

# 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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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:** 15th November 2023  
**Baptism:** 26th November 2023  
**Parish Website:** [www.olol7hills.com.au](http://www.olol7hills.com.au)  
**Catechist Coordinator :** Sandy Manamperi  
0480 266 339  
**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/>

## 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time 24 September 2023 • Year A



### Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, Joseph Akkary, Mary Attard, Cynthia Avery, Barrie Chamberlain, Rosella Booth, Jock Clark Snr, Alfredo Fernandez, Gregory Fernando, Shelley Firth, Anthony Janicska, Ian & Irene Hall, Eugenia Kowalski, Elizabeth Mifsud, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Carlos Moreno, 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](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:** Phylis Amarasinghe, Lynne Albace, Christie Alwis, Mansour Ahmad, Ronald Bailey, Mary Bowie, John Soo Choon, Gladys Fernando, John Lionel, Fernando, Joan Falzon, Vilma Flores, Alfredo Fernandez, Ranjan Fernando, Joseph Galea, Joy Hayward, Jonathan Tek Kie, Angelita Mangahas, Anthony & Evangelista Micallef, Solomon Morias, Lyn Morrissey, Joe Mula, Peter Nguyen, Mary Paz Novilla, Pacienza Piscopo, Jill Smyth, Illuminada Sunga, Mercedes Yu, Maria Fely Sebastian, Joseph & Theresa Vella, Daniella Zahra.

**Anniversaries:** Fredy Alphonse, Victor Azzopardi, Horace Baptist, 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 Gauci, Charlie Gravina, Bertu Mula, Jason Muscat, Laurence Morrissey, John & Mary Moore, Philippa & Jim Muscat, Alberto Nahoy, Ignacio Nonato Snr, Cordula Paiva, Adrian Pereira, John Ratnam, Cornelio & Illuminada Rondario, T. Selvin, Sam Silvia, Caroline Susainathan, Edwid Tabone, Melchor Usman, Arthur Zammit.

**Remembrance:** Neil Amaratunga, Fe Abadiano, France Angseeing, Carmen Attard, Cynthia Avery, Joseph Azzopardi, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sam Borg, Lydia & Pascal Busac, Lina Cabaero, Sam & Silvia Debbattista, Antonia DeGuire, Loui DeGuire, Anacleto Dizon, Melvyn Fernandes, Constance Gaycroft, Sam & Mary Galea, Christine Gomez, Selvan Irudayaraj, Harold, Rosine & Mark Lafleur, Rita Leon, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Deidre Matthews, Maureen & John Mead, Pauline Meilak, Mary Mifsud, Emilia & William Mifsud, Marcel Mohsen, Anton & Lourda Motha, Louis & Stephen Mula, Felix & Adriana Muscat, Charles Muscat, Michelle Muscat, Mary & Francis Muscat, Lakshman Pereira, John & Rosaline Ratnam, Barry, Paul & Marion Ryan, Betty Taiarol, Jim Vella, Shane Vaz.



### 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 with the Parish Office.

### 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

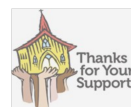
On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you very much for your ongoing support, which has been absolutely vital in keeping our Parish going strong. Projects completed include the Hall Kitchen renovation, Parish Meeting Room painting, Parish Office and Meeting Room Roof painted, Church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

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**FIRST READING** A reading from the prophet Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord.

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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.**

1. I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. **(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.)**

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**SECOND READING** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 1:20-24. 27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

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**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!

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**GOSPEL** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went.

At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each.

When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.

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,

As we know people in ancient times often built walls around their city protecting them from unwanted invaders, and all had to enter the city through the gate. For practical reason, people often gathered around the area just inside the gate to do business, for instance the elders met to settle the disputes between the city's residents, traders traded their goods, and men came to look for job opportunities.

This scenario provides the backdrop for the Gospel this Sunday, recounting the story about a vineyard owner, who went to the city gate at various times during the day: daybreak, midmorning, noon, midafternoon, and late afternoon to get workers for his vineyard. Consequently, there were people who started working early and also people who started rather late.

