



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

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Parish Priest: Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran
Parish Deacon: Deacon Thong Nguyen
Parish Office Team: Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang, Jane Nguyen, Laura Ilioski
Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9am - 3.00pm
WEEKDAY MASS: Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am
 Thursday 9.00am
WEEKEND MASS: Saturday Vigil 6pm
 Sunday 8am & 9.30am

Parish School: OLOL 8869 6800
Principal: Ms Keiran Byrnes
Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30-5:30pm
Baptismal Preparation: 19 November 2025
Baptism: 12 October 2025
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall
Youth Co-Ordinator: Diana Park
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.org.au
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

21 September 2025 • Year C



Let us Pray for the Sick

Florence Arinanan, Lorenzo Balabat, Sarah Bartolo, Max Barrett, Luigi Bertinato, Irene Cabasa, Esperanza M. Camat, Lawrence Charles, James Debattista, Ben Dixon, Alma Caguimbal, Para Dias, Mary Camilleri, John Crowther, Lucia Fernando, Renuka Fernando, Philippe Honore, Lynnda Lim -Huynh, Anthony Janicska, Tristen Jantzen, Mary Jordan, Klare Kinsley, Paul Leong, Melissa Mead, Blago Milicevic, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Gary Morrissey, Michelle Pellicano, Maricar Poblete, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Luzviminda Camat Robles, Arabella Steele, Sue Tipaldo, Chandra Sampantham, Caroline Stevenson, 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, Rosita Ballecer, Alberto De Guzman, Rita De Silva, Kevin Dougherty, Caridad Eco, Frances Flannery, Eric Fernando, Merita Fernando, Clara Galucci, Maria Mendonca, Lorraine Muscat, Danny abi Ngan, Arnold Naldoza, Jesus Nufable, Doreen Monana Palomos, Tessie Portelli, Ronald Quilantang, Noel Rawlston, Anula Rupesinghe, Rosemalar Sangarrappillai, Rubilinda Saquian, Christopher Solomon, Milagros Trembevilla Fernandez, Cecilia Thomas.

Anniversaries: Leisle Abreo, Mary Alagiah, France Angseesing, Horace Baptist, Cecil Beed, Ronald Barley, Romeo Biniahan, Sam Borg, Elaine Bosen, Denis Brophy, Joseph & Carmeva, Joseph Camenzuli, Catherine Chandra, John Soo Choon, Aloysean Corera, Teresa David, Silvia Debattista, Alexander Farrugia, Emmanuel Francis, M.A Fernando, Meriita Fernando, John Fernando, Sammy Formosa, Ethan Garcia, Anthony, Francisca & Zenaida Garcia, Christine & Josephine Gomez, April Marabe, Pietro Marra, Antonio Marra, Maria Xavier Motha Jr, Bertu Mula, Albert & Josephe Mula, Paul Mula, Louis & Stephen Mula, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kuttly, Charles Muscat, Tony Muscat, Cordula Paiva, Adrian Perera, Lakshman Perera, Paolo Pineda, Eustace Ratnam, Gloria Reforma, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Caroline Susainathan, Sheadon Trek, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udan, Mary & Arthur Zammit

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, Gregorio Almodovar, John Azzopardi, Sydney Azie, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Barrie Chamberlain, Renato & Marilyn Cabasa, Dennis Clarke, Johnny Edwards, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Launcer De Guire, Ngan Sio Eng, O. Francis, J. Francis, 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 Lafluer, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Sophia Zonna Matua, Tania McGove, John & Maureen Mead, Pauline Melak, 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, Jim & Philippa Muscat, Agustin Ngalongalay, Colleen O'Sullivan, Estelita Palomos, Lakshman Perera, Ngan Pin, John Portelli, John & Roseline Ratnam, Mary Silva, Cua Sing, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Jim Vella, Bibiano & Priscila Villanueva, Rita Xuerib, Vinnie Zahra, Robert & Leila Zammit, Mary Zammit. ***Names will be published for 2 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: 000 552

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 Amos 8:4-7*

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country, you who say, 'When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn, and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat?

Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.' The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob, 'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

1. Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore! **(R.)**

3. From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the dungheap he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people. **(R.)**

2. High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth? **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy 2:1-8*

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth.

