

# 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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<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran	<b>Parish School:</b>	LOLO 8869 6800
<b>Parish Deacon:</b>	Deacon Thong Nguyen	<b>Principal:</b>	Ms Keiran Byrnes
<b>Parish Office Team:</b>	Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang, Jane Nguyen, Laura Ilioski	<b>Reconciliation:</b>	Saturday 4:30-5:30pm
<b>Office Hours: Monday-Friday:</b>	9am - 3.00pm	<b>Baptismal Preparation:</b>	16 July 2025
<b>WEEKDAY MASS:</b>	Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am Thursday 9.00am	<b>Baptism:</b>	11 May 2025
<b>WEEKEND MASS:</b>	Saturday Vigil 6pm Sunday 8am & 9.30am	<b>Sacrament Co-Ordinator:</b>	Mrs Artelle Lenthall
		<b>Youth Co-Ordinator:</b>	Diana Park
		<b>Parish Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.olol7hills.org.au">www.olol7hills.org.au</a>
		<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/LOLO7Hills/">https://www.facebook.com/LOLO7Hills/</a>

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 4th May 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](mailto: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, Vivienne Cameron, Guy Cassar, Murial Chary, Albert Cheng, Blaise Costa, Maria Dalgado, Irene Dassanayaka, Padmini De Seram, Randy De Silva, John Doxey, Long Duong, Sandra Eichhorn, Henrieta Fernando, Rienzie Fernando, Jasmin Fernando, Ethan Garcia, Ricardo Garcia, Jean, Elsie, Karl, Gervais Garrick, Cynthia Lopez, Jesusa Maestrecampo, Matilda Mifsud, Leo Ngan, Etelka Petkovic, Eustace Ratnam, Mangala Ratnam, Suranjith Rebera, Dennis Siva, Caroline Stevenson, Julius Suseno, Marivic Valderamma, Rita Xuereb.

**Anniversaries:** Astride Abeleda, Mary Alagiah, Listte & Joe Aristobil, Elvina Barnaba, Horace Baptist, Ronald Barley, Romeo Binihan, Elaine Bosen, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Denis Brophy, Rosario Cabasa, Catherine Chandra, Joseph Chary, Saro Chary, Aloysean Corera, Joseph & Mary Camenzuli, Jim Daly, Edmundo Deloso, Manel De Soysa, Dulcie & Samuel Duraisamy, Georgina Falzon, Mark Falzon, Luiga Farrugia, John Fernando, Nevis Fernando, M.A. Fernando, Emmanuel Francis, Juliet Francis, Martha Galea, Anthony Garcia, Francisca Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Zenaida Garcia, 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, John O'Sullivan, Custodio Palmos Jnr, Cordula Paiva, Adrian Pereira, John Portelli, Jose & Maria Reyes, Estileta Riveral, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Michael Sant, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Loreta Laberinto Udán, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udán, Domingo Villarta Jnr.

**Remembrance:** Neil Amaratunga, France Angseeing, Carmen Attard, Lydia, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Charlie Borg, Richard Bowely, Marlene Busac, Barrie Chamberlain, Ceferino, Rosario, Renato & Marlyn Cabasa, Fe Licup Carmen, 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 Gat, 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 Laffuer, 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, 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.

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**FIRST READING** *A reading from the Acts of the Apostle 5:27-32. 40-41*

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning,' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

The word of the Lord.

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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**(R) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me  
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.  
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,  
restored me to life from those who sink into the  
grave. **(R.)**

2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,  
give thanks to his holy name.  
His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through life.  
At night there are tears, but joy comes with  
dawn. **(R.)**

3. The Lord listened and had pity.  
The Lord came to my help.  
For me you have changed my mourning into  
dancing; O Lord my God, I will thank you for  
ever. **(R.)**

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**SECOND READING** *A reading from the book of Apocalypse 5:11-14*

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation – everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

The word of the Lord.

