

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 School:	LOLO 8869 6800
Parish Deacon:	Deacon Thong Nguyen	Principal:	Ms Keiran Byrnes
Parish Office Team:	Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang Jane Nguyen	Reconciliation:	Saturday 4:30-5:30pm
Office Hours: Monday-Friday:	9am - 3.00pm	Baptismal Preparation:	17th July 2024
WEEKDAY MASS:	Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am Thursday 9.00am	Baptism:	28th July 2024
WEEKEND MASS:	Saturday Vigil 6pm Sunday 8am & 9.30am	Sacrament Co-Ordinator:	Mrs Artelle Lenthall
		Parish Website:	www.olol7hills.com.au
		Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/LOLO7Hills/

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 5 MAY 2024 • Year B



Let us Pray for the Sick

Leonila Ahillon, Florence Arinanan, Mary Attard, Rosella Booth, Penny Briscoe, Para Dias, Ken Faulkner, Ronald Fountain, Renuka Fernando, Ronald Gomez, Chmouneh Hayek, Anthony Janicska, Odette James, Mary Jordan, Paul Leong, Damian & Roslyn McNally, Blago Milicevic, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Carlos Moreno, Sharon O'Keefe, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Eustace Ratnam, Sue Tiplado, 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: Emma Barriom, Barrie Chamberlain, Dulcie Duraisamy, Jasmin Fernando, Sammy, Carmen & Joseph Formosa, Charlie Gauci, Cynthia Lopez, Peter Mazzell, Agustin Ngalongalay, Sr Colleen O'Sullivan, Perl Perera, Harold Brian Routley, Magelende Sapinosa, Ron Sciortino, Chain Singh, John Spiteri, Joseph Tamt.

Anniversaries: Rolily Burac, Honesto Jr & Jaime Cabrera, Catherine Chandra, Aloysean Corera, John Fernando, M.A Fernando, Patrick U. Fischer, Juliet Francis, Teodoro Garcia, Christine Gomez, Josephine Gomez, Charlie Grech, Helen & Bill Hili, Rita Hili, Cameron Jones, Oliver Jordan, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Jasmine McElevey, Rita Leon, Gil Opina, John O'Sullivan, Thomas Morrissey, Thoai & Loi Nguyen, Emanuella Pozzolungo, Cordula Paiva, John Portelli, Jose Reyes, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Rosary Silva, Melchor Usman, Arsenio Laberinto Udan, Amalia Dominga M. Usman, Pastora Villarta, Jane Zammit.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, France Angseeing, Gregorio Almodovar, Carmen Attard, Elezabeth & Emanuel Azzopardi, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sam Borg, Saviour Caruana, Fe Licup Carmen, Myrna Cruz, Tania McGove, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Tony, Tania, Vivian, Joe & Launcer De Guire, Ngan Siu Eng, Nevis Fernando, Carmen & Joseph Formosa, Sammy Formosa, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Sam Gabo, Jeffrey Hunter, Maria & John, Melvyn Fernandes, Mary & Sam Galea, Constance Gaycroft, Frans Gutajar, Selvam Irudayaraj, Felina Maglaya, Pauline Meilak, Mangion Family, Maria Menezes, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Mary Mifsud, Emilia & William Mifsud, Maria Reyes, Anton & Lourda Motha, Louis, Stephen & Joseph Mula, Mary & Francis Muscat, Maria Palmira, Natalia & Felicisimo Prahinog, John & Roseline Ratnam, Choling Sabale, Maria & Nichola Saliba, Jose Sanchez, Cua Sing, Jonathan Tek Kie, Amalia M. Usman, Shane Vaz, Vinnie Zahra.

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 Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48*

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. **(R.)**

3. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. **(R.)**

2. The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the first letter of St John 4:7-10*

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love.

God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the first holy Gospel according to John 15:9-17*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends, if you do what I command you, I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Dear friends,

Though John was the youngest disciple when the Lord called him, he actually far outlived the rest of his brothers for he lived more than one hundred years old according to the Church tradition.

Apart from the Gospel of John and the book of the Apocalypse, he is also credited for the writing of the three letters, and we have the chance to listen to a passage of his first letter in the second reading this Sunday.

