

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: 20th September 2023
Baptism: 8th October 2023
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.com.au
Catechist Coordinator : Sandy Manamperi
0480 266 339
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/>

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 10 September 2023 • Year A



Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, Mary Attard, Cynthia Avery, Rosenda Bolano, Barrie Chamberlain, Rosella Booth, Jock Clark Snr, Alfredo Fernandez, Gregory Fernando, Shelley Firth, Julian Gasparini, Anthony Janicska, Ian & Irene Hall, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Debra Price, Sue Tipaldo, 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 Amaratinga, Phylis Amarasinghe, Lynne Albace, Christie Alwis, Mansour Ahmad, Ronald Bailey, Mary Bowie, Sarojini Chary, Sarah De Silva, Gladys Fernando, John Lionel, Fernando, Joan Falzon, Vilma Flores, Alfredo Fernandez, Ranjan Fernando, Joseph Galea, Jonathan Tek Kie, Anthony & Evangelista Micallef, Solomon Morias, Lyn Morrissey, Joe Mula, Mary Paz Novilla, Patricia Oreo, Pacienza Piscopo, Illuminada Sunga, Maria Fely Sebastian, Joseph & Theresa Vella, Mercedes Yu.

Anniversaries: Fredy Alphonse, Victor Azzopardi, Horace Baptist, Rolily Burac, Rose Camenzuli, Joseph Camenzuli, Josephine Cortis, Paul & Simone Commarmond, Mervyn Costello, Conchita Deloso, Zemanda Garcia, Clive Diggelman, Joan Falzon, Xavier Francis, Antonia, Josephine Francis, Sheela Franklin, Shanti Fernando, Charlie Gravina, Bertu Mula, Jason Muscat, Laurence Morrissey, John & Mary Moore, Philippa & Jim Muscat, Alberto Nahoy, Ignacio Nonato Snr, Cordula Paiva, Adrian Pereira, John Portelli, John Ratnam, Cornelio & Illuminada Rondario, T. Selvin, Sam Silvia, John Spiteri, Caroline Susainathan, Edwid Tabone, Melchor Usman, Arthur Zammit.

Remembrance: Fe Abadiano, France Angseeing, Cynthia Avery, Gregorio Almodovar, Carmen Attard, Cynthia Avery, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sam Borg, Lina Cabaero, Charles Clinton, Sam & Silvia Debatista, Antonia DeGuire, Loui DeGuire, Anacleto Dizon, Melvyn Fernandes, Constance Gaycroft, Sam & Mary Galea, Christine Gomez, Dolly Huertas, Selvan Irudayaraj, Harold, Marc, Rosine Lafleur, Rita Leon, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Maureen & John Mead, Pauline Meilak, Mary Mifsud, Emilia & William Mifsud, Marcel Mohsen, Anton & Lourda Motha, Louis & Stephen Mula, Charles Muscat, Michelle Muscat, Mary & Francis Muscat, Lakshman Pereira, Jude Ranasinghe, Rosaline Ratnam, Betty Taiarol, Jim Vella, Shane Vaz, Hector & Rita Welgampola.

*Names are to be submitted to the Parish Office on or before a Thursday and will be published for 4 weeks at a time.



THE PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

The Statue of Virgin Mary is available for home visitation and will reside with you for a week, being Sunday to Saturday. If you are wishing to participate, please leave your name and address at the Parish Office or contact Maryse Augseeing on 0467 701 010.

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

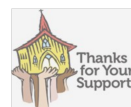
On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you very much for your ongoing support, which has been absolutely vital in keeping our Parish going strong. Projects completed include the Hall Kitchen renovation, Parish Meeting Room painting, Parish Office and Meeting Room Roof painted, Church 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.olol7hills.org.au

FIRST READING A reading from the prophet Ezekiel 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test; when
they tried me, though they saw my work.' **(R.)**

SECOND READING A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector. 'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

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





FROM FR. HENRY DUC

Dear Friends,

As an essential part of their wedding preparation, young couples are asked to attend a pre-marriage course, and I find that most of couples I worked with always had positive feedback about the course.

The area they often mentioned as most helpful was about conflict management, and guess what, this also is the topic Jesus brings up in the Gospel this Sunday.

