

# 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](mailto: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:** 20th September 2023  
**Baptism:** 8th October 2023  
**Parish Website:** [www.lol7hills.com.au](http://www.lol7hills.com.au)  
**Catechist Coordinator :** Sandy Manamperi  
 0480 266 339  
**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/>

## 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time 13 August 2023 • Year A

### Let us Pray for the Sick



Leonila Ahillon, Ingrid Ball, Mary Attard, Cynthia Avery, Rosenda Bolano, Barrie Chamberlain, Rosella Booth, Jock Clark Snr, Gregory Fernando, Alfredo Fernandez, Shelley Firth, Julian Gasparini, 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](mailto:secretary@lol7hills.com.au) We can also arrange for Holy Communion or a visit if required.**

### Let us Pray for the Deceased

**Recently Deceased:** George Alagiah, Neil Amaratunga, Marciano Areglamos, Mansour Ahmad, Ronald Bailey, Lydia & Pasquale Busac, Agnes Bonello, Anton, Philomena & Clarence Corera, Felisa Conejos, Sarojini Chary, Sarah De Silva, Gladys Fernando, Nasser Dehdeh, Aurora Dumlao, Joan Falzon, Teodoro Garcia, Ranjan Fernando, Charlie Gauci, Maria Garufo, Rohan Jayasundara, Rohan Jayasundara, Debbie Mifsud, Anthony & Evangelista Micallef, Lyn Morrissey, Joseph Mula, Pacienza Piscopo, Trent Ross, Margie Silva, Mary Jean Spiteri, Eddie Tabone, Jessica Neodama, Joseph & Theresa Vella, Jonathan Tek Kie, Chrisantha Wijesundara.

**Anniversaries:** Fredy Alphonse, Carmen Attard Debattista, Caroline & Andre, Almeida, Gay & Jacqueline Angley, Joe & Lisette Aristobile, Giovanni Barnaba, Nazarene (Ronnie) Borg, Rolily Burac, Michelle Azzopardi, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Simeon Carlos, Rose Camenzuli, Joseph Caruana, Charlie Chircop, Paula Simone Commarmond, Danielle Chalon, Monica, Conception & Dominic D'Souza, Jimmy & Vicki Deguare, Conchita Deloso, Antonia, Josephine Francis, Sheela Franklin, Emilia Galea, Leandro Garcia Snr, Jean Garrick, Elsie & Karl Garrick, Gervais Garrick, Zoltan Gartner, Charlie Gravina, Anthony Gracie, John Johnson, Oliver Jordan, Chinedu Joseph & Family, Edouard Mahomudally, Apolinario Maglaya, Tomasa & Nicanor Magpayo, Laurence Morrissey, Jason Muscat, Jim & Philippa Muscat, Alberto Nahoy, Ersilia Paolini, Thirucheluum, Philomina, Theanmolish, Jayantibhai Parmar, Nirmala, Adrian Pereira, John Portelli, Felicisimo Prahinog, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Maureen & Barry Seaman, Sam Silvia, John & Mary Silva, Vivian Silva, Rosary Silva, Pauline & Santan Soares, John Spiteri, Salvu Zammit, S. Susainathan, Dionisio Udan, Melchor Usman.

**Remembrance:** France Angseeing, Collette, Cynthia Avery, Gregorio Almodovar, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sam Borg, Barbara Chandler, 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, Steve Gauci, Francisca Garcia, Sam & Mary Galea, James Gray, Joe, Dolly Huertas, Selvam Irudayaraj, Harold, Marc, Rosine Lafleur, Norma Lorenzo, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Pauline Meilak, Mangion Family, Mary Mifsud, Emilia & William Mifsud, Marcel Mohsen, Anton & Lourda Motha, Louis & Stephen Mula, Josephine & Charles Muscat, Michelle Muscat, Jose Reyes, Mary & Francis Muscat, Josefina Lim, Rita Leon, Taral Parmar, Lakshman Pereira, Laureano Reyes, Shane Vaz, Jude Ranasinghe, John & Rosaline Ratnam, Maria Reyes, Yolanda Reyes, Karen Reyes, Rodrigues Family, Sem Serna, Cua Sing, Tony Vassallo, Jim Vella, Hector & Rita Welgampola.

