

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. NSW. 2147

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Parish 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: 10 August 2025
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall
Youth Co-Ordinator: Diana Park
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.org.au
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 3 August 2025 • Year C

Let us Pray for the Sick



Florence Arinanan, Lorenzo Balabat, Sarah Bartolo, Max Barrett, Irene Cabasa, Esperanza M. Camat, Hoa Chau, Lawrence Charles, James Debatista, 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, Tessie Portelli, 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: Rodney Bell, William Rebecca Bermudo, Nhan Ngoc Dang, Lorna Dehdeh, Kevin Dougherty, Eric Fernando, Clara Galucci, Porfira 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, Frank & Victor Baiada, Ronald Barley, Romeo Biniah, Nazarene (Ronnie) Borg, Sam Borg, Elaine Bosen, Denis Brophy, Ceferino & Rosario Cabasa, Catherine Chandra, Murial Chary, Aloysean Corera, David Quan Dang, Silvia Debatista, 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, Michael Kolosa, Edouard Mahomudally, 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 Palms, Nieves Torres Palms, Adrian Perera, Lakshman Perera, Laureano Reyes, Rosita Rival, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, John Tanti, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udan. The deceased members of the Falzon & Muscat families.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, Gregorio Almodovar, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Josephine Borg, Barrie Chamberlain, Renato & Marilyn Cabasa, Fe & Elenito Carmen, Dennis Clarke, Johnny Edwards, Maria Dalgado, Sam & Silvia Debatista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Launcer De Guire, 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 Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23*

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity! For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all.

This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. **(R.)**

2. You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades. **(R.)**

3. Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**

4. In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11*

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 12:13-21*

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



FROM FR. HENRY

Dear friends,

Compared to a lot of my compatriots who lost so many things as they escaped the Communist Vietnam in the 70s, 80s and 90s as boat people, I just left my family and friends behind. My only possession was a bike entrusted to a close friend to hand it over to my family, that later on was stolen when one of my brothers went to Mass in a neighbouring parish. On the other hand, a lot of other Vietnamese people, especially older ones, lost a lot apart from risking their lives, they lost their houses, land and riches they worked very hard for many years to accumulate and many even lost their loved ones at sea or in the jungles. Despite all those huge risks, they still decided to gamble everything with the hope they will gain a more dignified life, sadly it was said that half of us boat people ended up as losers in such a life-gambling game.

In the Gospel this Sunday, Jesus used the parable of the rich man who worked so hard for so long on his land to get the crops in season after season and managed to build bigger and bigger barns to store all his goods, but at the time he made the decision to retire to enjoy life, he was called to leave this world with nothing to bring with him into the next life. This is what the writer of the first reading called the vanity of vanities.

So, what should we do to make sure our labours won't be lost forever? The answer for this existential question can be located at the end of the Gospel account in which Jesus invites us to make a lasting investment by storing up treasure for ourselves in heaven through our efforts to become rich before us by means of the good things we do and kind words we say in our everyday lives. This is the kind of life that St Paul described in the second reading as keeping our thoughts focused on heavenly things and not on earthly things.

Let us ask for the grace from the Eucharist we celebrate today to help us realise the shortness of all earthly possessions and wealth, consequently we will be more determined to focus on the task of building up for ourselves a wealthy portfolio in heaven by utilising the means God has given each of us such as our skills, opportunities, money and wealth to serve God and others, especially those in need around us both here and beyond.

Have a heaven-oriented week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST 2025

A gentle reminder that the sacramental meetings have began. The next meeting is Wednesday 6th of August at 6.30pm in the hall or Saturday of 9th August. For further information please contact Artelle in 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. 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

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.

TOONGABBIE LEGAL CENTRE 9TH & 10TH AUGUST

Toongabbie Legal Centre (TLC) volunteers will be selling raffle tickets after masses next weekend, along with some merchandise items. All proceeds will directly support their free legal clinic provided for over 17 yrs to disadvantaged, marginalised and vulnerable people of Western Sydney. Tickets are \$2.00 each or \$20.00 for a book of 10 tickets with ten prizes.