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**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation;  
he has shown pity on all people.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** *A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 21:1-19*

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.

'I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.' In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'

The Gospel of the Lord



Dear friends,

For this Third Sunday of Easter, we have the opportunity to listen to another account of Jesus' appearance to the disciples after his Resurrection, and this time he appeared to seven disciples as they gathered together by the Sea of Tiberias for a fishing trip, a possible indication of their intention to return to their former profession, the one Jesus asked them to leave and follow him to become fishers of men, probably out of their fear and despair: fear for the persecution of the Jews and despair due to the death and disappearance of Jesus from the tomb.

After a hard working night at sea, the disciples came back to the shore in the morning, tired and disappointed because they caught no fish all night long. In such a time of frustration Jesus came in for the rescue, he stood on the shore and gave them the advice to throw the net out to starboard. They followed his instruction and the catch caught them completely by surprise. At first the disciples didn't know it was Jesus, and they just came to realise him as they caught a lot of big fish: 153 of them altogether. Peter and John knew it truly was their Master, and Peter after a short exchange with John grabbed a cloak to wrap round him, jumped into the water and swam for about 90 meters to reach the shore to catch Jesus before everyone.

When they all came ashore, the disciples found Jesus had already prepared a breakfast for them with bread and grilled fish, being cooked on a charcoal fire. He invited them to put some of their fish on the fire and shared the food with him. Here Jesus repeated what he did at the Last Supper by taking the bread and giving it to them.

This is his uniquely distinctive gesture known as the breaking of bread which was gradually developed to become what we call the Eucharist or Holy Mass today.

At the end of their breakfast together, Jesus both re-affirmed his decision to appoint Peter as the head of his discipleship by entrusting Peter with the task to feed His lambs and look after His sheep, symbolising the papal ministry to guide and govern the whole Church (cf. Mt 16.18), and foretold the martyrdom that Peter bravely endured to bear witness to Jesus, the one whose obedience must come before the obedience of men as he mentioned in the first reading.

As we come together to celebrate this Eucharist in memory of Jesus today, we acknowledge his real presence with us and ask him to strengthen our faith in him and inspire us to serve others as he has shown us. We also pray for our Church cardinals as they prepare for the coming conclave, that they may be able to discern and choose the right person among them most worthy to the papal ministry Jesus entrusted to St Peter and his successors in the Gospel today.

Have a faith-filled week,

*Fr Henry*

## PARISH NEWS...

### CONFIRMATION 2025

Please keep the children in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 28th. God bless them on this sacred and meaningful occasion, and may the commitment they make deepen their faith and guide them throughout their spiritual journey.

### TONGAN MASS

We warmly invite you to join us in a Tongan Mass with Fr. Tali'ai Hausia at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills on Sunday, the 11th of May from 2:00 PM till 3:00 PM.

### PROJECT COMPASSION BOX RETURN

Thank you all for showing your support to those who are in need around the world through your participation in the Project Compassion program and please bring your Project Compassion Box back to the church ASAP. Thank you.

### 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.

### LOURDES PLAYGROUP

Please kindly note that Playgroup will be on pause for the next 2 Friday's, 9th & 16th of May. It will resume on Friday 23rd of May, 9.00-11.00am 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. To attend, please register by 3pm the Thursday prior via Facebook under 'Lourdes Play Group' or contact Maria on 0432 174 056.

### NEW ALTAR SERVERS

All children who made their First Holy Communion last year and before are invited to serve Mass as Altar servers. Please fill out the application form available at the rear of the church and return it in the Communion Box. A training session will take place at 11am on Sunday 18 May 2025 and new Altar servers will be installed at the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 25 May, 2025.

### LOURDES OVER 50s GROUP

Please join us for the next over 50s meeting on Thursday 8th of May, 10.30am– 1pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate to share. Look forward to seeing you there.

