



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: 26 November 2025
Baptism: 26 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/>

ALL SOULS' DAY 2 November 2025 • Year C



Let us Pray for the Sick

Florence Arinanan, Lorenzo Balabat, Max Barrett, Luigi Bertinato, Penny Briscoe, Irene Cabasa, Alma Caguimbal, Mary Camilleri, John Crowther, Lawrence Charles, James Debattista, Ben Dixon, Para Dias, Annabelle Edwards, Lucia Fernando, Renuka Fernando, Philippe Honore, Anthony Janicska, Mary Jordan, Susie Manga, Melissa Mead, Blago Milicevic, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Gary Morrissey, Jayne Muscat, Lynnda Lim-Huynh, Michelle Pellicano, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Arabella Steele, Sue Tipaldo, Chandra Sampantham, Caroline Stevenson, Vivian Tomines, Sakalia Ameto Vili, T.Q Letran, 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: Rev. Sr. Joyce Marie, Rosita Ballecer, Mary Bonnici, Paul Buttigieg, Tracy Galea, Joseph Grech, Sanjivan Gnanaratnam, Maria Mendonca, Anthony Laggan, Matilde Mifsud, Patria Molavin, Susan Nisda, George Newman, Fay Russell, Rosemalar Sangarappillai, Forta Sultana, Ralph Vaz, Antionette Zarb

Anniversaries: Leisle Abreo, Mary Alagiah, France Angseesing, Joseph Bartok, Blaise Costa, Frank, Silvia Debattista, Berlino Dulza, Ngan Siu Eng, M.A Fernando, Rienze Fernando, Francis Garcia, Stephen Gravina, Martha Joseph, Sheena Landagan, Norma Lorenzo, Felina & Felicida Abarca Maglaya, Pietro Marra, A. Mansoor, Pauline Meilak, Sr Christina Morrissey RSJ, Charles Muscat, Tony Muscat, Cole Ngan, Benedicto Pacanza, Isabela Imperial Rudern Pacanza, John Portelli, Benigno Riveral Sr, Lorita Laberinto Udan, Floriana Usero,

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, Maria Olympia Almodovar, Helen Bonnici, Gregorio Almodovar, Peter & Antonio, Frank, Maurice & Joseph Camenzuli, Barrie Chamberlain, Joseph, Johnny Edwards, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Launcer De Guire, O. Francis, J. Francis, Melvyn Fernandes, Merita Fernando, Nevis Fernando, Florencio Flores, Leandro Garcia Snr, Evangeline, Rudy Garcia, Jose Garcia, Mario & Joe Gat, Constance Gaycroft, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Selvam Irudayaraj, J.B, Jonathan Tek Kie, Mangion & Cini Family, Paul Michalef, William & Emilia Mifsud, Joseph & Doris Mifsud, Mary Mifsud, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Bertu, Albert, Paul, Louis, Stephen & Joseph Mula, Anton & Lourda Motha, Mary & Francis Muscat, Jason Muscat & family, Philippa & Jim Muscat, Gil & Angelita Opina, Romeo M. Palmos, Carol Anne Paterson, Mile Perak, Lakshman Perera, Eustace Ratnam, John & Roseline Ratnam, Mary Silva, Sheadon Trek, Dionisio Udan, Amalia, Melchor & Dominga M. Usman, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Jim Vella, Generoso, Modesta, Fernando Viray, 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: 000552
Reference: (Your *Planned Giving envelope number* or for a one off donation, 'DONATION')

IN-PERSON BANK DEPOSIT (at a Bank Inst / Branch)

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church
BSB: 062 315
ACC ID # 00901486
AGENT # 660

SMART DEVICE TERMINALS

All donations made via these new machines are shared 50/50 with our Diocese

THE PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

The Statue of Virgin Mary is available for home visitation and will reside with you for a week, being Sunday to Saturday. If you are wishing to participate, please leave your name and address with the Parish Office or contact Maryse Angseesing on 0467 701 010.



