

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. NSW. 2147

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Parish Priest: Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran
Parish Deacon: Deacon Thong Nguyen
Parish Office Team: Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang, Jane Nguyen, Laura Ilioski
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: 16 July 2025
Baptism: 27th April 2025
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall
Youth Co-Ordinator: Diana Park
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.org.au
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 27th April 2025 • Year C



Let us Pray for the Sick

Florence Arinanan, Lorenzo Balabat, Sarah Bartolo, Max Barrett, Lawrence Charles, Ben Dixon, Alma Caguimbal, Para Dias, Mary Camilleri, John Crowther, Lucia Fernando, Renuka Fernando, Philippe Honore, Lynnda Lim-Huynh, Anthony Janicska, Tristen Jantzen, Odette James, Mary Jordan, Klare Kinsley, Paul Leong, Melissa Mead, Blago Milicevic, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Maricar Poblete, Veronica Portelli, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Olivia, Sue Tipaldo, Vivian Tomines, 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: Pope Francis, John Borg, Vivienne Cameron, Guy Cassar, Murial Chary, Albert Cheng, Blaise Costa, Maria Dalgado, Irene Dassanayaka, Padmini De Seram, Randy De Silva, John Doxey, Sandra Eichhorn, Henrieta Fernando, Rienzie Fernando, Jasmin Fernando, Ethan Garcia, Ricardo Garcia, Jean, Elsie, Karl, Gervais Garrick, Cynthia Lopez, Matilda Mifsud, Richard Monreal, Leo Ngan, Etelka Petkovics, Eustace Ratnam, Mangala Ratnam, Suranjith Reberra, Dennis Siva, Caroline Stevenson, Julius Suseno, Rita Xuereb.

Anniversaries: Astride Abeleda, Mary Alagiah, Listte & Joe Aristobil, Elvina Barnaba, Horace Baptist, Ronald Barley, Romeo Biniahan, Elaine Bosen, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Denis Brophy, Rosario Cabasa, Catherine Chandra, Joseph Chary, Saro Chary, Aloysean Corera, Joseph & Mary Camenzuli, Jim Daly, Edmundo Deloso, Dulcie & Sammy Duraisamy, Luiga Farrugia, Taniela Funaki, John Fernando, Nevis Fernando, M.A Fernando, Juliet Francis, Martha Galea, Anthony Garcia, Francisca Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Zenaida Garcia, Zoltan Gartner, Christine Gomez, Josephine Gomez, S.M John, Jim McNally, April Marabe, Albert Moroney, Xavier Motha Jnr, Paul Mula, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Tony Muscat, Jacintah Noronha, Cordula Paiva, Adrian Pereira, John Portelli, Jose & Maria Reyes, Estileta Riveral, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Michael Sant, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Loreta Laberinto Udan, Melchor Usman, Arsenio Laberinto Udan, Dionisio Udan.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, France Angseeing, Carmen Attard, Lydia, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Richard Bowely, Marlene Busac, Barrie Chamberlain, Ceferino, Rosario, Renato & Marlyn Cabasa, Fe Licup Camen, Catarina Camilleri, Dennis Clarke, Myrna Cruz, Saviour Caruana, Bede Diab, Debe Diab, Marcel Diab, Mohsen Diab, Peter Diab, Toufic Diab, Tania McGove, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Launcer De Guire, O.Francis, J. Francis, Joseph & Carmena Formosa, Melvyn Fernandes, Nevis Fernando, Sammy Formosa, Mario & Joe Cat, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Sam Gabo, Mary & Sam Galea, Evangeline Garcia, Leandro Snr Garcia, Jose Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Paul Garland, Constance Gaycroft, Selvam Irudayaraj, Jonathan Tek Kie, Harold, Marc, Rosine Lafuer, Sheena Landagan, A. Mansoor, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, John & Maureen Mead, Pauline Meilak, Cole Ngan, Mangion & Cini Family, William & Emilia Mifsud, Joseph & Doris Mifsud, Mary Mifsud, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Anton & Lourda Motha, Louis, Bertu & Paula Mula, Stephen & Joseph Mula, Mary & Francis Muscat, Peter John & Carmelita, Ngan Pin, John & Eamon O'Sullivan, John & Roseline Ratnam, Jose & Maria Reyes, Helen & Bill Tili, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Vinnie Zahra, Robert & Leila Zammit, Mary Zammit.