### 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.

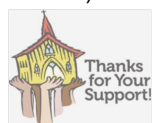
#### ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

**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



### 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](http://www.lol7hills.org.au)

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**FIRST READING** A reading from the first book of the Kings 19:9.11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The Word of the Lord.

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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love.**

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace.  
His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**

3. The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**

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**SECOND READING** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 9:1-5

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

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**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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**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**





## FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

If it weren't for the feast of the Lord's Transfiguration, we would have a different Gospel story recounting the miracle in which Jesus multiplied the five loaves and two fish to feed more than five thousand people following him into a deserted place to listen to him.

This Sunday we have a Gospel account telling us what happened next when Jesus asked the disciples to go to the other side of the lake by boat while he stayed behind to see the crowds off and then go up into the hills by himself to pray.

Meanwhile the disciples were peddling far off the shore, their boat was faced with a choppy sea causing a head-wind which threatened to capsize it. Surely the disciples had to be fearful and panicked because of such a near-death experience they were encountering in the dark sea.

Right in the mid of their desperation, Jesus, however, came to their rescue. He walked on angry waters, sometime between three to six AM, to reach their troubled boat. The disciples could not believe what they were seeing and were scared of such an unusual scene. Jesus then calmed them down by letting them know that it was him and asked them to be brave instead of being afraid. Peter tried to verify what Jesus said and had no hesitation to ask for the power to walk on waters towards Jesus, and he secured the approval from the master. While enjoying the exclusive privilege to walk on waters, Peter got frightened and started to sink. He had to cry out pleading to Jesus to save him, the master, of course, stretched out his hand to hold Peter. He then reminded Peter that his faith was weak and questioned him about why he had his doubt.

Eventually the sea became calm when Jesus and Peter embarked the boat, and the story helped to consolidate the disciples faith in Jesus as the Son of God, as they bowed down before him at the end and proclaimed that, 'truly, you are the Son of God.'

More than an account to showcase Jesus' divine power over the power of nature and hence confirm Jesus' claim as the Son of God, this Gospel also has a symbolic dimension, for the images of the boat and the sea often symbolize both the life of the Church and also of each one of us. The rough sea stands for the problems and challenges both the Church and each of us have to face with in this world. Though our problem sometimes seem to be insurmountable, we won't be left to fight them alone. The Lord will be with us and help us to get through given that we have to believe and trust in him.

Let us pray today for the grace to keep us strong in faith, consequently we always remain optimistic and confident in living our everyday lives, no matter what happens to us.

Have a faith-filled week,

*Fr Henry*

## PARISH NEWS...

### DISPLAY OF OUR RECENT SURVEY

From this weekend, we begin to display the result of our recent survey for the diocesan synod in the church. Last week we showed the data we gathered for question 1 focusing on our Church mission, and this week we move on to question 2 dealing with the issue of what we think we can do to make our community stronger and better.

### DIOCESAN SYNOD SURVEY

Thank you all for enthusiastically partaking in the synodal survey. I hope the survey will offer both our parish and diocese a lot to reflect upon and help us be more productive both in strengthening and sharing our faith. Thank you John, Mary and Terry Jordan for helping to put all responses together and send it to the diocese.

### FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION MASS TIMES

Tuesday the 15th of August, we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Solemn mass times for this holy day are at 8am, 9.15am (school) and 7pm.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

All children from 5 yrs up are invited to join in the Children's Liturgy at our 9.30am Mass next Sunday 20th of August.



### A NOTE FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

St. Vincent De Paul Society would like to thank OLOL parishioners for their generous contributions towards their winter appeal which was held on the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The total of contributions was \$2080 and feel blessed by your generosity. You can find a copy of the full letter sent to our Parish from St Vincent De Paul Society on the church notice boards.

### Lourdes: Luminate Young Adults Group Night

The next group night will be on Friday the 18th of August, 6:45-9:30pm in the Parish Hall.

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

### REPORT FROM THE LAST PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

At our last meeting, a part from the reports from various groups in the parish, members of the PPC dedicated a lot of time to process through the data gathered from our recent Diocesan Synod survey relating to the question about the mission for both our parish and diocese. Faith and the Word of God obviously stand out as the two most popular themes mentioned again and again in the responses.

So, the next question for us to think about is of how we can help to nurture and strengthen our faith and to share the Word and make it dwell in us.