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.

OLOL SCHOOL MASS

Thank you to our Parish School for preparing 9:30am Mass this Sunday, giving us the opportunity to come together as a community in faith and celebration.

THANK YOU TO FRANCO COLUSSI

A big thank you to Franco Colussi who kindly installed the hand rails behind the altar on Wednesday. We appreciate your workmanship.

FR JOSEPH LAM BOOK ON POPE LEO XIV

Fr Joseph Lam, Parish Priest at the Parish of Baulkham Hills, has produced a new book that explores the traces of St Augustine in the words and messages of the successors of St Peter since 2005: Benedict XVI, Francis and Leo XIV. The book is \$45, with proceeds to help the renovation of the old heritage building at Baulkham Hills. To pre-order the book, please contact admin@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au.

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.

LOURDES PLAYGROUP TERM 3

Playgroup has resumed for term 3. Children aged 0 to 5yrs old and their carers are warmly invited to come and join our playgroup on a Friday morning 9.00am till 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.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Positions Vacant

- Training & Development Specialist – Safeguarding: Diocese of Parramatta
- Facilitator – Family Engagement: Mission Enhancement Team, 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

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

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

LOL SAFEGUARDING NEWS

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 1-3 September

The next sessions of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on the following days at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre:

- Monday 1 September for Initial training (Modules 1-3) from 9.30am to 2.30pm
- Tuesday 2 September for Renewal training (Modules 4 and 5) from 10am to 1.39pm
- Wednesday 3 September for Refresher training (Module 6) from 10am to 12noon.

Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at:

<https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings – 2025-26 Social Justice Statement: 13 August

"Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings" are quarterly online gatherings for everyone interested in social justice, care for creation, or global peace. The next gathering on Wednesday 13 August from 6.30pm to 8pm will break open the 2025-2026 ACBC Social Justice Statement: "Signs of Hope on the Edge – Serving Homeless People with Mental Ill-Health", which will be launched on the same day. To receive a Zoom link, please RSVP to met@parracatholic.org

Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend: 16-17 August

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. The next Engaged Encounter Weekend will be held on 16-17 August, with future dates in November and February 2026. For further information, visit www.engagedencounter.org.au

Entries open for the 2025 The Good Oil Writers' Award

Entries are invited for The Good Oil 2025 Writers' Award, an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan in partnership with Garratt Publishing. In this Jubilee Year in the Church, the theme of the award is Pilgrims of Hope. The award aims to support and encourage the development of aspiring and published writers. Entry is free and open to writers aged 18 and over. Entries close at 5pm AEST on Friday 29 August 2025. For further information, visit:

<https://www.goodsams.org.au/article/entries-invited-for-the-good-oil-2025-writers-award/>

Catholic Catechism and Spiritual Warfare: 16 August

Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill, will be hosting a talk by Fr Jose Francisco Syquia from the Archdiocese of Manila on a variety of Catholic topics on Saturday 16 August 2025 at 3:30 pm. The talk will be followed by the Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm which will be celebrated by Fr Syquia. For further information and to RSVP, please click on the link:

<https://forms.gle/KBGM6qjt2DsdG8uS7>.

Baulkham Hills Parish Community Fete: 21 September

Join the Baulkham Hills Parish for their Community Fete on Sunday, 21 September 2025, 10am-4pm, at St Michael's Primary School, Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills. There will be delicious food, music, entertainment, games and activities for all!

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. Fr Henry and LOL parish staff have completed the training and this new system is now available in our church for any visiting clergy.

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.

POPE LEO'S ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

Today's Gospel presents Jesus teaching his disciples the Our Father (cf. *Lk* 11:1-13). This is the prayer that unites all Christians, in which the Lord invites us to address God as "Abba," "Father," with childlike "simplicity, filial trust boldness, the certainty of being loved" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2778).