### 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.

### 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 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.



### Positions Vacant

- Facilities Coordinator: Diocese of Parramatta
- Property Lawyer: Diocese of Parramatta
- Communications Lead – Diocesan Pastoral Plan: Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: [parracatholic.org/about/jobs/](http://parracatholic.org/about/jobs/)

### 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/](http://parracatholic.org/events/liturgical-ministers-commissioning-mass/)

### Children's Liturgy Workshop: 15 May

Are you a part of children's liturgy or looking to get started? Come along to this informative workshop to learn more about the Diocesan guidelines, meet children's liturgy teams from other parishes, and ask any questions you may have about this rewarding ministry.

This workshop will be held at Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1 -5 Marion St, Blacktown on Thursday 15 May at 7-8:30pm. Please RSVP via [parracatholic.org/events/OFW](http://parracatholic.org/events/OFW) by 12 May. For enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795.

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

### 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](mailto:cliff_dsouza03@yahoo.com.au) or [atitours@atitours.com.au/](http://atitours.com.au)

## OLOL SAFEGUARDING NEWS

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### Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities:

#### 22-24 May

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Saturday 22nd of May at St Finbar's Church, Glenbrook for Cycle 2 (Module 5). Safeguarding Renewal Training Cycle 2 (Module 4-5) will be held at St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill on the 24th of May. Please register directly for this training or other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/series=safeguarding-training>. For further information, please email: [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

### Copyright

The Church is not exempt from copyright legislation. It is binding on both institutions and individuals, and ignorance is not accepted as an excuse under the legislation. If a parish is not compliant, both the parish and any person involved in the breach of copyright (e.g. musicians, people preparing visual display files for liturgy) can be held to account. Here at OLOL, we report all music and file image displays to the relevant licensing service.

### Webinar 10 Years Since Laudato Si' – A Time for Hope or Despair?: 8 May

MET Parramatta and the Australian Cardijn Institute invite you to a webinar with Sebastian Salaske-Lentern and Sue Martin, who will reflect on the ecological journey that Pope Francis has taken us on in the past ten years, since his encyclical Laudato Si'. Have we made enough progress? And what can give us hope for the path ahead in this Jubilee Year? Please register to receive a zoom link for Thursday 8 May, 7pm – 8pm: [tinyurl.com/10-years-LS](https://tinyurl.com/10-years-LS)

### Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day: 18 May

You are invited to a Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day on Sunday **18 August/17 November** from 10am to around 3pm at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia. There will be an introduction to Christian Meditation for newcomers with periods of meditation for on-going meditators, presentations and prayer with the monks. Mass will be celebrated in the afternoon. Morning tea will be provided, but please bring your own picnic lunch. Donations are welcome. For enquiries, please contact Ann Lomas on [atlomas@bigpond.com](mailto:atlomas@bigpond.com) or call 0437 340 250.

### Marriage Enrichment Weekend: 23-25 May

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on the 23rd-25th May at a Marriage Encounter Weekend at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW – a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney. Book online at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) or please kindly contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or via [nswbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:nswbookings@wwme.org.au)

### 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 every Wednesday evening at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Attend all 4 sessions to receive a certificate of completion or even just attend the session(s) that interest you. Please visit website [parracatholic.org/events/OFW](http://parracatholic.org/events/OFW) to reserve a spot. For enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0488 000 211.

### Illness

As we start the beginning of the colder seasons, you should absent yourself from your voluntary activity if you are unwell with an illness (e.g. cold or flu) to ensure that the health of others is not compromised.

### Insurance

If you use your own vehicle for volunteer duties, your vehicle will not be covered under the Diocese's insurance policy. Any damage caused by an accident, to either the volunteer's vehicle or a third party's vehicle, must be claimed through your comprehensive car insurance policy. Any excess amounts will be your responsibility.

### 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](mailto:safeguarding@parracatholic.org).

### Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

If missed any of the face to face training held at our parish, you can complete these modules independently at times convenient to you via <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au> .