Here we see Jesus recommend a three- step process for the disciples to carry out in case conflicts and differences might take place amongst themselves.

The first step involves a one- to- one conversation between the errant person and the victim to sort out the issue, and if it does not work, the second step shall be taken including a dialogue between the errant and two other witnesses, and if this step also fails, the final step has to be considered and this is a rather tough measure for it excludes the culprit from the community like a pagan and a tax collector, two types of people the community in Jesus' time was advised to have nothing to do with, because the pagan had no faith in God and no fear of God, therefore they would be prepared to commit anything considered as sin by Jewish people, and tax collectors were even worse than the pagan because they, according to the Jewish community, cooperated with the Roman conquerors and were willing to take money for the empire instead of God, their ultimate King, consequently any Jew who touched a tax collector was ritually unclean in the eyes of Jewish people and could not offer Temple sacrifices. Similarly Jesus often had been in troubles with the Jews for mixing and mingling with tax collectors.

However, the most significant point about this Gospel story can be found in the last part of the reading focusing on the power and effectiveness of communal prayer through Jesus' revelation that the intention from a communal prayer is effective, for it shall be answered by God, and Jesus himself shall be present among a community in prayer.

As we gather together as a community to give praise and thanks to God in the Eucharist this Sunday, let us ask (1) Jesus to open our heart and mind to help us see and feel his real present in our Communion with him, and (2) the Father to grant us what we need the most for our spiritual wellbeing. Let us also pray for our First Holy Communicants both this week and next week, so that they may feel the sweet presence of the Lord both as they come forward to receive the Body of Christ for the first time and many times to come.

Have a Christ-oriented 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.

This week we continue with question 4 about the well versed in the community could help the lesser known to grow stronger and better.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

All members of our Parish Pastoral Council are invited to join our monthly meeting on Wednesday 13 September at 7.30pm in the Parish Meeting room.

LOURDES: LUMINATE YOUNG ADULTS GROUP NIGHT

"Mercy has a face. Forgiveness has a name."

Group night is next Friday, the 15th of September 2023, 6:45pm to 9:45pm in the Parish Hall. Please RSVP via the Facebook event or email youthlol7h@gmail.com

ZUMBA CLASSES

Will resume from next Tuesday the 12th September.

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

World Day of Migrant and Refugees celebration

You're warmly invited to a family-friendly event with Bishop Vincent and our migrant communities for the World Day of Migrants & Refugees on Saturday 16 September, 2pm – 5.30pm in our hall at OLOL. Come hear stories, enjoy free entertainment and activities. Checkout the details and [Register](#) online or scan the posters.

The Referendum is coming soon. The Social Justice group invites you to come on the journey with us to find out about the Voice to Parliament in a safe environment. To ask the questions you want answered! Missed part 1 (read Uluru Statement from the Heart) and join us for part 2 on Monday 11th September or Friday 25th September 7-9 pm in Parish hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023

Dear Parishioners, Please pray for the 32 children who will receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion over the next two weeks on the 10/9 and the 17/9. *May God bless them on this sacred and special day and may the nourishment of the Eucharist continue to sustain and strengthen them on their personal Faith Journey. Amen.*

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK MAGAZINE SPRING EDITION OUT NOW!

The Spring | Season of Creation 2023 edition of the *Catholic Outlook Magazine* – the news and views of the Diocese of Parramatta – is out now! In this edition, we welcome home our World Youth Day pilgrims and we ground ourselves spiritually and environmentally in this Season of Creation. Pick up your free copy in the parishes or read it online via catholicoutlook.org/magazine

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.

WESTMEAD HOSPITAL VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED

Acolytes, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion or People trained for home visitations of the sick are needed to take Holy Communion to the Sick at Westmead Hospital on Sunday morning between 9.00am and 11.00am, on a roster basis once every eight weeks. This is not a difficult ministry but a very important and rewarding one. Assistance will be provided to volunteers before they commence visitations to the sick in the hospital wards. For further details please contact Jessie Borg 0404 355 494

DIOCESAN NEWS

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/>

Arise Women's Retreat: 16 September

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a day of reflection, inspiration and encounter with Christ at this year's Arise Women's Retreat: 'Arise – Talitha Koum – Little girl, I say ARISE' on Saturday 16 September from 8.30am to 8.30pm. The retreat will include Mass, meditation, talks, praise and worship, creative expression, spiritual direction and healing Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. All meals are included. For bookings and more information, please visit <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1078404>

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!