The Catechism of the Catholic Church expresses this very well: "Thus the Lord's Prayer *reveals us to ourselves* at the same time that it reveals the Father to us" (ibid., 2783). Indeed, how true this is, for the more we pray with confidence to our heavenly Father, the more we discover that we are beloved children and the more we come to know the greatness of his love (cf. *Rom* 8:14-17).

Today's Gospel goes on to describe the characteristics of God's fatherhood through vivid images: that of a man who gets up in the middle of the night to assist a friend in welcoming an unexpected visitor; and that of a parent who is concerned about giving good things to his children.

These images remind us that God never turns his back on us when we come to him, even if we arrive late to knock at his door, perhaps after mistakes, missed opportunities, failures, or even if, in order to welcome us, he has to "wake up" his children who are sleeping at home (cf. *Lk* 11:7). Indeed, in the great family of the Church, the Father does not hesitate to make us all participants in each of his loving gestures. The Lord always listens to us when we pray to him. If he sometimes responds in ways or at times that are difficult to understand, it is because he acts with wisdom and providence, which are beyond our understanding. Even in these moments, then, let us not cease to pray and pray with confidence for in him we will always find light and strength.

When we recite the Our Father, in addition to celebrating the grace of being children of God, we also express our commitment to responding to this gift by loving one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. Reflecting on this, one of the Fathers of the Church wrote: "We must remember and know that when we call God 'our Father' we ought to behave as children of God" (Saint Cyprian of Carthage, *De Dom. orat.*, 11), and another adds: "You cannot call the God of all kindness your Father if you preserve a cruel and inhuman heart; for in this case you no longer have in you the mark of the heavenly Father's kindness" (Saint John Chrysostom, *De orat. Dom.*, 3). We cannot pray to God as "Father" and then be harsh and insensitive towards others. Instead, it is important to let ourselves be transformed by his goodness, his patience, his mercy, so that his face may be reflected in ours as in a mirror.

Dear brothers and sisters, today's liturgy invites us, through prayer and charity, to feel loved and to love as God loves us: with openness, discretion, mutual concern, and without deceit. Let us ask Mary to help us respond to this call, so that we may manifest the sweetness of the Father's face.

After the Angelus prayer

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today we celebrate the Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, centred on the theme: "Blessed are those who have not lost hope." Let us look to grandparents and the elderly as witnesses of hope, capable of showing the path for new generations. Let us not leave them alone, but instead, form a bond of love and prayer with them.

My heart is close to all those who are suffering due to conflict and violence throughout the world. In particular, I pray for those affected by the clashes along the border between Thailand and Cambodia, especially displaced children and families. May the Prince of Peace inspire everyone to seek dialogue and reconciliation.

I also pray for the victims of violence in southern Syria.

I am following with great concern the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza, where the civilian population is suffering from severe hunger and remains exposed to violence and death. I renew my heartfelt appeal for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and the full respect of humanitarian law.

Every human person possesses an inherent dignity, bestowed by God himself. I urge all parties involved in conflicts to recognize this dignity and to end every action that violates it. I call for negotiations aimed at securing a future of peace for all peoples, and for the rejection of anything that might jeopardize it.

I entrust to Mary, Queen of Peace, the innocent victims of conflicts and those leaders who have the power to resolve them. I greet those from Vatican Radio/Vatican News, which, to be closer to the faithful and pilgrims during the Jubilee Year, has inaugurated a small station under Bernini's colonnade together with *L'Osservatore Romano*. Thank you for your service in many languages, which brings the Pope's voice to the world. And thank you to all journalists who contribute to the communication of peace and truth.

I greet all of you who have come from Italy and from many parts of the world, in particular the grandparents from San Cataldo, the young Capuchin friars of Europe, the Confirmation candidates from the parish cluster of Grantorto-Carturo, the youth from Montecarlo di Lucca, and the Scouts of Licata.

I greet with particular affection the young people from various countries who have gathered in Rome for the Jubilee of Youth. I hope that this will be an opportunity for each of you to encounter Christ, and to be strengthened by him in your faith and in your commitment to following Christ with integrity of life.

