

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: 17 September 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/>

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 27 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, Tracy Galea, 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 Kevin Dougherty, Eric Fernando, Clara Galucci, Porfiria Dulay Martinez, Oscar Montano, Merle Morrissey, Lorraine Muscat, Angeles Nalumen, Crispin Nuneza, Anula Rupesinghe, Paul Sammut, Cecilia Thomas.

Anniversaries: Cecilia Abela, Mary Alagiah, France Angseesing, Cecil Beed, Giovanni Barnaba, Ronald Barley, Romeo Biniahian, Elaine Bosen, Denis Brophy, Rosario Cabasa, Catherine Chandra, Murial Chary, Aloysean Corera, Silvia Debattista, Conchita Deloso, Monica, Conception & Dominic D'Souza, John Fernando, M.A Fernando, Sam Formosa, Emmanuel Francis, Anthony, Francisca & Zenaida Garcia, Tarcisio 'Archie' Gatt, Christine & Josephine Gomez, S.M John, Muriel Jordan, Ajay Kallukalam, Lio Katopau, Edouard Mahomudally, Salvatore Loria, Mary Muscat, April Marabe, Pietro Marra, Maria Regina & Graciano Menezes, Xavier Motha Jnr, Paul Mula, Albert & Joseph Mula, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Tony Muscat, Eamon O'Sullivan, Cordula Paiva, Estelita Palmos, Nieves Torres Palmos, Adrian Perera, Lakshman Perera, Rosita Riveral, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Lawrence Stanton, John Tanti, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udan.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, Gregorio Almodovar, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Josephine Borg, Barrie Chamberlain, Ceferino, Rosario, Renato & Marilyn Cabasa, Fe & Elenito Camen, Dennis Clarke, Maria Dalgado, 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 Lafuer, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Tania McGove, John & Maureen Mead, Pauline Meilak, Leo Ngan, 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, Colleen O'Sullivan, Lakshman Perera, Ngan Pin, Eustace Ratnam, John & Roseline Ratnam, Mary Silva, Cua Sing, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Jim Vella, Bibiano & Priscila Villanueva, 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.

FIRST READING *A reading from the book of Genesis 18:20-32*

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.' The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it?

Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.' Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

'Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of affliction
you give me life and frustrate my foes. **(R.)**

4. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians 2:12-14*

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead.

You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins. He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children,
and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 11:1-13*

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.'

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

The Gospel of the Lord.



FROM FR. HENRY

Dear friends,

Prayer has always been the central part of our Christian life and the Gospel we have this Sunday deals with this part of ours, starting with the prayer of all Christian prayers.

After reading this Gospel, I typed this question 'what is the world's most popular prayer?' on Google and Mr AI gave me no answer. Then I was suggested to ask the question 'what is the world's most famous prayer?'

instead, as I did the answer came up as I expected which was the Lord's Prayer known to us also as the Our Father, the prayer that Jesus taught the disciples when they asked him to teach them to pray, though this version is shorter compared to the one found in the Gospel of Matthew (cf. 6. 9-13).

It's also interesting to see in Matthew the reasons why Jesus taught the disciples such a prayer: firstly because, he wants us not to use a lot of words; and secondly because God knows all our needs, even before we express it.

In the next part of the account, Jesus emphasised the power of persistent prayer through the story about someone asking a friend who was already in bed with his family to lend some food for another friend in need during the middle of the night; initially the request could have been turned down due to its inconvenience, but if it was asked again and again, the one in the house would have to get up and provide food to his persistent friend.

He then summed up the prayer process with three simple words that were ask, search and knock. He pointed out that those who ask will receive, those who search will find and those who keep knocking, the door will open eventually.

The last point he aimed to convey to the disciples in this Gospel perhaps is about God's generosity and wisdom. If a father on earth would never give a stone to his son when he asked for bread, or a snake when he asked for a fish, or a scorpion when he asked for an egg, God is much wiser and more generous than him, for God knows exactly what we need and is always generous to grant us accordingly.

Inspired by this prayer-centric Gospel, let us ask the Lord to increase our trust in God's wisdom and generosity and give us the confidence to ask, search and knock on His door. Pray that the door will open for His grace to fill us and turn us into His worthy people.

Have a prayer-filled week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST 2025

A gentle reminder that the sacramental meetings begin next Wednesday the 30th of July at 6.30pm in the hall. For more information please contact Artelle in the parish office.