## LATE POPE FRANCIS' EASTER HOMILY (READ BY CARDINAL ANGELO COMASTRI)

Mary Magdalene, seeing that the stone of the tomb had been rolled away, ran to tell Peter and John. After receiving the shocking news, the two disciples also went out and — as the Gospel says — “the two were running together” (*Jn 20:4*). The main figures of the Easter narratives all ran! On the one hand, “running” could express the concern that the Lord’s body had been taken away; but, on the other hand, the haste of Mary Magdalene, Peter and John expresses the desire, the yearning of the heart, the inner attitude of those who set out to search for Jesus. He, in fact, has risen from the dead and therefore is no longer in the tomb. We must look for him elsewhere.

This is the message of Easter: we must look for him elsewhere. Christ is risen, he is alive! He is no longer a prisoner of death, he is no longer wrapped in the shroud, and therefore we cannot confine him to a fairy tale, we cannot make him a hero of the ancient world, or think of him as a statue in a museum! On the contrary, we must look for him and this is why we cannot remain stationary. We must take action, set out to look for him: look for him in life, look for him in the faces of our brothers and sisters, look for him in everyday business, look for him everywhere except in the tomb.

We must look for him without ceasing. Because if he has risen from the dead, then he is present everywhere, he dwells among us, he hides himself and reveals himself even today in the sisters and brothers we meet along the way, in the most ordinary and unpredictable situations of our lives. He is alive and is with us always, shedding the tears of those who suffer and adding to the beauty of life through the small acts of love carried out by each of us.

For this reason, our Easter faith, which opens us to the encounter with the risen Lord and prepares us to welcome him into our lives, is anything but a complacent settling into some sort of “religious reassurance.” On the contrary, Easter spurs us to action, to run like Mary Magdalene and the disciples; it invites us to have eyes that can “see beyond,” to perceive Jesus, the one who lives, as the God who reveals himself and makes himself present even today, who speaks to us, goes before us, surprises us. Like Mary Magdalene, every day we can experience losing the Lord, but every day we can also run to look for him again, with the certainty that he will allow himself to be found and will fill us with the light of his resurrection.

Brothers and sisters, this is the greatest hope of our life: we can live this poor, fragile and wounded existence clinging to Christ, because he has conquered death, he conquers our darkness and he will conquer the shadows of the world, to make us live with him in joy, forever. This is the goal towards which we press on, as the Apostle Paul says, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead (cf. *Phil 3:12-14*). Like Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, we hasten to meet Christ.

The Jubilee invites us to renew the gift of hope within us, to surrender our sufferings and our concerns to hope, to share it with those whom we meet along our journey and to entrust to hope the future of our lives and the destiny of the human family. And so we cannot settle for the fleeting things of this world or give in to sadness; we must run, filled with joy. Let us run towards Jesus, let us rediscover the inestimable grace of being his friends. Let us allow his Word of life and truth to shine in our life. As the great theologian Henri de Lubac said, “It should be enough to understand this: Christianity is Christ. No, truly, there is nothing else but this. In Christ we have everything” (*Les responsabilités doctrinales des catholiques dans le monde d'aujourd'hui*, Paris 2010, 276).

And this “everything” that is the risen Christ opens our life to hope. He is alive, he still wants to renew our life today. To him, conqueror of sin and death, we want to say: “Lord, on this feast day we ask you for this gift: that we too may be made new, so as to experience this eternal newness. Cleanse us, O God, from the sad dust of habit, tiredness and indifference; give us the joy of waking every morning with wonder, with eyes ready to see the new colors of this morning, unique and unlike any other. [...] Everything is new, Lord, and nothing is the same, nothing is old” (A. Zarri, *Quasi una preghiera*).

Sisters, brothers, in the wonder of the Easter faith, carrying in our hearts every expectation of peace and liberation, we can say: with You, O Lord, everything is new. With you, everything begins again.