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

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 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

SMART DEVICE TERMINALS

All donations made via these new machines are shared 50/50 with our Diocese.

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 or contact Maryse Augseeing on 0467 701 010.

FIRST READING *A reading from the Acts of the Apostle 5:12-16*

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

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| 1. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' (R.) | 3. O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord grant success. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; the true God is our light. (R.) |
| 2. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. (R.) | |
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SECOND READING *A reading from the book of Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19*

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 20:19-31*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.'

Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe. There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.'

The Gospel of the Lord



Dear friends,

As we gathered to celebrate our annual commemoration of the Lord's Resurrection last Easter Vigil and Sunday, we had no idea that Pope Francis was about to be called to re-unite with the Risen Lord on Easter Monday after a brief appearance on the balcony of St Peter's Basilica and a tour in the popemobile to bless pilgrims around St Peter's Square in which he even managed to get out of his pocket two lollies to hand to a little child on Easter Sunday. He went to bed that night and woke up around 6am on Easter Monday, then suddenly suffered a cerebral stroke at about 7am and returned to God at 7.35am as announced by Cardinal Kevin Farrell at 9.45am that morning.

It's truly amazing to see endless tributes to him coming not just from our Catholic camp, but rather from all corners of the world. I was really impressed to see that even the mainstream media in the Communist Vietnam has constantly updated the latest news about his passing and embraced him as a dear and inspiring leader, an authentic champion of the poor and the environment, in this sense Pope Francis deserved to be called a great missionary for his charisma to touch the hearts and minds of such non-believers.

On a personal level, April 21 has always been a special day for me, since it marks the anniversary of my Priestly ordination. The last April 21 this year was extra special as it happened to be my 30th anniversary and also the passing of my hero, Pope Francis who apart from all what he said and did so impressively has hugely inspired me with his humility and down to earth pastoral style. On that same day more than fifty Vietnamese priests, deacons, nuns and seminarians flooded in our Parish for the Easter gathering without knowing that April 21, 2025 in fact was a milestone of my journey. When the Co-Ordinator rang me to book for the day here, I said to myself, 'what a co-incidence! It's meant to be,' and I said yes to him with no further comment and up till now none of them, I guess, had any idea why I said that was a joyful occasion to celebrate at Mass.

Back to the Gospel this Second Sunday of Easter, also the Divine Mercy Sunday, John the evangelist gives us an account about two Post-resurrection appearances of Jesus to the disciples: one without Thomas and the other with him. Because of this account, Thomas has been dubbed as the doubter due firstly to his refusal to believe what his mates told him about how Jesus appeared to them in his absence, and secondly to his bold challenge daring Jesus to appear again so that he could put his finger into the holes in Jesus' hands and hand into his pierced side.

Jesus then appeared again and put the challenge back to him, and also sent out such an amazing message meant to reach out to many coming generations of his followers that they are happy and blessed even though they have not seen him face to face like the Twelve of old.

To me, Jesus' relationship with Thomas seems to signify Pope Francis' relationship to a small number of his vocal sceptics in the Church who have made life so difficult for him from day one of his papacy under the banner of orthodoxy, though all what they have said and done about him have been false and uncharitable. Francis, however, always kept his cool and refused to strike back and condemn. By this aspect of his ministry alone, he was a living martyr in my eyes.

Let us pray especially for (1) Pope Francis today that the Lord will receive him into his heavenly home and reward him manifold for his labours to make Jesus' name respected and glorified through his humble service and thought-invoking teachings, and (2) for ourselves that the testimony of the disciples about their post-resurrection encounters with him will help strengthen our faith in him and his Easter grace will empower us to be better witnesses to him in the world.

Have a faith-filled week,

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

CONGRATULATIONS FR. HENRY !!

Please keep Fr. Henry in your prayers as he celebrated his 30th Anniversary of Priesthood on Monday 21st of April. Thank you Fr Henry for your faithful service to our Parish Community, OLOL is very blessed to have you leading us.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER THANK YOU

Thank you so much to our ministers and helpers for all the hard work they so generously offered to create a right atmosphere for all to pray and celebrate.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL EASTER EGG DONATION

As part of our Easter outreach, we are collecting Easter Eggs to be donated to families supported by St. Vincent de Paul (St Vinnies). If you can contribute, please place your donated Easter Eggs in the designated area at the back of the Church. Your generosity will help bring joy to families in need this Easter. Thank you sincerely for your kindness and support. St Vincent de Paul Team.