LOL SCHOOL MASS

Sunday 3rd of August, 9.30am mass will be organised by our Parish School. Please join us as we come together as one community to celebrate mass.

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.

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. LOL 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

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 RELIGIOUS AUSTRALIA 10,000 FOR 10 INITIATIVE - 27TH JULY

To mark the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Catholic Religious Australia has launched the "10,000 for 10" initiative to encourage the planting and/or protection of 10,000 trees. There will be a number of Spotted Emu Bush, native plants available after mass this Sunday for families to take one home and plant for National Tree Day. *Eremophila Maculata* may grow to 3 metres.

LOL JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP MOVIE NIGHT

We invite children aged 9-16yrs old to join us for our junior youth group Movie Night on Saturday 2nd August, in the Parish Meeting Room, 3.45pm till 6pm. Come in your pjs and bring pillows! Invite all your friends. Dinner and snacks will be provided. For further information or to register please see flyers around the church or contact our Youth Coordinator, Diana Park via email dianap@lol7hills.com.au.

LOURDES PLAYGROUP TERM 3

Playgroup will resume next Friday 1st August. Children aged 0 to 5yrs old and their carers are warmly invited to come and join our playgroup on a Friday during the school term 9.00am-11.00am in the Parish Meeting Room. To attend, please register by 3pm the Thursday prior via Facebook under 'Lourdes Play Group' or contact Maria on 0432 174 056.

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.



DIOCESAN NEWS

Positions Vacant

• Training & Development Specialist – Safeguarding:
Diocese of Parramatta

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

HOPEFEST: 8-10 August

HOPEFEST is a Diocesan Jubilee of Hope 3 day experience for all ages hosted by St John XXIII Parish, Glenwood - Stanhope Gardens. Experiences include praise & worship, a local pilgrimage from Stanhope Parish to the Franciscan Shrine in Kellyville, community activities, life & faith workshops and opportunities to celebrate the sacraments.

Register via <https://parracatholic.org/events/hopefest/>

Diocesan Homelessness Week Memorial Service – Wrapped in Love: 8 August

You're warmly invited to a Memorial Service during Homelessness Week on Friday 8 August 2025, 6:30pm–7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta. Together, let us honour and remember those who have died while experiencing homelessness or hardship, through prayer, reflection and a spirit of compassion. Whether you want to commemorate a friend or stand in solidarity, all are welcome. This gathering is hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta, St Patrick's Cathedral, Catholic Care, and other community partners. You can find information at parracatholic.org/events/homeless-memorial-service

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.

Volunteer Communicators Network

Are you savvy with a camera, writing or social media? We want to hear from you! Share your interest with us to support our storytelling in *Catholic Outlook*, our websites and social media. Name/contact details are required: parracatholic.org/communicators

LOLO SAFEGUARDING NEWS

NEW MINISTRY APP

Diocese of Parramatta recently developed a new Ministry App, providing easy and safe check-ins for all clergy and religious ministering in different parishes and locations. Last week Fr Henry and LOL parish staff completed the training and this new system is now available in our church for any visiting clergy.

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>.

LOLO 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.

Volunteers needed at Catholic Care Emerton!

Catholic Care is looking for volunteers to help at their Walk-In Centre in Emerton on Tuesdays to Thursdays. Volunteers would assist welcoming people into the drop-in centre, greeting clients for counselling appointments, assisting the local Aunties' yarnning and art gatherings, reception of the OzHarvest food delivery and overall assistance with Catholic Care projects and programs. For more information, please contact Catholic Care on (02) 8843 2500.

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/>

Expressions of Interest now open for Australian Catholic Youth Festival: Closes 25 August

The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Australian Church at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne from 30 November to 3 December 2025! Join thousands of young Catholics from across Australia for an unforgettable festival featuring inspiring guest speakers, artists, and musicians. For more details and to express your interest by 25 August 2025, see parracatholic.org/connect/acyf or email hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org

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/>

Pre-Sale Now Open: Noë!! Noë!! at St Patrick's Cathedral

Pre-sale access is available for the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra's much-loved *Noë!! Noë!!* concert at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Join us for an unforgettable evening of festive music in our beautiful church on Tuesday 16th December, 7.30pm. [Pre-sale access is open](#) until 28 July, before tickets become available to the general public.

National Child Protection Week: 7–13 September 2025

National Child Protection Week is the 7th-13th September. LOL 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 much safer communities. You can learn more online 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.