At pay time at the end of the day the owner called his workers together to get their payments, and he started to pay them in a reversed order from last to first, meaning those who started last received their money first, and those who started early received their money at the very end. They all received one denarius each. Remember that one denarius is worth somewhere between 50 cents to 100 dollars. This point seems to tell readers something about the vineyard owner, who was rather generous with his payments.

What happened next was extraordinary, for those who started their work earlier began to complain about how the owner appeared to be unfair to them as he treated late starters the same as those who spent much longer time in the vineyard. They expected him to pay them more than those who came in late.

In response to their complaints, the owner made it very clear (1) that he was not unfair to them, since he paid them the exact amount of money they agreed with them, and (2) that he was generous and had the right to give to the late starters the same wage, and (3) that they should not be envious with others.

From a theological perspective, the owner in the story symbolizes God and workers each of us, who have been called to join God's workforce in the world. Through this parable, Jesus means to remind us that God has been always kind and generous to us, though his kindness and generosity sometimes would be beyond our expectations and our imaginations.

Let us pray today for the grace to help us always be grateful to God for his bountiful blessings given to each of us day in day out and not envious with others around us, and we also pray for the wisdom to realize that God's generosity is beyond ours, so that we will never use our human standard to measure God's way.

Have a thanksgiving-oriented week.

*Fr Henry*

## PARISH NEWS...

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023

Congratulations to 32 children who joined our Sacramental program this year and their families. They received the Eucharist for the first time over the last two Sunday's. Let's pray that they and their families will remain true friends of Jesus through the grace of the Eucharist.

### 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 6 dealing with the issue of how we can support those who happen to struggle in faith matters.

### ZUMBA CLASSES

Zumba Classes will be returning to 6pm on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Everyone Welcome!

### LOURDES PLAYGROUP IS BACK!

From the 13th of October, every Friday during school term, 9.30am—11.30am in the Parish Meeting Room, children aged 0 to 5 years old and their carers are welcome to come along during that time for a play, chat and cuppa in a fun, friendly environment! This is also great way to meet other potential OLOL school families although ALL ARE WELCOME. If you would like further information, please contact Maria Hosni 0432 174 056 or the Parish Office.

### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

The Hearts of Jesus and Mary Prayer Community invites us to a weekend with Jesus on the 30th of September and 1st of October 2023 in St Andrew the Apostle School Hall, Marayong. For more information contact their parish office on 9622 0817 or Josie 0452 486 323

### REPORT FROM OUR LAST PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Pastoral Council was convened last Wednesday and we started with a reading of the Position paper called 'What Lies Behind the First Ever Synod of the Diocese of Parramatta' prepared by Fr Paul Marshall for our diocesan synod, followed by a lively discussion. His paper reminded us of various issues our local Church has been facing and the opportunity for us to renew the Church as a whole and this parish community in particular. His quote from Bernard Franck, I think, is essential for our synodal process, that we need to collaborate, co-operate, accept, welcome, give and receive. These words I used to hear Bishop Bede Heather repeated again and again to our clergy while he was still in charge of the diocese. They suddenly disappeared for a long time and now begin to make a comeback thanks to Pope Francis' initiative

### 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

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### **Week 7 of the Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod**

This Sunday 24 September is the beginning of Week 7 of the Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod. Join the whole Diocesan community in continuing to pray for our first Diocesan Synod 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/>

### **Spring | Season of Creation 2023 Catholic Outlook Magazine 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 from parishes and offices across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains today or read it online via [catholicoutlook.org/magazine](https://catholicoutlook.org/magazine)

### **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](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

### **Peace, Justice and Ecology Season of Creation Weekly Zoom**

Join Peace, Justice & Ecology for an hour on Thursdays during Season of Creation as we ponder, discuss, and pray through Pope Francis' call to World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation Message from Pope Francis. For more information, please email [met@parracatholic.org.au](mailto:met@parracatholic.org.au).

