

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@olol7hills.com.au

Parish Priest: Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran
Parish Deacon: Deacon Thong Nguyen
Parish Office Team: Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang Jane Nguyen
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: 21st February 2024
Baptism: 28th January 2024
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.com.au
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES 11 February 2024 • Year B



Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, Mary Attard, Cynthia Avery, Barrie Chamberlain, Rosella Booth, Penny Briscoe, Para Dias, Gerard Noval, Anthony Janicska, Carlos Moreno, Maricar Poblete, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Sr Colleen O'Sullivan, Sue Tipaldo, Natalie Woodward.

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@olol7hills.com.au
We can also arrange for Holy Communion or a visit if required.

Let us Pray for the Deceased

Recently Deceased: Anastacia Monica Cormio, Gloria Hansen, Mark Jim Racuya, Vinnie Zahra.

Anniversaries: Fredy Alphonse, Carsal & Tamasin Castana, Joe Falzon, M.A Fernando, E & Sheela Franklin, Anton Motha, Jason Muscat, Mile Perak, Cordula Paiva, Jose Reyes, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Helen Tanti, Alison Vella, Melchor Usman.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, Carmen Attard, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, France Angseeing, Sam & Silvia DeBattista, Carmen DeGuarie, Joe & Launcer Deguarie, Jimmy Deguarie, Tony DeGuarie, Tania Deguire, John Cini, Melvyn Fernandes, Mary Galea, Sam Gabo, Tino & Mana Kama, Elizabeth Jean Hancock, Norma Lorenzo, Apolinario and Felina Maglaya, Tania McGove, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Pauline Meilak, Mary Mifsud, Emilia & William Mifsud, Lourda Motha, Louis & Stephen Mula, Mary & Francis Muscat, Josephine & Charles Muscat, Adrian Pereira, Lakshman Pereira, John & Roseline Ratnam, Jonathan Tek Kie.

Funeral Notices

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen

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.

KEEP UP TO DATE

By visiting our parish website with news, the bulletin, prayers and much more - a great way to stay up to date with what's on in our parish Visit www.olol7hills.org.au

Our Lady of Lourdes

Ever Immaculate Virgin, Mother of mercy, health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comfort of the afflicted, you know my needs, my troubles, my sufferings; cast on me a look of pity.

By appearing in the grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary, from which you dispense your favours, and already many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and physical. I come, therefore, with the most unbounded confidence to implore your maternal intercession. Obtain most loving mother, my requests, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
Amen.



REGULAR COLLECTIONS - First and Second

FIRST COLLECTION and Matt's Point is for the support of Priests throughout the Diocese.

ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

Account name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy

BSB: 067 950

ACC: 00 00 4265

Reference: Seven Hills - 6035

SECOND COLLECTION or Planned Giving Program

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

ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church.

BSB: 067 950

ACC: 000552

Reference: (Your Planned Giving envelope number or for a one off donation, 'DONATION')

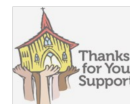
IN-PERSON BANK DEPOSIT (at a Bank Inst / Branch)

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church

BSB: 062 315

ACC ID # 00901486

AGENT # 660



FIRST READING A reading from the book of Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons. 'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean". As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'
The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.
O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. **(R.)**

3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. **(R.)**

2. But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'
And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. **(R.)**

SECOND READING A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Happy Feast Day 2024

Our Lady of Lourdes pray for us.





Dear friends,

In the past, especially in ancient times, leprosy or Hansen's disease was considered as incurable, and Jewish lepers were instructed to isolate themselves from the community as we learn from the first reading today from the book of Leviticus.

Though these days this disease no longer terrorises people as it used to, since it has become preventable and curable thanks to the Multi Drugs Therapy that includes these three drugs called Dapsone, Rifampicin and Clofazimine, it has still posed a serious threat to many in the underdeveloped world. According to a report from the World Health Organisation (WHO), 133 802 cases of leprosy were registered for treatment by the end of 2021, and the majority of them were found in South East Asia with 124,377 new cases reported in 2022.

In Jesus' time, as we know, it was incurable and people were asked to avoid making any contact with them but Jesus was prepared to break the law by using his hand to touch the leper when he was approached by him and asked for help.

He said to the man 'be cured' and the disease has gone immediately. The leper was completely healed from the disease and advised by Jesus to do the right thing according to the law of Moses, which was to present himself to the priest and offer an oblation.

Despite Jesus' request asking him not to reveal the story to no one, the man went away to fulfil his religious requirement and also loudly shared his healing experience with people he met.