POPE LEO'S ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

Today's liturgy invites us to reflect on the hospitality shown by Abraham and his wife Sarah, and later by the sisters Martha and Mary, who were friends of Jesus (cf. *Gen* 18:1-10; *Lk* 10:38-42). Every time we are invited to the Lord's Supper and share in the Eucharistic meal, it is God himself who "comes to serve us" (cf. *Lk* 12:37). Yet God first knew what it was to be a guest, and today as well, he stands at our door and knocks (cf. *Rev* 3:20). In Italian, the same word can mean both "guest" and "host." On this summer Sunday, let us reflect on this interplay of giving and receiving hospitality, for without it our lives are impoverished.

Humility is needed to offer hospitality, but also to receive it. It also takes courtesy, attentiveness and openness. In the Gospel, Martha risks missing out on some of the joy of this exchange. She is so caught up in preparing to welcome Jesus that she nearly spoils a unique moment of encounter. Martha is a generous person, but our Lord calls her to something more than generosity alone. He calls her to leave her preparations behind and to come and spend time with him.

Dear brothers and sisters, our lives can only flourish if we learn to be open to something greater than ourselves, something that brings us happiness and fulfillment. Martha complains that her sister has left her alone to serve (cf. v. 40), but Mary is completely caught up in Jesus' words. She is no less practical than her sister, nor less generous, but she recognized what was most important. That is why Jesus chides Martha. She was missing an opportunity to share in a moment that would have brought her great joy (cf. vv. 41-42).

The summer season can help us learn how to slow down and become more like Mary than Martha. Sometimes we too fail to choose the better part. We need to take time to rest and try to learn better the art of hospitality. The holiday industry wants to sell us all sorts of "experiences," but perhaps not the ones we are really looking for.

Every genuine encounter is free; it cannot be bought, whether it is an encounter with God, with others or with nature. We need only learn the art of hospitality, which includes both welcoming others and allowing ourselves to be welcomed. We have much to receive, not only to give. Abraham and Sarah, despite their advanced years, found themselves being parents after they welcomed the Lord himself in the three visitors. We too have so much life ahead of us, remaining to be welcomed and embraced.

Let us pray to Mary Most Holy, our Mother, who welcomed our Lord, bore him in her womb, and together with Joseph gave him a home. In her, we see the beauty of our own vocation, the vocation of the Church, to be a home open to all and in this way to welcome her Lord, who knocks at our door and asks our permission to enter.

After the Angelus prayer

Dear brothers and sisters,

This morning I celebrated the Eucharist in the Cathedral of Albano. It was a significant moment of ecclesial communion and encounter with the diocesan community. I thank His Excellency Bishop Viva who is present here and all those who worked to organise this beautiful celebration. I offer my best wishes to the entire diocesan community!

Tragic news continues to arrive in these days from the Middle East, especially from Gaza.

I express my profound sadness regarding last Thursday's attack by the Israeli army on the Catholic Parish of the Holy Family in Gaza City, which as you know killed three Christians and gravely wounded others. I pray for the victims, Saad Issa Kostandi Salameh, Foumia Issa Latif Ayyad, Najwa Ibrahim Latif Abu Daoud, and I am particularly close to their families and to all the parishioners. Sadly, this act adds to the continuous military attacks against the civilian population and places of worship in Gaza.

I again call for an immediate halt to the barbarism of the war and for a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

I renew my appeal to the international community to observe humanitarian law and to respect the obligation to protect civilians, as well as the prohibition of collective punishment, the indiscriminate use of force and the forced displacement of the population.

To our beloved Middle Eastern Christians I say: I deeply sympathise with your feeling that you can do little in the face of this grave situation. You are in the heart of the Pope and of the whole Church. Thank you for your witness of faith. May the Virgin Mary, woman of the Levant, dawn of the new Sun that has risen in history, protect you always and accompany the world towards the dawn of peace.

I greet all of you, faithful of Castel Gandolfo and all of the pilgrims present here.

I greet the young participants of the pilgrimage organised by the Catholic Worldview Fellowship, who are visiting Rome after several weeks of prayer and formation.

I thank the International Forum of Catholic Action for promoting the "Prayer Marathon for Leaders": the invitation, addressed to each one of us, is to pause today between 10 am to 10 pm to pray for just one minute, asking the Lord to enlighten our leaders and inspire in them projects for peace.

In these weeks, some families of the Focolare movement are in Loppiano for the "International School of New Families." I pray that this experience of spirituality and fraternity will make you firm in the faith and joyful in the spiritual accompaniment of other families.