KEEP UP TO DATE

By visiting our parish website with news, the bulletin, prayers and much more. Visit www.olol7hills.org.au

FIRST READING *A reading from the prophet Isaiah 25:6-9*

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? **(R.)**

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. **(R.)**

3. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face. **(R.)**

4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:5-11*

Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled, surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the will of my Father, says the Lord,
that all who believe in the Son will have eternal life
and I will raise them to life again on the last day.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 7:11-17*

Jesus went to a town called Nain, accompanied by his disciples and a great number of people. When he was near the gate of the town it happened that a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a considerable number of the townspeople were with her. When the Lord saw her he felt sorry for her. 'Do not cry,' he said. Then he went up and put his hand on the bier and the bearers stood still, and he said, 'Young man, I tell you to get up'. And the dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying, 'A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.' And this opinion of him spread throughout Judaea and all over the countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord.





From Fr. Henry

Dear friends,

The Apostles' Creed, as we know, is one of the earliest summaries of our Christian beliefs originated from early baptismal formulas around the second century, and widely used in the Catholic Church and other Christian Churches both as a profession of faith and a catechetical tool, highlighting our key doctrines such as Trinity of God, creation, Incarnation, Crucifixion, Resurrection, Ascension, Judgement, and eternal life, and emphasising the unity of the Church, the Communion of Saints and the hope of resurrection.

As usual, the first two days of November each year refresh our awareness of this particular part of the Apostles' Creed we recite weekly in this church at our Sunday Masses which is about the Communion of Saints namely the union between (1) the Militant Church consisting of those living on earth and fighting their way into the next life, (2) the Suffering Church including souls in purgatory undergoing purification, and (3) the Triumphant Church of saints in heaven enjoying the beatific vision.

For the feast of All Saints, we give praise and thanks to God for the gifts of All Saints both known and unknown to keep inspiring us with their lives and examples. We also ask for their intercessions for us before God and ask the Lord for his grace to support us in our efforts to join them by faithfully walking along the way of the Beatitudes.

For the feast of All Souls also known as the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed and the whole month of November, we are called to pray for all those who have gone before us, especially our loved ones and those believed to be in purgatory relying on the merits of the prayers from the living to help them go through their purification to join the saints in the Triumphant Church. Historically, St Odilo of Cluny began the tradition to set aside November 2 as a day of prayer for the deceased in Cluniac monasteries starting in 998, and this inspiring custom quickly spread throughout Europe and then has become part of our liturgical calendar worldwide.

Let us ask our Lord Jesus who died and rose again from the dead to bring us salvation to show mercy to all the faithful departed, especially our loved ones, to forgive all their sins, and to grant them eternal life as he once granted life back to the only son of the widow at Nain according to the Gospel account the evangelist shares with us today, consequently they will joyfully join the rank of God's Holy Men and Women to praise Him forever in heaven.

Have a Communion of Saints-oriented week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

PARISH BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Our Book of Remembrance will be on display in front of the Altar at all Masses throughout November and will rest at the Baptismal font before Mass. All are welcome to enter the names of the deceased.

NOVEMBER ENVELOPES

Are available for you to offer November Mass intentions.

A PRACTICAL TIP EACH WEEK TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF CREATION

TIP 8: Examine your health

This week, discuss with your family, at various meals and dinners, your food choices, habits, vices, and changes that could be made so that you're becoming who God wants to be in every area of your life.



LOURDES OVER 50's

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 4th November, Melbourne Cup Day, in the Parish Hall from 10.30am.

There will be sweeps for the horses. All Welcome to join in the fun!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY—CHRISTMAS STORY

With Christmas fast approaching, we invite children aged 5 to 12 years old to participate in the presentation of the "Christmas Story" Wednesday 24th December, 6pm Mass. Practice will take place during Sunday 9.30am Mass in the Children's Liturgy (16th Nov, 7th & 21st Dec). For more information and to RSVP, a note will be handed out at this week's Children's liturgy. They are also available from the parish office or in front of the back Sacristy. Thank you for your support, Nicole Steele -Children's Liturgy Coordinator

PARISH PASTORAL PLAN 2026-2030

Copies of our Parish Pastoral Plan 2026-2030 are now on and all are invited to have a look after Mass.