### **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](mailto:admin@mqofblacktown.org.au)

### **Catholic Care Circle of Security Education Program: Starts 11 October**

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains is running an online parenting series via Zoom for parents or caregivers of children from birth to 18 to make sense of what your child is really asking from you, and how to strengthen the parent-child relationship. The sessions will run each Wednesday from 10am to 12.30pm from 11 October to 29 November. The cost is \$105, with discount or free training offers available to eligible families. To register and for enquiries, please call (02) 8843 2500 or email [enquiries@catholiccarewbsbm.org.au](mailto:enquiries@catholiccarewbsbm.org.au)

### **Catholic Care Keeping Kids in Mind Education Program: Starts 16 October**

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, in partnership with CatholicCare Broken Bay, CatholicCare Sydney and CatholicCare Wollongong, are running a five-week online program via Zoom on supporting children following family separation. The course begins with a pre-session on 16 October from 6pm to 7pm, with a session each Monday from 6pm to 8.45pm from 23 October to 20 November. The cost is \$10 for workbooks and minimum postage fees. All participants must participate in a pre-group interview. For enquiries, please contact (02) 8843 2500 or email [enquiries@catholiccarewbsbm.org.au](mailto:enquiries@catholiccarewbsbm.org.au)

### **Diocese of Parramatta Wedding Anniversary Mass: 29 October**

The annual Diocese of Parramatta Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday 29 October at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Solemn Mass, followed by a light lunch at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending at [marriage@parracatholic.org](mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org) or phone (02) 8838 3460 by 20 October. Family and friends are welcome.

### **Caritas Australia's Emergency Appeals – Morocco / Libya**

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died, and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food, water, and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals. Donate at [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)

### **Missionaries of God's Love Made Free Creative Retreat: 20 – 22 October**

Join the MGL Sisters in a weekend retreat that explores a range of creative prayer experiences. Recapture the freedom you were made for, let go of what is burdening you, and let God fill you again with life. Venue: Carmel House, 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW Bookings: <http://www.trybooking.com/CFBRD> (by 6 October) Contact: Judy - [mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com)

### **Free English and Citizenship Classes**

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills, on a Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 2pm during school terms. Free childcare is available. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Crèche on (02) 8843 2506 or Nepean Community College (02) 4724 9000.

### **St Bernadette's Lalor Park Wednesday Evening Devotions**

St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park, is hosting weekly devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes and 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](mailto:admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)



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## POPE FRANCIS' ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno!*

Today, the Gospel talks to us about *forgiveness* (cf. *Mt* 18:21-35). Peter asks Jesus: "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" (v. 21).

Seven, in the Bible, is a number that indicates completeness, and so Peter is very generous in the assumptions of his question. But Jesus goes further, and answers him: "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven" (v. 22). He tells him, that is, that when one forgives, one does not calculate; that it is good to forgive everything, and always! Just as God does with us, and as those who administer God's justice are required to do: *forgive always*. I say this a lot to priests, to confessors: always forgive, as God forgives.

Jesus then illustrates this reality through a parable, which again has to do with numbers. A king, after being implored, forgives a servant the debt of 10,000 talents: it is an excessive, immense value, ranging from 200 to 500 tons of silver: excessive. It was an impossible debt to settle, even by working a lifetime: yet this master, who recalls our Father, forgives it out of sheer "pity" (v. 27). This is God's heart: he always forgives, because God is compassionate. Let us not forget how God is: he is close, compassionate and tender; this is God's way of being. Then, however, this servant, whose debt has been forgiven, shows no mercy towards a fellow servant who owes him 100 denarii.

This too is a substantial sum, equivalent to about three months' wages - as if to say that forgiving each other costs money! - but not at all comparable to the previous figure that the master had forgiven.