I greet the students, teachers and staff of the Catholic Institute of Technology, which has its headquarters here in Castel Gandolfo. I greet the Agesci Gela 3 Scout Group, engaged in the Jubilee pilgrimage that will end before the tomb of Blessed Carlo Acutis. I also greet the young people of Castello di Godego, who are engaged in a service experience with Caritas of Rome, and I greet the faithful of Palermo and those of Sarsina.

Also present are the members of the folkloristic group "O Stazzo," as well as the musical band of Alba de Tormes. In a few days I will return to the Vatican, after these two weeks that I have stayed here in Castel Gandolfo. I would like to thank all of you for your hospitality and wish all of you a happy Sunday!

POPE LEO'S RECENT HOMILY AT ALBANO

By Kielce Gussie

Marking his third Sunday at the papal summer residence in the Castel Gandolfo, Pope Leo XIV presided over Mass for the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time at the nearby Cathedral of Albano.

At the start of his homily, the Pope joked about having to change in plans to visit Albano back in May. "As you know, I was supposed to arrive on May 12, but the Holy Spirit had other plans. Still, I'm truly happy to be here, and with this sense of fraternity and Christian joy, I greet all of you present."

Reflecting upon the first reading and the Gospel, he said these passages call us to reflect on hospitality, service, and listening.

Good hosts

The Pope first looked at the first reading from Genesis where three men visit Abraham "in the heat of the day". Pope Leo pointed out how Abraham's response to these visitors as master of the house was one of hospitality. With this attitude, the atmosphere changed and, as the Pope highlighted, "the afternoon's stillness is filled with gestures of love" from Abraham, his wife Sarah, and their servants. In that setting, God shares the news the couple had been waiting for: they will have a son.

This encounter encourages us to reflect on how God chose the path of hospitality to enter into Abraham and Sarah's lives.

Twin dimensions of hospitality

Turning to the Gospel, Pope Leo commented on how the passage "teaches us about God's way of acting." Jesus came as a guest in the house of Martha and Mary, not as a stranger but as a friend during a celebration. The two sisters react to their guest in very different ways: Martha welcomes him by serving, while Mary sits at his feet to listen to him. Jesus responded to Martha's comments by inviting her to see the value of listening. Yet, the Pope stressed that "it would be incorrect, however, to see these two attitudes as mutually exclusive, or to compare the merits of the two women." Service and listening, he said are "twin dimensions of hospitality." When striving to live these two aspects in our daily lives, our relationship with God must come first and we need to live out our faith through concrete actions, according to our state in life. But we can only do this after reflecting on the Word of God and listening for the Holy Spirit. In order to do this, the Pope called us to dedicate times of silence and prayer, eliminating distractions, so we can focus on God and give him space to speak to us.

He argued "this is a dimension of the Christian life that we particularly need to recover today, both as a value for individuals and communities, and as a prophetic sign for our times." The Pope pointed out that summer is a good moment to push for this and experience the beauty of our relationship with God and how it can help us be more open to others.

Summer vacation and God

As summer often offers more free time to reflect and spend time with others, Pope Leo challenged everyone to "make good use of this, by leaving behind the whirlwind of commitments and worries in order to savour a few moments of peace and reflection" and to visit others.

Summer can be an opportunity to care for others, get to know them, and listen to them.

These are all expressions of love, the Pope explained, of which we are all in need. He argued that if we can courageously try to live these out, we will be promoting a culture of peace, "helping those around us to overcome divisions and hostility and to build communion between individuals, peoples and religions."

Recognizing that this demands effort and sacrifices, Pope Leo stressed that it is in these efforts that "something worthwhile can be built in life." Listening to and serving others is the only way to create and strengthen genuine relationships with others.

Thank you for your service

At the end of Mass, Pope Leo presented the Bishop of Albano, Vincenzo Viva, with a chasuble. "We present this gift to His Excellency, an expression of our closeness to his diocesan Church, with the hope that the Lord's blessing may always accompany you. Thank you for your service and thank you to your people."

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.