MIDNIGHT CHRISTMAS MASS CHOIR

Parishioners of high school age and above are invited to join the Midnight Mass Choir this Christmas. Singers and instrumentalists, particularly those who play woodwind, string, or brass instruments, are warmly encouraged to join us. Practice dates will be Sunday 14 December at 11am and Saturday 20 December at 4pm. If you would like to take part or for further information, please kindly contact Christine Clarke on 0488 113 920 or the Parish Office.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Members of our Parish Pastoral Council had the chance to read and discuss our Parish Pastoral Plan 2025-2030 based on the Diocesan Pastoral Plan and Parish consultation last year, and decided to go head immediately with these following recommendations:

- 1/ Send Christmas cards to families that went through baptism and funerals this year,
- 2/ Provide name tags for all ministers while serving at Weekend Masses,
- 3/ Encourage parents and children to form Welcoming teams at Weekend Masses,
- 4/ Recruit an IT ministry,
- 5/ Continue to encourage our parishioners to consider to join our Parish ministries,
- 6/ Provide an annual refreshing course for our Parish ministers and a separate one for our Altar servers.

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.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Positions Vacant

• Senior Employment Relations Advisor

Diocese of Parramatta

• Administration and Projects Coordinator

Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying Formation: 8 November

Are you currently taking Communion to the sick and dying in the Diocese of Parramatta? If so, please join the Office for Worship for a day of ongoing formation to further your knowledge & understanding of this important topic. Saturday 8 November 9:30am – 2pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Morning tea and lunch provided. For more information and to register before 3 Nov, please contact the Office for Worship Team 0488 000 211 or email OFW@parracatholic.org

Rosary Making Workshops throughout November

Come along for a fun day of community and crafting rosary beads that will then be donated to the sick and dying in hospitals across our Diocese. The craft days and evenings will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown on the following days.

- Monday 10 November from 10am to 11:30am
- Monday 10 November from 1pm to 2:30pm
- Tuesday 11 November from 7pm to 8:30pm

Tuesday 18 November from 7pm to 8:30pm

Costs are \$10 per person – payable on arrival (includes all materials). To register and for more information, please visit parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops

Grow your own veggies at Mamre House and Farm

Learn food-growing skills with farmer Joe at Catholic Care's Mamre House and Farm, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills. These free workshops cover seeds, garden beds and pest management – and you'll take home your own plant. Workshops are held on Wednesday 19 November, 5pm–7pm or Saturday 22 November, 2pm–4pm. Register: tinyurl.com/mamre-house

LOL SAFEGUARDING NEWS

Supporting the Safety of Our Community

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

Working With Children Check Reminder

Here at LOL Parish all our volunteers and staff have had a WWCC. It is important that your current WWCC number is renewed rather than applying for a new Check. If your WWCC is due to expire and you have not received an email from the NSW Office of the Children's Guardian, please contact the OCG for further information. NB: If you have forgotten your WWCC number or are unsure which email address your WWCC number is registered to, please contact the OCG on (02) 92867219.

Mass and prayers for Deceased Clergy: 12 November

The Diocese of Parramatta invites you to its annual Mass for our deceased clergy on Wednesday 12 November at 9:15am at Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere, followed by prayers at the gravesites of clergy buried in Rookwood Cemetery. All are welcome to attend and give your gift of prayer to those whose lives were dedicated to bringing us all closer to Christ. We encourage each parish to offer a Mass for the deceased priests and deacons who have served in your own parish on the same day, to unite in prayer for this special intention.

Annual Bishop Vincent Vatican II Lecture: 12 November (NOTE: CHANGE IN LOCATION)

How does Vatican II continue to inform the work of synodal church? Recently back from meeting Pope Leo XIV, Bishop Vincent will unpack his annual lecture on Vatican II on Wednesday 12 November, 6:30pm – 8:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. Register for limited seating and share with others via <https://tr.ee/xzetr5kVI> OR get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

New 2026 Academic Scholarship Opportunity

Nagle College Blacktown is now offering a limited number of Academic Scholarships for Year 7 students commencing in 2026. These scholarships are intended to recognise the exceptional academic promise and help make an excellent Catholic secondary girls' education more accessible to all families. Please review the eligibility criteria and application process on the school website as soon as possible. Learn more here: <https://www.nagleblacktown.catholic.edu.au/nagle-scholarship>.