For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans. In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 16:1-13*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, "What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes."

'Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, "How much do you owe my master?" "One hundred measures of oil," was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty." To another he said, "And you, sir, how much do you owe?" "One hundred measures of wheat," was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond and write eighty." 'The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

'And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? 'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



FROM FR. HENRY

Dear friends,

Edmund Burke (1729-1797), a notable Anglo-Irish statesman, philosopher and political writer whose legacy helped to shape modern conservatism, aesthetics, and political thought, once made this thought-provoking comment about wealth that 'if we command our wealth, we shall be rich and free. If our wealth commands us, we are poor in deed.' I think he was right to say that and what he said about wealth would relate well with

the message Jesus aims to convey to us in the Gospel this Sunday about making money the tool to book us a place in heaven. 'Use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity', said Jesus.

Jesus gave the disciples this piece of advice after telling them the parable about the dishonest servant who on the brink of his lay-off cheated his master by re-writing the books for the debtors with the intention to receive their favour later on. Jesus obviously praised not the dishonesty of the man but rather his smart move to utilise his power to bring in benefits for him in the post-employment time.

From the servant's astute action, Jesus then takes his listeners to the point that he means to teach them, which is about how to productively handle money and wealth, things he considers as tainted, and turn them into a treasure in heaven by means of selling their possessions and giving alms, the message he encouraged his followers to do a few weeks ago prior to this Gospel account. Here Jesus encourages us not to discard money altogether, but rather have a healthy attitude towards money.

In our modern language, Jesus means to reframe money as a spiritual currency and investment for grace and eternal reward and friendship with God. Apart from helping to feed the poor as we always do in the Church, we perhaps can think of helping to fund education for under-privileged children, to support healing initiatives, or to buy religious art and liturgical music or theological books as practical ways to benefit ourselves and others spiritually. Consequently, we have to be the master of money, we have to make it our slave to serve God, not the other way around, since we cannot be the slave both of God and money at the same time, as Jesus warns us at the end of the Gospel.

Let us ask for the grace to help renew our commitment to put God above everything else in our lives, and the wisdom to be the master of our money and use it in ways that can make us rich before God in heaven.

Have a community serving-oriented week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the children who made their First Holy Communion over the last two weekends. We pray that you continue to grow in faith with the strong support from your families and the community, and get ready to serve the altar as Altar servers early next year.

LOURDES LUMINATE YOUNG ADULTS GROUP NIGHT

All are welcome to join our young adults on Thursday, 25 September 2025 6:30pm-9:00pm in the Parish Meeting Room to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Laudato Si' and the Season of Creation by watching the "The Letter", the documentary movie on Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si' and the environment followed by reflection and call to action led by Mark Taneco, a Laudato Si' Advocate and an Animator from Laudato Si' Movement (LSM). For more info: Mark Taneco - marktaneco@gmail.com; Ian Epondulan - 0401 161 264, youtholol7h@gmail.com or search 'Lourdes 7Hills Young Adults' on Facebook.

RCIA 2025/26

For anyone interested in becoming a Catholic or simply learning more about what it means to be a Catholic, we will begin our RCIA faith journey with the 'Inquiry Stage' of the process on the 5th of October this year. Any parishioners who would like to partake in the discussion of the Sunday Readings on a regular basis or even on the occasional Sunday, you are most welcome to join us after the Liturgy of the Word at 9.30am mass. We meet in the Parish Office. For further information or enquiries, please contact Artelle in the parish office.

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.

A PRACTICAL TIP EACH WEEK TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF CREATION

TIP 2: Buy only the clothes you need

Think creatively and be a conscious consumer. Try to know your clothes' origin and how they're created. Repair your own clothes and reject the throwaway culture by sewing and mending your clothes. Shop at second-hand stores.

SEASON OF CREATION PRAYER

Sundays, after 8am mass and before 9.30am mass, for a brief reflection and prayer to honor and give thanks for the Gift of Creation, please gather in the 'Crying Room' located at the back of the church.