Feast Day: Sunday 24 September. At 10am: Solemn Procession with the Relic of St. Padre Pio, Solemn Feast Day Mass, Veneration and Blessing by the Relic of St. Padre, Other festivities. Address: 34 William Howell Drive, Glenmore Park. Enquiries: (02) 4789 2232 or glenmorepark@parracatholic.org

Blacktown Parish Golf Day 2023: 29 September

The parish community of Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, is inviting golfers to join their Parish Golf Day, which will take place on Friday 29 September from 7am at Stonecutter Ridge Golf Course - 86 Stonecutters Drive Colebee NSW 2761. All funds raised at this event will go towards the repair of our church roof at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown. For further information and/or to register to participate, please click onto the following website: <https://www.mqofblacktown.org/golfdays2023> Or contact the parish office: (02) 9622 1125 or admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Season of Creation: 1 September – 4 October

The Season of Creation is an ecumenical celebration and this year's theme is, '*Let Justice and Peace Flow*'. It starts on 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and ends on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October. In his message for this year's World Day of Prayer for Creation, Pope Francis reminds us that the next chapter in the Church's synodal journey will begin at the conclusion of the Season of Creation. He hopes that this synodal journey will foster deeper communion enriched by greater dialogue. To learn more, please contact our Peace, Justice and Ecology team via met@parracatholic.org

Glenmore Park St Padre Pio Feast Day Celebrations

Everyone is invited to join us for our parochial feast of St Padre Pio.

There are numerous blessings received by his intercession and we thank God for the gift of our patron: St Padre Pio.

Three Day Triduum:

- Thursday 21 September – 7.00pm Novena to St Padre Pio and Mass
- Friday 22 September – 7.00pm Novena to St Padre Pio and Mass
- Saturday 23 September – 5.30pm Novena to St Padre Pio and Vigil Mass

Feast Day: Sunday 24 September. At 10am: Solemn Procession with the Relic of St. Padre Pio, Solemn Feast Day Mass, Veneration and Blessing by the Relic of St. Padre, Other festivities. Address: 34 William Howell Drive, Glenmore Park. Enquiries: (02) 4789 2232 or glenmorepark@parracatholic.org

Masterclass for Sponsor Married Couples: 19 October

The Diocese is looking to more deeply accompany couples preparing to be married. Have you been married for more than 5 years? Committed to living the sacrament of Marriage? Willing to give time limited assistance to couples preparing for marriage? Join us for a Masterclass on Thursday 19 October at 7.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, on Sponsoring engaged couples in your Parish using the SmartLoving Engaged Online program.

To book your attendance in-person or via Zoom or to ask further questions, please email marriage@parracatholic.org or phone Marisa on (02) 8838 3460.

MET Natural Fertility: Instruction for Couples

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is for couples wanting to achieve and avoid pregnancy. It is suitable for couples at all stages of life, enhances communication and involves shared responsibility.

If you are: Preparing for marriage; Expecting a baby soon or breastfeeding; Looking for an effective, natural option and wanting to cease contraception or Peri menopausal, then NFP is for you! For more information or to book an appointment, contact Catherine on 0400 427 605 or email catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org

St Bernadette's Lalor Park Wednesday Evening Devotions

St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park, is hosting weekly devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes & St Bernadette every Wednesday evening at 6.30pm with Adoration and Rosary and special prayers, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9672 4037 or admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au

Soul Food Podcast – Mission Enhancement Team

ACBC Social Justice Statement 2023/2024, Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples check it out at <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.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/>



POPE FRANCIS' CATECHESIS

The passion for evangelization: the apostolic zeal of the believer. 18. The proclamation [of the Gospel] in the mother tongue: St Juan Diego, messenger of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In our journey of rediscovering the passion for proclaiming the Gospel, seeing how apostolic zeal, this passion to proclaim the Gospel, has developed in the history of the Church; on this path, we look today to the Americas, where evangelisation has an ever vital source: Guadalupe. She is a living source. The Mexicans are happy! Of course, the Gospel had already reached there prior to those apparitions, but unfortunately it had also been accompanied by worldly interests. Instead of the path of inculturation, too often the hasty approach of transplanting and imposing pre-constituted models — European, for instance — had been taken, lacking respect for the Indigenous peoples.

