



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay"

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. NSW. 2147

Ph. 9622 2920

Email: secretary@olol7hills.com.au

Parish Priest: Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran

Parish Office Team: Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang, Jane Nguyen, Laura Ilioski

Office Hours: Tuesday-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: 15 April 2026

Baptism: 22 March 2026

Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall

Youth Co-Ordinator: Diana Park

Parish Website: www.olol7hills.org.au

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 15 March 2026 • Year A



Let us Pray for the Sick

Anna, Florence Arinaran, Lorenzo Balabat, Max Barrett, Luigi Bertinato, Penny Briscoe, Irene Cabasa, Alma Caguimbal, Mary Camilleri, John Crowther, Lawrence Charles, Hoa Chau, James Debattista, Christian Detera, Ben Dixon, Annabelle Edwards, Para Dias, Michelle Fernando, Lucia Fernando, Renuka Fernando, Grace George, Philippe Honore, Odette James, Anthony Janicska, Mary Jordan, Takis Karapatsakis, Clare Kinsley, T.S.Q. Letran, Theresa Marini, Sandra & Kenny Mahoney, Susie Manga, Melissa Mead, Blago Milicevic, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Gary Morrissey, Jayne Muscat, Lynnda Lim-Huynh, Michelle Pellicano, Maricar Poblete, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Arabella Steele, Sue Tiplado, Chandra Sampantham, Caroline Stevenson, Vivian Tomines, Sakalia Ameto Vili, 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: Natalino Bertinato, Josefina De Vera, Dawn Fernando, Camillus Gomez, Mary Leeder, James Muscat, Francis Zaidan.

Anniversaries: Leisle Abreo, Mary Alagiah, Fredy Alphonse, Lourdes Apalisok, Joseph Chary, Audrey & Herman Chillah, Marcel Diab, Samuel Duraisamy, Blaise Costa, Mary Camenzuli, Rita de Silva, Frank, Emmanuel Falzon, Joe Falzon, Mansour Farid, M.A Fernando, Joseph, Carmena & Sammy Formosa, Rienzie Fernando, Monte Franco, O. Francis, J. Francis, Sammy Formosa, Agostino Fantin, Charlie Galea, Emily Galea, Constance Gaycroft, John Harriss, Pietro Marra, A. Mansoor, Paul Louis & Stephen Mula, Charles Muscat, Jason Muscat, Apolinario Maglaya, Felina Mayuyo, Marcel Spetter, Sem Serna, Ben Wijitr Benjabutr, Maria & Joseph Nguyen, Thomas Morrissey Snr, Jason Muscat, Tony Muscat, Felix & Andreanna Muscat, Augustine Paiva, John Ratnam, Helen Tanti

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, France Angseesing, Frank & Fortunata Baidada, Sam Borg, Antonio, Amelia & Germana Bertimato, Peter & Antonio, Frank, Maurice & Joseph Camenzuli and Camenzuli Family, Barrie Chamberlain, Joseph, Johnny Edwards, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Launcer De Guire, Edmundo Deloso, Melvyn Fernandes, Merita Fernando, Nevis Fernando, Joseph & Carmena Formosa, Leandro Garcia Snr, Evangeline, Rudy Garcia, Jose Garcia, Mario & Joe Gat, Francisco Giusa, Salatori Giggio, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Selvam Irudayaraj, J.B, Jonathan Tek Kie, Mangion & Cini Family, Tessie & Andy Mangine, Maureen & John Mead, Pauline Meilak, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, William & Emilia Mifsud, Joseph & Donis Mifsud, Mary Mifsud, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Cole Ngan, Bertu, Albert, Paul, Louis, Stephen & Joseph Mula and Mula Family, Anton & Lourda Motha, Xavier Motha Jnr, Mary & Francis Muscat, Jason Muscat & family, Ngan Pin, Lakshman Perera, Eustace Ratnam, Roseline Ratnam, Benigno & Rosita Rival, Mary Silva, Christopher Solomon, Sheadon Trek, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Jim Vella. ***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 book of Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
 2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
 3. You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
 4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**
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SECOND READING *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 5:8-14*

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 9:1-41 (Short version, refer to slide for long)*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord.



FROM FR. HENRY

Dear friends,

The Gospel story this Sunday is one of the seven miracles or 'signs' as John preferred to call them. These signs lead to one of the seven discourses or sermons of Jesus. Though physical in nature, each miracle reveals a deeper spiritual meaning in the discourse that follows.

