



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

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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: 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/>

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 13 July 2025 • Year C



Let us Pray for the Sick

Florence Arinanan, Lorenzo Balabat, Sarah Bartolo, Rodney Bell, Max Barrett, Irene Cabasa, Esperanza M. Camat, Hoa Chau, Lawrence Charles, James Debattista, 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, Gary Morrissey, Maricar Poblete, Veronica Portelli, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Luzviminda Camat Robles, Chandra Sampantham, Arabella Steele, Caroline Stevenson, 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: William Rebecca Bermudo, Nhan Ngoc Dang, Lorna Dehdeh Porfiria Dulay Martinez, Oscar Montano, Merle Morrissey, Angeles Nalumen, Crispin Nuneza, George Rupasinghe, Dennis Siva, Paul Sammut.

Anniversaries: Cecilia Abela, Mary Alagiah, Ronald Barley, Cecil Beed, Romeo Biniahan, Elaine Bosen, Denis Brophy, Rosario Cabasa, Catherine Chandra, Joseph Chary, Saro Chary, Aloysean Corera, Silvia Debattista, Dulcie & Samuel Duraisamy, John Fernando, M.A. Fernando, Emmanuel Francis, Anthony, Francisca & Zenaida Garcia, Helen Gatt, Tarcisio 'Archie' Gatt, Christine & Josephine Gomez, S.M. John, Ajay Kallukalam, Lio Katopau, Edouard Mahomudally, Salvatore Loria, Mary Muscat, April Marabe, Pietro Marra, Maria Regina & Graciano Menezes, Xavier Motha Jnr, Paul Mula, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Tony Muscat, Cordula Paiva, Estelita Solis Palomos, Nieves Torres Palomos, Adrian Perera, Lakshman Perera, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Lawrence Stanton, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udan.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, Gregorio Almodovar, France Angseesing, Lydia, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Barrie Chamberlain, Ceferino, Rosario, Renato & Marilyn Cabasa, Fe & Elenito Camen, Dennis Clarke, Maria Dalgato, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Lancer De Guire, Johnny Edwards, Ngan Siu Eng, O. Francis, J. Francis, Joseph & Carmena Formosa, Melvyn Fernandes, Nevis Fernando, Mario & Joe Gat, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Sam Gabo, Mary & Sam Galea, Evangeline Garcia, Leandro Snr Garcia, Jose Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Selvam Irudayaraj, Jonathan Tek Kie, Harold, Marc, Rosine Lalluer, Sheena Landagan, A. Mansoor, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Tania McGove, 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, Stephen & Joseph Mula, Mary & Francis Muscat, Lakshman Perera, Ngan Pin, Eustace Ratnam, John & Roseline Ratnam, Mary Silva, Cua Sing, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Jim Vella, 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 Angseesing on 0467 701 010.



KEEP UP TO DATE

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

FIRST READING *A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 30:10-14*

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.

'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

1. This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. **(R.)**

3. The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants in their
chains. **(R.)**

2. As for me in my poverty and pain
let your help, O God, lift me up.
I will praise God's name with a song;
I will glorify him with thanksgiving. **(R.)**

4. For God will bring help to Zion
and rebuild the cities of Judah.
The sons of his servants shall inherit it;
those who love his name shall dwell there. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians 1:15-20*

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers –all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life;
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 10:25-37*

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus, 'do this and life is yours.'

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him,' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go and do the same yourself.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



FROM FR. HENRY

Dear friends,

Not long ago J. D. Vance, the American vice president, a newly converted Catholic, lectured his countrymen and women about the order of love (Ordo Amoris) suggesting that Christians should prioritise their love starting from their families, then their countrymen and the rest. He was then met with an indirect response from Pope Francis in the form of a letter to the US bishops reminding the people of God that Christian love is not a

concentric expansion of interests extending little by little to other persons and groups but inviting them to keep reflecting upon the parable of the Good Samaritan as an example inspiring them of how to apply their love in concrete situations. This Sunday, we have the privilege to listen to the unique parable of the Good Samaritan Jesus aimed to respond to the lawyer seeking clarification when asked to love God wholeheartedly and his neighbours as himself as the way to inherit eternal life. 'Who is my neighbour?' That was the question he literally asked Jesus. In this highly symbolic parable, Jesus set the scenario of a man travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho, roughly about 38kms and was attacked by robbers who beat him, sped off and left him nearly dead on the road. The first two people: a priest and a Levite known as holy and respectable people in the Jewish community saw the victim badly struggling but ignored him, and walked away like they saw nothing. However, a Samaritan considered as pagan and godless by Jewish people was deeply touched when he saw the well beaten traveller lying in front of him so he decided to stop and care for him. He then put him on his mount, took him to the inn and asked the innkeeper to take good care of him. He also promised to return to pay any extra expense for the service.