This healing story highlights both Jesus' power over human illness, the power of the Son of God and his deep love and compassion for the weak and the sick to the point that he was prepared to do what was forbidden by the law by making physical contact with the untouchable, though this daring act of course began to put himself into trouble with the authority, and finally led to his death at the end.

This healing power of Jesus in a way reminds us of the healing intervention of Our Lady of Lourdes, our Parish patroness, whose feast day we proudly celebrate this Sunday. She has been well known worldwide for listening to the cry of the sick and grant them her healing power. As we know, more than 7,000 cases of healing have been reported at Lourdes since the apparitions in 1858, and amongst them 70 cases have been recognised as miraculous by the Church so far.

Let us praise the Lord for his kindness shown to the needy and ask him to help us follow the example he has given to us. We also offer our prayer of thanksgiving for the gift of Our Lady of Lourdes, for she has been so generous to listen to our prayer and lend her healing hand to many who came to her, pray that she will continue to be our intercessor both powerful and effective before God.

Happy Feast Day and Lunar New Year to you all and have a compassion-filled week,

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

PARISH FEAST DAY: FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Our Parish feast day will be right on Sunday 11 February this week and coincide with the Lunar New Year. We are going to celebrate it officially at the 9.30am Sunday Mass followed by a luncheon. Please join this special celebration.

PARISH ANNUAL RETREAT

Like previous years in the past, we are having our Parish Annual retreat during Lent, and this year we have the privilege to welcome Br Barry Donahue who is going to lead us in the retreat on Saturday 17 February 2024 from 9.30am to 3pm in the Hall. For catering purposes, please put your name down on the clipboard available at the rear of the church.

CANDLE WAX ON THE CHURCH CARPET

Please do not try to remove candle wax on the church carpet by yourselves, for you might make it worse. Instead let our staff know and we ask our carpet cleaners to treat it.

SERVING AS PARISH MINISTERS

In response to popular requests from the community to serve as lectors, Extraordinary ministers of Communion, Acolytes and so on, I would like to invite you to pick up the form available in our Parish Directory, tick your preferred ministry, write down your name and contact number, and place it in the collection plate or return it to Fr Henry, and we will contact you and send you the Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Our PPC met last week and as usual Council members dedicated some time to go through the recent document called *Fiducia Supplicans* (The Supplicating Trust) released by the dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith recently and discuss the point about the non-liturgical blessing for people in irregular relationships. The Council also talked the possibility to introduce the Family group to our Parish community. We are interested in hearing from you any experience you might have about this group.

CATECHIST MEETING

First meeting for all catechists will be on Tuesday the 20th of February at 10am in the parish meeting room. Due to urgent matters, please spare time to attend. For further enquiries or if you are unable to attend, please contact Deacon Thong or Anne McNally.

LENTEN BOOK CLUB

A group of parishioners are gathering for an hour on five Tuesday evenings during Lent to share thoughts on "Opening Doors - A Seeker's Reflection on the Rooms of Christian Living" by Dr Kevin Treston, an author and educator living in Brisbane. We start in the Meeting Room on Tuesday 20th February at 7.30pm. Zoom also available. If you would like to join us please call Adrian on 0408 649 327

DIOCESAN NEWS

NEW Diocesan website launched

The new parracatholic.org website is now here with exciting new features and functionality including a comprehensive 'Find a Mass' function which includes Daily and Weekend Masses, Reconciliation and Adoration times; a centralised event calendar; Daily Mass readings and different ways you can contribute to the Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Check it out today!

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

Opportunities for face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown this coming February.

- Monday 12 February (10am – 1.30pm) – Modules 4-5: Renewal Safeguarding Training is for those in Parish Ministry who commenced Cycle 1 Training two years ago.

Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training> or for more information, please email safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Jamberoo Abbey 'Borrowing Tomorrow' Online Retreat: Beginning 18 February

Beginning 18 February, Jamberoo Abbey are hosting a series of online retreats themed around caring for our own heart which is reflected in how we care for our earth with a focus on Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'*. Sessions will be held each Sunday until Palm Sunday 24 March with short readings or stories weekly. The cost of the retreat is \$200, but do not hesitate to email if you are unable to manage the full cost. Register online today at jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats. For enquiries and registration, contact online retreat@jamberooabbey.org.au.