The sign performed by Jesus, the light of the world, involved the restoration of physical sight to a man born blind and culminated in the man's coming to faith. This healing took place on the Sabbath, a day prescribed for rest under Jewish law, which provoked opposition from the Temple authorities. Jesus was perceived to have violated the Sabbath by making spittle from his saliva and applying it to the man's eyes, and further by instructing him to wash in the Pool of Siloam, through which the healing was effected. Influenced by the belief that the man's blindness was a consequence of sin, and convinced that Jesus sought to undermine the Law of Moses, the Pharisees escalated the matter by initiating a series of interrogations, first of the healed man and subsequently of his parents.

During the interrogation of the blind man, disagreement arose among the Pharisees over whether Jesus was a sinner or not, with some arguing that such a sign could not be performed by a sinner. When asked for his view, the man boldly declared "he is a prophet". His parents responded more cautiously. They confirmed that the man was indeed their son, born blind and now able to see, but declined to comment on how the healing occurred or who was responsible, fearing the Jewish authorities. Instead, they deferred the matter to their son, stating that he was old enough to speak for himself.

Despite intense pressure from the Pharisees, the man courageously bore witness to Jesus, pointing to the astonishing sign that revealed God's power at work in him—something unheard of from a sinner, since God does not listen to sinners. Frustrated by the testimony of the blind man, the Pharisees again condemned him as a sinner and dismissed him. When Jesus later found the blind man, he revealed himself as the Son of Man, and the man came to believe in him and worshipped him. Jesus' concluding message highlighted the purpose of his mission: that those without sight may see, and those who claim to see may become blind. This was fulfilled as the Pharisees, who claimed to be disciples of Moses, were spiritually blind by rejecting the Son of God, while the formerly blind man received the gift of light—both physically and spiritually.

Let us ask Jesus to open our minds and hearts, that we may recognise him more clearly in the Eucharist we celebrate today and in the people we encounter—our families, parish community, our neighbourhood and especially, our disadvantaged brothers and sisters.

Have a Christ-oriented week.

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR LENT

- Lent begins from Ash Wednesday.
- In Lent there is no Alleluia at Mass.
- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence for healthy Catholics.
- Lent is a penitential time of prayer, self-denial and helping others.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during LENT at 7.30pm.

REPORT FROM OUR LAST PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

We revisited our Parish Pastoral Plan for 2026-2030 and agreed to focus on the IT aspect, to improve our electronic comms, social media and revamping our Parish website and Facebook page. Our Parish office would be happy to hear from our IT experts for their ideas and assistance to achieve this goal.

PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

We would like to thank Fr Kevin Walsh for accepting our invitation to host our Parish Lenten retreat this year. May the Lord keep him in good health and reward him abundantly for his generosity to share his gifts with others.

PROJECT COMPASSION

As usual, we are invited to join in the Project Compassion to help support vulnerable communities around the world. This is an appropriate time for us to put into practice what Jesus asked us to do in the Gospel for Ash Wednesday namely almsgiving, please make sure each family have a Project Compassion box at home during Lent, and bring it back to the church from the Holy Thursday.

PLAQUE PAYMENT

Parishioners who have pledged a plaque are kindly asked to make the \$300 payment online and then email the EFT remittance to secretary@olol7hills.com.au with your plaque wording (MUST be 25 letters or less).

Banking details below:

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church.

BSB: 067 950

ACC: 000552

REF: (your surname) PLAQUE

Alternatively, please contact the parish office during office hours, Tues-Fri 9am-3pm. Thank you for your support.

CHURCH HALL CANOPY RAFFLE

1st Prize: Samsung 85" Smart TV – 2nd Prize: \$800 Cash

3rd Prize: \$500 Cash – 4th Prize: \$200 Cash

The raffle will be drawn at the end of the 9.30AM Mass on Sunday 16th August 2026, and we would really appreciate it if you could help buy the tickets or take a few ticket books

PLEDGE BOOK FOR HALL CANOPY PLAQUE

Thank you to those who signed the Pledge Book for the Hall Canopy Plaque, and for those who wish to sign, this book is located at the Baptismal font. Please register your name, phone number and accurate details on the plaque of 25 letters or less. A leaflet is also available for all to take home to further explain the Plaque Fundraising program.