The Virgin of Guadalupe, on the other hand, appears dressed in the clothing of the Indigenous peoples, she speaks their language, she welcomes and loves the local culture: Mary is Mother, and under her mantle every child finds a place. In her, God became flesh, and through Mary, He continues to incarnate Himself in the lives of peoples.

Our Lady, in fact, proclaims God in the most suitable language; that is, the mother tongue. And Our Lady also speaks to us in the mother tongue, the language we understand well. The Gospel is transmitted through the mother tongue. And I would like to say thank you to the many mothers and many grandmothers who pass [the Gospel] on to their children and grandchildren: faith is passed on with life; this is why mothers and grandmothers are the first evangelizers. [Let's give] a round of applause for mothers and grandmothers! And the Gospel is communicated, as Mary shows, in simplicity: Our Lady always chooses those who are simple, on the hill of Tepeyac in Mexico, as at Lourdes and Fatima: speaking to them, she speaks to everyone, in a language suitable for all, in understandable language, like that of Jesus.

Let us dwell then on the testimony of Saint Juan Diego, who is the messenger; he is the young man, he is the Indigenous man who received the revelation of Mary: the messenger of Our Lady of Guadalupe. He was a simple man, an *indio* of the people: God, who loves to perform miracles through the 'little ones', had rested his gaze on him. Juan Diego was already a married adult when he embraced the faith. In December 1531, he is about 55 years old. While walking along, he sees on a hill the Mother of God, who tenderly calls out to him. And what does Our Lady call him? "My most beloved little child Juanito" (*Nican Mopohua*, 23). Then she sends him to the Bishop to ask him to build a church there where she had appeared. Juan Diego, simple and willing, goes with the generosity of his pure heart, but he has to wait a long time. He finally speaks to the Bishop, who does not believe him. Sometimes, we bishops [are like this]... He meets Our Lady again, who consoles him and asks him to try again. The *indio* returns to the Bishop and with great difficulty meets him, but the Bishop, after listening to him, dismisses him and sends men to follow. Here is the ordeal, the test of proclamation: despite zeal, the unexpected arrives, sometimes from the Church herself. To proclaim, in fact, it is not enough to bear witness to the good; it is necessary to know how to endure evil. Let's not forget this: it is very important to proclaim the Gospel; it is not enough to bear witness to the good, but it is necessary to know how to endure evil. A Christian does good, but also endures evil. Both go together; life is like that. Even today, in many places, inculturating the Gospel and evangelising cultures requires constancy and patience, not being afraid of conflict, not losing heart. I am thinking of a country where Christians are persecuted because they are Christians, and they can't practice their faith easily and in peace. Juan Diego, discouraged because the Bishop sent him away, asks Our Lady to dispense him and appoint someone more respected and more capable than him, but he is invited to persevere. There is always the risk of a type of surrender in proclamation: something doesn't go right and one backs down, becoming discouraged and perhaps taking refuge in one's own certainties, in small groups, and in some personal devotions. Our Lady, on the other hand, while she consoles us, makes us push ahead and thus allows us to grow, like a good mother who, while following her son's steps, launches him into the world's challenges.

Thus encouraged, Juan Diego returns to the Bishop, who asks him for a sign. Our Lady promises Juan one, and comforts him with these words: "Let nothing frighten you, let nothing trouble your heart: Am I not here, I who am your mother?" (*ibid.*, 118-119). This is beautiful. Many times when we are in desolation, in sadness, in difficulty, Our Lady says this to us, too, in our hearts: "Am I not here, I who am your mother?". [She is] always close by to console us and give us the strength to go on.

