

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

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| Parish Priest: | Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran | Parish School: | LOLO 8869 6800 |
| Parish Office Team: | Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang, Frank Paiva, Laura Ilioski | Principal: | Ms Keiran Byrnes |
| Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday | 9am - 3.00pm | Reconciliation: | Saturday 4:30-5:30pm |
| WEEKDAY MASS: | Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am Thursday 9.00am | Baptismal Preparation: | 15 April 2026 |
| WEEKEND MASS: | Saturday Vigil 6pm Sunday 8am & 9.30am | Baptism: | 12 April 2026 |
| | | Sacrament Co-Ordinator: | Mrs Artelle Lenthall |
| | | Youth Co-Ordinator: | Diana Park |
| | | Parish Website: | www.olol7hills.org.au |
| | | Facebook | https://www.facebook.com/LOLO7Hills/ |

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

4/5 April 2026 • Year A



Let us Pray for the Sick

Anna, Florence Arinanan, 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, Yvo Periera, Michelle Pellicano, Maricar Poblete, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Arabella Steele, Sue Tipaldo, 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: Ma. Romina Palamos Austria, Maria Coleiro, Dawn Fernando, Camillus Gomez, William "Bill" Gregory, Vincent Jayapala, Mary Leeder, Antonia Murazzo, James Muscat, Dammita Soza, Jessie Zammit

Anniversaries: Astrid Abeleda, Leisle Abreo, Mary Alagiah, Fredy Alphonse, Lourdes Apalisok, Cristina Apolinario, Lisette & Joe Aristobil, Elvina Barnaba, Sam Borg, Joseph Chary, Audrey & Herman Chillah, Samuel Doraisamy, Blaise Costa, Mary Camenzuli, Rita de Silva, Frank, Emmanuel Falzon, Joe Falzon, Mansour Farid, M.A Fernando, Rienzie Fernando, Monte Franco, O. Francis, J. Francis, Sammy Fomosa, Agostino Fantin, Charlie Galea, Emily Galea, Zoltan Gartner, Manuel Jacob Gomez, John Harriss, Kathleen Harriss, Michael Kolosa, Pietro Marra, A. Mansoor, Albert Moroney, Irene Moroney, Thomas Morrissey Snr, Charles Muscat, Jason Muscat, Marcel Spetter, Sem Serna, Ben Wijitr Benjabutr, Thomas Morrissey Snr, Jason Muscat, Tony Muscat, Felix & Andreanna Muscat, Augustine Paiva, Helen Tanti, Arsemio Udán.

Remembrance: France Angseesing, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Antonio, Amelia & Germana Bertimato, Peter & Antonio, Frank, Maurice & Joseph Camenzuli and Camenzuli Family, Joseph, Lim Cho, Marcel Diab, Modsen Diab, Toufic Diab, Debe Diab, Bede Diab, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Emerenciana Dizon, Anacleto Dizon, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Launcer De Guire, Edmundo Deloso, Joseph & Carmena Formosa, Evangelina & Leandro Garcia Snr, Jose Garcia, Mario & Joe Gat, Francisco Giusa, Salatori Giogio, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Selvam Irudayaraj, Rita Jayapala, J.B, Jonathan Tek Kie, Mangion & Cini Family, Josefina Lim, Tessie & Andy Mangine, Maureen & John Mead, Pauline Meilak, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Joseph & Doris Mifsud, Mary Mifsud, Cole Ngan, Bertu, Albert, Paul, Louis, Stephen & Joseph Mula and Mula Family, Anton & Lourda Motha, Xavier Motha Jr, Mary & Francis Muscat, Jason Muscat & family, Falzon & Muscat families, Eamon & John O'Sullivan, Eustace Ratnam, John & Roseline Ratnam, Benigno & Rosita Rival, Mary Silva, Christopher Solomon, John Spiteri, Sheadon Trek, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Jim Vella, Mary Zammit.

Names will be published for 2 weeks at a time.



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.

**THE EASTER VIGIL
IN THE HOLY NIGHT**

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis 1:1-2:2

God saw all that he had made, and indeed it was good.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Response) Lord, send out your Spirit,
and renew the face of the earth.

