



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, 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: 27 July 2025
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall
Youth Co-Ordinator: Diana Park
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.org.au
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 1st June 2025 • Year C



Let us Pray for the Sick

Florence Arinanan, Lorenzo Balabat, Sarah Bartolo, Max Barrett, Irene Cabasa, 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, Arabella Steele, 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, Felicia Catherine Ashburner, Charlie Calleja, Marcelo Capuyan Jr, Gerald, Theresa & Charlie Chetcuti, Maria Dalgado, Kevin Dougherty, Long Duong, Mariel De Soysa, Patrick Essey, David Joseph, Jesusa Maestrecampo, Rouli Pasaribu, Dennis Siva.

Anniversaries: Mary Alagiah, T.F Augustine, Horace Baptist, Ronald Barley, Cecil Beed, Romeo Biniah, Elaine Bosen, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Denis Brophy, Rosario Cabasa, Frank & Maurice Camenzuli, Carmela Carboni, Catherine Chandra, Joseph Chary, Saro Chary, Aloysean Corera, Joseph & Mary Camenzuli, Stella Cini, Jim Daly, Manel De Soysa, Dulcie & Samuel Duraisamy, Georgina Falzon, Mark Falzon, John Fernando, M.A Fernando, Emmanuel Francis, Anthony Garcia, Francisca Garcia, Zenaida Garcia, Christine Gomez, Josephine Gomez, Helen Hill, Rita Hill, S.M John, Cameron Jones, Oliver Jordan, Mary Muscat, Matta Loi Nguyen, Jim McNally, April Marabe, Albert Moroney, Gleno Motha, Xavier Motha Jnr, Paul Mula, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kuty, Tony Muscat, John Moore, John & Eamon O'Sullivan, Custodio Palmos Jnr, Cordula Paiva, Heliodore Paiva, Adrian Pereira, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udan, Domingo Villarta Jnr.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, Gregorio Almodovar, France Angseeing, Carmen Attard, Lydia, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Charlie Borg, Sam Borg, Richard Bowely, Rolily Burac, Marlene Busac, Peter John & Carmelita, Barrie Chamberlain, Ceferino, Rosario, Renato & Marilyn Cabasa, Fe Licup Camen, Dennis Clarke, Myrna Cruz, Saviour Caruana, Tania McGove, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Luncer De Guire, O.Francis, J. Francis, Joseph & Carmena Formosa, Melvyn Fernandes, Nevis Fernando, Sammy Formosa, Mario & Joe Gat, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Ngan Siu Eng, Sam Gabo, Mary & Sam Galea, Evangeline Garcia, Leandro Snr Garcia, Jose Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Constance Gaycroft, Selvam Irudayaraj, Sylvio, George, Olga Jthier, 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, Ngan Pin, Tiruselvam Pilomina, John & Eamon O'Sullivan, Eustace Ratnam, Jose & Maria Reyes, John & Roseline Ratnam, Cua Sing, Thenmoli, 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 Augseesing on 0467 701 010.

FIRST READING *A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. **(R.)**

3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. **(R.)**

2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 1:17-23*

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers.

This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 24:46-53*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

The Gospel of the Lord



Dear friends,

According to the writer of the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles for the feast of the Ascension today, also thought to be the writer of the Gospel of Luke, Jesus continued to appear to the disciples telling them about the Kingdom of God for forty days after his Resurrection and was lifted up into the sky before the eyes of the disciples, the account of the Gospel tells us almost the same, that the Risen Lord was carried up to heaven. The length of Jesus' stay on earth in the post-resurrection time explains why the Church chose to commemorate the feast of the Ascension forty days after Easter which always occurred on the Thursday of the Sixth week of Easter.

Perhaps for practical reason, the Australian bishops made the decision in 1992 to shift the Ascension to the Sunday after the Sixth Sunday of Easter and other countries around the world began to follow this liturgical trend, such as parts of Europe in 1996, Ireland in 1997. Canada and parts of the western United States in 1998 and many other parts of the United States from 1999.

Prior to his Ascension in the Gospel, Jesus asked the disciples to be witnesses to him by proclaiming to all peoples and nations his Death and Resurrection and encouraging all to repent from sin.