Then she asks him to go to the arid hilltop to pick flowers. It is winter, but, nevertheless, Juan Diego finds some beautiful flowers, puts them in his cloak and offers them to the Mother of God, who invites him to take them to the Bishop as proof. He goes, patiently waits his turn and finally, in the presence of the Bishop, opens his *tilma*, which is what the Indigenous used to cover themselves. He opens his *tilma* to show the flowers, and behold! The image of Our Lady appears on the fabric of the cloak, the extraordinary and living image that we are familiar with, in whose eyes the protagonists of that time are still imprinted. This is God's surprise: when there is willingness and when there is obedience, He can accomplish something unexpected, in the time and in ways we cannot foresee. And so, the shrine requested by the Virgin was built, and it can be visited even today.

Juan Diego left everything and, with the Bishop's permission, dedicated his life to the shrine. He welcomed pilgrims and evangelised them. This is what happens in Marian shrines, pilgrimage destinations, and places of proclamation, where everyone feels at home — because it is the house of their *mamma*, the house of their mother and experiences nostalgia for home, that is, the longing for the place where you find the Mother, Heaven. Faith is welcomed in these places in a simple way; the faith is welcomed in a genuine way, in a popular way. And as she told Juan Diego, Our Lady listens to our cries and heals our sorrows (*cf. ibid.*, 32). We should learn this: when there are difficulties in life, we go to our Mother; and when life is happy, we also go to our Mother to share these things. We need to go to these oases of consolation and mercy, where faith is expressed in a maternal language; where we lay down the labours of life in Our Lady's arms and return to life with peace in our hearts, perhaps with the peace of little children.

Special Greetings

I extend a warm welcome to the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today's Audience, especially the altar servers from Malta and the choir from Uganda. Upon you and your families I invoke the joy and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you all!

I now turn my thoughts to *young people*, to *the sick*, to *the elderly* and to *newlyweds*. May the example of the apostle Saint Bartholomew, whose feast day we will celebrate tomorrow, help you to be sincere witnesses of Jesus and to endure suffering with faith, thinking of the suffering endured by the apostles in the Gospel. To Saint Bartholomew's intercession let us also entrust dear Ukraine, so harshly tried by war. Brothers and sisters, let us pray for our Ukrainian brothers and sisters: they are suffering a lot. War is cruel. So many missing children, so many people dead. Let us pray, please! Let us not forget battered Ukraine. Today is a significant day for their country.

I give my blessing to all of you.

Summary of the Holy Father's words

Dear brothers and sisters:

In our continuing catechesis on apostolic zeal, we have been reflecting on the spread of the Gospel through the witness of men and women of every time and place. Today we consider the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe to Blessed Juan Diego, an event that contributed decisively to the evangelization of the Americas. By appearing to Juan Diego in native attire and speaking his language, the Blessed Virgin showed herself a Mother, the very Mother of God, and invited the indigenous peoples to take refuge beneath her mantle. The miracle of the roses that bloomed in mid-winter, and the appearance of Our Lady's image on the fabric of Juan Diego's cloak, speak eloquently of God's preferential love for the poor and Mary's maternal cooperation in the extension of his Kingdom. They also remind us of the important role of mothers and grandmothers in spreading the Gospel message, and, as in the case of Juan Diego, of our need as Christians for perseverance in the faith of our baptism. May the Mother of God, whose loving presence is felt in Guadalupe and in countless Marian shrines throughout the world, continue to draw hearts to Jesus her Son and to the saving truth of the Gospel.

POPE FRANCIS' RECENT INTERVIEW

In his conversation with journalists on the flight back from Mongolia, Pope Francis addresses various topics, including the upcoming Synod General Assembly, and reiterates that his recent remarks to young Russian Catholics was an invitation for them not to forget their cultural heritage.

By Vatican News

Pope Francis held his traditional inflight press conference on Monday with journalists traveling with him on the papal plane returning to Rome from Mongolia.

He took questions on several topics, beginning with a question from a journalist from the host nation of his 43rd Apostolic Journey.

Here follows a working English transcription and translation of the press conference:

Jargalsaikhan Dambadarjaa (The Defacto Gazete):

Thank you very much, Your Holiness, for visiting Mongolia. My question is: what was your main objective with this visit and are you satisfied with the result achieved?

[Pope Francis]: The idea to visit Mongolia came to me whilst thinking about the small Catholic community. I make these trips to visit Catholic communities and also to enter into dialogue with the history and culture of the people, and with the mysticism of a people.