Parramatta Street Feast: 19 November

You are warmly invited to the Parramatta Street Feast, a Festival of Welcome on 19 November 2025 from 11am till 3pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Precinct, Parramatta. It's a space for people from all walks of life to come together in a spirit of community, solidarity and friendship, and to enjoy delicious food, free services, creative activities and great music! You can support the Street Feast as a volunteer, or share your talent by hosting an activity table. Find out more and express your interest at parracatholic.org/streetfeast

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

The next sessions of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on the following days:

- Saturday 15 November for Initial training (Modules 1-3) from 10am to 3pm at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Wentworthville.

Please register directly for this training or 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

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POPE LEO'S ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

Today's Gospel (cf. Lk 18:9-14) presents two individuals, a Pharisee and a tax collector, who are praying in the Temple. The first boasts a long list of merits. He has done many good works, and for this reason he feels superior to others, whom he judges contemptuously. He stands with his head held high. His attitude is clearly presumptuous, denoting a strict observance of the law, but one that is poor in love, made up of "giving" and "taking," of debts and credits, devoid of mercy. The tax collector is also praying, but in a very different way. He is in great need of forgiveness: he is a tax collector paid by the Roman Empire, and he works under a contract that allows him to speculate on the proceeds to the detriment of his own countrymen. Yet, at the end of the parable, Jesus tells us that it is the tax collector who returns home "justified," that is, forgiven and renewed by his encounter with God. Why? First, the tax collector had the courage and humility to present himself before God. He did not close himself off in his own world or resign himself to the evil he has done. He left the places where he was feared, safe and protected by the power he wielded over others. He went to the Temple alone, without an escort, even at the cost of facing harsh glances and sharp judgments, and he stood before the Lord, at the back, with his head bowed, uttering a few words: "God, be merciful to me a sinner" (v. 13). Jesus gives us a powerful message: it is not by flaunting our merits that we are saved, nor by hiding our mistakes, but by presenting ourselves honestly, just as we are, before God, ourselves and others, asking for forgiveness and entrusting ourselves to the Lord's grace. Commenting on this passage, Saint Augustine compares the Pharisee to a sick man who, out of shame and pride, hides his wounds from the doctor. The tax collector is compared to another who, with humility and wisdom, lays bare his wounds before the doctor, however unpleasant they may be to look at, and asks for help. The saint concludes: "It is not surprising that it was the tax-collector... who went away cured, since he had not been ashamed of showing where he felt pain" (*Sermo* 351,1).

Dear brothers and sisters, let us do the same. Let us not be afraid to acknowledge our mistakes, lay them bare, take responsibility for them and entrust them to God's mercy. That way, his Kingdom — which belongs not to the proud but to the humble and is built through prayer and action, by practicing honesty, forgiveness and gratitude — can grow in us and around us. Let us ask Mary, the model of holiness, to help us grow in these virtues.

POPE LEO XIV: LET US BUILD A HUMBLER, MORE WELCOMING CHURCH *By Kielece Gussie*

During the Mass for the Jubilee of the Synodal Teams and Participatory Bodies in St. Peter's Basilica, Pope Leo XIV invited all the participants to reflect on the "mystery of the Church." He reminded them that she is not simply a religious institution with hierarchies and structures. Rather, the Church is "the visible sign of the union between God and humanity", where God brings everyone together as one family united in love. Through contemplating what ecclesial communion created and preserved by the Holy Spirit means, the Pope explained we can begin to understand what synodal teams and participatory bodies are. "They express what occurs within the Church, where relationships do not respond to the logic of power but to that of love", he underlined, stressing that the most important thing in the Christian community is the spiritual life.

Love is the supreme rule

Above all else, Pope Leo urged all the participants to remember that love is the highest rule in the Church. "No one is called to dominate; all are called to serve," he explained, "No one is excluded; we are all called to participate."