[In English:] I greet the faithful from Kearny (New Jersey), the Catholic Music Award group and the EWTN Summer Academy. I also greet with particular affection the young people from various countries who have gathered in Rome for the Jubilee of Youth, which begins tomorrow. I hope that this will be an opportunity for each of you to encounter Christ, and to be strengthened by him in your faith and in your commitment to following Christ with integrity of life.

[In Spanish:] I greet with particular affection the young people from various countries who have gathered in Rome for the Jubilee of Youth. I hope that this will be an opportunity for each of you to encounter Christ, and to be strengthened by him in your faith and in your commitment to following Christ with integrity of life.

This evening, the "*Madonna Fiumarola*" procession will take place on the Tiber River. May all who take part in this beautiful Marian tradition learn from the Mother of Jesus how to live the Gospel in their daily lives! I wish you all a blessed Sunday!

POPE LEO'S ADDRESS AT THE RECENT GENERAL AUDIENCE

Cycle of Catechesis - Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our hope. II. The life of Jesus. 12. The healing of a deaf man with a speech impediment. They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well; he even makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak." (Mk 7:37)

Dear brothers and sisters,

With this catechesis, we conclude our journey through the public life of Jesus, marked by encounters, parables, and healings.

This time in which we live also needs healing. Our world is marked by a climate of violence and hatred that demeans human dignity. We live in a society that is becoming ill due to a kind of "bulimia" of social media connections: we are hyper-connected, bombarded by images, sometimes false or distorted. We are overwhelmed by countless messages that stir within us a storm of contradictory emotions.

In this scenario, it is possible that within us arises the desire to turn everything off. We may come to prefer not to feel anything anymore. Even our words risk being misunderstood, and we may be tempted to close ourselves in silence, into a lack of communication where, despite our closeness, we are no longer able to say to one another the most simple and profound things.

In this regard, today I would like to reflect on a passage from the Gospel of Mark that presents us with a man who cannot speak or hear (cf. Mk 7:31–37). Just as it can sometimes happen to us, perhaps this man chose not to speak anymore because he did not feel understood; he chose to shut off every voice because he had been disappointed and wounded by what he had heard. In fact, it is not he who goes to Jesus to be healed, but others bring him. One may think that the people who take him to the Master are concerned about his isolation. The Christian community, however, has also seen in these people an image of the Church, which accompanies each person to Jesus so that they may listen to His word. The episode takes place in pagan territory, so we are in a context where other voices tend to drown out God's voice.

Jesus' behavior may initially seem strange, because He takes this person aside (v. 33a). In this way, He seems to emphasize his isolation, but on closer look, it helps us to understand what lies behind the silence and closure of this man, as if Jesus had perceived his need for intimacy and closeness.

Before anything else, Jesus offers him silent closeness, through gestures that speak of a profound encounter: He touches this man's ears and tongue (cf. v. 33b). Jesus does not use many words; He says only what is necessary in that moment: "Be opened!" (v. 34). Mark uses the word in Aramaic—*Eph'phatha*—as though to let us hear, almost "in person" its sound and breath. This simple and beautiful word contains the invitation that Jesus addresses to this man who had stopped listening and speaking. It is as if Jesus were saying to him: "Be opened to this world that frightens you! Be opened to the relationships that have disappointed you! Be opened to the life you have given up facing!". Closing in on oneself, in fact, is never a solution.

After the encounter with Jesus, that person not only begins to speak again, but he does so "plainly" (v. 35). This adverb, inserted by the Evangelist, seems to suggest something deeper about the reasons for his silence. Perhaps this man had stopped speaking because he felt he was saying things the wrong way, perhaps he felt inadequate. All of us experience what it means to be misunderstood, to feel that we are not truly heard. All of us need to ask the Lord to heal our way of communicating, not only so that we may be more effective, but also so that we may avoid wounding others with our words.

