



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

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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: 24 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/>

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 24 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 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, Michelle Pellicano, Maricar Poblete, Tessie Portelli, Veronica Portelli, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Luzviminda Camat Robles, Arabella Steele, Chandra Sampantham, 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: Lise Ally, Rodney Bell, William Rebecca Bermudo, Kevin Dougherty, Caridad Eco, Frances Flannery, Eric Fernando, Clara Galucci, Elaine Mooney, Franjevan Gnanaratnam, Lorraine Muscat, Kenny Nolan, Crispin Nuneza, Anula Rupesinghe, Cecilia Thomas, Sanjivan, Sheadon Trek.

Anniversaries: Mary Alagiah, France Angseesing, Cecil Beed, Giovanni Barnaba, Frank & Victor Baiada, Ronald Barley, Romeo Binihan, Nazarene (Ronnie) Borg, Sam Borg, Elaine Bosen, Denis Brophy, Joseph & Carmeva, Ceferino & Rosario Cabasa, Rose Camenzuli, Joseph & Terry Caruana, Catherine Chandra, Paul & Simone Commamond, Aloysean Corera, David Quan Dang, Fr. Loiseau, Silvia Debattista, Conchita Deloso, Alexander Farrugia, Joan Falzon, Emmanuel Francis, M.A. Fernando, John Fernando, Sammy Formosa, Anthony, Francisca & Zenaida Garcia, Christine & Josephine Gomez, Muriel Jordan, Amirtham John, Michael Kolosa, Fr. Loiseau, Laurence Morrissey, Mary Muscat, April Marabe, Pietro Marra, Maria Xavier Motha Jnr, Paul Mula, Albert & Joseph Mula, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Tony Muscat, Ignacio Nonato Snr, Cordula Paiva, Adrian Perera, Lakshman Perera, Laureano Reyes, Rosita Riveral, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Natalie Spiteri, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Caroline Susainathan, Eddie Tabone, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udan.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, Gregorio Almodovar, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Josephine Borg, Bridgette Cash, Barrie Chamberlain, Renato & Marilyn Cabasa, Fe & Elenito Carmen, Dennis Clarke, Johnny Edwards, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Launcer De Guire, Ngan Siu Eng, Ron & Joy Fenech, John & Helen Fenech, 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, Constance Gaycroft, Selvam Irudayaraj, Jonathan Tek Kie, Harold, Marc, Rosine Lafuer, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Sophia Zonna Matua, Tania McGove, John & Maureen Mead, Pauline Meilak, Alfred Micalleff, Leo Ngan, Cole Ngan, Roco Manansala, 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, Con Pelegrini, Lakshman Perera, Ngan Pin, Eustace Ratnam, John & Roseline Ratnam, Mary Silva, Cua Sing, George & Bridgette Sammut, Tony Vassolo, 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 prophet Isaiah 66:18-21*

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory.

They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! **(R.)**

2. Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13*

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons.

Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 13:22-30*

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



FROM FR. HENRY

Dear friends,

This year, as you know, marks the 50th anniversary of the fall of Saigon and the South of Vietnam and the beginning of the exodus of many Vietnamese including me fleeing the country to find freedom elsewhere throughout the world as boat people.

Perhaps many of you have seen the footage of the last days of Saigon on the 30th of April 1975 when fearful and disoriented crowds tried to climb over the barbed-wire fence of the American embassy compound when they found its doors were closed. Indeed, many had a go at it but just a few succeeded, and even if they succeeded, a lot of them were left behind because there was no room for them in the helicopters sent in for the evacuation program.

Those left behind then, I guess, had to be very desperate and disappointed, apart from fearful of course, and this story perhaps is helpful for you and me to reflect upon the Gospel this Sunday. Imagine again the scenario set by Jesus in the account when we come to knock on his door and ask him on the Last Day, 'Lord, please open the door for me,' and receive this answer, 'sorry, I don't know who you are, go away from me forever' and we try to explain with no effects. This is much worse than being refused access to an evacuation helicopter on April 1975 in Saigon, since those who could not board the plane then, were able to find other means to leave Vietnam later on, but there will be absolutely no chance to escape for those who find the door of heaven closed when they come to knock on the day of Reckoning, so we have to take Jesus' warning in the Gospel this Sunday seriously and make sure the door of the Lord's will be open for us to get in when the time comes.