A REPORT FROM OUR LAST PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Apart from usual reports from various groups in the Parish, we also made two important decisions as following:

1/ To renew the Welcoming group by making this group available to everyone, consequently we then invite all our parishioners who go to Mass early to get the bulletins and distribute them at our church doors; 2/ To bring Communion to those who are less mobile at Mass, from now on if those who wish to receive Holy Communion at the seat, please raise your hand up at the end of Holy Communion to signal one of the ministers to bring the Body of Christ for you.

FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT (FGM) AT OLOL

The "Joyful Journey" group is embarking on an exciting trip to Mudjee over the October long weekend (4th-6th). Thus far, 6 families (total of 24pax) have confirmed, and cabins booked. The group are looking forward to it. The "Divine Rainbow" group went hiking on Saturday 20-September at Walder Park, Prospect Reservoir. This activity was also undertaken earlier in the year and is a popular choice. Please contact the Parish office if you would like to join the Family Group.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal – supporting our senior priests as they continue to serve

Thank you for caring for our spiritual fathers. Because of your compassion, your donation will provide much-needed care and support for those who have dedicated their lives to serving our community. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. If you haven't had a chance to donate, visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.



Grace and Truth Evening

Men and women (18 years and older) are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on Tuesday 30 September for the next Grace and Truth evening on the theme "Anchored in Hope". The evening will consist of Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers and Benediction, a light dinner, and talks by Fr Paul Rowse, OP and Sister Anastasia, OP. The event will run from 5-8:30PM, starting in the St Mary's Cathedral Crypt and moving to the Cathedral Hall. Cost: \$20. Registration closes 23 September. <https://www.trybooking.com/DESDN>. For more information, contact the Dominican Sisters at sydney@op-tn.org.

Design our next Catholic Outlook Magazine front cover!

We're inviting *you* to design the front cover of the *Catholic Outlook Magazine's* Christmas and Summer 2025 edition! People of all ages from across the Diocese of Parramatta are welcome to submit their artwork for consideration. Let's make this Advent and Christmas season a canvas of faith and joy – together. Please submit your entry by Friday 7 November 2025 – with a short description of your artwork – via parracatholic.org/artcomp

Rosary Making Workshop: 25 September

Come along for a fun evening of community and crafting rosary beads that will then be donated to the sick and dying in hospitals in our Diocese via the Camillian Hospital chaplains. The craft evening will be held on Thursday 25 September from 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. \$5 per person – payable on arrival (includes all materials). To register and for more information, please visit <https://parracatholic.org/events/rosary-beads-workshop-25-september/>

LOL SAFEGUARDING NEWS

Visiting Clergy to LOL

Visiting Clergy to our Church while Fr Henry was on his leave, uphold the standards and processes here, at LOL and the Diocese of Parramatta have put in place to ensure the safety of our Community.

Supporting the Safety of Our Community

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Seven Hills and The Diocese of Parramatta take the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons seriously. This includes past or present forms of abuse. Safeguarding those who are vulnerable is part of the mission that Jesus Christ entrusts to our Church. We all have a role to play in safeguarding those who are vulnerable. Concerns about safeguarding may be referred to Fr Henry, our Parish Priest, or directly to the: Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards Ph (02) 8838 3419 or via Email: safeguarding@parracatholic.org.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

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

Closing soon! Register now for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival

The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Church in Australia 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. Registrations have been extended until 1 October for young people aged 18-25. For more details and to register, see parracatholic.org/connect/acyf or email qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org



Develop community self-reliance and create lasting change! Palms Australia

Discover Palms International Volunteering [online](https://www.palms.org.au) in this special session you'll chat with past Palms volunteers and hear how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact within communities. Explore our [unique opportunities](https://www.palms.org.au) and match your life experience to the experience of a lifetime!