### VOLUNTEERS FOR THE CATECHIST GROUP

Due to circumstances, lot of our current catechists have to take a break and we therefore urgently need others to replace. If you can spare an hour per week plus a few hours of preparation for the class, please consider to join this ministry by contacting our Parish Office. You will receive lot of support, such as training and materials for the ministry to nurture the faith of children at public schools.

### ZUMBA CLASSES ON HOLD

Our free Zumba Classes held on Tuesday and Thursday nights are cancelled until the first week of September 2023. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

### PARISH BIN ROSTER - VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

We are seeking volunteers to assist 4 times a year to place the Parish bins on the kerbside (Grantham Road) once a week on Tuesday. Please contact the Parish Office if you are able to help out. *Thank you.*

### SOCIAL JUSTICE

Save the date: Saturday the 16th of September 2pm-5:30pm here at OLOL in our hall there will be an event to celebrate World Day of Migrants and Refugees.

This is a family friendly event.

Posters will be up soon to register.

## DIOCESAN NEWS

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### **Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod**

All are invited to pray a Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod. The Novena will begin the week of Sunday 13 August and conclude the week of Sunday 8 October in the lead-up to the Synod Assembly: Friday 13 to Sunday 15 October. You are invited to pray once a week as a parish community, with your family, ministry groups or during personal prayer. More information: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

### **Nominations open for Papal, Civil and Diocesan Awards**

From today until Thursday 7 September 2023, you can nominate an outstanding individual who has contributed to the Catholic Church and society for a Papal Honours Award, Civil Award or Diocesan Award. Please visit [parracatholic.org/awards](https://parracatholic.org/awards). The Awards Ceremony will be held in November. More details to come.

### **Join our 11th Annual Assumption Walk from Kellyville to Parramatta Cathedral**

On Tuesday 15 August there will be Mass at 11.30am at the Shrine of the Holy Innocents followed at 1pm sharp with a 14km walk to Parramatta Cathedral. There will be two stops along the way for refreshments: 2.30pm at St. Michael's, Baulkham Hills; and 4.30pm at St. Monica's, North Parramatta. Arrival at the Cathedral for prayer and readings will be at approximately 6pm. Banners and statues are welcome. You may join the Walk at any point or time of the day. Please register your interest with the parish office for catering purposes (9629-2595).

### **Walking Together Workshops**

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED Blacktown Council with Youth Off the Streets and Sydney Alliance will be holding workshops 2hrs for free from 7th to 28th August. With the Uluru Statement from the Heart as a framework, this workshop paves the way for participants to accept the invitation and confidently walk together. Checkout locations and times at <https://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/Events-and-activities/Walking-Together-Workshops>.

### **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](mailto:mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com)

### **Liturgical Ministry Formation Course**

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in September. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org) or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

### **St Marys Parish Don Bosco Relic Visit: 23 – 27 August**

The relic statue of St John Bosco, better known as Don Bosco, will be visiting Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys, as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the arrival of the Salesians on Australian soil. There will be opportunities to venerate the relic and celebrate Mass, Adoration and Confessions throughout the week. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9623 1962 or email [secretaryolrchurch@inet.net.au](mailto:secretaryolrchurch@inet.net.au)

### **Are you interested in bringing the Gospel message to prisoners and their families?**

Kairos Prison Ministry is hosting an information session on Saturday 16th September at 2.30pm–4.30pm at Blacktown Uniting Church, 59 Bungarribee Road, Blacktown. Come and hear how you can join other Christians in dramatically changing lives. RSVP to [kidillwyniasec@kairos.org.au](mailto:kidillwyniasec@kairos.org.au) or phone Yvonne on 0419 284 128.

### **New Adoration Chapel (24/7) at Holy Name of Mary Parish/ Rydalmere**

Holy Name of Mary Parish has a new Adoration Chapel that is open to the public 24/7. The Adoration Chapel is located inside of Holy Name of Mary Church - 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere NSW 2116. Fr. Chadi welcomes anyone who wishes to make use of the Adoration Chapel to make contact with him via the Parish Office for access to the Church (after hours). For more information, please contact Blake via (02) 9684 1541 or [admin@holymary.org.au](mailto:admin@holymary.org.au)

### **Peace, Justice and Ecology Sharing**

You are invited to a "Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharing". These sharings are quarterly online gatherings for everyone who is interested in Social Justice, Care for Creation or Global Peace. They are an opportunity to connect, meet like-minded people, and learn more about this area. The zoom meeting will be held 9 August, 6:30-8:00pm. Please RSVP to [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) to receive the link.