Fortunately, Jesus also gives us a clue of what we can do to have his door open for us, that we must try our best to enter heaven by the narrow door, a symbolic image indicating a life filled with good works, disciplines, dedications and prayers, a life that Jesus encouraged us to live out in the Gospel of the last three weeks meant to focus on making us rich before God by building for ourselves a treasure in heaven through good works, prayers and love for God and people.

Let us ask Jesus for his grace today to find the narrow door of good works and prayers to enter God's heavenly house and be received and given a dwelling for all eternity.

Have a Christ-centric week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

A REPORT FROM OUR LAST PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

During our Parish Pastoral Council meeting last Wednesday, Hendra Azwar, our architect was invited to come and show participants the sketch of the Hall canopy to be built to help provide a proper shelter for our community to gather after Mass. Everyone is welcomed to have a look at the sketch displayed on the church walls this week, and please get ready to support our coming fund raising programs for the project.

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please remember that we are all responsible for our House of God at Seven Hills. When using the Church's equipment we ask that they be returned back to their correct spot, take care when opening/closing windows and by not bringing any food into the church, that includes the crying room. Parents are encouraged to bring soft toys and pencils for children to work with our weekly bulletin. We kindly ask parents to please monitor your children near the candles at all times.

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.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OLOL WINTER APPEAL

Our parish responded generously to the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal raising \$2010. With recent requests for food and blankets some grateful people will be warmer and nourished by your gifts.

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.

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

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.

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 'Our Lady of 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
- Parish Secretary: Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kellyville

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

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!

Jubilee Year Adult Pilgrimage Commissioning Mass: 31 August

All are welcome to join us on the 31st of August for 10am Mass at St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie, as we pray and commission the pilgrims from across the Diocese and beyond who will travel overseas for this year of Jubilee, as Pilgrims of Hope.

Bishop Vincent Presents Dr Nora Nonterah: 2 September

In the next iteration of the *Bishop Vincent Presents* series, the Diocese of Parramatta will welcome Dr Nora Nonterah, a leading African theological ethicist from Ghana. She will be presenting on 2 September at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. As a lay woman and recent delegate to the Synod on Synodality in 2023 and 2024, Dr Nora will offer a reflection on leadership, discipleship, and the wisdom of women in the Church. Register today by visiting <https://parracatholic.org/events/nora/>

Catholic Care Sewing and Crochet classes

All are welcome to join Catholic Care's weekly sewing and crochet classes every Thursday during school terms, 10am-1pm at Mamre House and Farm, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills. Learn new skills, connect with others, and enjoy a friendly, supportive environment. Perfect for anyone wanting to meet new people! To register, contact Catholic Care on (02) 8843 2500 or email enquiries@catholiccarewsbm.org.au.

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

Grow Your Faith with Dr Edward Sri: 30 August

You are invited to attend a free upcoming talk by Dr Edward Sri at St Paul the Apostle Parish, Winston Hills, on Saturday 30 August from 10am to 2.30pm. This is an opportunity to dive deep into your faith as a community and encounter Christ. Dr Sri is a renowned Catholic author and theologian. He is the host of the acclaimed podcast "[All Things Catholic](#)", holds a doctorate from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome and is an adjunct professor at the Augustine Institute. RSVP is required: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/dr-edward-sri-st-pauls-winston-hills-tickets-1568785181709>

Mt Druitt South Parish Novena to Our Lady of Good Health: 30 August – 8 September

Please join the community of Sacred Heart Parish, Mount Druitt South, for the Novena and Feast of Our Lady of Good Health, from 30 August to 8 September. There will be Masses in the evenings followed by Rosary and Novena. We will conclude on 8 September, the Nativity of Our Lady, with Mass at 7pm followed by a light supper. Further information, contact the parish office on (02) 9832 3896 or email moundruittsouth@parracatholic.org