This ascended Lord of ours, however, did assure us through the angels in the first reading that he won't be gone forever, but will come back again. In an article called Ascension of Christ in the Encyclopedia of Theology edited by Karl Rahner, the late Pope Benedict XVI placed this feast in an eschatological context for it designates the place in which we can live eternal life, and we begin to enter such a life in the here and now by believing in Christ whose Death and Resurrection have saved us from sin and allowed us to enjoy such a marvellous offer.

Let us pray today for the grace to fulfil our mission to bear witness to Jesus in our calls, and remain worthy witnesses of His through all that we do and say in our everyday lives.

Have a grace-filled week,

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

FR HENRY'S ANNUAL LEAVE

I will be on annual leave for a month as of next week, June the 3rd. Frs Viet Huy Nguyen SJ and Kevin Walsh are so kind to help say Masses for our parish during my absence. I entrust them to your care to make them feel welcome in our Parish community. In case of an emergency, please contact our neighbouring parishes for assistance.

CONFIRMATION CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the candidates who made their Confirmation on Wednesday night. May God bless them and may the gifts of The Holy Spirit they received continue to sustain and strengthen them on their personal Faith Journey. Amen.



PLANNED GIVING 2025/26 ENVELOPES

Thank you to all 2nd Collection givers for 2024/25. 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.

BISHOP'S GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL FOR OUR HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARIANS

Will you help our seminarians to be 'Pilgrims and Sowers of Hope' for God's people? With your prayers and generosity, they can continue to grow in faith and formation, as they prepare to become priests who will sow hope and faith in the hearts of God's people. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this QR Code.



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.

ALTAR SERVERS INSTALLATION MASS

Congratulations to all of the fourteen new Altar servers in our Parish who were installed during the 9.30am Mass last Sunday. Thank you to their parents for supporting these children in their commitment to serve the Lord at the Altar.

A MORE WELCOMING PARISH

At our last Parish Pastoral Council meeting, the members of the Council had a good discussion about different ways to make our Parish Community more inclusive and more welcoming based on the Pastoral Plan handbook provided by our diocese of Parramatta, we will continue the process of discernment to find the best ways we can move forward in this ministry. In the meantime, may I invite everyone in the Parish to pay more attention to those sitting around you at Mass, give them a good smile and say hi to them either before or after Mass. Many thanks.

MINISTRY ROSTER UPDATE

Roster Forms to update your latest contact information and availability to serve in various ministries for the next 6 months are now available at the back Sacristy, alternatively you can send or print a form from our OLOL Web Page under Parish Directory > Parish Forms.

BECOME A CATECHIST AN SRE VOLUNTEER!

SRE's are parish volunteers who: Teach and share their faith with children who attend government schools; Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time with young people. OLOL SRE's go into Seven Hills, Seven Hills North, Bert Oldfield, Vardys Road State primary schools School. New volunteer SRE's will be given support, training and teaching materials. Further enquiries please kindly contact Anne McNally 0466 993 159

THE GROTTA: OLOL JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

Exciting news! We are now on social media so please follow us by searching 'OLOL Youth Ministry' on Facebook or visit [ololyouth7hills](https://ololyouth7hills.com.au) on Instagram. Details about the next meeting will be released soon! For more information, please contact Diana Park via email: dianap@olol7hills.com.au

DIOCESAN NEWS

Positions Vacant

- Safeguarding: Healing and Support Counsellor
- Training & Development Specialist – Safeguarding
- Senior Facilitator – Parish Engagement Lead
- Property Lawyer: Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Position Vacant: Sacramental program and Special Religious Education Coordinator

St Anthony of Padua Parish Toongabbie is looking for a Sacramental program and Special Religious Education Coordinator. This is a permanent part-time position of 15 hours per week. Please forward applications and resumes to the Parish Secretary secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au by the 9th June 2025. For more information contact 9631 3316

Young Adult Faith Formation South Mt Druitt: 1 June

Young Adult Faith Formation sessions continue on Sunday 1 June 2025 at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, South Mt Druitt (9 Ropes Creek Rd Mt Druitt) at 7pm. The speaker is Sr Agnes who will talk about and lead discussion on St Padre Pio. All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza, and fellowship! If you have further question, please call Mark on 0477 004 678.