When the lawyer identified the Samaritan at the end as the neighbour of the victim, Jesus encouraged him to go and do the same to people, namely showing his love and care and compassion to men and women around him, especially the needy, the marginalised, the voiceless and the forgotten in the world, so together with the path of loving God, this is the highway leading us to a life never ending in heaven.

Let us pray for the grace to help us embrace and put into practice Jesus' dual commandment of love by what we do and say in our everyday lives, consequently we shall inherit the greatest reward Jesus promised to the lawyer today which is life in eternity with his blessed ones in heaven when we leave this earth.

Have a wonderful week filled with love for God and our brothers and sisters.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

THANK YOU NOTE TO FR. VIET HUY NGUYEN SJ AND KEVIN WASH

I would like to thank both Frs Viet Huy Nguyen SJ and Kevin Wash so much for helping to say all the Masses during my absence, and everyone for making them welcome in the parish.

SUNDAY EVENING MASS 5PM

Next Sunday the 20th of July, we have our additional mass at 5.00pm. It is an extra opportunity for our parishioners, especially the young ones to attend Mass on Sunday.

THE GROTTA: OLOL JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

We invite children aged 9-14yrs old to join us for our junior youth group meeting next Sunday 20th July, in the Parish Meeting Room, 3.30pm till 6pm which includes the 5pm mass. The Grotto for July will be about the story of Mary and Martha. Food Provided. For further information or to register please contact our Youth Coordinator, Diana Park dianap@olol7hills.com.au or search 'OLOL Youth Ministry' on Facebook.

MINISTRY ROSTER UPDATE 2025/26

Ministry rosters for August 2025 - January 2026 are now available. You can find a copy at the back Sacristy or on our website under 'Parish Forms'. If you require more copies or notice any discrepancies, kindly contact the parish office.

TONGAN YOUTH FESTIVAL

Every Tuesday and Thursday evening till the end of July, the Tongan Youth of Seven Hills will be running a series of dance practices for the Tongan Youth Festival that is to be held on Saturday, 26th July 2025. Mass 12pm at Sacred Heart Parish, Mount Druitt Festival - Plumpton Hall 4pm - 9pm. Details for the dance practices: Time: 7:00 - 9:00 PM. If there is Choir practice, it will run from 6:00 - 7:00 PM. Venue: OLOL Seven Hills Parish Hall. All are welcome to come along to watch and be part of this event.

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 welcoming based on the Pastoral Plan handbook provided by diocese of Parramatta. We therefore are continuing the process of discernment to find out the best way we can moving 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.

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. We kindly ask parents to please monitor your children near the candles at all times.

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK WINTER 2025 EDITION

A special tribute edition of the *Catholic Outlook Magazine* is available throughout our church. This edition gives thanks for the remarkable papacy of Pope Francis and welcomes the new pontificate of Pope Leo XIV with a range of tributes and reflections.

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

DIOCESAN NEWS

Positions Vacant

- Healing and Support Counsellor – Safeguarding:
Diocese of Parramatta
- Training & Development Specialist – Safeguarding:
Diocese of Parramatta

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

Bishop Vincent presents Mauricio López: 23 July

One of Latin America's most influential lay leaders, Mauricio López Oropeza, will be hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta as part of its "Bishop Vincent Presents" series. Mauricio will offer powerful insights on synodality, justice, and the Church's mission in a changing world. The free public lecture will be held on Wednesday 23 July at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta, from 6pm. To register and learn more, please visit parracatholic.org/lopez

Registrations now open 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 time to step away from your usual routine to experience a diocesan retreat - a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God. Registrations are now open. For more details and to register, see the three options of retreats below:

- 16 August: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/>
- 15 November: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/>

Low Cost Counselling Services

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. If you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters, Catholic Care is here to help. Call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.

Grace and Truth Evening

Men and women (18 years and older) are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on Friday the 18 July for the next Grace and Truth evening. The evening will consist of Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers, Benediction, a light dinner, and talks by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP & Sr Susanna Edmunds OP. The event will run from 5-9PM, starting in the St Mary's Cathedral Crypt and moving to the Cathedral Hall. Cost: \$20. Registration closes 13 July.