### **Celebrate St. Monica's Spring Fair on Sept 16 at 32 Francis Street, Richmond.**

Enjoy a delightful day with kids and family, featuring an array of entertaining activities. Indulge in exciting games, delicious treats, captivating performances, and more! Mark your calendars for this joyous community event that promises laughter and memories for all. See you there!

### **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, contact Maricar at [m.tupaea@houseofwelcome.com.au](mailto:m.tupaea@houseofwelcome.com.au).

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

The Mission Enhancement Team'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/>



# 9 WEEK NOVENA

## towards the Diocesan Synod

### WEEK 1

### SETTING OUT ON THE JOURNEY

+ In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

#### REFLECTION

A certain rich man came up to Jesus "as he was setting out on his journey"  
(Mk 10:17).

The Gospels frequently show us Jesus "on a journey"; he walks alongside people and listens to the questions and concerns lurking in their hearts. He shows us that God is not found in neat and orderly places, distant from reality, but walks ever at our side.

He meets us where we are, on the often rocky roads of life.... as we begin this synodal process, let us begin by asking ourselves - all of us, Pope, bishops, priests, religious and laity - whether we, the Christian community, embody this "style" of God, who travels the paths of history and shares in the life of humanity. Are we prepared for the adventure of this journey? Or are we fearful of the unknown, preferring to take refuge in the usual excuses: "It's useless" or "We've always done it this way"?

Celebrating a Synod means walking on the same road, walking together. Let us look at Jesus. First, he encounters the rich man on the road; he then listens to his questions, and finally he helps him discern what he must do to inherit eternal life.

Encounter, listen and discern.

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS St Peter's Basilica Sunday, 10  
October 2021

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

#### PRAYER

O God, who always walks with us on the journey of life, we call upon you to lead us forth united. Bless and guide our Diocesan Synod. Keep us anchored in your love.

Open our hearts as we listen and discern. Reveal to us the way we are called to go out into the deep. Give us the courage to pursue the mission with bold humility.

May we experience renewal in our local Church today, and for generations to come.

We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, who in the power of the Holy Spirit continues to guide your Church, to the fullness of your Kingdom now, and forever.

Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop, pray for us.



## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER AT THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITH THE YOUTH

*Dear brothers and sisters, good evening!*

Today you will walk with Jesus. Jesus is the Way and we will walk with him, because he himself undertook the journey. When he was among us, Jesus walked. He walked along healing the sick, caring for the poor, doing works of justice. As he walked he preached and taught. Jesus walked. But the journey most engraved on our hearts is the way of Calvary, the way of the Cross. And today you and I will prayerfully retrace the Stations of the Cross. We will see Jesus passing by, and walk with him. Jesus' journey is this: God going out of himself in order to walk by our side. Often we hear at Mass that, "the Word became flesh and lived among us". Do you remember? The Word became a man and walked by our side; and he does this out of love, *out of love*. The Cross which accompanies every World Youth Day is the icon or image of this journey. The Cross is the greatest sign of the greatest love, the love with which Jesus wants to embrace our lives. *Our lives?* Yes! Your lives, the life of every one of you, each of us. Jesus walks for us. We must all say it: "Jesus undertakes this journey for me, in order to give his life for me". And no one has greater love than those who give their lives for their friends, than those who give their lives for others. Do not forget this: no one has greater love than those who give their lives. Jesus taught us this; which is why, when we look at the Crucified Christ, though it be painful and difficult, we see the beauty of the love that gives its life for each one of us. A very devout believer once said something that struck me very much: "Lord, as I contemplate your terrible sufferings, I find myself able to believe in love". Lord, as I contemplate your terrible sufferings, I find myself able to believe in love. Jesus walks along, but he hopes for something: he desires our company, he hopes that we will fix our eyes on him. Perhaps he hopes to open the windows of my soul, of your soul, of each of our souls. How unattractive are those self-centred souls that strive and smile only inwardly. They make no sense! Yet, Jesus walks along expressing his hope through love and tenderness, so as to give us consolation, to dry the tears of our lives. Now I will ask you a question, but please do not answer out loud; each of you answer within yourself. Do you sometimes weep? Are there things in your life that make you cry? We have all cried in life, and we still weep. And Jesus is there with us, he weeps with us, because he accompanies us into those dark places that make us cry. Now, in a moment of silence, let each of share with Jesus what causes us to cry in our lives; let us tell him that now, in silence... Jesus dries our hidden tears with his tenderness. Jesus wishes to relieve our loneliness with his closeness. Moments of loneliness are sad indeed, yet Jesus is there; he wants to relieve that loneliness. Jesus wishes to calm our fears, your fears, my fears; he wants to calm those deep fears with his consolation. He also desires to encourage us to embrace the risk of loving. Indeed, you know it well, better than I do, that to love is risky. We must take the risk of loving. Yet, though it is a risk, it is a risk worth taking, and Jesus accompanies us as we do. He always accompanies us, always walks with us. Throughout our lives, he is always by our side. I do not wish to say much more. Today we are going to journey with Jesus along the path of his suffering, along the path of our worries, the path of our loneliness. Now, in a further moment of silence, let each of us think about our own sufferings, our own worries, our own weaknesses. Do not be afraid, just think about them. And think of the desire our souls have to shine once more... And Jesus journeys to the Cross, dies on the Cross, to enable our souls to shine. Amen.