Feast of St Anthony of Padua: 11-13 June

Join St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie in celebrating the Feast of St Anthony of Padua. There will be 9:30am and 7pm Triduum Masses, Novena, blessing of the Sick (11th of June), Blessing of the Children (12 June), and a candlelight procession (13 June). All welcome.

Music Workshop – The Importance of Copyright: 19 June

Copyright can be tricky to navigate. Come and learn all about your requirements for reporting music use at Mass, the different types of copyright licensing available and much more. This workshop will be led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. Be sure to bring along any questions you might have. RSVP by Friday 13 June via the website parracatholic.org/events/music-workshop-19june/

LOLO SAFEGUARDING NEWS

Safe Parishes Week: 2–8 June 2025

Safe Parishes Week is a time to renew our commitment to creating safe, welcoming communities for all — especially children and vulnerable adults. OLOL and the Diocese of Parramatta supports this through training, resources, and new initiatives like online check-ins for visiting clergy. We're also developing child-friendly online tools, along with other initiatives that align with our Parish and Diocesan Pastoral Plan to support safer communities. You can learn more at: parracatholic.org/safeguarding

Supporting the Safety of Our Community

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.

Safeguarding Prayer

Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk, giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek out assistance when required.

We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW & Emmaus Prayer Community Pentecost Celebrations: 8 June

All are welcome to join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of NSW in celebrating Pentecost at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes on Sunday 8 June from 2pm. There will be prayer, praise, testimonies, talks, and prayer ministry, based on the theme of "HOPE - Opening our hearts & minds to the presence of the Holy Spirit in Times of Change." For enquiries Adrian 0408649327 or Desiree 0477765772.

Ministry of Care Courses: 4- 25 June

Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. It will be held Wednesday evenings at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Attend all 4 sessions to receive a certificate of completion or just attend the session(s) that interest you. Please visit our website via parracatholic.org/events/OFW to reserve a spot or further enquiries, contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211.

Adult Confirmation 2025: 23 & 26 August

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. The catechesis day will be on Saturday 23 August from 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. The Confirmation will be on the evening of Tuesday 26 August at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. For further information and to enrol, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or ofw@parracatholic.org before Monday 4 August.

Liturgical Ministry Course Begins September 2025

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in September 2025 in Blacktown. This free formation is open to anyone in the diocese interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Dying, Readers or Ministers at the Altar. To enrol or for information, please contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795. Registrations close 19 August, 2025 but spaces are limited so enrol now to avoid disappointment.

Children and Young People's Participation

A Safeguarding culture for Children and Young People is fostered and sustained by our parish being committed to living the Gospel by serving the most vulnerable. Here at OLOL Seven Hills we implement all Arch/Diocesan policies, procedures and community standards that are Child and Young Person centred to lift barriers so their voices can be heard and their participation valued.

LOLO Parish community values and celebrates ALL our Children and Young People for who they are and the great contributions they make to our parish. We therefore have an obligation to uphold their human and spiritual rights. This is achieved at OLOL by: 1. Providing ministries, services and programs that are relevant for Children and Young People including those who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, who are from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and who have a disability; 2. Committing to zero tolerance to any attitude and activity that makes Children and Young People feel less safe; 3. Enhancing relationships between leaders, community members, Children and Young People; and 4. Creating a new perspective to invigorate renewal. We also ensure all our volunteers and staff have an up to date WWCC and completed all safeguard training.

POPE LEO'S HOMILY FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I offer a cordial greeting to the Cardinals present, and particularly to the Cardinal Vicar, the auxiliary bishops, all the bishops and the priests – parish priests, parochial vicars and all those who in various ways cooperate in the pastoral care of our communities. My greeting also goes to the deacons, the men and women religious, the civil authorities and all of you, the dear lay faithful.

The Church of Rome is heir to a great history, grounded in the witness of Peter, Paul and countless martyrs, and it has a unique mission, as we see from the inscription on the façade of this Cathedral: to be *Mater omnium Ecclesiarum*, Mother of all the Churches.

Pope Francis frequently encouraged us to reflect on the maternal dimension of the Church (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 46-49, 139-141; *Catechesis*, 13 January 2016) and her defining qualities of tenderness, self-sacrifice and the capacity to listen. Those qualities enable her not only to assist others but often to anticipate their needs and expectations before they are even expressed. We hope that those qualities will be increasingly present in the people of God everywhere, including here, in our great diocesan family: in the faithful, in pastors, and, first of all, in myself. The readings we have heard can help us to reflect on these qualities.

