

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. NSW. 2147

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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/>

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 9 July 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, Sue Tipaldo, Vinnie Zarha,
 Natalie Woodward, Sr Colleen O'Sullivan

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 Amaratunga, Mansour Ahmad, Agnes Bonello,
 Anton, Philomena & Clarence Corera, Felisa Conejos, Sarojini Chary, Helen Hili,
 Sarah De Silva, Gladys Fernando, Rita Leon, Aurora Dumlao, Joan Falzon,
 Teodoro Garcia, Ranjan Fernando, Maria Garufo, Steve Gauci, Debbie Mifsud,
 Dot McLandsborough, Ernesto Mendes, Michelle Muscat, Trent Ross, Margie
 Silva, Eddie Tabone, Jessica Neodama, Evedita Monreal, Catherine Monsale

Anniversaries: Fredy Alphonse, Gay & Jacqueline Angley, Sam Borg,
 Michelle Azzopardi, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Rolily Burac, Josephine Calleja,
 Simeon Carlos, Charlie Chircop, Silvia & Sam Debatista, Antonia, Melvyn
 Fernandes, Josephine Francis, Sheela Franklin, Emilia Galea, Jean Garrick, Helen
 Gatt, Elsie & Karl Garrick, Zoltan Gartner, Charlie Gravina, Anthony Gracie, Ginny
 Heke, Chinedu Joseph & Family, Salvatore Loria, Fr Lorenzo Loria, Maria, Anton
 Motha, Mary Muscat, Apolinario Maglaya, Tomasa & Nicanor Magpayo, Jason
 Muscat, Jim & Philippa Muscat, Alberto Nahoy, Ersilia Paolini, Thirucheluum,
 Philomina, Theanmolish, Lakshman Pereira, Nirmala, John Portelli, John Ratnam,
 Felicisimo Prahinog, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, John & Mary Silva, Vivian
 Silva, Rosary Silva, Pauline & Santan Soares, S. Susainathan, Melchor Usman,
 Amalia Usman, Shane Vaz, Salvu Zammit, Romualdo Austria Snr .
 Custodio Palmos Snr, Nieves Palmos

Remembrance: France Angseeing, Cynthia Avery, Gregorio Almodovar,
 Carmen & Tony Attard, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Lina Cabaero, Cini Family,
 Dennis Clarke, Myrna Cruz, 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, Josephine & Charles Muscat,
 Mary & Franics Muscat, Josefina Lim, Adrian Pereira, Jose Reyes, Laureano
 Reyes, Jude Ranasinghe, John & Rosaline Ratnam, Maria Reyes, Yolanda Reyes,
 Karen Reyes, Rodrigues Family, Sem Serna, Hector & Rita Welgampola,
 Cua Sing, Jim Vella, Tania & Jimmy McGuire.

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.

FIRST READING A reading from the prophet Zechariah 9:9-10

The Lord says this: 'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**(R.) I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. I will give you glory, O God my King, I will bless your name for ever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. (R.) | 3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God. (R.) |
| 2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. (R.) | 4. The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down. (R.) |
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SECOND READING A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:9, 11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

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 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 11:25-30

Many of Jesus' parables are about fishing, farming, and herding because those were the three most common occupations in his day. The parable in today's Gospel reading is aimed at getting the attention of the farmers in Jesus' audience.

In this parable, Jesus says we should take his yoke upon our shoulders and learn from him. A yoke, a type of harness a farmer uses to attach a couple of oxen to a plough or a wagon, looks like the McDonald's golden arches over the shoulders of the two animals. With the yoke attached, the oxen share the burden of pulling the plough or the wagon.

If one of the oxen is old or sickly, the other ox has to work harder. Sometimes the farmer will team a young ox with an older, more experienced ox so the younger one will learn from the older one how to pull the yoke.

Until the younger one gets the hang of it, the older ox must do most of the work.

When Jesus says we should take his yoke and learn from him, he is offering to share our burdens with us.

With Jesus helping us, our burden will be light and easy to pull. Just as the two oxen work side by side, Jesus is willing to walk beside us and help us as we travel through life. We do not have to face life's problems all by ourselves.

Because our society values independence, most of us want to prove we can succeed on our own. This pride not only drives us further from each other, but it also drives us further from our God. In our obsession to do it by ourselves, we shut out all help from everyone else, even help from Jesus.