### POPE FRANCIS' LATEST INTERVIEW By Lisa Zengarini

During his flight back to Rome from his Apostolic Journey to Portugal for World Youth Day 2023, on Sunday evening, Pope Francis said he was very positively impressed by the huge participation and enthusiasm shown by so many young people in Lisbon and also by the successful organization of the event, the best of all the ones he has attended so far (Rio de Janeiro, Krakow and Panama). "For me it was beautiful!", he told journalists travelling with him in his customary post-visit press conference aboard the return flight to Rome.

#### **Young people need to be accompanied**

Commenting on the over a million youths joining the WYD last week, the Pope remarked "they are religious, they are looking for a non-hostile, non-artificial, non-legalistic faith, for an encounter with Jesus Christ", which "is not easy", he said. Some may object that young people today don't always abide by moral rules, however, Pope Francis remarked, we all make mistakes in life, and despite this the Lord is always waiting for us because He is merciful. "*Who among us has not made a moral mistake in our lives? Everyone has! Life is like that, but the Lord is always waiting for us because He is merciful.*" While highlighting the need to accompany young people, our future, as they "seek to look forward", Pope Francis stressed once again the vital importance of "dialogue between old and young" so they don't lose their roots.

#### **The Church is open to everyone, but there are rules in the Church**

In the conversation the Pope spoke also about his health, his silent prayer for peace in Fatima, sexual abuse, his upcoming visit to Marseille, in France, and his assertion that the Church is open to all with no exception ("Todos, todos, todos", as he repeated several times during the WYD). Asked by a reporter if he didn't think that this assertion was somehow incoherent with the fact that some people, such as women and gay people, do not have the same rights and cannot receive some Sacraments, Pope Francis reiterated that the Catholic Church welcomes everyone and that it has a duty to accompany them on a personal path of spirituality, but within the framework of its rules. "The Church is open to everyone but there are laws that regulate life inside the Church," he said. According to these laws, certain people they cannot partake in (some) Sacraments. "This does not mean that it is closed. Each person encounters God in their own way inside the Church," the Pope said.

#### **All forms of abuse must be addressed by the Church and society**

Pope Francis was also asked about his private meeting with a group of victims of abuse in Lisbon and his opinion on the Portuguese bishops' policies to address the scourge of sexual abuse in the Church, following the recent publication by independent commission pointing to nearly 5,000 victims over the past decades in the country. Pope Francis said he knows things are proceeding well in this respect and reiterated that all forms of abuse against minors and vulnerable people, whether sexual or not, must be addressed by the Church and society at large.