The Acts of the Apostles (cf. 15:1-2, 22-29) in particular describe how the early Christian community faced the challenge of opening to the pagan world in its preaching of the Gospel. This was no easy matter; it called for much patience and mutual listening. This was the case in the community in Antioch, where the brethren, through dialogue – and even disagreements – resolved the question together. Paul and Barnabas then went up in to Jerusalem. They did not settle the question on their own: they wanted to be in communion with the Mother Church and so they went there with humility.

In Jerusalem, they found Peter and the Apostles, who were prepared to listen to them. This was the beginning of a dialogue that, in the end, led to the right decision. Recognizing the difficulties of the new converts, they agreed not to impose excessive burdens on them, but rather to insist only on what was essential (cf. Acts 15:28-29). In this way, what might have seemed a problem became for everyone an opportunity for reflection and growth.

The biblical text, however, tells us something else, beyond the rich and interesting human dynamics of the event.

We see this in the words used by the brethren in Jerusalem to communicate their decisions to those in Antioch.

They wrote: “For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us” (cf. Acts 15:28). In other words, they emphasized that the most important part of the entire event was listening to God’s voice, which made everything else possible.

In this way, they remind us that communion is built primarily “on our knees,” through prayer and constant commitment to conversion. For only in this way can each of us hear within the voice of the Spirit crying out: “Abba! Father!”

(Gal 4:6) and then, as a result, listen to and understand others as our brothers and sisters.

The Gospel reaffirms this point (cf. Jn 14:23-29). It assures us that we are not alone in making our decisions in life. The Spirit sustains us and shows us the way to follow, “teaching” us and “reminding” us of all that Jesus said to us (cf. Jn 14:26).

First, the Spirit *teaches* us the Lord’s words by impressing them deep within us, written, as the biblical image would have it, no longer on tablets of stone but in our hearts (cf. Jer 31:33). This gift helps us grow and become “a letter of Christ” (cf. 2 Cor 3:3) for one another. Naturally, the more we let ourselves be convinced and transformed by the Gospel — allowing the power of the Spirit to purify our heart, to make our words straightforward, our desires honest and clear, and our actions generous — the more capable we are of proclaiming its message.

Here, the other verb comes into play: we *remember*, that is, we reflect in our hearts upon what we have experienced and learned, in order to understand more fully its meaning and to savour its beauty.

I think in this regard of the challenging process of listening that the Diocese of Rome has undertaken in these years, a process carried out at various levels: listening to the world around us to respond to its challenges, and listening within our communities to understand needs and to propose sage and prophetic initiatives of evangelization and charity. This has been a challenging, ongoing journey meant to embrace a very rich and complex reality. Yet it is worthy of the history of this local Church, which has shown, time and again, that it is able to “think big”, unafraid to embark on bold projects and to confront new and challenging scenarios.

This is evident in the great efforts and many initiatives that the Diocese has made to welcome and provide for the needs of pilgrims during the present Jubilee. Thank you! These have made the city of Rome appear to visitors, some of whom have travelled from far away, as a wide, open and welcoming home, and above all as a place of deep faith.

For my part, I would like to express my firm desire to contribute to this great ongoing process by listening to everyone as much as possible, in order to learn, understand and decide things together, as Saint Augustine would say, “as a Christian with you and a Bishop for you” (cf. *Serm.* 340, 1). I would also ask you to support me in prayer and charity, mindful of the words of Saint Leo the Great: “All the good we do in the exercise of our ministry is the work of Christ and not our own, for we can do nothing without him. Yet we glory in him, from whom all the effectiveness of our work is derived” (*Serm.* 5, *De Natali Ipsi*, 4).

Let me conclude by adding the words with which Blessed John Paul I, whose joyful and serene face had already earned him the nickname of “the smiling Pope,” greeted his new diocesan family on 23 September 1978. “Saint Pius X,” he said, “upon entering Venice as patriarch, exclaimed in Saint Mark’s: ‘What would become of me, dear Venetians, if I did not love you?’ I would say something similar to you Romans: I assure you that I love you, that I desire only to enter into your service and to place my own poor abilities, the little I have and am, at the service of all” (*Homily for the Taking of Possession of the Chair of the Bishop of Rome*).