SECOND READING

A reading from the book of Exodus 14.15-15.1

*Tell the children of Israel to march on, to walk through
the sea on dry ground.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Response) Let us sing to the Lord;
he has covered himself in glory.

THIRD READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 55:1-11

*Come to me and your soul will live. With you I will make
an everlasting covenant.*

EPISTLE

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

6:3-11

*Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die
again.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

24:1-2

*On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn,
the women went to the tomb with the spices they had
prepared.*

**EASTER SUNDAY of the
RESURRECTION of the LORD**

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37-43

*We have eaten and drunk with him after his
resurrection from the dead.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Response) This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

3:1-4

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia! Christ has become our paschal
sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

20:1-9

*The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the
dead.*



BISHOP VINCENT'S EASTER MESSAGE 2026

We invite families to watch Bishop Vincent's Easter Message for 2026.

It can be viewed here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_9Bb_3bYoU



FROM FR. HENRY

Dear friends,

Based on Gospel accounts, we know that Jesus' death and resurrection took place during the week of the Passover feast in the Jewish calendar. Early Christians therefore timed the annual commemoration of his Resurrection in relation to Passover, and his followers continued to celebrate the Last Supper as he encouraged them to do in remembrance of him. However, direct evidence of a liturgical celebration of Easter in the Roman Church appears somewhat later, specifically in the mid-second century. This is seen in the Easter homily of Bishop Melito of Sardis (d.c. 180), while Egeria's travel diary provides accounts of how Christians in Jerusalem celebrated Holy Week and Easter in the fourth century. Overall, Easter celebrations in Rome and Jerusalem were quite distinctive in the early Church: Christians in Rome focused on a single Easter Vigil liturgy, whereas their counterparts in Jerusalem moved between various physical sites associated with the Resurrection. From the 3rd century in Rome, Easter vigil was dominated by the baptism of new converts, followed immediately by their Confirmation and First Eucharist. The liturgy included the blessing of the new fire, the chanting of the Exultet followed by a series of readings tracing the salvation history. An Easter Sunday mass was introduced in the second half of the 4th century.

On the other hand, the Easter Vigil in Jerusalem, according to Egeria, began at the Resurrection rotunda (the *Anastasis*) with the lighting of lamps from a central source, and while the congregation was waiting in the main basilica, the bishop baptised the catechumens in a separate area and led them into the church amongst the cheering of people, the service then kept going on till dawn, including 12 readings from the OT, psalms and prayers. On Easter Sunday, the community gathered at the church of the Holy Sepulchre for a solemn Mass, they then processed to the church of Mt Sion in the afternoon thought to be the site where the Risen Lord appeared to the disciples in the Upper Room.

For our Easter Vigil Eucharist, we have Matthew's account of Jesus' Resurrection, naming the two women Mary of Magdala and the other Mary as the first people who encountered the Risen Christ as they came to visit the sepulchre at the dawn of the first day of the week. There they experienced an earthquake and saw God's angel robed in white with a shining face rolling the stone away from the tomb and sitting on it. This made the guards frightened. The angel then broke the news of Jesus' resurrection to them and entrusted them to convey to the disciples the message that Jesus has risen from the dead and was going to see them in Galilee. As they left the tomb, the risen Lord appeared to them, saying, "Greetings." They even had the opportunity to clasp his feet, and he repeated the message the angel had instructed them to pass on to the disciples. In John's Gospel on Easter Sunday, the evangelist singled out Mary of Magdala as the first person who came to visit Jesus' tomb and discovered the removal of the stone sealing the tomb. She came home to share the finding with Peter and John, who then ran together to the tomb. John ran faster and reached the place first, for he was younger than his senior friend. Though he reached the tomb first, John didn't enter Jesus' tomb but stayed outside to look in and saw Jesus' linen cloths left lying on the ground. Then Peter arrived later, entered inside and saw the cloth wrapping Jesus' head rolled up and left not in the same place with the linen cloths. Most significantly John summed up his experience with these five inspiring words, '*he saw and he believed*' meaning he saw Jesus' empty tomb with his linen cloths left behind in the empty tomb, and he believed in Jesus' prediction about his Resurrection, something he had the courage to admit that he and Peter failed to understand prior.