Therefore, we are all called to seek the whole truth together. This invitation to "togetherness" reiterates the call to communion within the Church. Recalling the words of his predecessor, Pope Francis, in his last Lenten message, the Holy Father reflected on idea of "walking together". The Argentine pontiff stressed that "Christians are called to walk at the side of others, and never as lone travelers."

Together but alone

The call to walk together, Pope Leo highlighted, is what the Pharisee and the tax collector from the Gospel parable were missing. While they are in the same place, they are divided and they do not communicate. "Both take the same path, but they do not walk together. Both pray to the Father, but without being brothers and without having anything in common." The Pope explained this separation stems above all from the Pharisee's attitude as his prayer, "though seemingly addressed to God, is only a mirror in which he looks at, justifies and praises himself." He feels superior to the tax collector and looks down on him. Thus, he focuses on himself rather than on his relationship with God and others.

This, Pope Leo warned, can happen in the Christian community. When egos prevail over the community, leading to an individualism that renders true and brotherly relationships impossible. It can also happen when someone thinks they are better than others. But, he continued, instead of placing our focus on the Pharisee, we should look to the tax collector. His humility reminds us that within the Church, we all need God and each other. We need to listen and love each other and enjoy walking together because Christ belongs to the humble.

Unity amidst tension

Pope Leo highlighted how synodal teams and participatory bodies are an image of the Church living in communion with one another. Listening to the Holy Spirit with a sense of dialogue, fraternity, and parrhesia (speaking the truth openly and courageously), we can respond to the call to walk together seeking God.

The Pope explained that by clothing ourselves with the sentiments of Christ, we expand the ecclesial space so that it becomes collegial and welcoming. With this approach, we can live confidently in the midst of tensions in the Church unity and diversity, tradition and novelty, authority and participation.

"It is not a question of resolving them [the tensions] by reducing one to the other, but of allowing them to be purified by the Spirit, so that they may be harmonized and oriented toward a common discernment," the Holy Father argued.

Members of synodal teams and participatory bodies have an understanding that ecclesial discernment takes interior freedom, humility, prayer, and trust. It is never just one person's opinion. Pope Leo called on all those present to dream of and dare to build a humbler Church, who "bends down to wash the feet of humanity; a Church that does not judge as the Pharisee does the tax collector, but becomes a welcoming place for all".

POPE LEO XIV: EDUCATE TO PROMOTE DIGNITY, JUSTICE AND TRUST IN A WART-TORN WORLD

The Apostolic Letter *"Drawing New Maps of Hope"*, released on 28 October, marks the sixtieth anniversary of the conciliar declaration *"Gravissimum Educationis"*. In it, Pope Leo XIV reaffirms and expands that document's vision, applying it to the challenges of the present time. Pope signs Apostolic Letter marking sixtieth anniversary of *Gravissimum Educationis*

Reflecting on the millions of children who still lack access to basic education, and on the educational crises caused by war, migration, inequality, and poverty, the Pope asks how Christian education can respond today. In his Apostolic Letter *Drawing New Maps of Hope*, signed on 27th October 2025 and released to mark the 60th anniversary of the Conciliar declaration *Gravissimum Educationis*, he notes that the insights of *Gravissimum Educationis* remain relevant in today's fragmented and digitalised environment, continuing to inspire educational communities to build bridges and to offer civic and professional formation with creativity. This direction, first traced by the Second Vatican Council, has generated a rich array of works and charisms that remain a spiritual and pedagogical treasure for the Church.

Educational charisms as living responses The Letter emphasises that educational charisms are not fixed formulas but living responses to the needs of each age. Recalling the teaching of Saint Augustine on the true educator as one who awakens the desire for truth and freedom, the Pope surveys the tradition that spans from monastic communities to the mendicant orders and to the *Ratio Studiorum*, where scholastic thought met Ignatian spirituality. He recalls the contributions of educators such as Saint Joseph Calasanz, Saint John Baptist de La Salle, Saint Marcellin Champagnat, and Saint John Bosco, each of whom advanced distinctive educational methods serving the poor and marginalised. He highlights the pioneering witness of women religious and laywomen including Vicenta María López y Vicuña, Frances Cabrini, Josephine Bakhita, Maria Montessori, Katharine Drexel, Elizabeth Ann Seton who expanded access to education for girls, migrants, and the disadvantaged.