Based on his writings especially the second reading and the Gospel today in which the word 'love' appears again and again many times, 18 times to be exact, including: 9 in the second reading and 9 in the Gospel, so it would be safe for us to say that John truly is 'the Apostle of Love.'

Both in the Gospel and the second reading, John seems to deal with the questions of what love is to us, why we have to love and where love leads us to.

According to John, love is Jesus' commandment and starts with the love of the Father given to his Son Jesus, and Jesus himself passes it on to us. Through his self-sacrificial death, Jesus means to show us his total love and expect us to spread his love to all.

Then as a commandment, love becomes a duty, a signature virtue for Jesus' followers to embrace and put into practice, in other words, we are commanded to love our brothers and sisters around us, and we are chosen and commissioned to carry out such a love and make it productive in our everyday lives. Therefore, John argued that those who fail to love others don't belong to God and know nothing about God, no matter what they preach and say.

Finally, the Christian love will lead us to an intimate relationship with God, and abiding in Him and with Him if you like, and as a result, God will give us anything as we ask him in the name of His Son.

Let us pray this week for the grace to help us respond to God's love and the strength to verify our true friendship with Jesus by the love we share with our brothers and sisters around us every day.

Have a love-guided week,

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

LOURDES OVER 50s GROUP

Please join us for the next over 50s meeting on Thursday 9th of May, 10.30am– 1pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate to share. Look forward to seeing you there.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

All members of our Parish Pastoral Council are invited to attend our monthly meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 8th of May in the Parish Meeting room.

LOURDES LUMINATE YOUNG ADULTS GROUP NIGHT

Friday 17 May 2024 6:30PM-9PM in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to a special evening with guest speaker Mrs Artelle Lenthall, Sacramental Co-ordinator at our parish. Theme: Sancta Maria, Mater Dei. Please bring food and drink to share. Please RSVP to Ian Epondulan: youthlol@gmail.com or 0401161264.

PLANNED GIVING 2024/25 ENVELOPES

Thank you to all 2nd Collection givers for 2023/24. We will be ordering our envelopes for the next financial year shortly and would like to make sure all our details are correct. If you need to change address or bank details or if your family would like to join our planned giving for the next year please contact the Parish Office on 9622 2920 or complete a New Parishioner Form and we can include you. We really appreciate the generosity by all our Parishioners.

DRIVING CONCERNS

One of our neighbours has sent to our Parish Office an email reminding our parishioners of two important matters as following: 1/ Please put the indicators on to indicate which way to go when we exit the carpark; 2/ Elizabeth Lane is a NO STOPPING area, so we should never stop there. Thank you all for your co-operation.

Fr Henry

CONFIRMATION 2024

Please pray for the children as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next month on the 31/5. May God bless them on this sacred and special day and may the commitment they make continue to sustain and strengthen them on their personal Faith Journey. Amen.

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, place it in the collection plate or return it to Fr Henry, and the Parish office will contact you.

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.

SCAM ALERT

Please be aware of a scam emails circulating throughout the Diocese referencing parish priest names asking to be contacted. Please delete and don't click on any links. If you need to verify the source call the Parish Office.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARIANS

Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation and our Holy Spirit Seminarians thank you for your generous support in the formation of our future priests. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.



Diocesan Pastoral Plan:

Local Think Tank Sessions from May-June

Parishes and other local faith communities across the diocese are holding local Think Tank Sessions, giving local leaders and anyone involved in ministry to offer feedback on the Draft of the Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church, and contribute ideas for the practical implementation of our Diocesan Plan. To inquire about our local Think Tank session visit parracatholic.org/synod

Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald Public Lecture: 8 May

The Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations and the Diocese of Parramatta present a public lecture by Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald, former head of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue entitled: "Interreligious Dialogue in our Day: 60 Years after *Nostra Aetate*" on Wednesday 8 May at 6pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. To register in person or for the livestream, please visit parracatholic.org/cardinalfitzgerald

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL NSW CELEBRATING PENTECOST EVE "ANOINTING"

Please join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW in celebrating Pentecost Eve "Anointing" on Saturday 18th May at Servants of Jesus Centre 15 Park Road Seven Hills for an afternoon of Praise & Worship, Testimonies and Prayer Ministry from 4-7pm hosted by youth from different streams. Booking is essential, register with link. <https://www.trybooking.com/CPMXQ?qr=true>. Any inquires email: email@ccrnsw.org.au

