled us will collapse and leave many in the grip of anguish and emptiness. Nor should we naively refuse to recognize that “obsession with a consumerist lifestyle, above all when few people are capable of maintaining it, can only lead to violence and mutual destruction”. [35] The notion of “every man for himself” will rapidly degenerate into a free-for-all that would prove worse than any pandemic.

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 | | |
|------|--------------------------------|---------|
| 12 | King's Birthday Public Holiday | |
| 14 | SYNOD Parish Meeting | 7.30pm |
| 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 |

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

10/11 June 2023

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Acolytes | Vigil: Frank Paiva 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am Ryan Epondulan |
| Ministers | Vigil: H.Gonzales, C. Jansz 8am: L.Fernandes, J.Irundayaraj 9.30am: S.Lenthall, VOLUNTEER |
| Readers | Vigil: L.Bellissimo, J. Sarmiento 8am: VOLUNTEER, P.Ferriols 9.30am M.Aquino, K.Huihui |
| Altar Servers | Vigil: VOLUNTEERS 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am VOLUNTEERS |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Young Adults |
| Flowers | Claudette & Judith |
| Church cleaning | 15 June Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Chrisa Gonzales 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: VOLUNTEER |

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 | 28 June Jessie Borg Anne McNally |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain |

The Kids' Bulletin

*Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ
June 11th, 2023*



What did Jesus say
in today's Gospel
reading?
Put the letters in
order to fill in the
blanks at the bottom.

6 G

3 V

5 N

11 D

1 L

7 B

10 A

4 I

9 E

2 T

8 R

"I am the _____
which came down from Heaven."

Gospel Match-up



How well do you know
today's Gospel story?
See if you can match up the first parts
with the second parts of what
Jesus told the people.



I am the living
bread **A**

1 food indeed,

if any one eats of
this bread, **B**

2 which came
down from
heaven;

the bread which I
shall give for the **C**
life of the world

3 abides in me,
and I in him.

Unless you eat the
flesh of the Son
of man and drink **D**
his blood,

4 you have no life
in you

For my flesh is **E**

5 is drink indeed.

and my blood **F**

6 he will live for
ever;

He who eats my
flesh and drinks **G**
my blood

7 is my flesh.

Which two are the same?



Unscramble these words to find the
message from Jesus!

"I MA ETH

DEBRA FO EIFL"