DO SOMETHING EXTRA FOR LENT

Lent is a time to focus on prayer, to open our hearts and minds to God. You are invited to experience God's peace and love by slowing down and reflecting in a small group every Thursday morning at 9.30am in the Parish Meeting Room. Contact Olivia 0423 890 978 for further enquiries.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Positions Vacant:

- Catholic Chaplain – Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains
- Facilities & Contract Manager – Diocese of Parramatta.
Applications close 17 March 2026.
- Property & Project Coordinator – Diocese of Parramatta.
Applications close 17 March 2026.

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

Launch of Fr Joe's new book: 26 March

Fr Joe, Parish Priest of Baulkham Hills, has just published a new book with the title "Augustine on Listening, Humility and Unity. The Augustinian Root of Pope Leo XIV." Launched by Sister Dr Margaret Ghosn, Theologian and Principal of Maronite College of the Holy Family in Harris Park, and Most Rev Vincent Long Nguyen, Bishop of Parramatta. Join us on Thursday 26 March 2026 at 7pm at St. Michael's Downey Room, 1 Chapel Ln, 2153 Baulkham Hills.

To register: admin@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au

Lenten Retreat at Corpus Christi Parish, Cranebrook: 22-25 March

Join us for a prayerful Lenten Retreat at Corpus Christi Catholic Church from the 22nd to the 25th of March, led by Fr Abraham Kunnatholy CMI. Enjoy Mass, guided reflections and fellowship to renew hearts and prepare for Holy Week. All are warmly welcome. Contact the parish office for more details.

Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary Celebrations: 6 April

You are invited to celebrate with us the 75 yrs of the arrival of the first Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary to Australia AND 60 years of the Schoenstatt Movement in Australia. Join us on Easter Monday, 6th April 2026 from 1:30pm – 5:30pm at Mount Schoenstatt – 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa 2745. Please bring a plate to share. Parallel children's program will also be available. RSVP Shirley Hall 0417 153 930
movtooffice@schoenstatt.org.au

LOL SAFEGUARDING NEWS

When should I complete my Safeguarding Training?

All Clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children's Guardian Act 2019 to be current and complete with Safeguarding Training. Check with your Parish Office when you are due to update your Safeguarding Training.

- If you are new to ministry, you must complete the Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1).
 - If you completed Cycle 1 modules two years ago, you must complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2)
- If you renewed your Cycle 2 two years ago, you must complete a Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3)

Safeguarding Training Modules can always be completed online at <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>.

Face-to-face training opportunities can be found at <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

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>.

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.

Women's Breakfast Celebrating the Feast of St Joseph

Saturday 21 March 8am – 10am Mary MacKillop Spirituality Ministry, 33 Barina Downs Rd, Baulkham Hills Cost: \$20 per person (breakfast included) All women are warmly invited to a special community breakfast celebrating the Feast of St Joseph and honouring the legacy of Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph. Guest speaker: Sr Virginia Bourke rsj. Bookings essential: Scan the Qr code on the parish notice board flyer to register All women are welcome.

Blacktown Parish presents 'The Witness'

Mary Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, are bringing to life the musical "The Witness" – telling the story of the life of Jesus through the eyes of St Peter. We encourage anyone interested in being part of The Witness experience to [register](#). For vocal auditions, contact our Music Director, Marianne Fernandes, at music@bethewitness.com.au. To learn more, visit [Be The Witness – The Musical](#) or email info@bethewitness.com.au.

Free Weekly Legal Clinic at Catholic Care, Emerton

Every Thursday from 11am at Catholic Care, 11 Emert Pde, Emerton) you can visit for FREE legal advice on matters including: Family Law, Care and Protection, Local Court matters, Wills and Estates and Traffic Offences. Walk-ins are welcome, to make a booking call 8843 2500.

Volunteer Cook Wanted for Catholic Care's Houses to Homes program

Catholic Care's Houses to Homes program is seeking a volunteer cook to lead simple, hands-on cooking sessions for a small group of women once a month. Sessions run on a Friday from 10am to 12midday, with ingredients provided, and conclude with participants sharing the meal together. All required screening and training will be supported. For more information or to express interest, please contact enquiries@catholiccarewsbm.org.au or call (02) 8843 2500.