CCD Formation Opportunities: May and June 2024

SRE catechists and all members of our faith communities are invited to participate in a series of formation opportunities organised by the Diocesan Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). Delve into St John's Gospel with a scripture expert, Dr Laurie Woods, over 5 weeks on 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 May. Continue your Journey of Faith for 5 weeks with Merilyn Hancock (Head, CCD) on 7, 14, 21, 28 June and 5 July. All sessions will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 9.30am to 1.30pm. For SRE Catechists to be accredited with Level 3 training, they must attend both sessions. Morning Tea will be provided. Enrol for one or both sessions via parracatholic.org/events or email ccd.training@parracatholic.org



Caritas Australia Sudan Crisis Appeal

Following the outbreak of conflict in Sudan a year ago, 25 million people - including 14 million children - now need humanitarian assistance and support, according to the [United Nations](https://www.un.org/). Caritas partners in Sudan have distributed food, as well as delivering cash assistance, water and hygiene services and gender-based violence protection. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Sudan Crisis Appeal.

You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/sudan or phone 1800 024 413.



Caritas AUSTRALIA 60 YEARS 1964-2024

SUDAN CRISIS APPEAL

25 million people including 14 million children are in dire need of humanitarian assistance.

DONATE NOW

www.caritas.org.au/sudan
1800 024 413

Divine Retreat Centre offerings in 2024

The Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, NSW is hosting a variety of single-day and weekend residential retreats throughout 2024. For more information and bookings, please contact (02) 4372 1598 or email at the below drcretreatrego@gmail.com to confirm attendance. Visit www.divineretreatcentre.org for more information.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

More training opportunities will be available throughout May. 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>
For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Holy Hour for Vocations: 17 May

Please join us across the Diocese of pray for more vocations to the priesthood. Join us at St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood with Fr Chris del Rosario, on Friday 17 May from 7pm. If you are interested in becoming a priest or would like more information, please contact our Director for Priestly Vocations, Fr Galbert Albino on (02)47734321, 0450821812 or email galbert.albino@parracatholic.org

Peace Justice Ecology Table Talk "Laudato Si' Week – Seeds of Hope": 20 May

You are invited to an engaging conversation about caring for God's creation: Hear and discuss inspiring stories from lived experience, and play a role in creating positive change in the spirit of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*. Join this Diocesan Table Talk on Monday 20 May, 6pm – 8:30pm, St Finbar's Parish Glenbrook. Light dinner will be provided on arrival. Please register by 12 May and find out more at tinyurl.com/laudatosi-table-talk

Diocesan Pentecost Scripture Reflection Evening: 15 May

What does the Holy Spirit look like in your life? How can Scripture stretch our imagination when comes to Pentecost and the Holy Spirit?

Register for the Diocesan Pentecost Scripture Reflection Evening with Dr Michele Connolly rsj on Wednesday 15 May 2024, 6:30PM -8:30PM. RSVP via QR or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org



Central Europe Pilgrimage with Fr Joseph Lam OSA: May 2025

Cosmos Tour Operators are organising a Central Europe tour for 17 days from 8 to 24 May 2025, travelling through Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria and Czechia, accompanied by Fr Joseph Lam OSA from St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook. Prices start from \$5,076 per person, excluding flights. For more information, or to register your interest, please contact the parish office on secretary@stfinbars.org.au.

Christ the King Primary Jubilee Celebrations

Staff, students, families and parishioners past and present are invited to celebrate the golden jubilee of Christ the King Primary School, North Rocks.

- A Jubilee Family Picnic will be held on Sunday 19 May at Don Moore Reserve, NorthRocks, from 11.30am. You can RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/k6hua7LiwZKBMP3o6>
- A Jubilee Dinner (over 18s) will be held on 29 June at The Epping Club, Epping, from 6pm. Cost is \$99 per person and includes food and beverages. Tables are of 10-12 attendees. You can RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/hmeBwoEM9qusMhG87>

For any further information, please contact Erin Wynne, at ewynne@parra.catholic.edu.au or the school office on (02) 8846 2700 or email northrocks@parra.catholic.edu.au



POPE FRANCIS' AUDIENCE

Cycle of Catechesis. Vices and Virtues. 17. Faith

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Today I would like to talk about the virtue of *faith*. Together with charity and hope, this virtue is described as *theological*. There are three theological virtues: faith, hope and charity. Why are they theological? Because they can be lived – this virtue, the three theological virtues – only thanks to the gift of God.