It is important that evangelisation is not conceived as proselytism. Proselytism always restricts. Pope Benedict said that faith does not grow by proselytism but by attraction. The proclamation of the Gospel enters into dialogue with culture. There is an evangelisation of culture and also an inculturation of the Gospel, because Christians also express their Christian values with the culture of their own people. This is the opposite of what religious colonisation would be.

For me, the journey was to get to know the people of Mongolia, to enter into dialogue with them, to receive their culture, and to accompany the Church on its journey with much respect for them and their culture. I am satisfied with the result.

Ulamdrakh Markhaakhuu (ULS Suld Tv)

Today, conflict between civilisations can only be resolved through dialogue, as you, Your Holiness, have said. Can Ulaanbaatar offer itself as a platform for an international dialogue between Europe and Asia?

I think so. You have something very interesting, which also favours this dialogue - I allow myself to call it the 'third-neighbour mystique'. You think that Ulaanbaatar is the capital of a country furthest from the sea, and we can say that your land is between two great powers, Russia and China.

That is why your mystique is to try to dialogue even with your 'third neighbours': not out of contempt for these two, because you have good relations with both of them, but out of a yearning for universality, to show your values to the whole world, and also to receive from others their values in order to enter into dialogue.

It is curious that, throughout history, going out to seek other lands was often confused with colonialism, or with the idea of going in to dominate...always. Instead, you, with this mystique of the third neighbour, have the philosophy of going out to seek, but in order to dialogue. I really liked this expression of the third neighbour. It is a richness of yours.



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/LOL7Hills/>



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. Names will be published for 4 weeks at a time.

Lourdes: Luminate Young Adults Group

The next group night is Friday, 15th of September, 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.

LOL PARISH CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

	SEPTEMBER	
10	First Holy Communion (Group 1)	11.30am
13	First Holy Communion Practice (Group 2)	6.30pm
13	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	7.30pm
14	Over 50's Meeting (25th Anniversary BBQ)	10.30am
15	Lourdes: Luminate Young Adults Group Night	6.45pm
17	Children's Liturgy Mass	9.30am
17	First Holy Communion (Group 2)	11.30am
21	School Last Day Term 3	
24	First Holy Communion Presentation Mass	9.30am

LOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

9/10 September 2023


Acolytes	Vigil: Frank Paiva 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am: Kilifi Huihui.
Ministers	Vigil: C. Jansz, B. Motha 8am: VOLUNTEER, E. Miu 9.30am: M. Aquino, S. Lenthall.
Readers	Vigil: A. Punch, M. Simic 8am: J. Cabasa, K. Walker 9.30am: K. Huihui, F. Kennedy
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. Bagatella, J. Martinez, A. Spadaro. 8am: K. Maruthanayagam, VOLUNTEERS 9.30am: C. Attard, L. Culili, J. Kingston.
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group
Musicians	Vigil: OFS Choir 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir
Flowers	Claudette & Judith
Church cleaning	16 Sept Judith Deloso
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: VOLUNTEER

16/17 September 2023

Acolytes	Vigil: James Dinning 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am: Ryan Epondulan.
Ministers	Vigil: A. Do Rosario, VOLUNTEER 8am: A. McNally, VOLUNTEER 9.30am: G. Basili & P. Gow.
Readers	Vigil: N. Do Rosario & J. Sarmiento 8am: A. Joseph & M. Santos 9.30am: A. Hye R. Han & E. Pieris.
Altar Servers	Vigil: B. Spadaro, S. Thoms 8am: Sean Park & Philip Park 9.30am: A. Melki, M. Pieris & J. Pieris.
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Parish Office
Musicians	Vigil: K. Thoms & C.W 8am: Ian's Group 9.30am: Ian's Group
Flowers	Fennie & Angela
Church cleaning	21 Sept Cathy Hutchings & Annette Peatman.
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Joyce Hillbrick 9.30am: Sastina Pieris