Safeguarding Training Dates for Deaneries

From this year, parishes within a Deanery will have the same Safeguarding Training Renewal and Refresher Dates. In 2026, the dates for those in a Deanery to update and complete their Training will be:

- Blacktown Deanery – April 2026
- The Hills Deanery – August 2026
- Cumberland Deanery – November 2026

The remaining Deaneries will renew in 2027.

Online Training Modules are always available for those who are entering ministry. Face-to-face opportunities can be found at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For further inquiries and to book in F2F Training dates at your Parish, please contact: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

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.

POPE LEO'S ANGELUS

Pope Leo: May weapons fall silent in Iran

Pope Leo XIV on Sunday reflected on the Gospel of the Samaritan woman at the well, highlighting how Jesus responds to human spiritual thirst and calls believers to authentic discipleship. Speaking during the Angelus in St Peter's Square on the third Sunday of Lent, he said: "The encounter with Jesus stirs in the depths of each person a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." Encountering Jesus as the source of life, The Pope explained that Lent offers a privileged time to "free our hearts" from obstacles that block the experience of God's grace, and he recalled the words of the Dutch Jewish author, Etty Hillesum, who wrote that when God seems buried beneath stones and grit, "He must be dug out again." Pope Leo highlighted the disciples' astonishment at Jesus speaking with the Samaritan woman, pointing to their initial reluctance to embrace his mission. The call to awareness and service, Pope Leo XIV also reflected on the disciples' reaction to Jesus speaking with the Samaritan woman, noting their astonishment and reluctance. "Look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting," he said, highlighting the need to recognise God's grace even where it is not immediately visible, and he pointed to Jesus' attentiveness, respect, and absence of judgment as a model for Christians. Women as evangelizers — Pope Leo underscores the need for solidarity on International Women's Day. The Pope also reflected on the role of the Samaritan woman as the first of many female evangelizers. Her testimony brought her community to faith, demonstrating, he said, that "how beautiful it is when we lose track of time to give attention to the person we encounter."

Call to peace and unity, concluding his message, Pope Leo XIV invited the faithful to seek the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, in serving those "thirsting for truth and justice." He said that this service should transcend divisions, warning against thinking in terms of "us" versus "them." "Those who worship God seek to be men and women of peace, who worship him in Spirit and in truth."

SYNOD RELEASES FINAL REPORT OF STUDY GROUP ON WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

The General Secretariat of the Synod has released the third Final Report of the Study Groups established by Pope Francis following the First Session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. The report published was that of Study Group No. 5 on Women's participation in the life and leadership of the Church. The Final Report in Italian and English, together with a brief summary in five languages, is available on the website of the General Secretariat of the Synod: www.synod.va Last week, the Synod Office published the final reports of Study Group No. 3 on 'The Mission in the Digital Environment' and Study Group No. 4 on 'The Revision of the *Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis* in a Missionary Synodal Perspective.' Pope Leo XIV has directed the publication of these Final Reports to share with the entire people of God the fruits of the reflection and discernment undertaken during the Synod, in a spirit of transparency and accountability. The Final Reports are published in English and Italian, with an indication of the original language and the working translation. The General Secretariat will continue to release the Final Reports progressively. The Report The Final Report is composed of three parts. The first offers a brief reconstruction of the history of Study Group No. 5 and its working method.

The second part presents a reasoned synthesis of the themes that emerged from the synodal study. This section is the fruit of listening to the women consultors of the Dicastery, of the work carried out by its various bodies (Doctrinal Office, Congress, Feria IV), of the reading of the contributions received, and of numerous testimonies solicited by the Dicastery itself. This section presents a reflection that begins "from below," listening to the experiences and contributions of women who hold positions of responsibility in the Church, in order to discern what the Holy Spirit is accomplishing and inspiring. Among the key themes are: the recognition that the "question of women" constitutes a genuine sign of the times, through which the Holy Spirit Himself is addressing the Church; a synodal attentiveness to the local Churches, with their cultures and their diverse and concrete contexts; a relational approach that highlights the charismatic dimension of women's presence in ecclesial life; and an analysis of the concrete decisions made by Pope Francis and Pope Leo XIV, whose choice to entrust women with positions of governance in the Roman Curia represents a model on which the entire Church is called to reflect.