Jesus' message is clear: God forgives incalculably, exceeding all measure. This is how he is; He acts out of love, and gratuitously. God is not bought, God is free, he is all gratuitousness. We cannot repay Him but, when we forgive a brother or a sister, we imitate Him. Forgiving is not, therefore, a good deed that we can choose to do or not do: forgiving is a fundamental condition for those who are Christians. Every one of us, in fact, is "forgiven": let us not forget this, we are forgiven, God gave his life for us and in no way can we recompense his mercy, which he never withdraws from his heart. However, by corresponding to his gratuitousness, that is, by forgiving one another, we can bear witness to him, sowing new life around us. For outside of forgiveness there is no hope; outside of forgiveness there is no peace. Forgiveness is the oxygen that purifies the air of hatred, forgiveness is the antidote to the poisons of resentment, it is the way to defuse anger and heal so many maladies of the heart that contaminate society.

Let us ask ourselves, then: do I believe I have received from God the gift of immense forgiveness? Do I feel the joy of knowing that He is always ready to forgive me when I fall, even when others do not, even when I am not even able to forgive myself? He forgives: do I believe that he forgives? And then: can I in turn forgive those who wrong me?

In this respect, I would like to propose a little exercise to you: let us try, now, each one of us, to think of a person who has hurt us, and ask the Lord for the strength to forgive them. And let us forgive them out of love for the Lord:

brothers and sisters, this will do us good; it will restore peace to our hearts.

May Mary, Mother of Mercy, help us to receive the grace of God and to forgive each other.

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### After the Angelus

On Friday I will go to Marseille to participate in the conclusion of the *Recontres Méditerranéennes*, a fine initiative that is taking place in important Mediterranean cities, bringing together ecclesial and civil leaders to promote paths of peace, collaboration and integration around the *mare nostrum*, with special attention to the phenomenon of migration. It represents a challenge that is not easy, as we also see from the news in recent days, but which must be faced together, since it is essential for the future of all, which will be prosperous only if it is built on fraternity, putting human dignity and real people, especially those most in need, in first place. While I ask you to accompany this journey with prayer, I would like to thank the civil and religious authorities, and those who are working to prepare for the meeting in Marseille, a city rich in peoples, called to be a port of hope. As of now I greet all the inhabitants, looking forward to meet so many dear brothers and sisters.

And I greet you all, Romans and pilgrims from Italy and various countries, especially the representatives of some parishes in Miami, the *Banda de Gaitas del Batallón de San Patricio*, the faithful of Pieve del Cairo and Castelnuovo Scrivia, and the Missionary Sisters of the Most Holy Redeemer of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.

And I continue to pray for the tormented Ukrainian people, and for peace in every land bloodstained by war. And I greet the young people of the *Immacolata*!

I wish you all a good Sunday, and please, do not forget to pray for me.

Enjoy your lunch, and *arrivederci!*



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## 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.

### Ulambadrakh 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.

### Cristina Cabrejas (EFE)

*Yesterday, you sent a message to the Chinese people, asking Catholics to be good citizens after the country's authorities did not allow bishops to go to Mongolia. How are relations with China at the moment? And is there any news about Cardinal Zuppi's trip to Beijing and the mission to Ukraine?*

Cardinal Zuppi's mission is a mission of peace that I assigned to him. And he made a plan to visit Moscow, Kyiv, the United States, and also Beijing. Cardinal Zuppi is a man of great dialogue and universal vision. His background includes his experience of working in Mozambique in the search for peace, and that's why I sent him.

The relationship with China is very respectful, very respectful. I personally have great admiration for the Chinese people. The channels are very open – for the appointment of bishops there is a commission that has been working with the Chinese government and the Vatican for a long time. Then there are many, or rather there are some, Catholic priests or Catholic intellectuals who are often invited to Chinese universities to offer courses.

I think we need to move forward in the religious aspect to understand each other better and so that Chinese citizens do not think that the Church does not accept their culture and values and that the Church is dependent on another, foreign power.

This friendly path is well-followed by the Commission chaired by Cardinal Parolin: they are doing a good job, even on the Chinese side, relations are moving forward. I have great respect for the Chinese people.