Maybe that's why Jesus praises the Father for taking what was hidden from the learned and the clever, and revealing it to the children. The learned and the clever are those who are self-sufficient and less likely to accept Jesus' help because they'd rather try to succeed on their own. Children, on the other hand, have no problem with being dependent on others. They are accustomed to looking around for assistance and are therefore more likely to turn to Jesus in their moment of need.

For Reflection -

Identify one area in your life in which you pride yourself at being independent. Do you include Jesus in that part of your life? Pray this week that you, like a child, would become dependent on Jesus.



PARISH NEWS...

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 16th JULY

All children from 5 yrs up are invited to join in the Children's Liturgy at our 9.30am Mass on Sunday 16th July.



PARISH PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE PROGRAM

All those who have registered for envelopes they are now available to pick up from the back of the Church.

If you would like an envelope number for regular donations, please fill in the card available at the church doors and return it to the parish office. If you wish to continue donating online, please add your planned giving number or for a one off donation, ref. Donation. Thank you most sincerely for your generous contribution to our Parish.

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@olol7hills.com.au



WELCOME BACK FR HENRY

We warmly welcome Fr Henry back from his leave this weekend. We hope he had an enjoyable break and look forward to hearing about his adventures in Vietnam.

STELLA MARIS APPEAL

Today is Sea Sunday, when the church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we rely on for daily living. Even during a pandemic, seafarers continue to bring into our ports products that sustain our population and economy. The Appeal today is for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. To assist this Catholic ministry, please send your donations to:

<https://stellamarisaustralia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/>

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

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/

Diocesan Synod Interfaith Consultations: 12 July

In response to Bishop Vincent's invitation that all in the diocese engage with the upcoming Diocesan Synod, the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations and the Diocesan Interfaith Commission will be co-hosting a series of consultations on how we are called to walk together with believers from other religions. All are welcome to join in the consultation session on Wednesday 12 July from 6.30pm to 9pm at St Patrick's Parish, Guildford. Register your attendance via Humantix by scanning the QR code.



Refugee Week Diocesan Food Drive

Many vulnerable people in our community rely on the 'food banks' run by Jesuit Refugee Services and the House of Welcome, which operate thanks to donations from community food drives. This Refugee Week, the Diocese of Parramatta is encouraging schools and parishes to run a food drive for those seeking safety in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Find out more information about how you can help at parracatholic.org/fooddrive or emailing james.atanasious@parracatholic.org

Volunteer for the House of Welcome

Volunteers are needed by the House of Welcome to do odd jobs around properties which house refugees and people seeking asylum. If you are a handyman or woman with a few hours you can donate, please contact Maricar at m.tupaea@houseofwelcome.com.au.

Tri-Diocesan Social Justice Statement Evening: 26 July

Join Sydney, Broken Bay and Parramatta Peace, Justice and Ecology offices as we continue to break open the Social Justice Statement of 2022 – 2023, 'Respect Confronting Violence and Abuse'. Join us on Wednesday 26 July from 6pm to 8:30pm at the Catholic Institute of Sydney, 99 Albert Road, Strathfield. To RSVP, please visit bit.ly/2023-tri-diocesan-social-justice-evening

Quakers Hill Parish Bingo Night: 5 August

Due to popular demand, BINGO will be held again on **5 August at Mary Immaculate Parish** (in the MPA). Doors open at **6:30pm for a 7pm start**. Please BYO Food and Drinks. Hot and cool beverages will be available on the night for a small fee. There will be more cash and prizes to be won! Please RSVP by phone or email by 3 August to book your seat(s) on (02) 9626 3326 or parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au. Come one come all!

Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend: 5 – 6 August

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. The next Engaged Encounter Weekend will be held on 5 – 6 August. For further info and to register, visit www.engagedencounter.org.au/

Positions Vacant:

- Assets and Leasing Manager, Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 10pm Wednesday 19 July**
- Communications and Digital Manager, Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 10pm on Thursday 20 July**

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Castle Hill Parish an Evening of Sacred Music: 25 August

St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill, will be hosting an evening of Sacred Music on Friday 25 August at 7:30pm. The event will be a night of performances by choirs, music groups and soloists from around the Diocese, performing a selection of hymns and choral music. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at <https://www.trybooking.com/CJJSJM>. Entry includes light refreshments during intermission. For more information, please contact the parish office on (02) 9634 2622 or email admin@stbernadette.org.au

Missionaries of God's Love Overshadowed Retreat: 18-20 August

Join the MGL Sisters in a weekend retreat exploring what happens we say 'yes' to the Holy Spirit. Experience the life-changing power of deepening in God's love, surrendering to Jesus and living under the grace of the Holy Spirit. The retreat will be held at Carmel House, 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW, from Friday 18 to Sunday 30 August. Bookings can be made before 11 August by visiting <http://www.trybooking.com/CFBQX>. For more information, please contact Katherine on mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com

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.

Get #Active4Vocations in the City2Surf: 13 August

Join the Parramatta Catholic Foundation #Active4Vocations team. Walk, stroll, jog, or run with our Holy Spirit seminarians, deacons, priests, and community. Scan this QR code or visit tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations to register or donate. Funds raised support our Diocese's seminarians to become priests.





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

90. Significantly, many small communities living in desert areas developed a remarkable system of welcoming pilgrims as an exercise of the sacred duty of hospitality. The medieval monastic communities did likewise, as we see from the Rule of Saint Benedict. While acknowledging that it might detract from the discipline and silence of monasteries, Benedict nonetheless insisted that “the poor and pilgrims be treated with the utmost care and attention”. [68] Hospitality was one specific way of rising to the challenge and the gift present in an encounter with those outside one’s own circle. The monks realized that the values they sought to cultivate had to be accompanied by a readiness to move beyond themselves in openness to others.

The unique value of love

91. People can develop certain habits that might appear as moral values: fortitude, sobriety, hard work and similar virtues. Yet if the acts of the various moral virtues are to be rightly directed, one needs to take into account the extent to which they foster openness and union with others. That is made possible by the charity that God infuses. Without charity, we may perhaps possess only apparent virtues, incapable of sustaining life in common. Thus, Saint Thomas Aquinas could say – quoting Saint Augustine – that the temperance of a greedy person is in no way virtuous. [69] Saint Bonaventure, for his part, explained that the other virtues, without charity, strictly speaking do not fulfil the commandments “the way God wants them to be fulfilled”. [70]

92. The spiritual stature of a person’s life is measured by love, which in the end remains “the criterion for the definitive decision about a human life’s worth or lack thereof”. [71] Yet some believers think that it consists in the imposition of their own ideologies upon everyone else, or in a violent defence of the truth, or in impressive demonstrations of strength. All of us, as believers, need to recognize that love takes first place: love must never be put at risk, and the greatest danger lies in failing to love (cf. 1 Cor 13:1-13).

93. Saint Thomas Aquinas sought to describe the love made possible by God’s grace as a movement outwards towards another, whereby we consider “the beloved as somehow united to ourselves”. [72] Our affection for others makes us freely desire to seek their good. All this originates in a sense of esteem, an appreciation of the value of the other. This is ultimately the idea behind the word “charity”: those who are loved are “dear” to me; “they are considered of great value”. [73] And “the love whereby someone becomes pleasing (*grata*) to another is the reason why the latter bestows something on him freely (*gratis*)”. [74]

94. Love, then, is more than just a series of benevolent actions. Those actions have their source in a union increasingly directed towards others, considering them of value, worthy, pleasing and beautiful apart from their physical or moral appearances. Our love for others, for who they *are*, moves us to seek the best for their lives. Only by cultivating this way of relating to one another will we make possible a social friendship that excludes no one and a fraternity that is open to all.

A LOVE EVER MORE OPEN

95. Love also impels us towards universal communion. No one can mature or find fulfilment by withdrawing from others. By its very nature, love calls for growth in openness and the ability to accept others as part of a continuing adventure that makes every periphery converge in a greater sense of mutual belonging. As Jesus told us: “You are all brothers” (*Mt 23:8*).