Bishop Vincent Presents Cardinal Stephen Chow SJ: 15 September

The second of two *Bishop Vincent Presents* public lectures in September will feature Cardinal Stephen Chow SJ, Bishop of Hong Kong and one of the most senior Church leaders in Asia. He will be presenting on Monday 15 September at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta on the topic of 'Bridge Building'. With a background in psychology and education, and a deep pastoral heart, Cardinal Chow brings wisdom, courage, and compassion to the challenges facing the Church in our time. Register today by visiting <https://parracatholic.org/events/cardinalchow/>

Mass for Musicians: 24 September

In this Jubilee Year of Hope, we invite all those involved in Music Ministry across the Diocese to join us for our Mass for Musicians. Join us on the 24th of September, 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. We ask that you arrive at 7pm and are seated by 7:15pm. To register attendance and the number of guests you are bringing, please [RSVP via our website](#) by Friday, 19 September. If you are unable to register via the form, contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org or call 0460 037 795.

LOL Volunteer Responsibilities

Volunteers here at LOL have a responsibility to support the Diocese's goals and objectives. Ways we do this are by abiding by the Diocese's Code of Conduct; treating others with respect; behaving appropriately and courteously to all clergy, employees, volunteers, parishioners, contractors and the public in the course of your role; undertaking training as requested or necessary; treating confidential any personal information learned about in the course of duties; maintain professional relationships within acceptable boundaries; contributing to and maintaining workplace health and safety and being aware of the duty of care to yourselves, clergy, employees and other volunteers.

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 Gospel presents us with a demanding text (cf. *Lk* 12:49-53), in which Jesus uses strong images and great frankness to teach his disciples that his mission, and even that of his followers, is not a "bed of roses", but a "sign of contradiction" (cf. *Lk* 2:34). In this way, the Lord anticipates what he will have to face in Jerusalem when he will be opposed, arrested, insulted, beaten, crucified; when his message of love and justice will be rejected; when the leaders of the people will react with viciousness at his preaching. Moreover, many of the communities to which the evangelist Luke was writing were also experiencing the same thing. As the Acts of the Apostles tells us, they were peaceful communities that, despite their own limitations, sought to live the best they could the Master's message of love (cf. *Acts* 4:32-33). Yet they were suffering persecutions. All of this reminds us that being or doing good does not always receive a positive response. On the contrary, because its beauty at times annoys those who do not welcome it, one can end up encountering harsh opposition, even insolence and oppression. Acting in truth has its cost, because there are those in the world who choose lies, and the devil, who takes advantage of the situation, often seeks to block the actions of good people. Jesus, however, invites us with his help not to give in and conform ourselves to this mentality, but to continue to act for our good and the good of all, even those who make us suffer. He invites us not to respond to insolence with vengeance, but to remain faithful to the truth in love. The martyrs witnessed to this by shedding their blood for their faith. We, too, can imitate their example even in different circumstances and ways. Let us think, for example, of the price that good parents must pay if they want to educate their children according to sound principles. Eventually they will have to say "no" and correct their children; this will cause them pain. The same is true for a teacher who desires to form students properly, or for a professional, religious, or politician, who desires to carry out their mission honestly. It is true for anyone who strives to exercise his or her responsibilities consistently according to the teachings of the Gospel. In this regard, Saint Ignatius of Antioch, while travelling toward Rome to undergo martyrdom, wrote to the Christians of that city: "I do not want you to please men, but to please God" (*Letter to the Romans* 2:1). He added, "It is better for me to die in Jesus Christ than reign over the ends of the earth" (*ibid.*, 6:1). Brothers and sisters, let us together ask Mary, Queen of Martyrs, to help us be faithful and courageous witnesses of her Son in every circumstance, and to sustain our brothers and sisters who suffer for the faith today.

After the Angelus

Dear brothers and sisters,

I am close to the peoples of Pakistan, India, and Nepal who have been struck by violent floods. I pray for the victims, for their families, and for all those who suffer because of this calamity. Let us pray that efforts to bring wars to an end and to promote peace may bear fruit, and that in negotiations the common good of peoples may always be placed first. In this summer season, I have received news of many different initiatives of cultural outreach and evangelization, often organized in holiday destinations. It is beautiful to see how zeal for the Gospel inspires the creativity and commitment of groups and associations of all ages. For example, I think of the youth mission that took place recently in Riccione. I thank the organizers and everyone who in various ways participated in such events. I greet with affection all of you present here today in Castel Gandolfo. In particular, I am pleased to welcome the AIDO group of Coccaglio, celebrating fifty years of commitment to life; the AVIS blood donors who came by bicycle from Gavardo (Brescia); the young people of Casarano; and the Franciscan Sisters of Saint Anthony. I also bless the great pilgrimage to the Marian Shrine of Piekary in Poland. I wish you all a blessed Sunday!