Youth Mass 'Round the Diocese: 25 February

Looking for some young adults to worship with? Hunting for an excuse to catch up with Jesus and friends? Wondering what goes on around our Diocese? Mass 'Round the Diocese is just that! Our young people are visiting different churches around the Diocese for Mass and fellowship afterwards with new and known friends. The next Mass will be at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, on Sunday 25 February for 6pm Mass. For more information, please contact Laura on laura@stbernadette.org.au

Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend: 24 – 25 February

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. The next Engaged Encounter Weekend will be held on 24 and 25 February, with future dates in May, August and November 2024. For further information and to register, visit www.engagedencounter.org.au/

Grace & Silence Retreat for Young Women: 3 March

The Mount Schoenstatt Girls and Young Women ministry invite single women aged 20 to 40 discerning a vocation to marriage and family, single life or consecrated life to a series of silent retreat days beginning Sunday 3 March from 9.30am to 4.30pm at Bethany, 301 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. Remaining sessions are 7 April, 5 May and 2 June. Cost is \$25 per day or \$90 for the full series. For catering purposes, registrations close a week prior to each event. For details, contact Hannah on 0433 443 384.

Celebrating Holy Week: Formation for Ministers of the Altar: 9 March

The Office for Worship presents 'Celebrating Holy Week' – a workshop for current Acolytes and Ministers at the Altar presented by Chris Ohlsen. It will be held on Saturday 9 March from 9:30am to 3pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. To register or for more information, please contact lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org or call (02) 8838 3456 by 5 March 2024.

Diocesan Lent & Holy Week Scripture Reflection Evening: 20 March

Looking for a way to reflect on your experience of Lent as we enter Holy Week? Interested in praying with the Scripture readings for Holy Week? Register for the Diocesan Lent & Holy Week Scripture Reflection Evening Wednesday 20 March 2024 – 6:30PM to 8:30pm. RSVP via QR or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org



SCAN ME



Project Compassion Sunday 10 & 11 February



Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations**.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno!*

The Gospel of today's Liturgy shows us Jesus on the move: indeed, He has just finished preaching and, after leaving the synagogue, He goes to Simon Peter's house, where He heals his mother-in-law; then, towards the evening, He goes out again towards the city gates, where He meets many sick and possessed people and heals them; the morning after, He gets up early and goes out to withdraw in prayer; and finally, He sets out again across Galilee (cf. *Mk* 1:29-39). Jesus on the move.

Let us look at this continual movement of Jesus, which tells us *something important about God* and, at the same time, challenges us with *some questions* on our faith.

Jesus goes towards wounded humanity and shows us the face of the Father. It may be that within us there is still the idea of a distant, cold God, indifferent to our fate. On the contrary, the Gospel lets us see that Jesus, after teaching in the synagogue, goes out, so that the Word He has preached may reach, touch and heal people. By doing this, He reveals to us that God is not a detached master who speaks to us from on high; on the contrary, He is a Father filled with love who makes Himself close to us, who visits our homes, who wants to save and liberate, heal from every ill of the body and spirit. God is always close to us. God's attitude can be expressed in three words: *closeness, compassion and tenderness*.

God makes Himself close to accompany us, tenderly, and to forgive us. Do not forget

this: *closeness, compassion and tenderness*. This is God's attitude.

Jesus' incessant walking challenges us. We might ask ourselves: have we discovered the face of God as the Father of mercy, or do we believe and proclaim a cold God, a distant God? Does faith instil in us the restlessness of journeying or is it an intimist consolation for us, that calms us? Do we pray just to feel at peace, or does the Word we listen to and preach make us go out, like Jesus, towards others, to spread God's consolation? It will be good for us to ask ourselves these questions.

Let us look, then, at Jesus' journeying and remind ourselves that our first spiritual task is this: to abandon the God we think we know, and to convert every day to the God Jesus presents to us in the Gospel, who is the Father of love and the Father of compassion. The Father who is close, compassionate and tender. And when we discover the true face of the Father, our faith matures: we no longer remain "sacristy Christians", or "parlour Christians", but rather we feel called to become bearers of God's hope and healing.

May Mary Most Holy, Woman on the way, help us to proclaim ourselves the witness of the Lord who is close, compassionate and tender.

After the Angelus

Dear brothers and sisters!

This coming 10 February, in East Asia and various parts of the world, millions of families will celebrate the lunar new year. I send them my warm greeting, with the hope that this feast may be an opportunity to experience relationships of affection and gestures of care, which contribute to creating a society of solidarity and fraternity, where every person is recognized and welcomed in his or her inalienable dignity. As I invoke the Lord's blessing for everyone, I invite you to pray for peace, for which the world longs so much and which, today more than ever, is endangered in many places. It is not the responsibility of a few, but of the entire human family: let us all cooperate to build it with gestures of compassion and courage!

And let us continue to pray for the populations who suffer as a result of war, especially in Ukraine, Palestine and Israel.

Today, in Italy, we celebrate the *Day for Life*, on the theme "The strength of life surprises us". I join with the Italian bishops in hoping that ideological visions can be overcome so as to rediscover that every human life, even those most marked by limitations, has an immense value and is capable of giving something to others.