Like the ladies who first met the Risen Christ and entrusted with the task to spread the great news of his Resurrection to the disciples, we are called to bring Christ and his life-giving teachings to people of our time, let us pray that our celebrations of Easter this year will fill us with joy and that the grace of Easter will re-energise us and help make us more productive in our call to share Christ with all people by means of our Christ-like words and deeds.

Happy Easter and have a joy-filled week,

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER THANK YOU

Without the hard work of our volunteers and ministers, such as our church decorators, cleaners, floral team, readers, extraordinary ministers, acolytes, altar servers, music and IT ministers, money counters, and wardens, we would not be able to celebrate Holy Week and Easter so well. I would therefore like to congratulate them all on their dedication to their ministries and thank each of them for their service; may the Risen Lord fill their hearts with joy.

RCIA CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Queenie Deng, Victor Zhu, Lucas Gock and Alexander Gock who were fully initiated into the Church during tonight's Easter Vigil Mass. We also celebrate Miller Zhu and Anna Gock, who began their initiation into the faith through the Sacrament of Baptism at the same Mass. May God bless each of you on your journey in faith.



CONFIRMATION 2026 INFORMATION NIGHT

Parents wishing to enrol their Year 6 (or above) child in the 2026 Confirmation Process, are invited to attend an information and enrolment meeting on Wednesday 29th of April at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOX

Thank you for supporting our Caritas Project Compassion for 2026, please return your Project Compassion boxes as soon as possible to the church.

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.

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 of 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 home to distribute amongst family circles. Many thanks.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Positions Vacant:

- Catholic Chaplain – Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

Australian Catholic Historical Society – ‘History of Catholic Scouting in NSW’: 19 April

The next event of the Australian Catholic Historical Society will be held in the Crypt of St Patrick’s, Church Hill, at 2:00pm on Sunday, 19 April. **Topic:** *History of Catholic Scouting in NSW: The Rise and Fall of Catholic Scouting.*

Presenter: Christine Edney. Members, their guests, and all visitors are warmly welcome. Admission is free.

For further details about the Society’s programme, please visit: australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au

Bishop Vincent presents Archbishop Ryan Jimenez: 21 April

Archbishop Ryan Jimenez, Archbishop of Agaña in Guam and President of the Episcopal Conference of the Pacific is the first guest speaker for 2026 Bishop Vincent Presents series. Join us at 6pm on Tuesday 21 April in Cloister Hall, St Patrick’s Cathedral, Parramatta, for an evening with Archbishop Jimenez as he reflects on “An Immigrant Bishop for an Immigrant Church.” To register, please visit parracatholic.org/jimenez

Vinnies Frederic Ozanam Mass & Commissioning: 30 April

Vincentian members and staff are invited for a special Mass and the commissioning of Central Council President Leon Ross, celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long. Thursday, 30th April at 12:30 pm, St Patrick’s Cathedral, Parramatta. Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the Parish Hall. **RSVP by Friday, 24 April** to Earnest Henry: 0466 564 022 or Earnest.Henry@vinnies.org.au

Sistine Chapel Revelations – An Immersive Exhibition: 16 May to 19 July

Experience the *Sistine Chapel: Revelations* immersive exhibition at St Mary’s Cathedral forecourt, Sydney (16th May till the 19th July 2026). Discover breathtaking digital recreations, sacred art, and the story of salvation. Book tickets at sistinechapelssydney.com.au.

OLOL SAFEGUARDING NEWS

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.