#### **Exploitation of migrants is criminal**

Finally, a French reporter asked Pope Francis about his upcoming visit to the French port city of Marseille in September and his reason for never visiting France as a country. Pope Francis explained that the specific purpose of the visit is to join an international conference hosted by the archdiocese (the "Rencontres Méditerranéennes") gathering bishops and religious leaders of the Mediterranean to discuss, amongst other issues, immigration in the region, an issue which is of particular concern to him. "The exploitation of migrants is criminal", he said referring in particular to Sub-Saharan African migrants blocked in North Africa. He added that at the moment his priority are smaller and more remote countries, rather than big countries like France.

## 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](http://www.olol7hills.org.au)

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK** <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>



### LOURDES OVER 50s GROUP

Over 50s Meeting Thursday 14th September 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 the parish office to organise a meeting with Fr Henry. 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, 18th of August, 2023 6:45-9:30pm in the Parish Hall. If you would like more information please contact Ian Epondulan: [youtholol7h@gmail.com](mailto: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

### AUGUST

| 14 | St Vincent De Paul Meeting             | 7.00pm |
|----|--|--------|
| 15 | Feast of the Assumption School Mass    | 9.15am |
| 18 | Young Adults Group Meeting             | 6.45pm |
| 20 | Children's Liturgy                     | 9.30am |
| 23 | Sacramental Program Meeting            | 6.30pm |
| 26 | Sacramental Program Meeting (RPT)      | 4.30pm |
| 27 | Mass Presentation of the Lord's Prayer | 9.30am |

## OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

### 12/13 August 2023

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Acolytes                        | Vigil: Derick Soares<br>8am: Terry Jordan<br>9.30am SUB RQD   |
| Ministers                       | Vigil: K. Huihui, R. Soares<br>8am: C. Gonzales, H. Gonzales<br>9.30am: S. Lenthall, A. Walker              |
| Readers                         | Vigil: A. Punch, M. Simic<br>8am: J. Cabasa, K. Walker<br>9.30am: M. Aquino, K. Huihui                      |
| Altar Servers                   | Vigil: M. Gluovic, J. Martinez, L. Sadipoor<br>8am: VOLUNTEERS<br>9.30am L. Culili, J. Kingston, F. Wanandy |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Young Adults Group  |
| Flowers                         | Claudette & Judith  |
| Church cleaning                 | 17 August<br>Cathy Hutchings<br>Annette Peatman   |
| Welcomers                       | Vigil: Judith Deloso<br>8am: VOLUNTEER<br>9.30am: VOLUNTEER   |

### 19/20 August 2023

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Acolytes                        | Vigil: Daniel La Guidara<br>8am: Jerome Irudayaraj<br>9.30am Eugene Mui  |
| Ministers                       | Vigil: A. Do Rosario, L. La Guidara<br>8am: F. Paiva, VOLUNTEER<br>9.30am: G. Basili, P. Gow                         |
| Readers                         | Vigil: N. Do Rosario, B. Motha<br>8am: A. McNally, M. Santos<br>9.30am: C. Diaz, SUB RQD                             |
| Altar Servers                   | Vigil: A. Bagatella, A. La Guidara, C. La Guidara<br>8am: S. Park, P. Park<br>9.30am C. Attard, M. Pieris, J. Pieris |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Parish Office  |
| Flowers                         | Fennie & Angela  |
| Church cleaning                 | 23 August<br>Jessie Borg<br>Anne McNally   |
| Welcomers                       | Vigil: Ram Urge<br>8am: Joyce Hillbrick<br>9.30am: Sastina Pieris  |



# The Kids' Bulletin

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**August 13th, 2023**

*In today's Gospel reading, the disciples  
were out at sea in a boat when they saw  
something that surprised them.*

*What was it?*  
*Use the code to find out!*

A E H I G J K L N O R S T U W



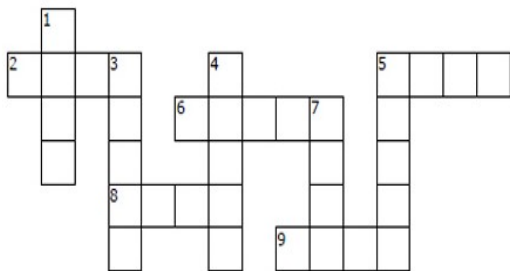
2 1 ✓ 9 ✓      4 0 ~ 7 e 1 8

$\overline{sr} \quad \overline{elr} \quad \overline{hrelr}$

## Jesus Walks on the Water

During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. Matthew 14:25 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 14:22-33 (NIV)