The three theological virtues are the great gifts that God gives to our moral capacity. Without them, we could be prudent, just, strong and temperate, but we would not have eyes that see even in the dark, we would not have a heart that loves even when it is not loved, we would not have a hope that dares against all hope.

What is faith? This question: what is faith? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, it explains that faith is the act by which the human being freely commits himself to God (1814). In this faith, Abraham was the great father. When he agreed to leave the land of his ancestors to head for the land that God would show him, he would probably have been judged insane: why leave the known for the unknown, the certain for the uncertain? But why do this? It is insane, isn't it? But Abraham sets off, as if he could see the invisible: this is what the Bible says about Abraham. "He went, not knowing where he was to go". This is beautiful. And it will again be the invisible that makes him go up the mountain with his son Isaac, the only son of the promise, who only at the last moment will be spared from sacrifice. In this faith, Abraham becomes the father of a long line of descendants. Faith made him fruitful.

Moses was be a man of faith when, welcoming God's voice even more than one doubt could have shaken him, he continued to stand firm and trust in the Lord, and even defend the people who were so often lacking in faith.

The Virgin Mary was a woman of faith when, receiving the annunciation of the Angel, which many would have dismissed as too demanding and risky, answered, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (*Lk* 1:38). And, with her heart full of faith, with her heart full of trust in God, Mary set out on a path of which she knew neither the route nor the dangers.

Faith is the virtue that makes the Christian. Because to be Christians is not first and foremost about accepting a culture, with the values that accompany it, but being Christian is welcoming and cherishing a bond, a bond with God: God and I, myself and the amiable face of Jesus. This bond is what makes us Christians.

With regard to faith, an episode of the Gospel comes to mind. Jesus' disciples were crossing the lake, and are surprised by the storm. They think they can get by with the strength of their arms, with the resources of their experience, but the boat starts to fill up with water and they are seized by panic (cf. *Mk* 4: 35-41). They do not realize that they have the solution before their very eyes: Jesus is there with them on the boat, in the midst of the storm, and Jesus "was asleep", says the Gospel. When they finally awaken Him, fearful and even angry that He would let them die, Jesus rebukes them: "Why are you afraid? *Have you no faith?*" (*Mk* 4:40).

Here, then, is the great enemy of faith: it is not intelligence, nor is it reason, as, alas, some continue obsessively to repeat; but the great enemy of fear. For this reason, faith is the first gift to welcome in Christian life: a gift that must be welcomed and asked for daily, so that it may be renewed in us. It is seemingly a small gift, yet it is the essential one. When we were brought to the baptismal font, our parents, after announcing the name they had chosen for us, were asked by the priest – this happened in our baptism: "What do you ask of the Church of God?" And the parents answered: "Faith, baptism!"

For Christian parents, aware of the grace that has been given them, that is the gift to ask for their child too: faith. With it, parents know that, even in the midst of the trials of life, their child will not drown in fear. See, the enemy is fear. They also know that, when the child ceases to have a parent on this earth, he will continue to have a God the Father in heaven, who will never abandon him. Our love is so fragile, and only God's love conquers death.

Certainly, as the Apostle says, faith is not for all (cf. *2 Thess* 3:2), and we too, who are believers, often realize that we have only a short supply. Often Jesus can rebuke us, as He did with His disciples, for being "men of little faith". But it is the happiest gift, the only virtue we are permitted to envy. Because those who have faith are inhabited by a force that is not only human; indeed, faith "triggers" grace in us and opens the mind to the mystery of God.

As Jesus once said, "If you had faith as a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this sycamine tree, 'Be rooted up, and be planted in the sea', and it would obey you" (*Lk* 17:6). Therefore, let us too, like the disciples, repeat to Him: Lord, increase our faith! (*Lk* 17:5). It is a beautiful prayer! Shall we say it all together? "Lord, increase our faith". Let us say it together [everyone] "Lord, increase our faith". Too quiet a bit louder: [everyone] "Lord, increase our faith"! Thank you.