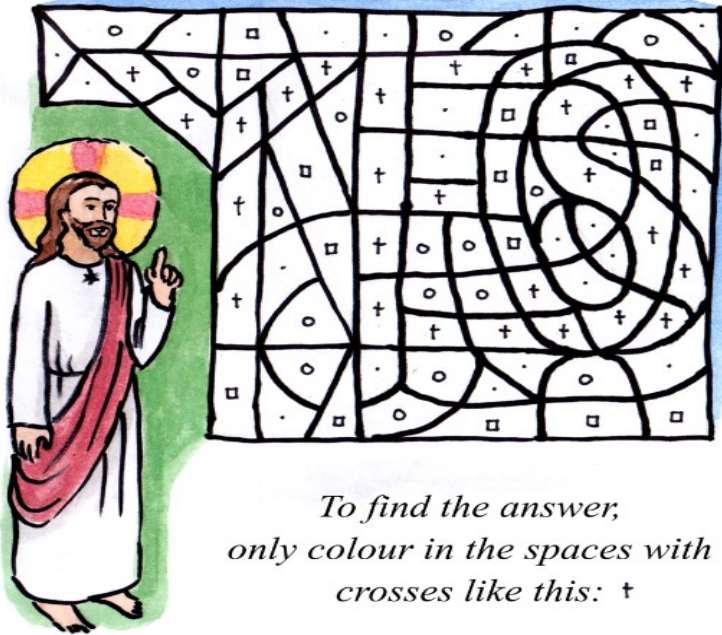
The Kids' Bulletin

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 10th, 2023

Can you decode these words using the number decoder? 

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

- 12-5-4-25-20 _____
- 19-11-4-2-9 _____
- 18-8-25-18 _____
- 12-14-5-9-22-1-14 _____
- 22-1-11-21-1-25 _____
- 25-11-6-1 _____
- 2-5-5-18-1-20 _____
- 2-8-18-9-1-25 _____
- 1-11-14-9-22 _____
- 9-5-16-1-9-22-1-14 _____

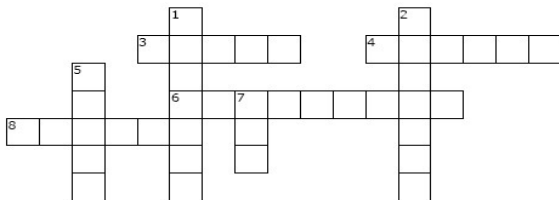


To find the answer,
only colour in the spaces with
crosses like this: ✕

When Someone Hurts You

"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. Matthew 18:15a

Based on Matthew 18:15-20 (NIV)



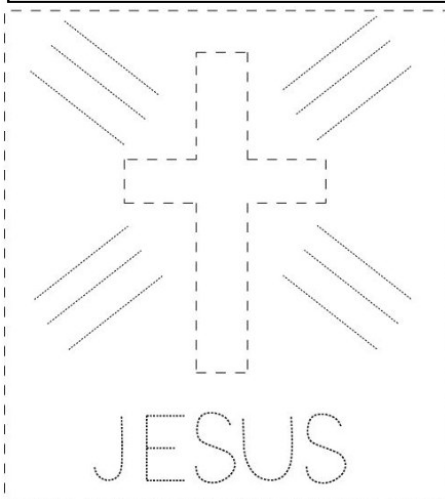
ACROSS

- A statement proven to be accurate
- To pay attention; To make an effort to hear something
- A spoken or written statement that something is true
- All followers of Christ as a group

DOWN

- A member of the same race, church, religious group, or organization
- A person who sees an event happen
- A quality in a person that shows that they are not perfect
- Breaking a religious law

BROTHER WITNESS	TESTIMONY FAULT	SIN CHURCH	LISTEN TRUTH
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T	W	I	T	N	E	S	S	E	S
D	N	I	B	I	O	A	T	C	U
R	S	E	O	A	R	W	O	N	S
E	O	E	P	T	E	M	T	E	T
H	M	W	S	S	M	A	I	D	E
T	E	A	R	U	E	R	G	I	H
O	A	N	N	S	F	U	N	V	T
R	R	I	O	T	L	E	O	E	R
B	T	O	W	L	E	E	R	G	A
Y	A	N	A	G	A	P	W	T	E



BROTHER
WRONG
EVIDENCE
WITNESSES
SUSTAIN
COMMUNITY
PAGAN
BIND
TWO
EARTH
AGREE
NAME