POPE LEO AT LUNCH WITH THE POOR *By Alessandro Di Bussolo*

Amid the beauty of nature and creation in the Gardens of the Pontifical Villas at Castel Gandolfo and beneath the large gazebo set up for the lunch with the poor, Pope Leo XIV, speaking off the cuff, invited everyone to reflect on the fact that "the most beautiful of all creation is that which was made in God's image—that is, each one of us."

Each person, he said, reflects that image of God. It is essential that we always remember this truth: we can encounter God's presence in every individual. And so, even this afternoon's gathering for lunch—organized by the Borgo Laudato Si' and the Diocese of Albano Laziale—is an experience of communion, of fraternity, of being together with God.

Breaking bread and sharing the Lord's gifts

Looking out at the more than one hundred guests—poor and vulnerable people supported by the diocesan Caritas of Albano, including residents of shelters and group homes, the homeless, and those supported by listening centers—the Pope spoke of the deep meaning behind "breaking bread together, a gesture that for us all is deeply significant: the act through which we recognize Jesus Christ present among us." He continued: "It is the Holy Mass but it is also all of us gathered around the table, sharing the gifts the Lord has given us." Before the meal, Pope Leo asked for God's blessing "upon the gifts we are about to receive," upon all "who worked to prepare this meal for us," and for those who made this celebration possible. He ended by praying: "Help us, Lord, to always live united in Your love."

Cardinal Baggio: The Borgo Laudato Si' opens its doors to those in need

In his remarks to the Pope and those present, Cardinal Fabio Baggio—Director General of the *Laudato Si'* Center for Advanced Formation and Undersecretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development—emphasized: "Today we witness the fulfillment of Pope Francis' prophetic dream: the Borgo Laudato Si' is not merely a place, but a way of living the Gospel that first and foremost opens its doors to those in need—to the poor, to the excluded."

Before speeches or inaugurations, he said, comes fraternal sharing, because "Gospel hospitality begins with the poor." He also noted: "There can be no authentic ecology without social justice. This is the great teaching of *Laudato Si'* and of the Church's Social Doctrine. Christian charity fulfills and surpasses justice, transforming it into tangible love."

Bishop Viva: The beauty of the Gospel made concrete

Before the meal, Bishop Vincenzo Viva of Albano also offered words of welcome, presenting the guests to Pope Leo XIV: "In the faces of those seated at these tables today, we see the beauty of the Gospel made concrete—living testimony of who we are as the Church of Albano."

He added: "There is no 'us' and 'them,' no benefactors and beneficiaries: there are only people sharing bread—and with it, their stories, their struggles, and their hopes."

POPE LEO'S GENERAL AUDIENCE

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. III. The Passover of Jesus. 3. Forgiveness.

«He loved them to the end» (Jn 13:2)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today we will look at one of the most striking and luminous gestures in the Gospel: the moment when Jesus, during the last supper, offers a morsel to the one who is about to betray him. It is not only a gesture of sharing: it is much more; it is love's last attempt not to give up.

Saint John, with his profound spiritual sensibility, tells us about this moment as follows: [During supper, when] "the devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over... Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass he loved them to the end" (Jn 13:1-2). To love until the end: here is the key to understanding Christ's heart. A love that does not cease in the face of rejection, disappointment, even ingratitude.

Jesus knows the time, but he does not submit to it: he chooses it. It is he who recognizes the moment in which his love must pass through the most painful wound, that of betrayal. And instead of withdrawing, accusing, defending himself... he continues to love: he washes the feet, dips the bread and offers it.