### Gerard O'Connell (America Magazine)

*Your Holiness, relations between Vietnam and the Holy See are very positive right now, they have taken a remarkable step forward recently. Many Vietnamese Catholics are asking for you to visit them, as you did Mongolia. Is there a possibility now of visiting Vietnam? Is there an invitation from the government? And what other journeys are you planning?*

Vietnam is one of the very good dialogue experiences that the Church has had in recent times. I would say it is like a mutual sympathy in dialogue. Both sides have had the good will to understand each other and look for ways to move forward; there have been problems, but in Vietnam I see that sooner or later problems are overcome.

A little while ago, with the President of Vietnam, we talked freely. I am very positive about the relationship with Vietnam; good work has been going on for years.

I remember four years ago, a group of Vietnamese parliamentarians came to visit: there was a nice dialogue with them, very respectful. When a culture is open, there is possibility for dialogue; if there is closure or suspicion, dialogue is very difficult. With Vietnam, the dialogue is open, with its pluses and minuses, but it is open and slowly moving forward. There have been some problems, but they have been resolved.

On the Vietnam journey, if I don't go, John XXIV certainly will. There will certainly be [a trip], because it is a land that deserves to progress and that has my sympathy.

As far as other journeys, there is Marseille; and then there is one to a small country in Europe, and we are seeing if we can do it. But to tell the truth, for me going on a journey now is not as easy as it was in the beginning. There are limitations in walking and that limits me. But we'll see. (TO BE CONTINUED)

## 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/>

### 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 OVER 50s GROUP

Over 50s Meeting Thursday 11th October 10.30am-1pm.  
Please bring a plate for a shared lunch.  
Look forward to seeing you there.

### Lourdes: Luminate Young Adults Group

The next group night is Friday, 13th of October, 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)

### LOURDES PLAYGROUP

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish playgroup is a fun playtime for children aged 0 to 5 years old and their carers. It is held every Friday morning during school terms 9.30am-11.30am in the Parish Meeting Room. For further information please contact Maria Hosni 0432 174 056 or the Parish Office.

### FREE ZUMBA CLASSES

Every Tuesday and Thursday 6.00pm-7.00pm in the Hall. Everyone Welcome!

### 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

SEPTEMBER		
25	St Vincent de Paul Meeting	7.00pm
OCTOBER		
11	OLOL School Term 4 Starts	
11	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	7.30pm
12	Over 50's Group Meeting	10.30am
13	Lourdes Playgroup	9.30am

## OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

### 23/24 September 2023

Acolytes	Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am Jane Seaman.
Ministers	Vigil: H. Gonzales & R. Soares 8am: L. Fernandes & VOLUNTEER 9.30am: C. Brooks & B. Chandler
Readers	Vigil: A. Punch & C. Rodrigues 8am: N. Arambulo & K. Walker 9.30am: C. Diaz & I. Epondulan
Altar Servers	Vigil: M. Gluvic, A. Laus & L. Laus 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am : VOLUNTEER
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ
Musicians	Vigil: Nina's Group 8am: Fr. Henry 9.30am: Nina's Group
Flowers	Annette & Mary B.
Church cleaning	27 Sept Jessie Borg Anne McNally
Welcomers	Vigil: Chrisha Gonzales 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: VOLUNTEER

### 30 / 1 October 2023

Acolytes	Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Eugene Mui 9.30am Eugene Mui
Ministers	Vigil: A. Bellissimo, L. La Guidara 8am: A. McNally, S. Nemorin 9.30am: P.Gow, M.Michael
Readers	Vigil: L. Bellissimo, M. Simic 8am: A.Joseph, M.Santos 9.30am: S. Manamperi, A.Walker
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. La Guidara, C. La Guidara, J. Martinez 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am : L.Culili, VOLUNTEER
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir
Musicians	Vigil: Youth for Christ 8am: Fr. Henry 9.30am: Couples for Christ
Flowers	Fennie & Rani
Church cleaning	7 Oct Tongan Community
Welcomers	Vigil: VOLUNTEER 8am: VOLUNTEER 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain