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## CARDINAL ASK US TO PRAY FOR THEIR DISCERNMENT FOR NEW POPE

*By Vatican News*

The Holy See released a declaration on Wednesday in which the Cardinals preparing for the upcoming conclave ask the faithful to pray for them.

“The College of Cardinals gathered in Rome, engaged in the General Congregations in preparation for the Conclave, wishes to invite the People of God to live this ecclesial moment as an event of grace and spiritual discernment, listening to the will of God,” read the statement.

The Cardinals said they feel “the need to be supported by the prayers of all the faithful,” since they are aware of their responsibility in choosing the next Successor of Peter.

Prayer, they added, “is the true force that in the Church promotes the unity of all the members of the one Body of Christ.”

“Faced with the enormity of the task ahead and the urgency of the present time,” said the Cardinals, “it is first of all necessary to make ourselves humble instruments of the infinite wisdom and providence of our Heavenly Father, in docility to the action of the Holy Spirit.”

The Cardinals noted that the Holy Spirit is “the protagonist of the life of the People of God, the One to whom we must listen, accepting what He is saying to the Church.”

“May the Blessed Virgin Mary accompany these prayers with her maternal intercession,” concluded the Cardinals’ declaration.

## CARDINAL GAMBETTI AT THE NOVEMDIALES MASS: SEE THE FULLNESS OF GOD IN THE LEAST

*By Francesca Merlo*

At the fourth *Novemdiales* Mass celebrated in St Peter’s Basilica, Cardinal Mauro Gambetti reflected on the passage from Matthew’s Gospel describing the Final Judgement, when all peoples of the world are gathered before Christ, the Son of Man.

Some, the Gospel tells us, will enter into the joy of the Kingdom. Others will find themselves alone - outside love, outside God. “Excluded from the Kingdom,” Cardinal Gambetti said, “they remain desperately alone in their soul”.

The Gospel speaks of sheep and goats, a familiar image. But Cardinal Gambetti invited the faithful to look deeper. Sheep, he explained, are faithful and gentle, caring for the weakest of the flock. Goats, instead, are more independent and proud, often concerned only with themselves. “Which of these attitudes do we embody,” he asked, both “personally and institutionally?”

Belonging to the Kingdom, he reminded the faithful, is not about knowing all the answers or performing all the right actions. In the Gospel, those welcomed into the Kingdom ask, “Lord, when did we see you?” The word used - *oráo* in Greek - means more than simply seeing. It means to truly understand, to recognise.

The message is clear: we meet Christ when we meet others, especially the most vulnerable, with compassion.

“The Word became flesh,” the Cardinal continued, quoting theologian Elia Citterio, “so that whoever touches man touches God, whoever honours man honours God, whoever despises man despises God.”

This is the heart of the Gospel. This is the heart of the Church. And it is this humanity that Cardinal Gambetti saw in Pope Francis. He recounted the farewell to the Pope written by Edith Bruck, who described the Pope as “a man who loved, was moved, wept, pleaded for peace... his humanity was contagious, it softened even the stones”.

As the Church prays for Pope Francis and walks through these days of mourning, Cardinal Gambetti reminded the faithful that “Christian humanity” must be at the centre of the Church’s mission. “Everyone, everyone, everyone is called to live in the Church”, Pope Francis once said - words that today feel more urgent than ever.

In the first reading, Peter’s encounter with Cornelius offers a model: openness, trust, and the courage to proclaim the Gospel through relationship, not fear.

Finally, Cardinal Gambetti noted that on this Feast of Saint Catherine of Siena, whose bold love for Christ saw no boundaries, the Church is reminded of the call to walk closely with humanity - because God has done the same.