Education as a shared mission Pope Leo XIV underlines that education is always a collective effort in which teachers, students, families, administrators, pastors, and civil society all participate. He recalls the thought of Saint John Henry Newman—now named co-patron of the educational world alongside Saint Thomas Aquinas—as a model of intellectual rigour united with deep humanity. The Pope encourages renewal in educational environments through empathy and openness, insisting that education must form the whole person, integrating knowledge with the heart and the capacity for discernment. Catholic schools and universities are to be places where inquiry is guided and supported, not suppressed. Teaching is to be understood as a vocation of service that offers time, trust, competence, and compassion, joining justice with mercy. **The human person at the centre** The Letter reaffirms Paul VI's warning against reducing education to functional training or economic productivity. Education, Pope Leo XIV writes, must serve human dignity and the common good. A person cannot be confined to a set of measurable skills or to a predictable digital profile, but must be recognised as a unique individual with a face, a story, and a calling. **Restoring trust amid conflict** Without indulging nostalgia, the Pope situates his reflection in the present. Using the image of fixed stars to describe the principles guiding education, he stresses that truth is discovered in communion, that freedom implies responsibility, and that authority must be exercised as service. He calls Catholic education to rebuild trust in a world marked by fear and division, cultivating a sense of shared belonging that fosters fraternity among peoples and nations.

The interweaving of faith, culture, and life Recalling his years of service in the diocese of Chiclayo Peru, Pope Leo XIV reflects on education as a gradual journey of growth, built through dedication and perseverance. He presents Catholic schools as communities where faith, culture, and life are harmoniously united. Technical updates alone, he writes, are not sufficient to meet contemporary challenges; what is needed is discernment and coherence of vision. The educator's witness, both intellectual and spiritual, is as important as classroom instruction. For this reason, the formation of teachers academic, pedagogical, cultural, and spiritual—is described as essential to the mission of Catholic education.

The family as the primary educator The Pope reaffirms that the family remains the first and fundamental place of education. Other institutions can assist but never replace it. Collaboration among families, schools, the wider community is essential, based on listening, shared responsibility, and mutual trust. In an interconnected world, formation too must be interconnected. The Pope encourages greater cooperation between parish, diocesan schools, universities, professional institutes, movements, and digital and pastoral initiatives. Differences in methods or structures, should be viewed as resources rather than obstacles, contributing to a coherent and fruitful whole. The future, he says, demands growth in collaboration and unity of purpose. **Linking social and environmental justice** Integral education, the Letter insists, unites every dimension of the person and treats faith not as an additional subject but as the breath that gives life to all learning. In this way, Catholic education becomes a seedbed for an integral humanism that can respond to the urgent questions of our age. The Pope situates this within a world wounded by conflict and violence. Education for peace, he explains, is not passive but active: it rejects aggression, teaches reconciliation, and cultivates a language of mercy and justice. He connects this mission with the need to link social and environmental justice, reminding readers that when the earth suffers, the poor suffer most. Education, therefore, must form consciences capable of choosing what is right, not merely what is advantageous, and of promoting sustainable and simple lifestyles.

Technology at the service of humanity Drawing again on the teaching of Vatican II, Pope Leo XIV cautions against subjugating education to market logic or financial interests. He calls for the responsible use of technology, which should enrich learning rather than weaken relationships or community life. He warns against purely technical efficiency that lacks soul, and against standardised knowledge that impoverishes the human spirit. No digital system, can replace the human capacities that make education fully alive imagination, art, creativity, empathy, and the willingness to learn through error. Artificial intelligence and digital environments, he adds, must be guided by ethical reflection and a concern for human dignity, justice, and the value of work.