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please show your deepest respect for our House of God at Seven Hills by not bringing any food into the church, that includes the crying room. Parents are always encouraged to bring soft toys and crayons for children to work with our weekly bulletin.

CONFIRMATION PROCESS 2025

The Enrolment Mass for parents wishing to enrol their Year 6 (or above) child in the 2025 Confirmation Process will be on Sunday 4th May at 9.30am. Parents and children attend this Mass. If you require further information please contact the Parish Office.

SCAM ALERT

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

HOLY COMMUNION HOME VISITS

If you know of or are a local parishioner needing a home visit and Holy Communion, please contact Deacon Thong on 0452 210 951 or the parish office.

LOURDES PLAYGROUP

Playgroup will be resuming next Friday 2nd May, 9.00am till 11.00am in the Parish Meeting Room, children aged 0 to 5yrs old and their carers are welcome to come along during any part of that time for a play. To attend, please register by 3pm the Thursday prior via Facebook under 'Lourdes Play Group' or contact Maria on 0432 174 056.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Diocesan Mass for Pope Francis

The Diocesan Mass for Pope Francis will be held on this Sunday, 27 April (the culmination of the Easter Octave) at the 11am Solemn Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. All are warmly invited to attend. Bishop Vincent Long OFM will celebrate the Mass. The Mass will also be [livestreamed](#) on St Patrick's Cathedral YouTube channel. For anyone wishing to write condolence messages, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is organising a condolence book to pass onto the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, Archbishop Charles Balvo, who was appointed Nuncio by Pope Francis in 2022. Please email your message via the below address condolencebook@catholic.org.au.

Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Adult 35 years+ Jubilee Pilgrimage

Join a life-changing 19-day pilgrimage from 7 to 25 September 2025, exploring sacred sites in Greece, Turkey, and Rome. Open to adults aged 35 and over, this journey follows St. Paul's path and the early Church, culminating in the Jubilee Year of Hope in Rome. Bookings close on 2 May 2025, with a deposit of \$800 required at the time of booking. The final payment is due by 7 July 2025. Don't miss this incredible faith experience. For more information and to register, visit parracatholic.org/jubilee2025/

Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers: 13 May

In this Jubilee Year of Hope all liturgical ministers - readers, servers and extra ordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place 7:30pm, 13 May 2025, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. To register your attendance and guests visit parracatholic.org/events/liturgical-ministers-commissioning-mass/

African Mass 2025 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta: 18 May

African Catholics who live in the Dioceses of Parramatta, Broken Bay, and the Archdiocese of Sydney invite you to the African Mass 2025: Sunday 18 May, 12:30pm for 1:00pm start, St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Followed by a community gathering and refreshments. For RSVP or more information contact met@parracatholic.org

LOL SAFEGUARDING NEWS

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 6-24 May

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Saturday the 6th of May at St Finbar's Church, Glenbrook for Cycle 2 (Module 4). 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

Supporting the Safety of Our Community

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Seven Hills and The Diocese of Parramatta take the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons seriously. This includes past or present forms of abuse. Safeguarding those who are vulnerable is part of the mission that Jesus Christ entrusts to our Church. We all have a role to play in safeguarding those who are vulnerable. Concerns about safeguarding may be referred to Fr Henry, our Parish Priest, or directly to the: Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards Ph (02) 8838 3419 or via Email: safeguarding@parracatholic.org.

Thank You for Supporting our Catholic Care's chaplaincy services

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support for people in hospital and prison who might otherwise feel abandoned. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/appeal Thank you.

Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage

Young people (18-35 years) from Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to join an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from July 19 – August 5, 2025, including a visit to Greece to trace the footsteps of Saint Paul and a celebration of the canonisation of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati in Rome. With only 45 spots available, secure your place by booking before May 10, 2025, with a deposit of \$800, and find out more or book at parracatholic.org/jubilee2025/

3 Diocesan Retreat Opportunities

The diocese is hosting three retreat opportunities for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope. Take the to step away from your usual routine to experience a diocesan retreat - a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God.