<https://www.trybooking.com/DBGYB>. For more information, contact the Dominican Sisters at sydney@op-tn.org.

LOL SAFEGUARDING NEWS

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.

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>.

Children's Liturgy Workshop: 24 July

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 the 24th of July at 7.00pm-8:30pm. Please RSVP via parracatholic.org/events/OFW by 18 July. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

JOURNEY OF HOPE JUBILEE CONCERT: 26 JULY

The Ateneo Alumni Association of Australia (AAAA) invites all to the "Journey of Hope" Jubilee Concert to showcase an inspiring afternoon of music that speaks to the soul and a beautiful message of hope. The concert will take place on Saturday, 26th of July 2025 12:30pm-3pm at Club Burwood Group - Club Burwood RSL, Club Burwood & Croydon Park Club, Entertainment Dome, 97 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood. Tickets are \$25 each and all proceeds will go to the AAAA Scholarship Program for scholars in the Philippines and in collaboration with the Tanging Yaman Foundation and Peregrinus which includes members of Maximilian's Chorale. Link to book tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/CZXKB>. For more inquiries contact Ian Epondulan: 0401 161 264 or ian_ube@hotmail.com

Rome from Home (Youth and Young Adults): 2 August

A retreat for young adults aged between 13 and 35, who want to grow in faith, find community, and be inspired on their journey. To be held on Saturday 2 August (12:30pm – 6pm) at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong, 36-40 Breakfast Rd, Marayong. Register by 26 July: <https://parracatholic.org/events/rome-from-home/>

Liturgical Ministry Course Begins September

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 a Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Dying, or Ministers at the Altar. Forms are available at the back of the church, please complete and return to the Parish Office. For further information, contact the Office for Worship via ofw@parracatholic.org or on 0460 037 795. Registrations close 19 August, 2025 but spaces are limited so enrol now to avoid disappointment.

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry is a safe place for those young people who choose to come to our Church Youth Groups to deepen their faith. Here at LOL Seven Hills we:

- Create a safe and inclusive place for all young people
- Ensure all those who facilitate Youth Groups act and speak appropriately when working with children
- Conduct our Youth Ministry within the expectations of the legal requirements of Child Protection / Safeguarding and Diocesan Policies.

LOL Vulnerable People's Participation

We are a Catholic community that champions the practice of supporting & engaging, listening and communicating with those who are most vulnerable such as children and young people. This in return encourages their participation.

POPE LEO'S ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

Today's Gospel (Lk 10:1-12, 17-20) reminds us of the importance of the mission to which we are all called, each according to our own vocation and in the particular situations in which the Lord has placed us. Jesus sends out seventy-two disciples (v. 1). This symbolic number indicates that the hope of the Gospel is meant for all peoples, for such is the breadth of God's heart and the abundance of his harvest. Indeed, God continues to work in the world so that all his children may experience his love and be saved. At the same time, Jesus says, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest" (v. 2). On the one hand, God, like a sower, has generously gone out into the world, throughout history, and sowed in people's hearts a desire for the infinite, for a fulfilled life and for salvation that sets us free. The harvest, then, is plentiful. The Kingdom of God grows like a seed in the ground, and the women and men of today, even when seemingly overwhelmed by so many other things, still yearn for a greater truth; they search for a fuller meaning for their lives, desire justice, and carry within themselves a longing for eternal life. On the other hand, however, there are few laborers to go out into the field sown by the Lord; few who are able to distinguish, with the eyes of Jesus, the good grain that is ripe for harvesting (cf. Jn 4:35-38). The Lord wishes to do something great in our lives and in the history of humanity, yet there are few who perceive this, pause to receive the gift and then proclaim and share it with others. Dear brothers and sisters, the Church and the world do not need people who fulfill their religious duties as if the faith were merely an external label. We need laborers who are eager to work in the mission field, loving disciples who bear witness to the Kingdom of God in all places. Perhaps there is no shortage of "intermittent Christians" who occasionally act upon some religious feeling or participate in sporadic events. But there are few who are ready, on a daily basis, to labor in God's harvest, cultivating the seed of the Gospel in their own hearts in order then to share it in their families, places of work or study, their social contexts and with those in need. To do this, we do not need too many theoretical ideas about pastoral plans. Instead, we need to pray to the Lord of the harvest. Priority must be given, then, to our relationship with the Lord and to cultivating our dialogue with him. In this way, he will make us his laborers and send us into the field of the world to bear witness to his Kingdom. Let us ask the Blessed Virgin Mary, who generously gave her "yes" to participating in the work of salvation, to intercede for us and accompany us on the path of following the Lord, so that we too may become joyful laborers in God's Kingdom.