I greet the young people of many countries who have come for the *World Day for Prayer and Reflection against Human Trafficking*, which will be celebrated on 8 February, memorial of Saint Josephine Bakhita, the Sudanese religious sister who was enslaved as a child. Today too, many brothers and sisters are deceived with false promises and are then subjected to exploitation and abuse. Let us all join to counter the dramatic global phenomenon of human trafficking.

Let us also pray for those killed and injured in the devastating fires that have broken out in the centre of Chile.

And I greet all of you who have come to Rome, from Italy and many parts of the world. I greet in particular the consecrated men and women from over sixty countries who are participating in the meeting "Pilgrims of hope on the path to peace", organized by the Dicastery for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and the Societies of Apostolic Life. I greet the students from Badajoz, Spain, and those from the "Séguin" Salesian School of Marseille, as well as the Polish faithful from Warsaw and other cities; and the groups from San Benedetto del Tronto, Ostia and Civitavecchia. And I can see the Japanese flags there! I greet the Japanese. And I can see Polish flags: I greet the Polish and all of you, and the young people of the *Immacolata* too.

I wish you all a happy Sunday. Please, do not forget to pray for me.

Enjoy your lunch, and *arrivederci!*

POPE FRANCIS PRESIDES OVER COUNCIL OF CARDINALS MEETING

The new session of the C9 is underway in the Vatican, in the presence of Pope Francis.

By Vatican News

The February meeting of the Council of Cardinals began on Monday, 5 February, at the Vatican.

The Holy See Press Office released a statement saying all members of the so-called C-9 were present together with Pope Francis.

The Council of Cardinals last met on 4 and 5 December 2023 at Casa Santa Marta, also in the presence of the Pope.

December meeting

The main theme of the December meeting was the "role of women in the Church", thanks also to the interventions of Sister Linda Pochoer, Lucia Vantini, and Father Luca Castiglioni, all of them teachers and theologians.

According to a Holy See statement, on that occasion "the need to listen, also and above all in the individual Christian communities, to the feminine aspect of the Church, so that the processes of reflection and decision-making can enjoy the irreplaceable contribution of women" were reiterated.

The focus of that meeting was also on the conflicts in Ukraine and the Holy Land, on the work of COP28 which was underway in Dubai, and also on initiatives to prevent the abuse of minors and vulnerable persons.

The two-day meeting also offered an opportunity to discuss what emerged from the Synod on Synodality in October and the 'implementation' of the Apostolic Constitution *Praedicate Evangelium* in the diocesan curias.

The new C9

The Council of Cardinals, after the Pope's renewal of the body on 7 March 2023, is composed of Cardinals Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State; Fernando Vérgez Alzaga, President of the Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State and the Governorate of Vatican City State; Fridolin Ambongo Besungu, Archbishop of Kinshasa; Oswald Gracias, Archbishop of Bombay; Seán Patrick O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston; Juan José Omella Omella, Archbishop of Barcelona; Gérald Lacroix, Archbishop of Québec; Jean-Claude Hollerich, Archbishop of Luxembourg; Sérgio da Rocha, Archbishop of San Salvador de Bahia. The secretary is Monsignor Marco Mellino, titular bishop of Cresima. The first meeting of the new C9 took place on 24 April.

The Council of Cardinals

Pope Francis established the Council with the chirograph of 28 September 2013 with the task of assisting him in the governance of the Universal Church and to study a project for the revision of the Roman Curia, the latter realised with the new Apostolic Constitution *Praedicate Evangelium* published on 19 March 2022. The first C9 meeting took place on the 1st October 2013.

In his message for Lent 2024, Pope Francis invites the faithful to "pause" for prayer and to assist our brothers and sisters in need, in order to change our own lives and the lives of our communities.

POPE FRANCIS: LENT IS A TIME OF CONVERSION AND FREEDOM

By Christopher Wells

"When our God reveals Himself, His message is always one of freedom," Pope Francis says in the opening of his Message to the faithful for Lent 2024.

Recalling the Exodus of the Hebrew people from Egypt, the Holy Father explains that our journey through the desert can be a season of grace – not an abstract journey, but a concrete path that involves seeing the world as it is and hearing the cries of our oppressed brothers and sisters.

Countering a globalization of indifference

The Pope insisted on the need to counter a "globalization of indifference."

"Our Lenten journey will be concrete if... we realize that even today we remain under the rule of Pharaoh. A rule that makes us weary and indifferent. A model of growth that divides us and robs us of our future."