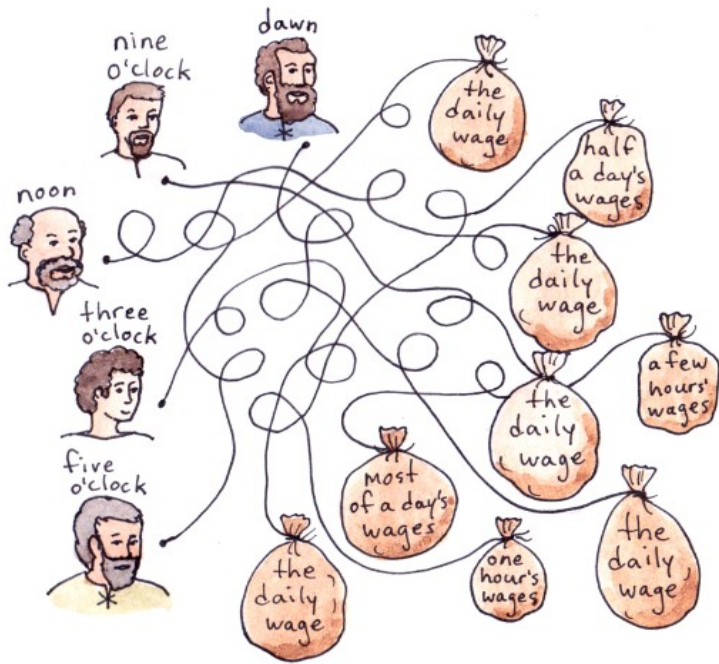
# The Kids' Bulletin

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 24th, 2023

## The Workers in the Vineyard

'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' Matthew 20:12 (NIV)

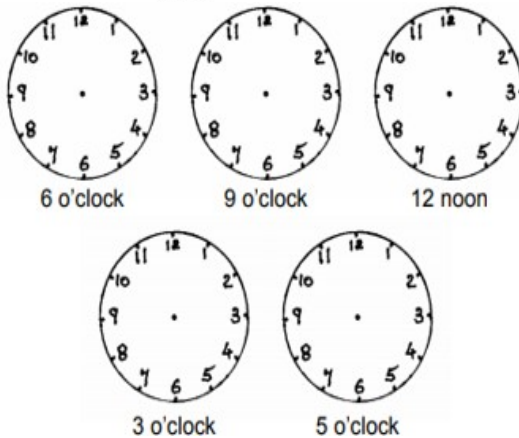
Based on Matthew 20:1-16



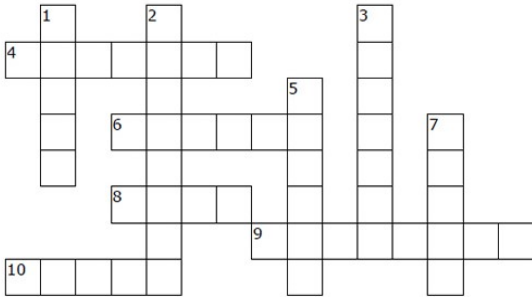
In the parable in today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the story of a man with a vineyard who went out to hire men at different times of the day.

At the end of the day,  
how much did each man get paid?  
Follow the wiggly lines to see!

On the clock  
faces draw the  
hands showing  
the different times  
the man went out  
to find more  
workers.



MONEY	HOUR	EQUAL	WORKERS	VINEYARD
LANDOWNER	HEAVEN	GRUMBLE	KINGDOM	GENEROUS
WAGES	HIRED	UNFAIR	RIGHT	RECEIVED



### ACROSS

- 4. People who labor, usually for wages or a salary
- 6. The place where God lives
- 8. A period of time equal to sixty minutes
- 9. A place where grapes are grown
- 10. Pay received for working

### DOWN

- 1. Coins or bills used to pay for something
- 2. To give or share freely with others
- 3. To gripe or complain
- 5. Not playing by the rules
- 7. Two things that are of the same value

HEAVEN	GRUMBLE	MONEY	WORKERS	VINEYARD
GENEROUS	HOUR	WAGES	UNFAIR	EQUAL