After the Angelus

Dear brothers and sisters, With affection I greet all of you, faithful of Rome and pilgrims from Italy and from various countries. In the great heat of this time of year, your journey to pass through the Holy Doors is even more courageous and admirable! In particular, I greet the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart; the pupils and parents of Strzyzow School and the faithful from Legnica in Poland; and the Greek Catholic group from Ukraine. I also greet the pilgrims from Romano di Lombardia, Melia (Reggio Calabria), Sassari, and the Latin American community from the Archdiocese of Florence. Greetings to the English speaking pilgrims. I would like to express sincere condolences to all the families who have lost loved ones, in particular their daughters, who were at the summer camp, in the disaster caused by flooding of the Guadalupe river in Texas in the United States. We pray for them.

Dearest friends, peace is a desire of all peoples, and it is the sorrowful cry of those torn apart by war. Let us ask the Lord to touch the hearts and inspire the minds of those who govern, that the violence of weapons be replaced by the pursuit of dialogue. This afternoon, I will travel to Castel Gandolfo, where I intend to have a short period of rest. I hope that everyone will be able to enjoy some vacation time in order to restore both body and spirit. I wish all of you a happy Sunday.

POPE LEO RESONDS TO A MOTHER'S REMINDER THAT PEACE IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT *By Kielce Gussie*

In a letter published in the Italian magazine *Piazza San Pietro*, a young mother appeals to the Pope for her children's future, and Pope Leo replies with a message of hope. The July issue of the Italian magazine *Piazza San Pietro* was dedicated to the Jubilee of Youth and in it, Pope Leo XIV responded to Zaira, a young mother of three who wrote him a letter raising concerns about the right to peace.

A fundamental right In her letter, Zaira reflects the "deep need for peace" in this period of time, raising the questions, "What will become of children's dreams if a world war breaks out? What will happen to the sacrifices their parents made buying a home, sending them to school, saving for their future?" She then highlights how children have dreams and goals for the future that can easily be destroyed if "one morning a country's leader wakes up with the desire to conquer land that is not his and subjugate its people." "Peace is a fundamental right," Zaira argues, closing her letter with the poignant question, "Why have we forgotten that?" **It's a call that touches God's heart** In the same issue, Pope Leo responds to Zaira's letter, calling it a "cry that reaches the heart of God." He highlights that God meets us where we are in the difficult and disorienting moments. Yet, the Pope stresses that we must not remain passive in these times. Rather, he says God's love "constantly calls us to act for the good and for the unity of the human family." **Peace is an active gift** Pope Leo continues his letter by referencing his first meeting with the Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Holy See, during which he pointed out that "peace both in the Christian understanding and in many other religious traditions is, first and foremost, a gift." But he recalls that this gift is achieved through action. It is a gift that challenges and involves all of us, no matter our cultural and religious background. This gift of peace "is built in the heart and begins in the heart—by uprooting pride and resentment, by choosing our words carefully, since we can wound or even destroy not only with weapons but also with words." The Pope answers Zaira's question honestly, saying that sometimes situations can feel as though there is no solution and the chances of things escalating are real. Those are the times, he argues, that we "are urgently called to a purification of the heart—to build relationships of peace." **Peace requires dialogue and prayer** To do this, he urges everyone to strengthen their prayers to the God of peace and dedicate time both as communities and individually to praying for peace daily. Moreover, dialogue at every level must accompany this prayer, which will help promote "a true culture of encounter rather than one of conflict, and also to call for limits on power, as my beloved predecessor Pope Francis always urged." Although the Pope recognizes that the challenge of combining prayer and action, he says it is none the less possible "through small, steady steps." War will not have the last word, he stresses, offering the reminder that "children have the right to a peace that is genuine, just, and lasting."

Seeds of Peace and Hope

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

The theme of this World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, chosen by our beloved [Pope Francis](#), is “Seeds of Peace and Hope”. On the tenth anniversary of the establishment of this Day of Prayer, which coincided with the publication of the Encyclical [Laudato Si'](#), we find ourselves celebrating the present Jubilee as “*Pilgrims of Hope*.” This year’s theme thus appears most timely.