"It is the one to whom I hand the morsel after I have dipped it" (Jn 13:26). With this simple and humble gesture, Jesus carries his love forward and to its depths, not because he is ignoring what is happening, but precisely because he sees it clearly. He has understood that the freedom of the other, even when it is lost in evil, can still be reached by the light of a meek gesture, because he knows that true forgiveness does not await repentance, but offers itself first, as a free gift, even before it is accepted.

Judas, unfortunately, does not understand. After the morsel – says the Gospel – "Satan entered him" (v. 27). This passage strikes us: as if evil, hidden until then, manifested itself after love showed its most defenceless face. And precisely for this reason, brothers and sisters, that morsel is our salvation: because it tells us that God does everything – absolutely everything – to reach us, even in the hour when we reject him.

It is here that forgiveness reveals all its power and manifests the true face of hope. It is not forgetfulness; it is not weakness. It is the ability to set the other free, while loving him to the end. Jesus' love does not deny the truth of pain, but it does not allow evil to have the last word. This is the mystery Jesus accomplishes for us, in which we too, at times, are called to participate.

How many relationships are broken, how many stories become complicated, how many unspoken words remain suspended. And yet the Gospel shows us that there is always a way to continue to love, even when everything seems irredeemably compromised. To forgive does not mean to deny evil, but to prevent it from generating further evil. It is not to say that nothing has happened, but to do everything possible to ensure that resentment does not determine the future.

When Judas leaves the room, "it was night" (v. 30). But immediately afterwards, Jesus says, "Now is the Son of Man glorified" (v. 31). The night is still there, but a light has already begun to shine. And it shines because Christ remains faithful to the end, and so his love is stronger than hatred.

Dear brothers and sisters,

We too experience painful and difficult nights. Nights of the soul, nights of disappointment, nights in which someone has hurt or betrayed us. In those moments, the temptation is to close ourselves up, to protect ourselves, to return the blow. But the Lord shows us the hope that that another way exists, always exists. He teaches us that one can offer a morsel even to someone who turns their back on us. That one can respond with the silence of trust. And that we can move forward with dignity, without renouncing love.

Let us ask today for the grace to be able to forgive, even when we do not feel understood, even when we feel abandoned. Because it is precisely in those hours that love can reach its pinnacle. As Jesus teaches us, to love means to leave the other free—even to betray—without ever ceasing to believe that even that freedom, wounded and lost, can be snatched from the deception of darkness and returned to the light of goodness.

When the light of forgiveness succeeds in filtering through the deepest crevices of the heart, we understand that it is never futile. Even if the other does not accept it, even if it seems to be in vain, forgiveness frees those who give it: it dispels resentment, it restores peace, it returns us to ourselves.

Jesus, with the simple gesture of offering bread, shows that every betrayal can become an opportunity for salvation, if it is chosen as a space for a greater love. It does not give in to evil, but conquers it with good, preventing it from extinguishing what is truest in us: the capacity to love.

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 11th September 2025, 10.30am– 1pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate to share.

LOURDES: LUMINATE YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

For 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.

September 2025

3	First Holy Communion Practice Group 1	6.30pm
7	First Holy Communion Group 1	11.00am
11	Over 50's Group Meeting	10.30am

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

23/24 August

Acolytes	Vigil: Lawrence Falzon 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am: Rommel Lagare
Ministers	Vigil: M. Mifsud, B. Motha 8am: J. Irudayaraj, F. Paiva 9.30am: G. Basili, C. Brooks
Readers	Vigil: M. Simic, N. Sumcad 8am: F. Kennedy, J. Sarmiento 9.30am: M. Aquino, J. Nonato
Altar Servers	Vigil: C. Rodrigues, C. Bellamin, E. Reardon 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: Jenolin & Majerin Pieris, N. D'Cruz
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	4 September Jessie Borg Anne McNally Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Sastina Pieris