ACROSS

2. The natural movement of air
5. To travel along on your feet
6. Moving swells on the surface of the sea
8. A small vessel for travel on water
9. An unpleasant feeling caused by danger

## DOWN

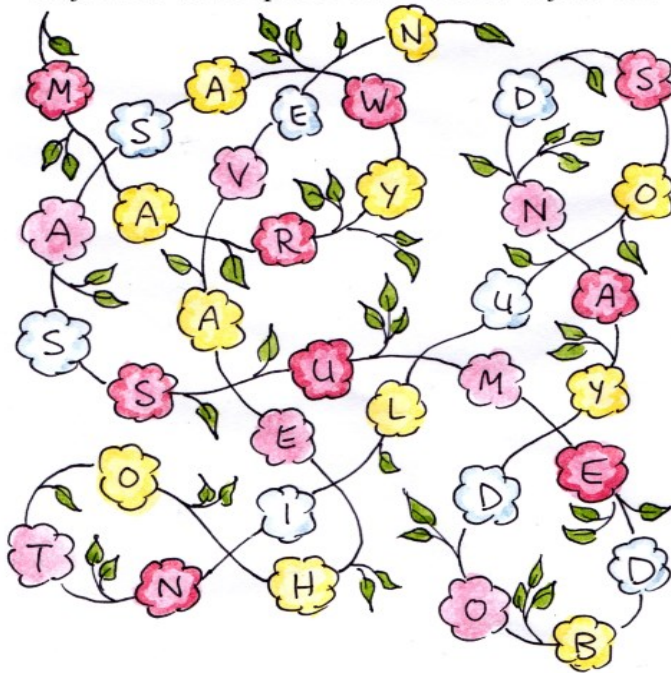
1. To go downward in water
3. A lack of confidence or belief in God
4. A firm belief in God
5. A liquid that comes down from the clouds as rain
7. To rescue someone

|      |       |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| FEAR | FAITH | DOUBT | WAVES | WATER |
| SAVE | WIND  | BOAT  | WALK  | SINK  |

# Flowers for Our Lady

*This Tuesday, August 15th, is a feast day of Our Lady.  
What are we celebrating?*

*Follow the line, starting at M, and put the letters from the flowers in the spaces at the bottom to find out.*




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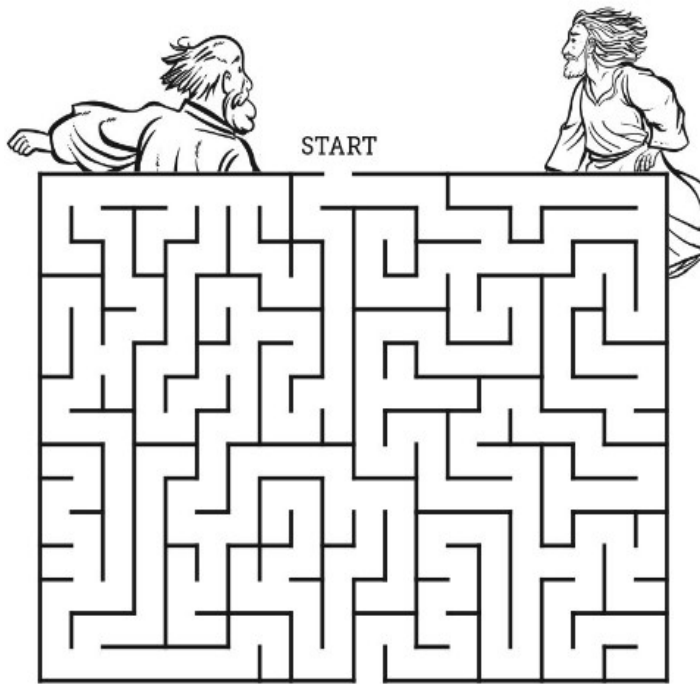
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\_\_\_\_\_!

|       |         |   |         |
|-------|---------|---|---------|
| pr_y  | rosary  | Mary  | m_s_ery |
|       | beads   |  |         |
| _s_ry | decade  |   | M_r_    |
| e_ade | pray    |   | b_ad_   |
|       | mystery |   |         |



Lead Peter across the water to Jesus.



## FINISH