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 – TBC 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

Rosary Workshops in May

Come along for a fun evening of community and crafting rosary beads that will then be donated to the sick and dying in hospitals across our Diocese. The evening will be held on the following days: Tuesday 5th May at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 7pm. Wednesday 20th May at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown from 7pm. Cost: \$5 per person payable on arrival (includes materials). To register or for more information, please visit the website parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops or email the Office for Worship via ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Music Workshop ‘Exploring Music for the Solemnities’: 5 May

Musicians throughout the Parramatta Diocese and beyond are invited to attend this workshop led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. On Tuesday 5 May to the Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown, the workshop will outline suggested hymns and explore music new and old for the many Solemnities and Feasts that occur in the period of Eastertide. Please RSVP by 1 May via <https://parracatholic.org/events/music-workshop-exploring-music-for-the-solemnities>. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Ministry of Care courses: 3-24 June

Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. The course will take place every Wednesday in June at 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Please register via parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses to reserve your spot. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Yard Maintenance role Wanted for House of Welcome Volunteer role

House of Welcome is seeking a volunteer for general yard maintenance (lawn mowing, whipper snipper, weeding, pruning) in South Granville on a weekly basis. House of Welcome provides personalised support for people seeking asylum and refugees. Through transitional housing, trauma-informed casework, employment assistance, emergency support, and advocacy, we meet essential needs and help empower our clients to rebuild their lives. More information contact Jacqui Clark: J.clark@houseofwelcome.org.au

OLOL Volunteer Responsibilities

Volunteers here at OLOL 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.

Children and Young People’s Participation

A Safeguarding culture for Children and Young People is fostered and sustained at OLOL 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 FRANCIS' LAST EASTER MESSAGE

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Easter!

Today at last, the singing of the "alleluia" is heard once more in the Church, passing from mouth to mouth, from heart to heart, and this makes the people of God throughout the world shed tears of joy.

From the empty tomb in Jerusalem, we hear unexpected good news: Jesus, who was crucified, "is not here, he has risen" (Lk 24:5). Jesus is not in the tomb, he is alive! Love has triumphed over hatred, light over darkness and truth over falsehood. Forgiveness has triumphed over revenge. Evil has not disappeared from history; it will remain until the end, but it no longer has the upper hand; it no longer has power over those who accept the grace of this day. Sisters and brothers, especially those of you experiencing pain and sorrow, your silent cry has been heard, and your tears have been counted; not one of them has been lost! In the passion and death of Jesus, God has taken upon himself all the evil in this world and in his infinite mercy has defeated it. He has uprooted the diabolical pride that poisons the human heart and wreaks violence and corruption on every side. The Lamb of God is victorious! That is why, today, we can joyfully cry out: "Christ, my hope, has risen!" (*Easter Sequence*). The resurrection of Jesus is indeed the basis of our hope. For in the light of this event, hope is no longer an illusion. Thanks to Christ crucified and risen from the dead hope does not disappoint! *Spes non confundit!* (cf. Rom 5:5). That hope is not an evasion, but a challenge; it does not delude but empowers us. All those who put their hope in God place their feeble hands in his strong and mighty hand; they let themselves be raised up and set out on a journey. Together with the risen Jesus, they become pilgrims of hope, witnesses of the victory of love and of the disarmed power of Life. Christ is risen! These words capture the whole meaning of our existence, for we were not made for death but for life. Easter is the celebration of life! God created us for life and wants the human family to rise again! In his eyes, every life is precious! The life of a child in the mother's womb, as well as the lives of the elderly and the sick, who in more and more countries are looked upon as people to be discarded. What a great thirst for death, for killing, we witness each day in the many conflicts raging in different parts of our world! How much violence we see, often even within families, directed at women and children! How much contempt is stirred up at times towards the vulnerable, the marginalized, and migrants! On this day, I would like all of us to hope anew and to revive our trust in others, including those who are different than ourselves, or who come from distant lands, bringing unfamiliar customs, ways of life and ideas! For all of us are children of God! I would like us to renew our hope that peace is possible! From the Holy Sepulchre, the Church of the Resurrection, where this year Easter is being celebrated by Catholics and Orthodox on the same day, may the light of peace radiate throughout the Holy Land and the entire world.

I express my closeness to the sufferings of Christians in Palestine and Israel, and to all the Israeli people and Palestinian people. The growing climate of anti-Semitism throughout the world is worrisome. Yet the same time, I think of the people of Gaza, and its Christian community in particular, where the terrible conflict continues to cause death and destruction and to create a dramatic and deplorable humanitarian situation. I appeal to the warring parties: call a ceasefire, release the hostages and come to the aid of a starving people that aspires to a future of peace!