For timeframes and details, see the three options of retreats below:

May 24: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-24-may/>

August 16: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/>

November 15: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/>

Pilgrimage 2025

Fr. Clifford D'souza is inviting you to join him on a pilgrimage to the saints of Portugal, Spain, France and Italy- Fatima, Avila, Loyola, Lourdes, Nevers, Lisieux, Paris, Padova, Assisi and Rome. 31 August-19 September 2025. For more details pls contact Fr. Clifford on cliff_dsouza03@yahoo.com.au or [atitours@atitours.com.au/](mailto:atitours@atitours.com.au)

Privacy and Confidentiality

In your role here at LOL, you may have access to private and confidential information about our Parish, the Diocese, clergy, employees and parishioners. You are expected to keep this information entirely confidential. This is a legal requirement and also applies to the use of social media and email. Discussing information, you have received during your volunteer role with staff, family, friends or any other volunteers – inside or outside the Parish or Diocese – is not acceptable. From time to time, photos may be taken of you whilst volunteering. If you do not wish your photo to be used, please inform the person taking the photo or through the Parish Office. Permission from a child's parent/guardian must be sought before taking any photographs of children.

Responsibility

The protection of all vulnerable people is not something to be added to the to-do list. All volunteers of the Church have a responsibility to ensure the safeguarding of all peoples. It is everyone's responsibility and it must be embedded into everything that happens in our Church.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE POPE DIED? By Lisa Zengarini

The death of a Pope sets a chain of events in motion—traditions that mark the moments from the Pope's passing and his funeral to the start of the conclave and the election of his successor. But what actually goes on in the Vatican during this *Sede Vacante* or "Vacant See"? **Main changes introduced in 1996 by the *Universi Dominici Gregis***

Promulgated by Pope St. John Paul II on February 22nd, 1996, the Solemnity of the Chair of Peter, the Apostolic Constitution *Universi Dominici Gregis* revised and updated the norms in force until then regarding the apostolic succession in the See of Peter, which had been regulated by Pope Paul VI's Apostolic Constitution *Romano Pontifici Eligendo* (1975). The document is divided into two parts:

- The first governs the *Vacancy of the Apostolic See* or *Sede Vacante*, meaning the period between the cessation of the Pope's governance of the Church and the election of his successor.

- The second outlines the procedures for the preparation and conduct of the election of the Roman Pontiff. As stated in the introduction, the revision of these norms was motivated by "the awareness of the changed situation in which the Church lives today and the need to take into account the general revision of canon law [...] inspired by the Second Vatican Council. [...] In formulating the new discipline, while considering the needs of our time, I have taken care not to deviate in substance from the wise and venerable tradition followed until now." (p. 4-5 UDG) The Constitution partially confirms the pre-existing regulations concerning the election of the new Pope. **Key points: The College of Cardinals** remains the body responsible for electing the Pope, following a millennial tradition enshrined in precise canonical norms:

"If, indeed, it is a doctrine of faith that the power of the Supreme Pontiff derives directly from Christ, of whom he is the Vicar on earth, it is also beyond doubt that such supreme power in the Church is attributed to him through a legitimate election, accepted by him, together with episcopal consecration." (p. 5 UDG) As of 21 April 2025, the College included **135 Cardinal Electors** (*Universi Dominici Gregis* established a limit of **120** Cardinal Electors), **108** of whom were appointed by Pope Francis, and 117 non-electors. Those who have already turned **80 years old** on the day the *Sede Vacante* begins are excluded. However, Cardinals over 80 may still participate in preparatory meetings (General Congregations preceding the election). The College of Electors consists exclusively of Cardinals:

"In them, almost in a marvelous synthesis, are expressed the two aspects that characterize the figure and office of the Roman Pontiff: Roman, because he is identified as the Bishop of the Church in Rome and, therefore, in close relationship with the Clergy of this city, represented by the Cardinals of the presbyteral and diaconal titles of Rome, and with the Cardinal Bishops of the suburban Sees; Pontiff of the Universal Church, because he is called to visibly represent the invisible Shepherd who leads the entire flock to the pastures of eternal life. The universality of the Church is, moreover, well represented in the very composition of the College of Cardinals, which gathers members from every continent."