In proclaiming the Kingdom of God, Jesus often used the image of the seed. As the time of his Passion drew near, he applied that image to himself, comparing himself to the grain of wheat that must die in order to bear fruit (cf. *Jn* 12:24). Seeds are buried in the earth, and there, to our wonder, life springs up, even in the most unexpected places, pointing to the promise of new beginnings. We can think, for example, of flowers springing up on our roadsides from seeds that landed up there almost by chance. As those flowers grow, they brighten the gray tarmac and even manage to break through its hard surface.

In Christ, we too are seeds, and indeed, “seeds of peace and hope.” The prophet Isaiah tells us that the Spirit of God can make an arid and parched desert into a garden, a place of rest and serenity. In his words, “a spirit from on high will be poured out on us, and the wilderness will become a fruitful field, and the fruitful field a forest. Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field.

The work of righteousness will be peace, and the work of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places” (*Is* 32:15-18).

These words of the prophet will accompany the “Season of Creation,” an ecumenical initiative to be celebrated from 1 September to 4 Oct 2025. They remind us that, together with prayer, determination and concrete actions are necessary if this “caress of God” is to become visible to our world (cf. [Laudato Si'](#), 84). The prophet contrasts justice and law with the desolation of the desert. His message is extraordinarily timely, given the evidence in various parts of the world that our earth is being ravaged. On all sides, injustice, violations of international law and the rights of peoples, grave inequalities and the greed that fuels them are spawning deforestation, pollution and the loss of biodiversity. The extreme natural phenomena caused by climate changes provoked by human activity are growing in intensity and frequency (cf. [Laudato Deum](#), 5), to say nothing of the medium and long-term effects of the human and ecological devastation being wrought by armed conflicts.

As yet, we seem incapable of recognizing that the destruction of nature does not affect everyone in the same way. When justice and peace are trampled underfoot, those who are most hurt are the poor, the marginalized and the excluded. The suffering of indigenous communities is emblematic in this regard.

That is not all. Nature itself is reduced at times to a bargaining chip, a commodity to be bartered for economic or political gain. As a result, God’s creation turns into a battleground for the control of vital resources. We see this in agricultural areas and forests peppered with landmines, “scorched earth” policies, [1] conflicts over water sources, and the unequal distribution of raw materials, which penalizes the poorer nations and undermines social stability itself.

These various wounds are the effect of sin. This is surely not what God had in mind when he entrusted the earth to the men and women whom he created in his image (cf. *Gen* 1:24-29). The Bible provides no justification for us to exercise “tyranny over creation” ([Laudato Si'](#), 200). On the contrary, “the biblical texts are to be read in their context, with an appropriate hermeneutic, recognizing that they tell us to ‘till and keep’ the garden of the world [cf. *Gen* 2:15]. ‘Tilling’ refers to cultivating, ploughing or working, while ‘keeping’ means caring, protecting, overseeing and preserving. This implies a relationship of mutual responsibility between human beings and nature” (*ibid.*, 67).

Environmental justice – implicitly proclaimed by the prophets – can no longer be regarded as an abstract concept or a distant goal. It is an urgent need that involves much more than simply protecting the environment. For it is a matter of justice – social, economic and human. For believers it is also a duty born of faith, since the universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ, in whom all things were created and redeemed. In a world where the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters are the first to suffer the devastating effects of climate change, deforestation and pollution, care for creation becomes an expression of our faith and humanity.

Now is the time to follow words with deeds. “Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience” ([Laudato Si'](#), 217). By working with love and perseverance, we can sow many seeds of justice and thus contribute to the growth of peace and the renewal of hope. It may well take years for this plant to bear its first fruits, years that, for their part, involve an entire ecosystem made up of continuity, fidelity, cooperation and love, especially if that love mirrors the Lord’s own self-sacrificing Love.

Among the Church’s initiatives that are like seeds sown in this field, I would mention the *Borgo Laudato Si'* project that Pope Francis bequeathed to us at Castel Gandolfo. It is a seed that promises to bear fruits of justice and peace, and an educational project in integral ecology that can serve as an example of how people can live, work and build community by applying the principles of [the Encyclical Laudato Si'](#).

I pray that Almighty God will send us in abundance his “Spirit from on high” (*Is* 32:15), so that these seeds, and others like them, may bring forth an abundant harvest of peace and hope.

The Encyclical [Laudato Si'](#) has now guided the Catholic Church and many people of good will for ten years. May it continue to inspire us and may integral ecology be increasingly accepted as the right path to follow. In this way, seeds of hope will multiply, to be “tilled and kept” by the grace of our great and unfailing Hope, who is the risen Christ. In his name, I offer all of you my blessing.