96. This need to transcend our own limitations also applies to different regions and countries. Indeed, “the ever-increasing number of interconnections and communications in today’s world makes us powerfully aware of the unity and common destiny of the nations. In the dynamics of history, and in the diversity of ethnic groups, societies and cultures, we see the seeds of a vocation to form a community composed of brothers and sisters who accept and care for one another”. [75]

Open societies that integrate everyone

97. Some peripheries are close to us, in city centres or within our families. Hence there is an aspect of universal openness in love that is existential rather than geographical. It has to do with our daily efforts to expand our circle of friends, to reach those who, even though they are close to me, I do not naturally consider a part of my circle of interests. Every brother or sister in need, when abandoned or ignored by the society in which I live, becomes an existential foreigner, even though born in the same country. They may be citizens with full rights, yet they are treated like foreigners in their own country. Racism is a virus that quickly mutates and, instead of disappearing, goes into hiding, and lurks in waiting.

98. I would like to mention some of those “hidden exiles” who are treated as foreign bodies in society. [76] Many persons with disabilities “feel that they exist without belonging and without participating”. Much still prevents them from being fully enfranchised. Our concern should be not only to care for them but to ensure their “active participation in the civil and ecclesial community. That is a demanding and even tiring process, yet one that will gradually contribute to the formation of consciences capable of acknowledging each individual as a unique and unrepeatable person”. I think, too, of “the elderly who, also due to their disability, are sometimes considered a burden”. Yet each of them is able to offer “a unique contribution to the common good through their remarkable life stories”. Let me repeat: we need to have “the courage to give a voice to those who are discriminated against due to their disability, because sadly, in some countries even today, people find it hard to acknowledge them as persons of equal dignity”. [77]

Inadequate understandings of universal love

99. A love capable of transcending borders is the basis of what in every city and country can be called “social friendship”. Genuine social friendship within a society makes true universal openness possible. This is a far cry from the false universalism of those who constantly travel abroad because they cannot tolerate or love their own people. Those who look down on their own people tend to create within society categories of first and second class, people of greater or lesser dignity, people enjoying greater or fewer rights. In this way, they deny that there is room for everybody.

Continued over page

100. I am certainly not proposing an authoritarian and abstract universalism, devised or planned by a small group and presented as an ideal for the sake of levelling, dominating and plundering. One model of globalization in fact “consciously aims at a one-dimensional uniformity and seeks to eliminate all differences and traditions in a superficial quest for unity... If a certain kind of globalization claims to make everyone uniform, to level everyone out, that globalization destroys the rich gifts and uniqueness of each person and each people”. [78] This false universalism ends up depriving the world of its various colours, its beauty and, ultimately, its humanity. For “the future is not monochrome; if we are courageous, we can contemplate it in all the variety and diversity of what each individual person has to offer. How much our human family needs to learn to live together in harmony and peace, without all of us having to be the same!” [79]

BEYOND A WORLD OF “ASSOCIATES”

101. Let us now return to the parable of the Good Samaritan, for it still has much to say to us. An injured man lay on the roadside. The people walking by him did not heed their interior summons to act as neighbours; they were concerned with their duties, their social status, their professional position within society. They considered themselves important for the society of the time, and were anxious to play their proper part. The man on the roadside, bruised and abandoned, was a distraction, an interruption from all that; in any event, he was hardly important. He was a “nobody”, undistinguished, irrelevant to their plans for the future. The Good Samaritan transcended these narrow classifications. He himself did not fit into any of those categories; he was simply a foreigner without a place in society. Free of every label and position, he was able to interrupt his journey, change his plans, and unexpectedly come to the aid of an injured person who needed his help.

102. What would be the reaction to that same story nowadays, in a world that constantly witnesses the emergence and growth of social groups clinging to an identity that separates them from others? How would it affect those who organize themselves in a way that prevents any foreign presence that might threaten their identity and their closed and self-referential structures? There, even the possibility of acting as a neighbour is excluded; one is a neighbour only to those who serve their purpose. The word “neighbour” loses all meaning; there can only be “associates”, partners in the pursuit of particular interests. [80]

Liberty, equality and fraternity

103. Fraternity is born not only of a climate of respect for individual liberties, or even of a certain administratively guaranteed equality. Fraternity necessarily calls for something greater, which in turn enhances freedom and equality. What happens when fraternity is not consciously cultivated, when there is a lack of political will to promote it through education in fraternity, through dialogue and through the recognition of the values of reciprocity and mutual enrichment? Liberty becomes nothing more than a condition for living as we will, completely free to choose to whom or what we will belong, or simply to possess or exploit. This shallow understanding has little to do with the richness of a liberty directed above all to love.