(p. 6 UDG) **The Conclave**, as an "ancient institution," is confirmed as the setting for the election of the new Pope. John Paul II reaffirmed its essential structure and mandated that all election proceedings take place exclusively in the **Sistine Chapel** of the Apostolic Palace: *"A careful historical examination confirms not only the contingent appropriateness of this institution, due to the circumstances in which it arose, but also its constant usefulness for the orderly, prompt, and proper conduct of the election, particularly in times of tension and turmoil. Precisely for this reason, while aware of the evaluation of theologians and canonists of every age, who unanimously consider this institution not necessary by its nature for the valid election of the Roman Pontiff, I confirm its permanence."* (p. 8 UDG) *"Considering the sacred nature of the act and the appropriateness of it being carried out in a suitable place, where liturgical actions harmonize with legal formalities and where electors can better prepare their souls to receive the inner movements of the Holy Spirit, I decree that the election continues to take place in the Sistine Chapel, where everything contributes to fostering awareness of the presence of God, before whom each one will one day stand for judgment."* (p. 9 UDG) As in the past, the need to safeguard the election of the Roman Pontiff from external influences and to entrust it to a qualified and predetermined electoral body is recognized. Furthermore, the procedures of the Conclave aim not only to ensure freedom but also to guarantee the independence of judgment of each Cardinal Elector, protecting them from undue curiosity and inappropriate pressures. Three main changes were introduced by the Constitution *Universi Dominici Gregis*:

1. For the entire duration of the election, the residences of the Cardinal electors and those involved in ensuring the proper conduct of the election are located in the Casa Santa Marta in Vatican City (p.42 UDG). Previously, cardinals were not allowed to leave the Sistine Chapel for the entire duration of the voting process. 2. Cardinal electors can cast their votes for the election of the Pope only through a secret ballot (p.9 UDG). This abolishes the options provided by previous regulations for an election *by acclamation* or *inspiration (quasi ex inspiratione)*, which were deemed no longer suitable for reflecting the thoughts of such an extensive and diverse electoral body. The election *by compromise (per compromissum)* was also abolished as it was difficult to implement and could lead to a certain degree of irresponsibility among electors, who, in this case, would not be required to cast a personal vote (p.9 UDG). Under this method of election, if several rounds of voting failed to produce a candidate with the required majority, the Cardinal electors could unanimously agree to a *compromise*, adopting a different majority criterion. 3. Regarding the votes required for the valid election of the new Pope, paragraph 75 of *Universi Dominici Gregis* initially established that after the 33rd or 34th ballot, if no consensus was reached, voting could proceed with only an *absolute majority* being sufficient. However, this provision was modified by Pope Benedict XVI through the *Motu Proprio Aliquibus mutationibus in normis de electione Romani Pontificis*, signed on June 11, 2007, and enacted on June 26 of the same year. This restored the traditional rule that for a valid election of the new Pope, a *qualified two-thirds majority* of the votes from the cardinal electors present is always required. **The Vacant See** The term "*Sede Vacante*" (Vacant See, in Latin) refers to the period between the end of a Pope's governance of the Church and the election of his successor. This period is regulated by the Apostolic Constitution "*Universi Dominici Gregis*", issued by Pope St. John Paul II on February 22, 1996. **Who "manages" the Vacant See?** According to its provisions, during the vacancy of the Apostolic See, the governance of the Church is entrusted to the **College of Cardinals**. However, their authority is limited to handling only ordinary or urgent matters and preparing for the election of the new Pope. The College of Cardinals also assumes all the civil powers of the Supreme Pontiff regarding the Government of Vatican City. However, they do not have jurisdiction over matters that were exclusively the Pope's prerogative during his lifetime. **What happens to the heads of the Roman Curia during the Sede Vacante?** Upon the death of the Pope, all Heads of Dicasteries of the Roman Curia resign with some exceptions aimed at maintaining the regular operations of the Vatican. (*Continue overpage..*)