Finally, the third part consists of an extensive appendix cataloging the considerable body of material received and collected by the Dicastery, organized into six sections: 1) Female figures in the Old and New Testament; 2) Significant female figures in the history of the Church; 3) Contemporary testimonies of women participating in the leadership of the Church; 4) The Marian Principle and the Petrine Principle: a critical perspective; 5) Ecclesial potestas; 6) The contribution of Pope Francis and Pope Leo XIV on the role of women in the life and leadership of the Church.

Nature and publication of the Final Reports Along with the Final Report of Study Group No. 3 last week, the General Secretariat also published a Note outlining the origin and mandate of the Study Groups, the nature of the Reports, and the envisioned operational follow-up. The Note states that the Final Reports are the fruit of a structured process, which involved the listening to diverse competencies and professional expertise, the analysis of numerous contributions, academic research, dialogue with various ecclesial bodies, from Episcopal Conferences to Catholic universities, and, above all, discernment and prayer. They are to be understood as working documents.

Pope Leo XIV has directed that the Final Reports be published progressively, as they are presented to the General Secretariat of the Synod, in a spirit of transparency. In order that the content that has emerged may be translated into concrete orientations, decisions and processes, the Holy Father has requested the competent Dicasteries and the General Secretariat of the Synod to draw up, on the basis of the *Final Reports*, operative proposals, also giving an account of the choices made and of any elements not received. This joint effort, the General Secretariat's note continues, ensures coherence with the synodal dynamism and rootedness in the Church's missionary perspective. The operative proposals thus formulated will be submitted to the Holy Father, who will evaluate and may approve them. With the submission of the *Final Report* to the General Secretariat of the Synod, the Study Groups that have delivered it conclude the mandate entrusted to them and are therefore to be considered dissolved.

POPE LEO'S AUDIENCE

By Isabella H. de Carvalho

In a world marked by divisions and tensions, the Church unites her members through their faith in Christ and His love and therefore has the mission to reach out to everyone, Pope Leo XIV said during the Wednesday General Audience in St. Peter's Square on March 11.

"Unified in Christ, Lord and Saviour of every man and woman, the Church can never turn inwards on herself, but is open to everyone and is for everyone," the Pope highlighted. "It is a great sign of hope—especially in our times, traversed by so many conflicts and wars—to know that the Church is a people in which women and men of different nationalities, languages, and cultures live together in faith," he continued. "It is a sign placed in the very heart of humanity, a reminder and prophecy of that unity and peace to which God the Father calls all His children," he said.

Pope Leo XIV continued his catechesis series on the Documents of the Second Vatican Council, focusing again on the 1964 Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen gentium*. In this week's catechesis, he reflected on the alliance that God has created with His people and what this means for the Church and every Christian.

"In the Church there is, and there must be, a place for everyone," he said, adding that "every Christian is called to proclaim the Gospel and bear witness in every environment in which he or she lives and works." Christ unites His people

The Pope explained that God "wishes to save every person," and He thus carries out His "work of salvation in history" by "choosing a real people and dwelling among them." He highlighted that, in the Old Testament, God called Abraham, promised him numerous descendants, and then freed these descendants from slavery and made a covenant with them. "The identity of this people is given by God's action and by faith in Him," the Pope said, adding that "they are called to become a light for other nations, like a beacon that will draw all peoples, the whole of humanity, to itself."

In *Lumen gentium*, the Second Vatican Council explains that this mission takes its fuller meaning in light of "that new and perfect covenant, which was to be ratified in Christ, and of that fuller revelation which was to be given through the Word of God Himself made flesh," the Pope underlined. "Indeed, it is Christ who, in giving His Body and His Blood, unites this people in Himself and in a definitive way." Church made up of the people of God united in Christ

In this regard, the Pope insisted that this is truly the identity of the Church today: "the people of God who draw their existence from the body of Christ and who are themselves the body of Christ." It is "made up of women and men from all the peoples of the earth" who are united not by "a language, a culture, an ethnicity" but by Jesus.

"Those who belong to it do not pride themselves on merits or titles, but only on the gift of being, in Christ and through Him, daughters and sons of God," the Pope continued. He pointed out that "above any task or function" in the Church, what is truly important is being "grafted onto Christ" and being "children of God by grace." That is "the only honorary title we should seek as Christians," he insisted. "Consequently, the law that animates relationships in the Church is love, as we receive and experience it in Jesus; and her goal is the Kingdom of God, towards which she walks together with all humanity."