At the same time, Pope Francis reminded us that it is God who takes the initiative. Too often, he said, there remains within us "an inexplicable longing for slavery," a desire to cling to idols that paralyze us, as Israel was paralyzed in the desert.

Lent, however, is a "season of grace, a time of conversion," where the desert can become "a place where our freedom can mature in a personal decision not to fall back into slavery," where "we find new criteria of justice and a community with which we can press forward on a road not yet taken."

Pausing for prayer and to help our neighbour

He added that the Lenten journey involves a struggle. It is a time for action, the Pope said, but also a time "to pause" – to pause in prayer and to pause "in the presence of a wounded brother or sister."

"Love of God and love of neighbour are one love," Pope Francis continued, explaining that "the contemplative dimension" of Lent can help us "release new energies," to be "more sensitive to one another: in the place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travelers."

'A flash of new hope'

Pope Francis concluded his Lenten message on a hopeful note: "To the extent that this Lent becomes a time of conversion, an anxious humanity will notice a burst of creativity, a flash of new hope."

Calling on the faithful to "be ready to take risks," he invited them "to find the courage to see our world, not as in its death throes, but in a process of giving birth; not at the end, but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history."

"Faith and charity," he said, "take hope, this small child, by the hand. They teach her to walk, and at the same time, she leads them forward."

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/>

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 14th March 2024, 10.30am– 1pm. Please bring a plate to share. Look forward to seeing you there.

Lourdes: Luminate Young Adults Group

Wishes you a Merry and Blessed Christmas. The next group night will be in early 2024. If you would like more information please kindly contact Ian Epondulan: 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.

LOL PARISH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

14	Sacramental Meeting	6.30pm
14	Ash Wednesday Mass	8am, 9.15am 7.30pm
17	Annual Parish Retreat	9.30am

LOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

10/11 February 2024

Acolytes	Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am Faylene Kennedy	
Ministers	Vigil: A.Bellissimo, R.Soaes 8am: Edith Gartner, Ernie Gartner 9.30am: S.Manamperi, A.Walker	
Readers	Vigil: L.Bellissimo, C.Rodrigues 8am: A.McNally, B.Motha 9.30am: M.Aquino, N.Arambulo	
Altar Servers	Vigil: D.Sant, J.Sant, A.Spadaro 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: S.Culili, J.Kingston, A.Melki	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	LOLO FEAST DAY	
Flowers	Team	
Church Cleaning	15 Feb	Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Suzy Nemorin 9.30am: Volunteer	

17/18 February 2024

Acolytes	Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am Ryan Epondulan	
Ministers	Vigil: L.La Guidara, M.Mifsud 8am: F.Balatbat, F.Paiva 9.30am: C.Brooks, B.Chandler	
Readers	Vigil: A.Punch, M.Simic 8am: K.Walker, J.Cabasa 9.30am: P.Ferriols, E.Vinoth Pieris	
Altar Servers	Vigil: A.La Guidara, C. La Guidara, J.Martinez 8am: K.Maruthanayagam 9.30am: M.Pieris, J.Pieris, L.Sadipoor	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group	
Flowers	Team	
Church Cleaning	24 Feb	Judith Deloso
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Sastina Pieris	

The Kids' Bulletin

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 11th, 2024



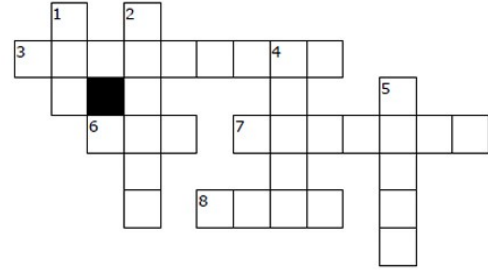
On February 11, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the title given to Mary when she appeared to Bernadette Soubirous in 1858 in Lourdes, France.



Jesus Heals a Leper

A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Mark 1:40-41

Puzzle is based on Mark 1:40-45



ACROSS

3. To offer an animal or other material possession to God
6. To plead for something; or to ask again and again
7. A skin disease
8. The part of the body at the end of the arm that includes the fingers

DOWN

1. An adult male
2. A person who has been trained to perform religious duties in some churches
4. To be free from dirt or impurities
5. To come in contact with something, especially with the hands

CLEAN TOUCH	MAN BEG	LEPROSY SACRIFICE	HAND PRIEST
----------------	------------	----------------------	----------------



The man was so **HAPPY** that he went away, telling what happened to

E _ _ E _ _ Y _ _ N _ _

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

PEOPLE CLEAN TALK	LEPROSY TOUCHED MAN	NEWS HAND BEGGED	CURED PRIEST TOWN	KNEES MAKE WILLING
-------------------------	---------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------