I too express my affection for you and my desire to share with you, on our journey together, our joys and sorrows, our struggles and hopes. I too offer you “the little I have and am,” entrusting it to the intercession of Saints Peter and Paul and of all those other brothers and sisters of ours whose holiness has illuminated the history of this Church and the streets of this city. May the Virgin Mary accompany us and intercede for us.

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. II. The life of Jesus. The parables 7. “Jesus Christ our hope. The Samaritan. When he saw him, he had compassion” (Lk 10:33b)

Dear brothers and sisters,

We will continue to meditate on some parables of the Gospel, which are an opportunity to change perspective and open ourselves up to hope. The lack of hope, at times, is due to the fact that we fixate on a certain rigid and closed way of seeing things, and the parables help us to look at them from another point of view.

Today I would like to talk to you about an expert, knowledgeable person, a doctor of the Law, who however needs to change his perspective, because he is concentrated on himself and does not notice others (cf. Lk 10:25-37). Indeed, he questions Jesus on the way in which eternal life is “inherited”, using an expression that intends it as an unequivocal right. But behind this question perhaps it is precisely the need for attention that is concealed: the only word he asks Jesus to explain is the term “neighbour”, which literally means *he who is near*.

Jesus therefore tells a parable that is a path for transforming that question, to pass from *who loves me?* to *who has loved?* The first is an immature question, the second is the question of an adult who has understood the meaning of his life. The first question is the one we ask when we sit in the corner and wait, the second is the one that drives us to set out on the path.

The parable that Jesus tells has, in fact, a road as its setting, and it is a difficult and impervious road, like life. It is the road travelled by a man going down from Jerusalem, the city on the mountain, to Jericho, the city below sea level. It is an image that already foreshadows what might happen: it happens that the man is attacked, beaten, robbed and left half dead. It is the experience that happens when situations, people, sometimes even those we have trusted, take everything from us and leave us in the middle of the road. However, life is made up of encounters, and in these encounters, we emerge for what we are.

We find ourselves in front of others, faced with their fragility and weakness, and we can decide what to do: to take care of them or pretend nothing is wrong. A priest and a Levite go down that same road. They are people who serve in the Temple of Jerusalem, who live in the sacred space. And yet, the practice of worship does not automatically lead to being compassionate. Indeed, before being a religious matter, compassion is a question of humanity! Before being believers, we are called to be human.

We can imagine that, after staying a long time in Jerusalem, that priest and that Levite are in a hurry to return home. It is indeed haste, so present in our lives, that very often prevents us from feeling compassion. Those who think that their own journey must take precedence are not willing to stop for another. But here comes someone who is actually able to stop: he is a Samaritan, hence a person belonging to a despised people (cf. 2 Kings 17). In his case, the text does not specify the direction, but only says that he was travelling. Religiosity does not enter into this. This Samaritan simply stops because he is a man faced with another man in need of help.

Compassion is expressed through practical gestures. The Evangelist Luke ponders the actions of the Samaritan, whom we call “good”, but in the text he is simply a person: a Samaritan approaches, because if you want to help someone, you cannot think of keeping your distance, you have to get involved, get dirty, perhaps be contaminated; he binds the wounds after cleaning them with oil and wine; he loads him onto his horse, taking on the burden, because one who truly helps if one is willing to feel the weight of the other’s pain; he takes him to an inn where he spends money, “two silver coins”, more or less two days of work; and he undertakes to return and eventually pay more, because the other is not a package to deliver, but someone to care for.

Dear brothers and sisters, when will we too be capable of interrupting our journey and having compassion? When we understand that the wounded man in the street represents each one of us. And then the memory of all the times that Jesus stopped to take care of us will make us more capable of compassion. Let us pray, then, that we can grow in humanity, so that our relationships may be truer and richer in compassion. Let us ask the Heart of Jesus for the grace increasingly to have the same feelings as him.

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 12th June 2025, 10.30am– 1pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate to share.

LOURDES: LUMINATE 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.