POPE FRANCIS' PREFACE FOR THE BOOKE ENTITLED 'CONVERSATION IN THE SPIRIT'

By Pope Francis

Dear brothers, thank you for sharing this book with me before it's published. From what you say in the introduction regarding its genesis, I see that Óscar was able to pull his partner away from the world of economics in which we had stuck him in this house, to return him to more spiritual themes. It is beautiful that a book on conversation in the Spirit was born from the spiritual conversation between its authors.

Although the discussion is mainly focused on the conversation in the Spirit, which is the methodology adopted in the synodal path, I really appreciate that you did not stop at the method and its functioning. I appreciate that you provide the reader with sufficient historical references to grasp the depth of this method and everything it brings into play in order to truly transform itself into an experience of listening to the Spirit.

You point out that the synodal method is a spiritual experience, in which words and listening aim to ensure that the Holy Spirit is the true protagonist. The unrolling of the book gives us the opportunity to realize that the synodal path that we have undertaken as a Church constitutes a personal, community and an ecclesial spiritual experience, and therefore requires the individual work of each one within himself.

The idea of conversation as "pouring into a common channel" deserves to be further developed in the future. In fact, this conception of conversation allows different points of view to be brought to enrich that common thread. A greater dose of conversation in city and ecclesiastical life would do us great good. In the conversation in the Spirit we find a participatory path oriented towards communion and the renewal of the mission, which encourages the participation of all and welcomes in communion and unity the great diversity that we all are.

Conversation in the Spirit, discernment and synodality consist, above all, in listening. The synodal path undertaken by the Church is a path of in-depth listening. The attitude you suggest, of "open and vulnerable listening", is fundamental and very necessary, in fact it allows the Spirit to move us and make us change, to make us choose and to lead us to concrete decisions. If everyone remains locked in the positions they had previously adopted, there will be no true conversation, nor true listening to the Spirit. He/she will not find anything that he/she can learn or assimilate from others and will be afraid of any decision that involves changes. In fact, it is only when we truly listen to each other that we emerge enriched and deepen our communion and mission.

The chapter on interior dispositions seemed particularly essential to me. As I have said on more than one occasion, our intention is not to convene a parliament or even to carry out an opinion poll. We want to walk together as sisters and brothers, listening to the Holy Spirit. He is the true protagonist of the Synod. Listening to the Spirit requires a certain internal attitude. Conversation in the Spirit, discernment and synodality can only take place if we try to empty ourselves to fill ourselves with the Spirit, if our freedom loosens our material, ideological and emotional moorings, allowing the Spirit to guide us more effectively; if we cultivate within ourselves attitudes of humility, hospitality and welcome, and at the same time we ban self-sufficiency and self-referentiality. Only in this way can our communion and our mission be strengthened.

You dedicate the last chapter to the concrete way to conduct the conversation in the Spirit. You explain the method, the way of conducting it, the aspects that require particular attention. This chapter should not be read as if it were the culmination of the book. Every method is a means to an end, not the end. The *Instrumentum laboris* also refers to the need to adapt the method to various situations, so that it is truly helpful. The importance of the previous chapters consists precisely in allowing the methodology to be prepared and applied well.

The *Instrumentum Laboris* underlined the need for training in conversation in the Spirit. It seems to me that the book you presented provides useful materials for this purpose. I thank you very much for your commitment and I am sure that it will be an excellent help in many ecclesial environments.

May Jesus bless you and the Virgin protect you, and please don't forget to pray for me.

The Vatican, 21 July 2023



GENERAL NOTICES...

NEW TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES? HOW CAN WE SERVE YOU?

Welcome. Wherever you are in your faith journey, it is great to have you. Please visit our website or call the parish office. We're here to serve you. www.olol7hills.org.au

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

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 9622 2920

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 9th May 2024, 10.30am– 1pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate to share. Look forward to seeing you there.

Lourdes: Luminare Young Adults Group

The next group night will be in May. If you would like more information please kindly contact Ian Epondulan: youtholol7h@gmail.com or search 'Lourdes 7Hills Young Adults' on Facebook.