Those who maintain their duties include: the Cardinal Camerlengo (Cardinal Kevin Farrell), who has the task of overseeing and administering the temporal goods and rights of the Apostolic See during the time of its vacancy; the Major Penitentiary (Cardinal Angelo De Donatis); the Cardinal Vicar General for the Diocese of Rome (Cardinal Baldassare Reina); the Cardinal Archpriest of the Vatican Basilica and Vicar General for Vatican City (Cardinal Mauro Gambetti); the Almoner of His Holiness (Cardinal Konrad Krajewski); the Substitute for General Affairs of the Secretariat of State (Archbishop Edgar Peña Parra); the Secretary for Relations with States (Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher); and, the Master of Pontifical Liturgical Celebrations (Archbishop Diego Giovanni Ravelli) Also, the Secretaries of the Dicasteries remain in place. **What does the College of Cardinals do during the Vacant See?** During the *Sede Vacante*, the College of Cardinals (who all convene in Rome, except in cases of health-related impediments) meets in two types of Cardinal Congregations:

1. General Congregations: These include the entire College of Cardinals (including those over the age limit for electing the new Pope). These General Congregations are held in the Apostolic Palace and are presided over by the Dean of the College (Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re). If the Dean and the Sub-Dean are unable to preside, the senior Cardinal elector takes over. **2. Particular Congregations:** These are composed of:- The Cardinal Camerlengo of the Holy Roman Church and three Cardinals, one from each Order (Bishops, Priests, and Deacons), chosen by lot from among the Cardinal electors; - These three assisting Cardinals serve for three days, after which they are replaced through a new random selection.

This process continues even during the election; - The Particular Congregation handles daily ordinary affairs, while more serious matters must be referred to the General Congregation. **What are the most urgent decisions made by the General Congregations?**

The General Congregations (held before the start of the election process) must promptly deliberate on the following key decisions (excluding procedures related to the Pope's death):- Prepare accommodations at the *Domus Sanctae Marthae* for the Cardinals and set up the Sistine Chapel for the election procedures;- Assign two distinguished and morally authoritative ecclesiastics the task of delivering two reflections to the Cardinals on the current challenges of the Church and the enlightened choice of the new Pope, and set the date for these reflections;- Destroy the Fisherman's Ring and the Lead Seal, which were used to authenticate Apostolic Letters;- Establish the date and time for the start of the voting process. **What happens immediately before the beginning of the election?** The election is preceded by a solemn Eucharistic celebration with the votive Mass *Pro Eligendo Papa*, attended by the Cardinal electors. In the afternoon, the Cardinal electors proceed in a solemn procession to the Sistine Chapel, where the Conclave begins to elect the new Pope. At the end of the procession inside the Sistine Chapel, each Cardinal elector takes the oath as prescribed in paragraph 53 of *Universi Dominici Gregis*. Through this oath, they commit, if elected, to faithfully fulfill the *Munus Petrinum* as Pastor of the Universal Church. They also pledge to maintain absolute secrecy regarding everything related to the election of the Roman Pontiff and to refrain from supporting any attempts of external interference in the election. At this point, the Master of Pontifical Liturgical Celebrations proclaims *extra omnes*, meaning that all individuals who are not part of the Conclave must leave the Sistine Chapel. Only the Master himself and the ecclesiastic designated to deliver the second meditation remain. This meditation focuses on the grave responsibility that rests upon the electors and the necessity of acting with pure intentions for the good of the Universal Church, keeping only God before their eyes (paragraph 52). Once the meditation is delivered, both the ecclesiastic and the Master of Pontifical Liturgical Celebrations leave. The Cardinal electors then recite prayers according to the *Ordo Sacrorum Rituum Conclavis* and listen to the

Cardinal Dean, who asks whether they are ready to proceed with voting or if any clarifications regarding the rules and procedures outlined in *Universi Dominici Gregis* are needed. **Measures to ensure confidentiality and prevent external interference**

All election procedures take place exclusively in the Sistine Chapel within the Vatican Apostolic Palace, which remains completely sealed off until the election is concluded. The Apostolic Constitution of Pope St. John Paul II emphasizes the need to ensure complete secrecy regarding everything happening during the Conclave and anything directly or indirectly related to the election of the Pope. The document details all the precautions to guarantee confidentiality and prevent external interference (paragraphs 51-61). Throughout the election process, the Cardinal electors must refrain from sending letters or engaging in conversations, including phone calls, except in cases of extreme urgency. They are not allowed to send or receive messages of any kind, receive newspapers or magazines of any nature, or follow radio or television broadcasts. **Number of votes required and majority needed for election**