THE GROTTA: OLOL JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

We invite children aged 9-14yrs old to join our Parish junior youth group on every third Sunday of the month. For information please contact Diana Park via email: dianap@olol7hills.com.au or visit [ololyouth7hills](https://www.instagram.com/ololyouth7hills) on Instagram or search 'OLOL Youth Ministry' on Facebook.

LOURDES PLAYGROUP

OLOL 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.

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 rael24@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.

June 2025

2	Father Henry commences Annual Leave	
9	King's Birthday Public Holiday	
14	Floral Ministry team meeting	12.00pm

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

31 May/1 June

Acolytes	Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Fayelene Kennedy 9.30am: Kilifi Huihui
Ministers	Vigil: L. La Guidara, J. Sarmiento 8am: F. Paiva, B. Motho 9.30am: K. Huihui, A. Walker
Readers	Vigil: Yxavel Dino, Yxaak Dino 8am: P. Ferriols, A. Pushparajan 9.30am: M. Aquino, L. Rigney
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. La Guidara, C. La Guidara, C. Bellamin 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: K. Cassaniti
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir
Musicians	Vigil: Christine Woodward 8am: Christine Woodward 9.30am: Couples for Christ
Flowers	Fenty & Liz
Church Cleaning	5 June Lourdes Spiteri Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Volunteer

7/8 June

Acolytes	Vigil: Frank Paiva 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Eugene Miu
Ministers	Vigil: J. Franco, A. Franco 8am: M. Santos, L. Fernandes 9.30am: B. Chandler, P. Gow
Readers	Vigil: N. Sumcad, R. Saldanha 8am: K. Walker, B. Motha 9.30am: R. Nigli, C. Diaz
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. Bagatella, A. Monteiro, C. Bellamin 8am: Harrison Winter 9.30am: L. Sadipoor, A. Melki, C. Attard
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group
Musicians	Vigil: OFS (Bernadette) 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir
Flowers	Claudette & Siani
Church Cleaning	14 June Tongan Community Edgardo Barcelon Edgar Cabrera
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Anne McNally 9.30am: Edgardo Barcelon

The Kids' Bulletin

Feast of the Ascension
May 29th or June 1st, 2025

The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)

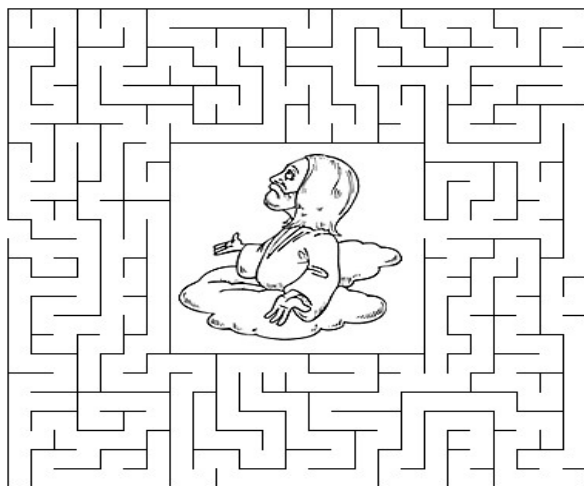
Based on Luke 24:44-53



Luke 24:46-53

Jesus disappeared into a cloud forty days after He rose from the dead. Where did He go?

Colour in the spaces with crosses (+) to find out!



Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words below.

X	W	V	D	J	Q	R	I	B	S	O	A	E	U	C	P	K	N	H	L	G	M	Y	Z	F	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 25-14-20-25-8-20-20-13-4 _____
- 11-16-13-18-13-4 _____
- 22-8-18-4-10 _____
- 10-15-7-8-16-26-14-7-13 _____
- 7-8-10-13 _____
- 7-13-16-13-18-26 _____
- 9-20-13-10-10-8-18-21 _____
- 26-12-17-13-18 _____
- 19-13-12-3-13-18 _____
- 2-11-7-10-19-8-16-13-4 _____

SCRIPTURE	RISE	REPENT	HEAVEN	BLESSING
MINDS	TAKEN	OPENED	WORSHIPED	FULFILLED

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

RISE	REPENT	PROPHETS	TAKEN
SUFFER	PSALMS	OPENED	FORGIVE
HEAVEN	SCRIPTURE	FULFILLED	MOSES
WORSHIPED	BLESSING	UNDERSTAND	MINDS