August 2025

2	Junior Youth Group Movie Night	3.45pm
3	OLOL school run Mass	9.30am
3	Fr Henry Eucharistic Talk	11.00am

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

26/27 July

Acolytes	Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Ramzee Michael
Ministers	Vigil: J. Sarmiento, R. Soares 8am: L. Fernandes, K. Kennedy 9.30am: M. Michael, M. Aquino
Readers	Vigil: C. Rodrigues, T. Perak 8am: M. Santos, K. Walker 9.30am: J. Nonato, C. Diaz
Altar Servers	Vigil: D. Sant & J. Sant, A. Bagatella 8am: H. Winter, K. Maruthanayagam, C. Bellamin, 9.30am: SUB Rqd., A. Melki, C. Attard
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ
Musicians	Vigil: Nina's Group 8am: Christine Clarke 9.30am: Nina's Group
Flowers	Annette & Mary
Church Cleaning	9 August Tongan Community Edgardo Barcelon Edgar Cabrera
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Anne McNally 9.30am: Egardo Barcelon

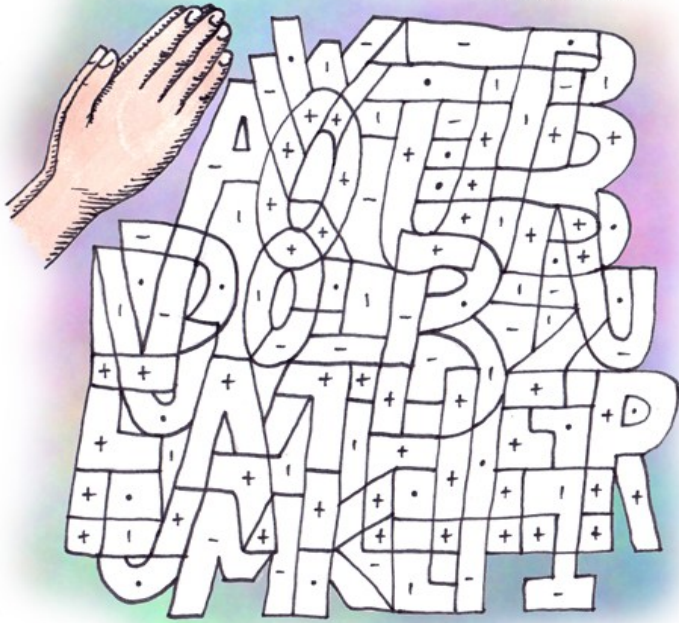
2/3 August

Acolytes	Vigil: Lawrence Falzon 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am: Rommel Lagare
Ministers	Vigil: D. Green, M. Mifsud 8am: F. Paiva, J. Sarmiento 9.30am: OLOL School
Readers	Vigil: R. Saldanha, M. Simic 8am: T. Perak, B. Motha 9.30am: OLOL School
Altar Servers	Vigil: H. Winter, J. Blackshaw, C. Smith 8am: A. Faulkner-Dhiman, Sub Rqd 9.30am: M. Stormer, E. Wright, C. Attard
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Parish Office
Musicians	Vigil: Christine Clarke 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: OLOL School
Flowers	Fenty & Liz
Church Cleaning	21 August Cathy Hutchings Edgardo Barcelon Annette Peatman
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Raul Nigli

The Kids' Bulletin

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 27th, 2025

Luke 11:1-13



Jesus taught His disciples a prayer that we still use today. We often call it by its first two words. To find out what they are, colour in ONLY the spaces with crosses. (+)



Jesus Teaches About Prayer

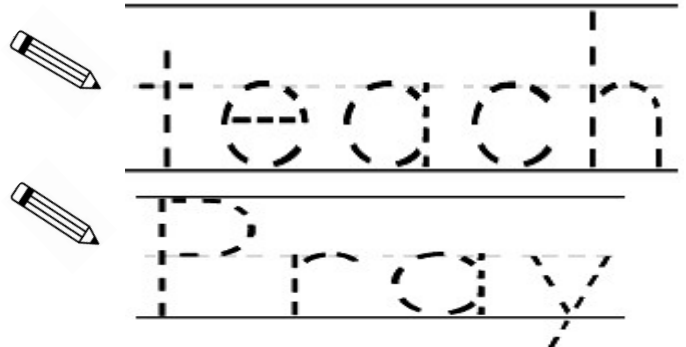
For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. Luke 11:10 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 11:1-9 (NIV).



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

FIND	PRAY	OPEN	TEMPATION	FRIEND
SEEK	FATHER	NAME	KNOCK	RECEIVE
MIDNIGHT	DAILY	TEACH	LEAD	BREAD
SINS	KINGDOM	HALLOWED	FORGIVE	ASK



Follow the path to Jesus.