Toward a culture of encounter Building on the legacy of Pope Francis and the *Global Compact on Education*, Pope Leo XIV identifies three current priorities: the cultivation of interior life, which responds to young people's search for depth; the formation of a humane digital culture that places the person before the algorithm; and the education of new generations in the ways of peace, dialogue, and reconciliation. He calls for educational culture marked by cooperation rather than rivalry, and by shared discernment rather than rigid hierarchy.

A symphony of the Spirit In conclusion, the Letter invites educators to use language that heals, to keep an open and discerning heart, and to face today's challenges with courage and generosity. The Pope acknowledges the difficulties of the present: fragmented attention caused by hyper-digitalisation, fragile relationships, social insecurity, and inequality. Against these threats, he calls for a spirit of inclusivity and evangelical gratuity that expresses itself in concrete acts of justice and solidarity. When education loses sight of the poor, he warns, it loses its very soul.

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 'Melbourne Cup' meeting Tuesday 4th November 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.

November 2025		
4	Over 50's Meeting 'Melbourne Cup'	10.30am
5	Sacramental Process 2026 Meeting	6.30pm
12	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.

1/2 November

Acolytes	Vigil: Darryl Green 8am: Fayelene Kennedy 9.30am: Ramzee Michael
Ministers	Vigil: N. Shami, A. Franco 8am: M. Santos, J. Irudayaraj 9.30am: M. Michael, P. Gow
Readers	Vigil: Yxaak & Yxavel Dino 8am: J. Mai & A. McNally 9.30am: R. Nigli, M. Aquino
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. Bagatella, C. Rodrigues, C. Smith 8am: Sub RQD, A. Faulkner-Dhiman 9.30am: J. Pieris, M. Pieris, C. Attard
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir
Musicians	Vigil: Christine Clarke 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Couples for Christ
Flowers	Fenty & Liz
Church Cleaning	8 Nov Tongan Community Edgardo Barcelon Edgar Cabrera
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Sastina Pieris

8/9 November

Acolytes	Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Ryan Epondulan
Ministers	Vigil: L. La Guidara, M. Mifsud 8am: L. Fernandes, F. Paiva 9.30am: A. Han, G. Basili
Readers	Vigil: R. Saldanha, A. Pushparajan 8am: K. Walker, P. Ferriols 9.30am: L. Rigney, N. Arambulo
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. La Guidara, C. La Guidara, C. Bellamin 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: J. Martinez, O. Martinez, N. D'Cruz
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group
Musicians	Vigil: Christine Clarke 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir
Flowers	Claudette & Siani
Church Cleaning	20 Nov Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Volunteer

The Kids' Bulletin

All Souls' Day
November 2, 2025

ZEATBECDNEAFLGRHEISJ
TKGLRMANNOTPUQNRSTOT
TUHVEWMXOYLZOARBD



What can we do for the souls suffering in Purgatory?

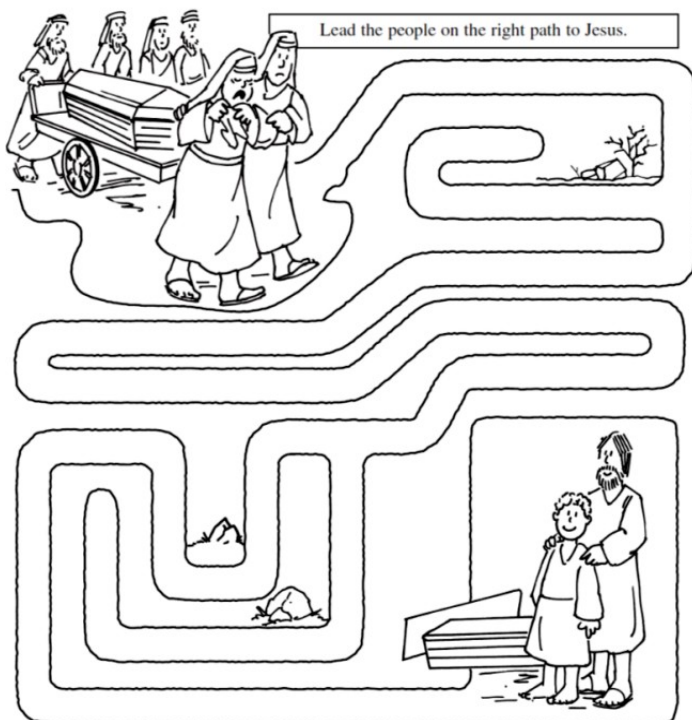
*Use every other letter to fill in the blanks
and you will have a little prayer you can say for them-
every day!*

E _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ ,
_ _ _ _ _ !