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-11.00am 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 Available To Those In Need

The St Vincent de Paul Society has members and community-focused Vinnies Support Centres right across NSW. They provide people in immediate crisis with assistance. If you need assistance, call 131812 (option 3) to be redirected to your nearest Vinnies Support Centre. To find out more about the support that is available, visit <https://www.vinnies.org.au/nsw/find-help>. If you'd like to contribute to helping those in need in the local community through the St Vincent de Paul Society, please email Reno Abela at rabel24@gmail.com.

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 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 baptisms, birthdays, wedding anniversaries, or death anniversaries. Please see Fr Henry or Ernie before Mass to arrange it.

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR

MAY

8	Confirmation Meeting	6.30pm
8	Parish Pastoral Meeting	7.30pm
9	Over 50's Meeting	10.30am
11	Confirmation Meeting RPT	4.30pm
17	Lourdes Luminare: Young Adults Group Meeting	6.30pm

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

4/5 May 2024

Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am Ramzee Michael	
Ministers	Vigil: A.Bellissimo, J.Dinning 8am: L.Fernandes, C.Gonzales 9.30am: C.Brooks, M.Michael	
Readers	Vigil: L.Bellissimo, N.Do Rosario 8am: F.Paiva, J.Irudayaraj 9.30am: E.Vinoth Pieris, C.Diaz	
Altar Servers	Vigil: J.Martinez, B.Spadaro, L.Sadipoor 8am: K.Maruthanayagam, Volunteers 9.30am: S.Cullili, M.Pieris, J.Pieris	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir	
Musicians	Vigil: Youth for Christ 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Couples for Christ	
Flowers	Fenty & Liz	
Church Cleaning	2 May	Lourdes Spiteri Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Helen Gonzales 9.30am: Sastina Pieris Edgardo Barcelon	

11/12 May

Acolytes	Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am Eugene Miu	
Ministers	Vigil: A. Do Rosario, L. La Guidara 8am: Edith Gartner, SUB RBQ 9.30am: G. Basili, H. Gonzales	
Readers	Vigil: N. Do Rosario, M. Simic 8am: P. Ferriols, A. McNally 9.30am: A. Walker, M. Aquino	
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. & C. La Guidara, A. Spadaro 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: J. Kingston, F. Wanandy.	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group	
Musicians	Vigil: OFS & Christine Clarke 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir Christine Clarke	
Flowers	Claudette & Judith	
Church Cleaning	11 May	Tongan Community & Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain Edgardo Barcelon	

The Kids' Bulletin

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5th, 2024

Love One another

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12 (NIV)

Based on John 15:9-17 (NIV)

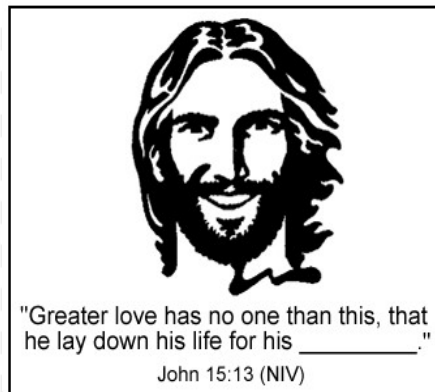


1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14

What does Jesus ask us to do in today's Gospel reading?
Put the letters in the spaces that match to find out!

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

FRIENDS	OBEY	LOVE	FRUIT
DOWN	BUSINESS	BEAR	MASTER
LAY	FATHER	LIFE	REMAIN
SERVANTS	GREATER	COMMAND	CHOSE



LIEF
3

YBEO
4

FUIRT
1

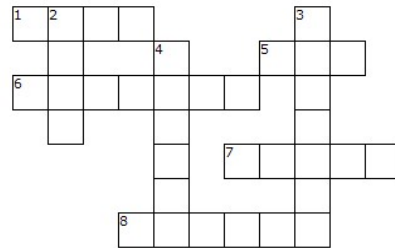
CNOMAMD
5 6

MSTAER
7 2

ANSWER:
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Bible Memory Verse

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."
John 15:13 (NIV)



ACROSS

- To hold dear, to like or desire greatly
- A state of happiness or delight
- Someone that performs duties for a master
- To gain knowledge, skill, or understanding
- A person that you like very much

DOWN

- To do what you are told; follow the rules
- An order which a person is expected to obey
- One who has authority over another person

SERVANT	OBEY	LEARN	COMMAND
FRIEND	LOVE	MASTER	JOY