To begin speaking correctly again is the start of a journey, it is not yet the destination. In fact, Jesus forbids that man from talking about what has happened to him (cf. v. 36). To truly know Jesus, one must complete a journey; one must remain with Him and also pass through His Passion. When we have seen Him humiliated and suffering, when we have experienced the saving power of His Cross, then we can say that we have truly come to know Him. There are no shortcuts to becoming disciples of Jesus.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us ask the Lord that we may learn to communicate with honesty and prudence. Let us pray for all those who have been wounded by the words of others. Let us pray for the Church, that she may never fail in her mission to lead people to Jesus, so that they may hear His Word, be healed by it, and in turn become bearers of His message of salvation.

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 14th 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 GROTTA: OLOL JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

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

LOURDES PLAYGROUP

OLOL Parish playgroup is a fun playtime for children aged 0 to 5 years old and their carers. It is held every Friday morning during school terms 9.00am-11.00am in the Parish Meeting Room. For further information please contact Maria Hosni 0432 174 056 or the Parish Office.

LEGION OF MARY

Thursdays at 1.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room. All Welcome.

Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group

Thursdays at 9.30am in the Parish Meeting Room. All Welcome

Vinnies Support Centres Are Available To Those In Need

The St Vincent de Paul Society has members and community-focused Vinnies Support Centres right across NSW. They provide people in immediate crisis with assistance. If you need assistance, call 131812 (option 3) to be redirected to your nearest Vinnies Support Centre. To find out more about the support that is available, visit <https://www.vinnies.org.au/nsw/find-help>. If you'd like to contribute to helping those in need in the local community through the St Vincent de Paul Society, please email Reno Abela at rael24@gmail.com.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION FOR OUR WEEKEND MASSES

With the intention to help our community to get more involved at Mass and better appreciate our share in the priesthood of the faithful, meaning our call to be priests, prophets and kings or queens of Jesus through baptism that Fr David Orr reminded us in our Parish retreat, I would like to invite all our parishioners to take part in the offertory procession, especially families that have some special celebrations in the families, such as baptisms, birthdays, wedding anniversaries, or death anniversaries. Please see Fr Henry or Ernie before Mass to arrange it.

August 2025

6	2nd Sacramental Meeting	6.30pm
9	2nd Sacramental Meeting RPT	4.30pm
13	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	7.30pm

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

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

9/10 August

Acolytes	Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am: Ramzee Michael
Ministers	Vigil: R. Soares, F. Paiva 8am: M. Santos, F. Kennedy 9.30am: P. Gow, M. Michael
Readers	Vigil: C. Rodrigues, A. Punch 8am: P. Ferriols, A. McNally 9.30am: Z. Smith, N. Arambulo
Altar Servers	Vigil: M. Forrest, G. George, J. Steele 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: L. Sager, N. D'Cruz, L. Sadipoor
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group
Musicians	Vigil: Christine Woodward 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir
Flowers	Claudette, Fennie & Raquel
Church Cleaning	27 August Jessie Borg Anne McNally Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Volunteer

The Kids' Bulletin

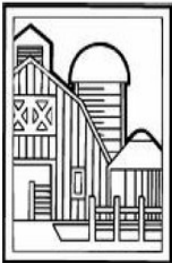
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 3rd, 2025

Use the code at the bottom to find out
what the rich farmer in today's Gospel wasn't thinking about.

The Parable of the Rich Fool

Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of
greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."
Luke 12:15 (NLT)

Based on Luke 12:13-21



Luke 12:13-21



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9 8 8 + 5 7 - 9 5 + 5 X

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	+	-	X
A	B	D	E	H	I	L	N	O	P	R	S	T

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

JUDGE	CROWD	THINGS	BARN	GUARD
STORE	EAT	BIGGER	LIFE	GREED
RICH	FOOL	DIVIDE	GROUND	DRINK
GOOD	CROP	WATCH	GRAIN	MERRY

Guide the angels to heaven.

END