Saints

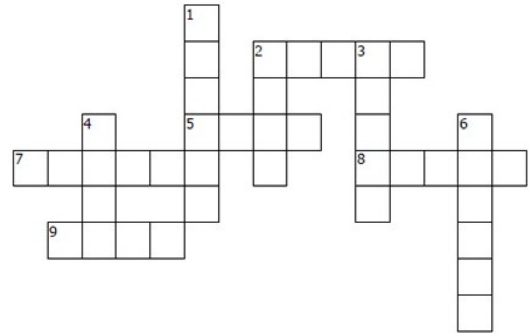
Souls



Jesus Raises a Widow's Son

The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother. Luke 7:15 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 7:11-17 (NIV)



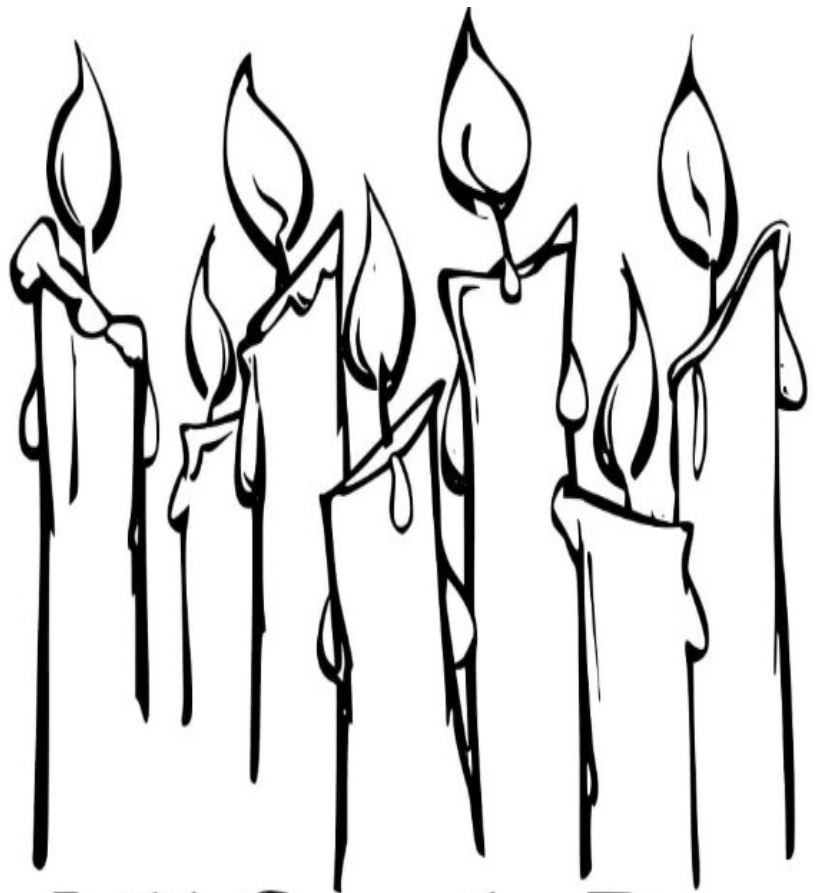
ACROSS

2. To come in contact with something or someone
5. To give assistance to; aid
7. To express approval, commendation, or admiration
8. A woman whose husband has died and who has not married again
9. Not alive

DOWN

1. The female parent
2. To use the voice, or to have a conversation with someone
3. a large group of people who have gathered together
4. An opening in a fence for entrance or exit
6. A long box in which a corpse is buried

gate	mother	touch	talk	praise
dead	widow	coffin	help	crowd



All Souls Day