104. Nor is equality achieved by an abstract proclamation that “all men and women are equal”. Instead, it is the result of the conscious and careful cultivation of fraternity. Those capable only of being “associates” create closed worlds. Within that framework, what place is there for those who are not part of one’s group of associates, yet long for a better life for themselves and their families?

105. Individualism does not make us more free, more equal, more fraternal. The mere sum of individual interests is not capable of generating a better world for the whole human family. Nor can it save us from the many ills that are now increasingly globalized. Radical individualism is a virus that is extremely difficult to eliminate, for it is clever. It makes us believe that everything consists in giving free rein to our own ambitions, as if by pursuing ever greater ambitions and creating safety nets we would somehow be serving the common good.

A UNIVERSAL LOVE THAT PROMOTES PERSONS

106. Social friendship and universal fraternity necessarily call for an acknowledgement of *the worth of every human person*, always and everywhere. If each individual is of such great worth, it must be stated clearly and firmly that “the mere fact that some people are born in places with fewer resources or less development does not justify the fact that they are living with less dignity”. [81] This is a basic principle of social life that tends to be ignored in a variety of ways by those who sense that it does not fit into their worldview or serve their purposes.

107. Every human being has the right to live with dignity and to develop integrally; this fundamental right cannot be denied by any country. People have this right even if they are unproductive, or were born with or developed limitations. This does not detract from their great dignity as human persons, a dignity based not on circumstances but on the intrinsic worth of their being. Unless this basic principle is upheld, there will be no future either for fraternity or for the survival of humanity.

108. Some societies accept this principle in part. They agree that opportunities should be available to everyone, but then go on to say that everything depends on the individual. From this skewed perspective, it would be pointless “to favour an investment in efforts to help the slow, the weak or the less talented to find opportunities in life”. [82] Investments in assistance to the vulnerable could prove unprofitable; they might make things less efficient. No. What we need in fact are states and civil institutions that are present and active, that look beyond the free and efficient working of certain economic, political or ideological systems, and are primarily concerned with individuals and the common good.

109. Some people are born into economically stable families, receive a fine education, grow up well nourished, or naturally possess great talent. They will certainly not need a proactive state; they need only claim their freedom. Yet the same rule clearly does not apply to a disabled person, to someone born in dire poverty, to those lacking a good education and with little access to adequate health care. If a society is governed primarily by the criteria of market freedom and efficiency, there is no place for such persons, and fraternity will remain just another vague ideal.

110. Indeed, “to claim economic freedom while real conditions bar many people from actual access to it, and while possibilities for employment continue to shrink, is to practise doublespeak”. [83] Words like freedom, democracy or fraternity prove meaningless, for the fact is that “only when our economic and social system no longer produces even a single victim, a single person cast aside, will we be able to celebrate the feast of universal fraternity”. [84] A truly human and fraternal society will be capable of ensuring in an efficient and stable way that each of its members is accompanied at every stage of life. Not only by providing for their basic needs, but by enabling them to give the best of themselves, even though their performance may be less than optimum, their pace slow or their efficiency limited.

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: Luminare Young Adults Group

The next group night is Friday, 14th of July, 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

JULY

| 12 | Parish Pastoral Council Meeting | 7.30pm |
|----|--|---------|
| 13 | Over 50's Meeting | 10.30am |
| 14 | Lourdes: Luminare Young Adults Group Meeting | 6.45pm |
| 16 | Children's Liturgy | 9.30am |
| 17 | St Vincent De Paul Meeting | 7.00pm |
| 18 | First Day School Term 3 | |
| 19 | Baptism Preparation Program | 7.30pm |
| 27 | Finance Committee Meeting | 8.00pm |
| 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.