Venue: Online- Scan the QR or register at [palms.org.au/events](https://www.palms.org.au/events)

Date: Thursday 30 October 2025

Time: 7 pm – 8.30 pm AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS)
02 9560 5333 palms@palms.org.au



Time change: Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Diocese of Parramatta Wedding Anniversary Mass will now be held at 2pm on Sunday 26 October at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta (not 11am as previously advertised). Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will celebrate the Mass, followed by a light lunch. Register by 20 October: marriage@parracatholic.org | 0488 000 211

Jesuit Refugee Services Fundraising Dinner: 10 October

We invite you to join Jesuit Refugee Service Australia for a night of faith, fellowship, and hope at our annual fundraiser, An Evening of Hope, on Friday, 10 Oct 2025 at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall. Our evening will begin at 6pm with Mass, followed by dinner, enjoying an inspiring program of raffles, entertainment, and heartfelt stories all in support of JRS's mission to accompany, serve, and advocate for those forced to flee. Tickets are \$160pp, or \$1,200 for a table of 8. Reserve your place and purchase your ticket here: [JRS Australia 2025 Fundraiser Dinner– An Evening of Hope](https://www.jrsaustralia.org.au) or via the QR code.



Youth Ministry

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

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

Children and Young People's Participation

A Safeguarding culture for Children and Young People is fostered and sustained at LOL by our parish community being committed to living the Gospel by serving the most vulnerable. Here at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Seven Hills we implement all Arch/Diocesan policies, procedures and community standards that are Child and Young Person centred to lift barriers so their voices can be heard and their participation valued.

POPE LEO'S ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Sunday!

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross, commemorating the discovery of the Cross by Saint Helen in Jerusalem in the fourth century, and the return of the precious relic to the Holy City by the Emperor Heraclius. But what does celebrating this feast mean for us today? The Gospel reading that the liturgy places before us (cf. *Jn* 3:13-17) helps us to understand it. The scene unfolds at night: Nicodemus, one of the leaders of the Jews, a righteous and open-minded person (cf. *Jn* 7:50-51), comes to meet Jesus. He needs light and guidance: he seeks God and asks the Teacher of Nazareth for help because he recognizes him as a prophet, a man who performs extraordinary signs. The Lord welcomes him, listens to him, and eventually reveals to him that the Son of Man must be lifted up, "so that whoever believes in him may have eternal life" (*Jn* 3:15), adding: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life" (v. 16). Nicodemus, who perhaps does not fully comprehend the meaning of these words in the moment, will certainly do so when he helps to bury the Savior's body after the crucifixion (cf. *Jn* 19:39). It is then that he will understand that God, in order to redeem humanity, became man and died on the cross. Jesus speaks of this to Nicodemus, recalling an episode in the Old Testament, when the Israelites were bitten by venomous snakes in the desert and were healed by looking upon the bronze serpent that Moses had fashioned and mounted on a pole in obedience to God's command (cf. *Num* 21:4-9). God saves us by showing himself to us, offering himself as our companion, teacher, doctor, friend, to the point of becoming bread broken for us in the Eucharist. In order to accomplish this task, he used one of the cruelest instruments that human beings have ever invented: the cross. That is why today we celebrate the "exultation": for the immense love with which God has transformed the means to death into an instrument of life, embracing it for our salvation, teaching us that nothing can separate us from him (cf. *Rom* 8:35-39) and that his love is greater than our own sin (cf. Francis, *Catechesis*, 30 March 2016). Let us then ask, through the intercession of Mary, the Mother who was present at Calvary near her Son, that the saving love of her Son may take root in us and grow, and that we too may know how to give ourselves to each other, as he gave himself completely to all.

After the Angelus

Dear brothers and sisters!

Tomorrow marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Synod of Bishops, a prophetic intuition desired by Saint Paul VI so that Bishops might increase and improve their exercise of communion with the Successor of Peter. It is my hope that this anniversary will inspire a renewed commitment to the unity, synodality and mission of the Church. I affectionately greet all of you, faithful of Rome and pilgrims from Italy and various countries, especially those from Villa Alemana and Valparaíso in Chile, from the Archdiocese of Mwanza in Tanzania, from Humpolec in the Czech Republic, together with the Peruvians from the religious association Jesús Nazareno Cautivo. I greet the faithful from Chiaiamari, Anitrella, Uboldo, Faeto, Lesmo, Trani, Faenza, Pistoia, San Martino in Sergnano, Guardia di Acireale, San Martino delle Scale in Palermo, and Alghero. I greet the bands of Borno and Sonico in Val Camonica, the "La Nuova Famiglia" Cooperative of Monza, the Regional Committee Pro Loco of Lazio, the Union of Catholic Apostolate, the young people of Don Bosco Youth-Net and the community of Communion and Liberation of Rome; the Arti e Mestieri Association of Sant'Agata di Militello, the motorcyclists who came from Ravenna and the cyclists who came from Rovigo. Dear friends, it seems that you know that today I turn seventy years old. I give thanks to the Lord and to my parents; and I thank all those who have remembered me in their prayers. Many thanks to everyone! Thank you! Have a good Sunday!