To validly elect a new Pope, a two-thirds majority of the electors present is required. If the total number of electors is not evenly divisible by three, an additional vote is necessary (paragraph 62 of *Universi Dominici Gregis*). If voting begins on the afternoon of the first day, there will be only one ballot. On subsequent days, two ballots are held in the morning and two in the afternoon. The procedures for voting are detailed in *Universi Dominici Gregis*, including provisions for electors who are unwell and need to vote from their rooms at the *Domus Sanctae Marthae*. After the votes are counted, all ballots are burned. **What happens if the required majority is not reached?**

If the electors fail to reach an agreement on a candidate after three days of inconclusive voting, a break of up to one day is allowed for prayer, free discussion among voters, and a brief spiritual exhortation by the Cardinal Proto-Deacon (Cardinal Dominique Mamberti). Voting then resumes, and if no election occurs after seven additional ballots, another break is taken. This process repeats after another seven unsuccessful ballots. At this point, the *Camerlengo* will consult with the Cardinals on how to proceed. It is important to note that article 75 of *Universi Dominici Gregis* was modified by the *Motu Proprio* issued by Pope Benedict XVI on June 26, 2007, which restored the traditional rule requiring a two-thirds majority of the electors present for a valid election of the new Pontiff. This rule was also confirmed in the *Motu Proprio* issued by Pope Benedict XVI on 25 February 2013, which specified that the votes must be calculated on the basis of the electors present and voting. **What happens immediately after a new Pope is elected?**

Once the election has taken place, the last of the Cardinal Deacons calls the Secretary of the College of Cardinals and the Master of Pontifical Liturgical Celebrations into the Sistine Chapel. The Dean of the College, on behalf of all the electors, asks for the elected candidate's consent with the following words: "*Do you accept your canonical election as Supreme Pontiff?*" Upon receiving consent, he then asks: "*What name do you wish to be called?*" The functions of a notary, with two Ceremonial Officers as witnesses, are carried out by the Master of Pontifical Liturgical Celebrations, who drafts the document of acceptance and records the chosen name. From this moment, the elected candidate acquires full and supreme authority over the universal Church. The Conclave ends immediately at this point. The Cardinal electors then pay homage and pledge obedience to the newly elected Pope, and thanks are given to God. The Cardinal Proto-Deacon then announces to the faithful the election and the name of the new Pontiff with the famous line: "*Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum; Habemus Papam.*" Immediately afterward, the new Pope gives the Apostolic Blessing *Urbi et Orbi* from the Loggia of St. Peter's Basilica. (UDG pp. 87-91) The final step required is that, after the solemn inauguration ceremony of the Pontificate and within a suitable time, the new Pope formally takes possession of the Patriarchal Archbasilica of St. John Lateran, according to the prescribed rite.

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 8th May 2025, 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 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 9.00am-11.00am in the Parish Meeting Room. For further information please contact Maria Hosni 0432 174 056 or the Parish Office.

PIETY SHOP

Located at the back of the church. Please come have a browse after mass.

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.

APRIL 2025

| 30 | School Returns for Term 2 | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|--------|
| MAY | | |
| 2 | Playgroup resumes | 9.00am |
| 4 | Confirmation Program enrolment mass | 9.30am |
| 7 | Parish Pastoral Council Meeting | 7.30pm |

LOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

26/27 April

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Acolytes | Vigil: Frank Paiva 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am: Ramzee Michael | |
| Ministers | Vigil: J. Franco, A. Do Rosario 8am: A. McNally, T. Perak 9.30am: M. Michael, B. Chandler | |
| Readers | Vigil: N. Do Rosario, R. Saldanha 8am: K. Walker, A. Pushparajan 9.30am: C. Diaz, M. Aquino | |
| Altar Servers | Vigil: A. Bagatella, Julian & Orlando Martinez 8am: Harrison Winter 9.30am: A. Melki, C. Attard | |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Couples for Christ | |
| Musicians | Vigil: Nina's Group 8am: Christine Clarke 9.30am: Nina's Group | |
| Flowers | Annette & Mary | |
| Church Cleaning | 1 May | Lourdes Spiteri Edgardo Barcelon |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Volunteer | |