Let us pray for the Christian communities in Lebanon and in Syria, presently experiencing a delicate transition in its history. They aspire to stability and to participation in the life of their respective nations. I urge the whole Church to keep the Christians of the beloved Middle East in its thoughts and prayers.

I also think in particular of the people of Yemen, who are experiencing one of the world's most serious and prolonged humanitarian crises because of war, and I invite all to find solutions through a constructive dialogue.

May the risen Christ grant Ukraine, devastated by war, his Easter gift of peace, and encourage all parties involved to pursue efforts aimed at achieving a just and lasting peace.

On this festive day, let us remember the South Caucasus and pray that a final peace agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan will soon be signed and implemented, and lead to long-awaited reconciliation in the region.

May the light of Easter inspire efforts to promote harmony in the western Balkans and sustain political leaders in their efforts to allay tensions and crises, and, together with their partner countries in the region, to reject dangerous and destabilizing actions.

May the risen Christ, our hope, grant peace and consolation to the African peoples who are victims of violence and conflict, especially in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Sudan and South Sudan. May he sustain those suffering from the tensions in the Sahel, the Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region, as well as those Christians who in many places are not able freely to profess their faith.

There can be no peace without freedom of religion, freedom of thought, freedom of expression and respect for the views of others. Nor is peace possible without true disarmament! The requirement that every people provide for its own defence must not turn into a race to rearmament. The light of Easter impels us to break down the barriers that create division and are fraught with grave political and economic consequences. It impels us to care for one another, to increase our mutual solidarity, and to work for the integral development of each human person. During this time, let us not fail to assist the people of Myanmar, plagued by years of armed conflict, who, with courage and patience, are dealing with the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Sagaing, which caused the death of thousands and suffering for the many survivors, including orphans and the elderly. We pray for the victims and their loved ones, and we heartily thank all the generous volunteers carrying out the relief operations. The announcement of a ceasefire by various actors in the country is a sign of hope for the whole of Myanmar. I appeal to all those in positions of political responsibility in our world not to yield to the logic of fear which only leads to isolation from others, but rather to use the resources available to help the needy, to fight hunger and to encourage initiatives that promote development. These are the "weapons" of peace: weapons that build the future, instead of sowing seeds of death! May the principle of humanity never fail to be the hallmark of our daily actions. In the face of the cruelty of conflicts that involve defenseless civilians, attack schools, hospitals and humanitarian workers, we cannot allow ourselves to forget that it is not targets that are struck, but persons, each possessed of a soul and human dignity. In this Jubilee year, may Easter also be a fitting occasion for the liberation of prisoners of war and political prisoners!

Dear brothers and sisters, In the Lord's Paschal Mystery, death and life contended in a stupendous struggle, but the Lord now lives forever (cf. *Easter Sequence*). He fills us with the certainty that we too are called to share in the life that knows no end, when the clash of arms and the rumble of death will be heard no more. Let us entrust ourselves to him, for he alone can make all things new (cf. Rev. 21:5)! Happy Easter to everyone!

POPE LEO ON THE YOUTH MINISTRY

By Deborah Castellano Lubov

Especially at such times of uncertainty, supporting and investing in young people is essential, suggested Pope Leo on Monday when receiving members of the Ausilia Foundation in the Vatican.

Established in 2013 as a non-profit organization, the Foundation, now a philanthropic entity, focuses primarily on supporting young people, education, scholarships, and social development projects.

The Pope began his remarks by expressing his gratitude for being able to meet them at the start of Holy Week, calling it "a providential time for our discipleship of the Lord Jesus, who was crucified, died and rose again for us."

Investment in people

Pope Leo in particular thanked those before him for their commitment to help young people in their formation and integration into the workplace.

"Investing not in objects, but in people, in their abilities and skills," the Pope stressed, "constitutes a key strength of your work."