POPE LEO XIV's message to the 8th Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, held in Kazakhstan

By Devin Watkins

Religious leaders from around the globe have gathered in Astana, Kazakhstan, for the 8th Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, taking place on September 17-18, 2025.

Pope Leo XIV sent his greetings to participants with a message released on Wednesday that began with the greeting "peace" in several languages.

The Pope said the religious leaders have come together at a time marked by violent conflict to "renew friendships and forge new ones, united in our common desire to bring healing to our fractured and wounded world."

Reflecting on the event's theme "Dialogue of Religions: Synergy for the Future," Pope Leo noted that every authentic religious impulse seeks to foster dialogue and cooperation, since they transcend borders and unite people everywhere.

"Working together in harmony is not merely a pragmatic choice, but a reflection of the deeper order of reality," he said.

"Solidarity, then, is synergy in action: the lived expression of loving our neighbor as ourselves on a global scale." Far from erasing differences, cooperation among religions invites the faithful to embrace diversity as a source of enrichment.

The Pope recalled that the Second Vatican Council upheld the Catholic Church's acknowledgement and esteem for all that is "true and holy" in other religions, in its 1965 declaration *Nostra Aetate*.

"[The Church] seeks to foster authentic synergy by bringing the distinct gifts of each tradition to the table of encounter, where each faith contributes its unique wisdom and compassion in service of the common good," he said.

The Pope recalled that his predecessor, Pope Francis, attended the previous Congress in Astana in September 2022, when religious leaders condemned violence and upheld the need to care for refugees and work for peace.

Pope Leo XIV called for leaders of all religions to commit to building a "future of peace, fraternity, and solidarity" by bearing witness to the truth that faith "unites more than it divides."

"Synergy," he said, "becomes a powerful sign of hope for all humanity, revealing that religion, at its core, is not a source of conflict but a wellspring of healing and reconciliation."

In conclusion, the Pope expressed his hope that the interreligious congress will inspire believers to work for harmony and create a "synergy for peace," which is "unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering."

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. III. The Passover of Jesus. 7. Death.

“In the garden was a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried.”

Dear brothers and sisters,

In our journey of catechesis on Jesus our hope, today we will contemplate the mystery of Holy Saturday. The Son of God lies in the tomb. But this “absence” of his is not emptiness: it is expectation, a restrained fullness, a promise kept in the dark. It is the day of the great silence, in which the sky seems mute and the earth totally immobile, but it is precisely there that the deepest mystery of the Christian faith is fulfilled. It is a silence laden with meaning, like the womb of a mother who carries her unborn but already living child.

The body of Jesus, taken down from the cross, is carefully wrapped, as one does with something precious. John the Evangelist tells us that he was buried in a garden, inside “a new tomb where no one had ever been laid” (*Jn 19:41*). Nothing is left to chance. That garden recalls the lost Eden, the place where God and man were united. And that tomb, never used, speaks of something that has still to happen: it is a threshold, not an end. At the beginning of creation, God planted a garden; now the new creation also begins in a garden: with a closed tomb that will soon be opened.

Holy Saturday is also a day of rest. According to the Jewish Law, no work is to be done on the seventh day: indeed, after the six days of creation, God rests (cf. *Gen 2:2*). Now, the Son too, after completing his work of salvation, rests. Not because he is tired, but because he loved up to the very end. There is nothing left to add. This rest is the seal on the completed task; it is the confirmation that what should have been done has truly been accomplished. It is a repose filled with the hidden presence of the Lord.

We struggle to stop and rest. We live as if life were never enough. We rush to produce, to prove ourselves, to keep up. But the Gospel teaches us that knowing how to stop is an act of trust that we must learn to perform. Holy Saturday invites us to discover that life does not always depend on what we do, but also on how we know how to take leave of what we have been able to do.