The Church is one but includes everyone, explaining that the Church is made up of the people of God united and chosen by Christ, Pope Leo then emphasized that the mission of the Church and of every one of her faithful is to spread the Gospel to all. The Council, through *Lumen gentium*, reminds us that "all men are called to belong to the new people of God," meaning that "this people, remaining one and unique, must extend to the whole world and to all ages," so that God's intention of gathering together all "his children" may be fulfilled. "Even those who have not yet received the Gospel are therefore, in some way, oriented towards the people of God," he continued, adding that the Church "is called upon to spread the Gospel everywhere and to everyone, so that every person may enter into contact with Christ."

This invites the Church to be open to all, meaning welcoming different cultures while at the same time "offering them the newness of the Gospel to purify them and to raise them up." "In this regard, the Church is one but includes everyone," the Pope concluded, citing also French Jesuit Father Henri de Lubac, who said, "The unique Ark of Salvation must welcome all human diversity into its vast nave."



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

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 April 2026, 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 GROTTO: 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 rabel24@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.

March/April 2026

28/29	Palm Sunday Masses	6pm, 8am, 9.30am
31	Parish Reconciliation 2nd Rite	7.30pm
2	Last Day of School Term 2	
2	Holy Thursday Mass	7.30pm

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

Acolytes, Ministers, Readers and Altar Servers, please remember to arrive 15

14/15 March

Acolytes	Vigil: Derrick Soares 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Ramzee Michael	
Ministers	Vigil: J. Franco, N. Shami 8am: L. Fernandes, M. Santos 9.30am: M. Aquino, K. Huihui	
Readers	Vigil: Volunteer, N. Sumcad 8am: J. Cabasa, A. McNally 9.30am: N. Arambulo, K. Huihui	
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. Monteiro, J. Steele, H. Winter 8am: Chris Bellamin, Volunteer 9.30am: C. Attard, A. Melki, L. Sadipoor	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir	
Musicians	Vigil: K. Thoms & C.W 8am: Christine Clarke 9.30am: Christine Clarke	
Flowers	Siani, Raquel, Tess	
Church Cleaning	19 March	Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman Edgar Ceberra
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso, Ram Ugre 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Edgardo Barcelon	

21/22 March

Acolytes	Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Frank Paiva 9.30am: Rommel Lagare	
Ministers	Vigil: A. Franco, L. La Guidara 8am: J. Irudayaraj, B. Motha 9.30am: G. Basili, E. Miu	
Readers	Vigil: Yxaak & Yxavel Dino 8am: J. Mai, K. Walker 9.30am: F. Kennedy, L. Rigney	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Alex & Christina La Guidara, Volunteer 8am: Jaxon Blackshaw, Volunteer 9.30am: N. D'Cruz, M. Stormer, E. Wright	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ	
Musicians	Vigil: Nina's Group 8am: Christine Clarke 9.30am: Nina's Group	
Flowers	Fennie, Angela, Kamela	
Church Cleaning	25 March	Jessie Borg Anne McNally Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Raul Nigli	

The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 15, 2026

What did the man that Jesus cured say to the people who thought Jesus was a sinner?
Use the code at the bottom to find out!

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A B D E F G H I L M N O R S T U W Y

Jesus Heals a Blind Man

So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. John 9:7 (NIV)
Choose the word that best matches the definition.



- ___ 1. Unable to see
A. blind B. deaf C. lame D. heal
- ___ 2. An adult male human being
A. woman B. girl C. man D. boy
- ___ 3. A sticky mixture of dirt and water
A. sand B. play dough C. rock D. mud
- ___ 4. The two organs in your face which are used to see
A. ears B. mouth C. eyes D. teeth
- ___ 5. Brightness that comes from the sun, candles, or electrical devices that allows things to be seen
A. mud B. light C. wash D. blind
- ___ 6. To make someone well from a sickness or injury
A. blind B. glory C. wash D. heal
- ___ 7. To clean something using water
A. wash B. heal C. see D. light
- ___ 8. Great admiration, honour and praise, especially as given to God
A. heal B. light C. wash D. glory



HELP THE BLIND MAN FIND JESUS
To do this puzzle, you must shut your eyes and let someone else tell you where to draw the line, as you go through the maze!