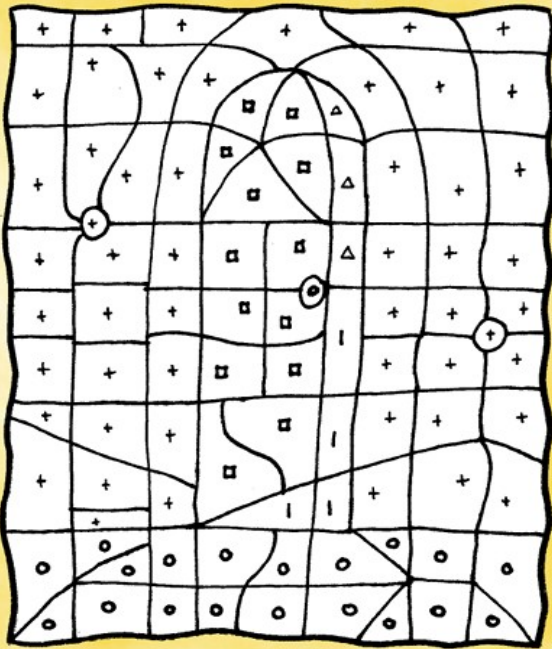
30/31 August

Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Frank Paiva 9.30am: Kilifi Huihui
Ministers	Vigil: Alexandra & Jesse Franco 8am: A. McNally, T. Perak 9.30am: P. Gow, E. Miu
Readers	Vigil: R. Saldanha, N. Do Rosario 8am: P. Ferriols, M. Santos 9.30am: K. Huihui, Z. Smith
Altar Servers	Vigil: Johnathan & Dominic Sant, N. Hoang 8am: C. Bellamin, J. Blackshaw, A. Faulkner-Dhiman 9.30am: H. Winter, J. Martinez & O. Martinez
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Parish Pastoral Council
Musicians	Vigil: Shaun's Group 8am: Fr. Henry 9.30am: Maximilian Chorale
Flowers	Fennie & Raquel
Church Cleaning	13 September Tongan Community Edgardo Barcelon Edgar Cabrera Aman Rawah
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Volunteer

The Kids' Bulletin

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 24th, 2025

Luke 13:22-30



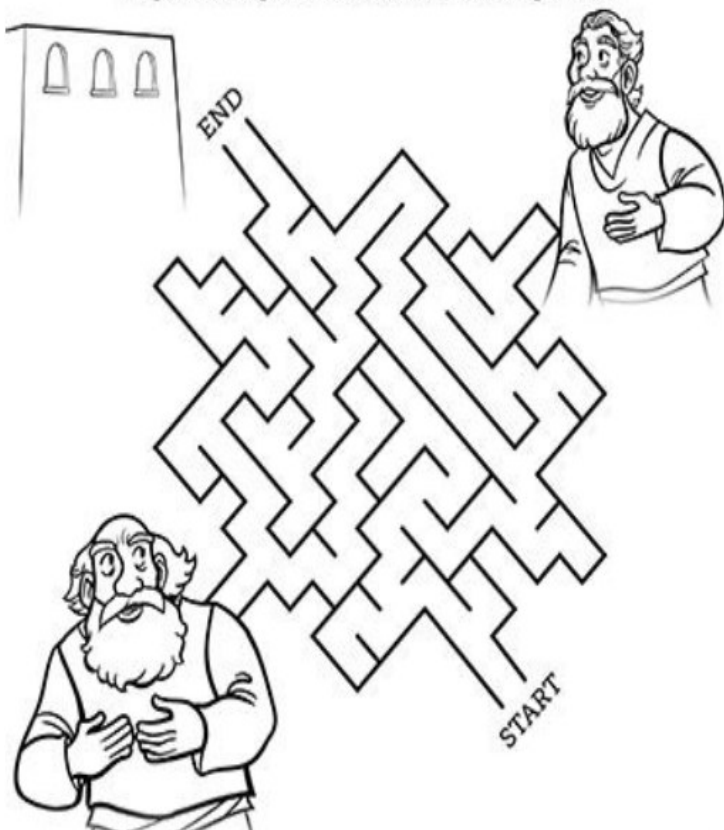
What was the way that Jesus told the people to enter the Kingdom of Heaven by?

Colour in the spaces using the code to find out.

- △ Blue ■ Brown + White
| Green ● Grey

narrow

Help the disciples find the house Jesus spoke of.



The Narrow Door

"Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to." Luke 13:24 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 13:22-30



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

TAUGHT	STAND	DOOR	DRANK	KNOCKING
CLOSED	HOUSE	ENTER	ATE	OWNER
NARROW	ANSWER	PLEADING	OUTSIDE	MANY