From the Vatican, 30 June 2025

LEO PP. XIV

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 7th August 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 July. If you would like more information please contact Ian Epondulan: youtholol7h@gmail.com or search 'Lourdes 7Hills Young Adults' on Facebook.

THE GROTTTO: 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.

July 2025

20	Evening Sunday Mass	5.00pm
20	The Grotto: Junior Youth Group Meeting	3.30pm
30	Eucharist Sacramental Program 1st Meeting	6.30pm

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

12/13 July

Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am: Fayelene Kennedy
Ministers	Vigil: Alexandra & Jesse Franco 8am: M. Santos, A. McNally 9.30am: G. Basili, C. Brooks
Readers	Vigil: N. Do Rosario, C. Rodrigues 8am: J. Mai, A. Pushparajan 9.30am: R. Epondulan, A. Han
Altar Servers	Vigil: Jacob & Benjamin Spadaro, Alina Monteiro 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: M. Gluvic, C. Bellamin, C. Attard
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group
Musicians	Vigil: Christine Woodward 8am: Christine Woodward 9.30am: Togan Choir
Flowers	Claudette & Siani
Church Cleaning	17 July Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Raul Nigli

19/20 July

Acolytes	Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am: Kilifu Huihui
Ministers	Vigil: L. La Guidara, N. Shami 8am: B. Motha, J. Irudayaraj 9.30am: Kamela Huihui, P. Gow
Readers	Vigil: A. Punch, F. Paiva 8am: J. Cabasa, P. Ferriols 9.30am: M. Aquino, A. Walker
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alex & Christina La Guidara, Janelle Hoang 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: K. Cassaniti, Julian & Orlando Martinez
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Parish Pastoral Council
Musicians	Vigil: K. Thoms & Christine Woodward 8am: Christine Clarke 9.30am: Christine Woodward 5.00pm: Maximilian's Chorale
Flowers	Fennie & Raquel
Church Cleaning	23 July Jessie Borg Anne McNally Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Volunteer

The Kids' Bulletin

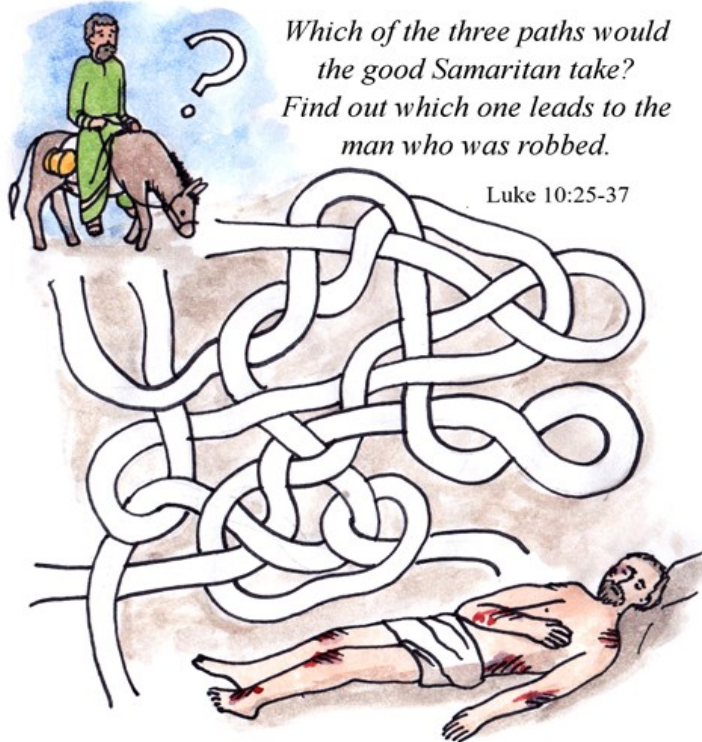
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 13th, 2025

Parable of the Good Samaritan

" 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' " Luke 10:27

Based on Luke 10:25-37



Luke 10:25-37

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

Jesus told the Parable of the Good Samaritan to show the people what it means to love your neighbour after someone asked Him "Who is my neighbour?"

JESUS	JERUSALEM	PRIEST	BEAT	CLOTHES
EXPERT	STRIPPED	HEART	PITY	ETERNAL
LEVITE	LIFE	ROBBERS	SAMARITAN	TEST
LAW	INHERIT	SOUL	MIND	DEAD
MERCY	JERICO	LOVE	STRENGTH	NEIGHBOR