## GENERAL NOTICES...

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

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

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

### SICK AND/OR HOMEBOUND?

Would you like to receive Communion? Or seriously ill or in danger of death? We have dedicated ministers who can visit and bring you communion. Feel free to approach or call Fr Henry for the Holy Anointing of the Sick. Please call the parish office 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

### MAY 2025

7	Confirmation Meeting—1st	6.30pm
7	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	7.30pm
8	Over 50's Group Meeting	10.30am
10	Confirmation Meeting—1st RPT	4.30pm
11	Tongan Mass	2.00pm

## LOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

### 3/4 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: J. Sarmiento, A. McNally 9.30am: J. Nonato, A. Walker	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Leaonardo, 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	

### 10/11 May

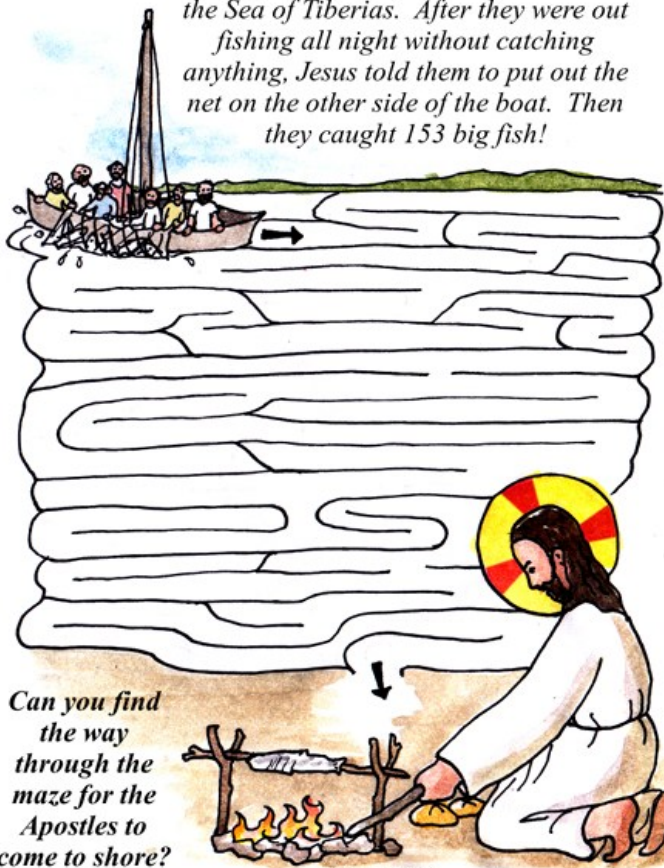
Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am: Eugene Miu	
Ministers	Vigil: M. Mifsud, F. Paiva 8am: E. Gartner, F. Paiva 9.30am: M. Aquino, K. Huihui	
Readers	Vigil: N. Sumcad, N. Do Rosario 8am: M. Santos, P. Ferriols 9.30am: K. Huihui, N. Arambulo	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Jacob & Benjamin Spadaro, Chris Bellamin 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: K. Cassaniti, L. Sadipoor	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group	
Musicians	Vigil: OFS 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir	
Flowers	Claudette & Siani	
Church Cleaning	15 May	Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Raul Nigli	



# The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Easter  
May 4th, 2025

The third time that the Apostles saw Jesus after He rose from the dead was at the Sea of Tiberias. After they were out fishing all night without catching anything, Jesus told them to put out the net on the other side of the boat. Then they caught 153 big fish!



Can you find the way through the maze for the Apostles to come to shore?

John 21:1-19

The words below have been written in code. Use the hints in the decoder at the top of the page to help break the code (the letters on top are the correct answers, the letters on the bottom are the code). Write the correct word on the line provided beside each code word.

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

- 2-18-5-1-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3-15-1-12-19 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2-15-1-20 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3-1-21-7-8-20 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-8-15-18-5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6-9-19-8 \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-15-18-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2-18-5-1-11-6-1-19-20 \_\_\_\_\_

BREAD	COALS	BOAT	CAUGHT
SHORE	FISH	LORD	BREAKFAST