3/5 May

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Acolytes | Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Fayelene Kennedy | |
| Ministers | Vigil: R. Soares, M. Simic 8am: L. Fernandes, B. Motha 9.30am: G. Basili, P. Gow | |
| Readers | Vigil: C. Rodrigues, A. Franco 8am: F. Paiva, A. McNally 9.30am: J. Nonato, A. Walker | |
| Altar Servers | Vigil: Leonardo, Sebastian & Saoirse Costello 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Chris Bellamin | |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Tongan Choir | |
| Musicians | Vigil: Christine Clarke 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Couples for Christ | |
| Flowers | Fenty & Liz | |
| Church Cleaning | 10 May | Tongan Community Edgardo Barcelon Edgar Cabrera |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Volunteer | |

The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 27th, 2025

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)

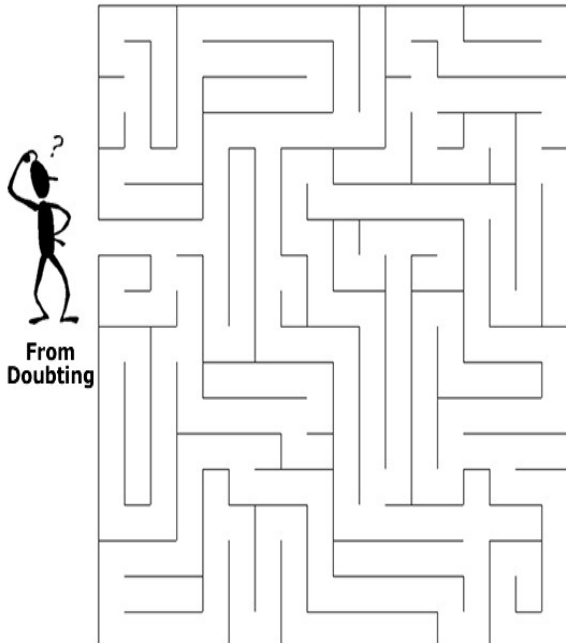
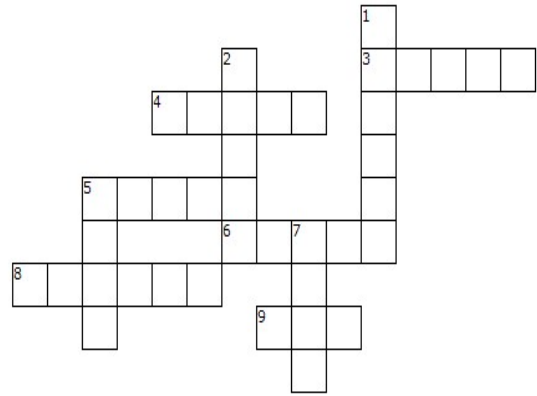
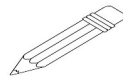
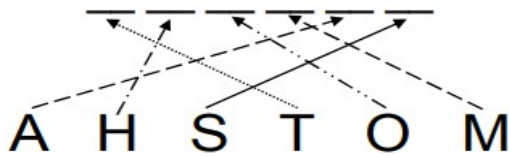


Y J M N P S M B J D J Y D J S
C X I T A T F M L H O Y W A X
W X R K N Y G X P O F O M E D
X M A D V Y G E A X C O R E H
R X C C J V D R L X H K V S A
T L L U V E D A E T N E E D M
T K E S H E H I R C I N S D S
O X S C W B A S S L O C Y N T
G R U O L K N Z E C L R G D N
E O H D Q Z D B H J I I D E P
T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

| | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| JESUS | TOGETHER | DOUBTING | RECORDED |
| MIRACLES | SIGNS | SHOWED | BELIEVED |
| DOORS | LIFE | HANDS | DISCIPLES |
| TOUCHED | THOMAS | SIDE | LOCKED |

One of the disciples did not believe it was Jesus.

Put the letters in the right place to reveal his name.



ACROSS

- To be in a state of pleasure, satisfaction, joy or delight
- Free from conflict; getting along with others; opposite of war
- To be undecided or unbelieving that something is true
- The body parts at the end of the arms
- Not open
- To break God's law

DOWN

- The disciple who would not believe without seeing
- To believe in something for which there is no proof
- An entrance into a building or room
- A thin piece of metal with one pointed end and one flat end which you hit with a hammer

| | | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| PEACE | DOOR | HANDS | FAITH | HAPPY |
| NAIL | THOMAS | CLOSED | SIN | DOUBT |