8/9 July 2023

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Acolytes | Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Jane Seaman 9.30am Kilifi Huihui |
| Ministers | Vigil: H. Gonzales, L. La Guidara 8am: E. Gartner, S.Manamperi 9.30am: A.Bellissimo, S.Lenthall |
| Readers | Vigil: B.Motho, C.Rodrigues 8am: N. Arambulo, P.Ferriols 9.30am: L.Bellissimo, K.Huihui |
| Altar Servers | Vigil: A. La Guidara, C. La Guidara, B. Spadaro 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am VOLUNTEERS |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Young Adults Group |
| Flowers | Claudette & Judith |
| Church cleaning | 20 July Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Chrisha Gonzales 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: VOLUNTEER |

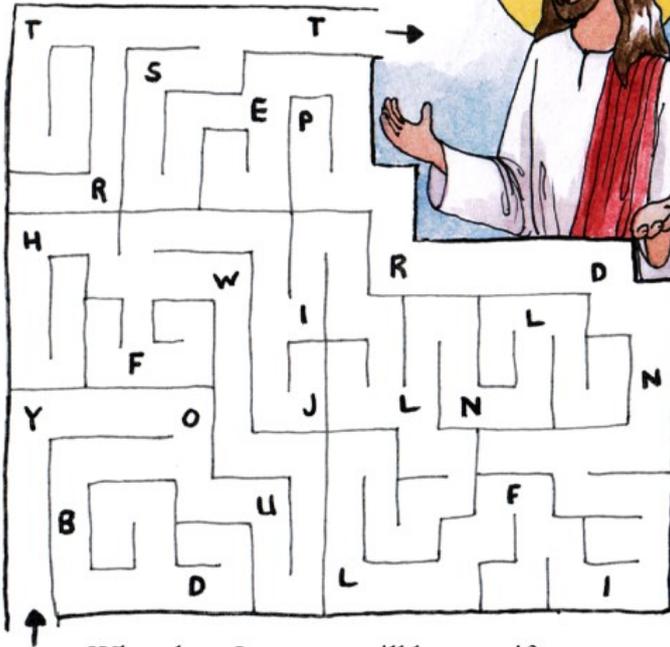
15/16 July 2023

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Acolytes | Vigil: Frank Paiva 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am Fayelene Kennedy |
| Ministers | Vigil: M.Mifsud, M.Simic 8am: A.Joseph, E.Mui 9.30am: C.Brooks, B.Chandler |
| Readers | Vigil: A.Punch, J.Sarmiento 8am: J.Cabasa, K.Walker 9.30am: S.Manamperi, A.Walker |
| Altar Servers | Vigil: D.Sant, J.Sant, S.Thoms 8am: VOLUNTEERS 9.30am S.Culili, F. Wanandy |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Parish Pastoral Council |
| Flowers | Fennie & Angela |
| Church cleaning | 20 July Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain |

The Kids' Bulletin

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 9th, 2023

"Come to Me, all you who labour and are burdened..."



What does Jesus say will happen if you go to Him when you're tired and worn out? First find your way through the maze and then use the words from that path to fill in the blanks.

Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute 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 | Z | X | M | D | B | Y | R | S | T | H | E | U | P | I | Q | A | C | N | W | V | J | O | F | L | G |

- 25-12-17-8-19 _____
- 25-15-26-11-10 _____
- 11-13-4-6-25-12 _____
- 8-12-9-10 _____
- 20-12-17-8-7 _____
- 12-17-9-7 _____
- 26-12-19-10-25-12 _____
- 7-23-1-12 _____
- 18-23-4-12 _____
- 6-13-8-5-12-19 _____

| | | | | |
|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| EASY | YOKE | COME | HUMBLE | GENTLE |
| BURDEN | LIGHT | LEARN | WEARY | REST |

Rest for the Weary

"For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:30 (NIV)

Choose the word that best matches the definition.



- The opposite of go
A. come B. learn C. wait D. rest
- Very tired, especially after working hard for a long time
A. gentle B. weary C. light D. humble
- A heavy load that you carry
A. light B. rest C. humble D. burden
- Stop and relax to regain your strength
A. weary B. rest C. burden D. come
- To get knowledge or skill about a subject
A. humble B. rest C. gentle D. learn
- Calm, kind or soft; not violent
A. tired B. gentle C. weary D. rest
- Not proud or not believing that you are important
A. angry B. light C. humble D. gentle
- The place within a person where their feelings or emotions are
A. brain B. heart C. feet D. stomach
- Not difficult
A. gentle B. humble C. weary D. easy
- Not heavy
A. light B. humble C. gentle D. heart

JESUS hears me when I PRAY.