In the tomb, Jesus, the living Word of the Father, is silent. But it is precisely in that silence that the new life begins to ferment. Like a seed in the ground, like the darkness before dawn. God is not afraid of the passing time, because he is also the God of waiting. Thus, even our “useless” time, that of pauses, emptiness, barren moments, can become the womb of resurrection. Every silence that is welcomed can be the premise of a new Word. Every suspended time can become a time of grace, if we offer it to God.

Jesus, buried in the ground, is the meek face of a God who does not occupy all space. He is the God who lets things be done, who waits, who withdraws to leave us freedom. He is the God who trusts, when everything seems to be over. And we, on that suspended Sabbath, learn that we do not have to be in a hurry to rise again; first we must stay and welcome the silence, let ourselves be embraced by limitation. At times we seek quick answers, immediate solutions. But God works in depth, in the slow time of trust. The Sabbath of the burial thus becomes the womb from which the strength of an invincible light, that of Easter, can spring forth.

Dear friends, Christian hope is not born in noise, but in the silence of an expectation filled with love. It is not the offspring of euphoria, but of trustful abandonment. The Virgin Mary teaches us this: she embodies this expectation, this trust, this hope. When it seems to us that everything is at a standstill, that life is a blocked road, let us remember Holy Saturday.

Even in the tomb, God was preparing the greatest surprise of all. And if we know how to welcome with gratitude what has been, we will discover that, precisely in smallness and silence, God loves to transfigure reality, making all things new with the fidelity of his love. True joy is born of indwelt expectation, of patient faith, of the hope that what has been lived in love will surely rise to eternal life.

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 2 weeks at a time.



LOURDES OVER 50s GROUP

Over 50s meeting Thursday 9th October 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 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

25	Lourdes: Luminare Young Adults Group Meeting	6.30pm
26	School Term 3 ends	
October 2025		
5	Daylight Saving Time Starts	

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

20/21 September

Acolytes	Vigil: Lawrence Falzon 8am: Eugene Miu 9.30am: Rommel Lagare
Ministers	Vigil: A. Do Rosario, M. Simic 8am: J. Sarmiento, B. Motha 9.30am: Kamela & Kilifi Huihui
Readers	Vigil: N. Do Rosario, A. Franco 8am: J. Cabasa, P. Ferriols 9.30am: N. Arambulo. C. Diaz
Altar Servers	Vigil: G. Amaladass, S. Thoms, A. Monteiro 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: C. Attard, L. Sager, H. Winter
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Parish Pastoral Council
Musicians	Vigil: K. Thoms & C. Woodward 8am: Christine Clarke 9.30am: 5.00pm: Maximilian's Chorale
Flowers	Fennie, Angela, Raquel
Church Cleaning	2 October Lourdes Spiteri Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Georgina Basili

27/28 September

Acolytes	Vigil: Darryl Green 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am: Fayelene Kennedy
Ministers	Vigil: T. Perak, J. Franco 8am: A. McNally, M. Santos 9.30am: A. Walker, G. Basili
Readers	Vigil: Yxaak & Yxavel Dino 8am: J. Irudayaraj, K. Walker 9.30am: M. Aquino, Z. Smith
Altar Servers	Vigil: Julian & Orlando Martinez, N. D'Cruz 8am: A. Faulkner-Dhiman & Volunteer 9.30am: J. Blackshaw, L. Sadipoor, A. Melki
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	11 October Tongan Community Edgardo Barcelon Edgar Cabrera Aman Rawah
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Edgardo Barcelon

The Kids' Bulletin

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 21st, 2025

Circle 12 things in the bottom picture that are different from the top one.



Money

Servant

Enter the correct words in the boxes below based on the shape of letters.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

servant dishonest hate love much
little wealth trust manager money

The Dishonest Manager

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much." Luke 16:10 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 16:1-13 (NIV).



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

SERVE	LIGHT	JOB	SHREWD	ASHAMED
WELCOME	WORLDLY	STRONG	HATE	MANAGER
LOVE	WEALTH	DIG	RICH	BEG
GAIN	PEOPLE	ACCOUNT	WASTING	MASTER
TRUST	MONEY	PROPERTY	DEBTORS	DISHONEST