Young people ought to become protagonists of their own future

"Indeed, in this way," he added, "it is the young people themselves who become the protagonists of their own future, without being regarded as functional tools for a company or cogs in the wheel of commercial success."

Thus, the Pope encouraged each of the Foundation's members to persevere in the initiatives they foster.

"Precisely in the current climate of uncertainty," he observed, "the virtuous circle of knowledge and collaboration that you promote will certainly bear good fruit."

In conclusion, Pope Leo XIV imparted his Apostolic Blessing upon all those present and their loved ones.

POPE LEO'S APRIL PRAYER INTENTION: 'FOR PRIESTS IN CRISIS'

By Devin Watkins

Pope Leo XIV has urged Catholics across the globe to join him in April in praying for priests in crisis.

He released the monthly "Pray with the Pope" video on Tuesday, which is prepared by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network.

In his prayer, the Pope entrusted all priests into the Father's hands, especially those going through moments of crisis, "when loneliness weighs heavily, when doubt clouds their hearts, and when exhaustion seems stronger than hope."

God, he said, knows their struggles and wounds as they seek to accept His unconditional love as "humble and cherished disciples" and not as "mere functionaries or lonely heroes."

"Good Father, teach us as a community to care for our priests: to listen without judging, to give thanks without demanding perfection, to share with them the baptismal mission of proclaiming the Kingdom in word and deed, and to accompany them with closeness and sincere prayer," prayed the Pope.

He invited Catholics to support the men who "so often support us."

Pope Leo prayed that the Holy Spirit may "rekindle in our priests the joy of the Gospel."

"Grant them healthy friendships, networks of fraternal support, a sense of humor when things don't go as expected, and the grace to always rediscover the beauty of their vocation," he said.

"May they never lose trust in You," he concluded, "nor the joy of serving your Church with a humble and a generous heart."

Sustaining the men who sustain our faith

In a press release accompanying the video, Fr. Cristóbal Fones, international director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, said the intention to pray for priests is particularly close to Pope Leo XIV's heart.

"It is essential to remember how important human accompaniment, sincere friendship and, above all, prayer support are," said Fr. Fones. "Priests need to know that they are not alone."

Like all people, priests too are fragile men who need to receive mercy, closeness, and understanding, noted the press release.

In addition to community life, priests should feel supported by their communities and the prayer of their flocks, and the Pope's prayer intention for April offers Catholics an opportunity to offer our spiritual support.

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.

April 2026

| | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 9 | Over 50's Group Meeting | 10.30am |
| 10 | Fr Henry's Birthday | |
| 15 | OLOL Parish Pastoral Council Meeting | 7:30pm |
| 28 | First Reconciliation Liturgy | 7.00pm |
| 29 | Confirmation 2026 Information Meeting | 6.30pm |

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

4/5 April

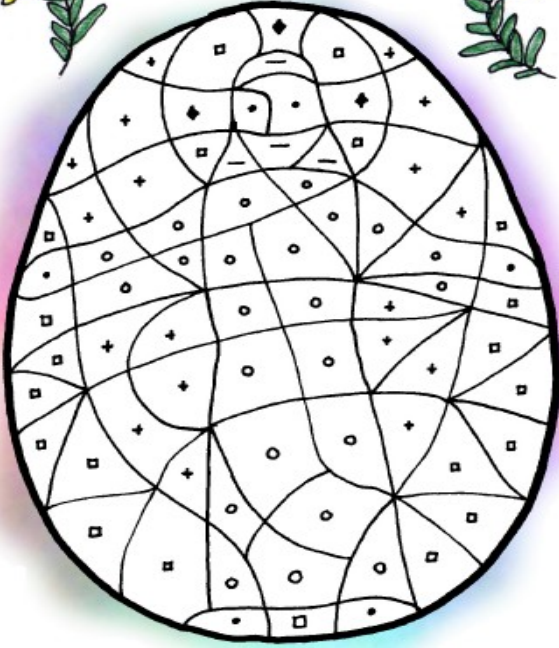
| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Acolytes | Vigil: <i>Easter Roster</i> 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Rommel Lagare | |
| Ministers | Vigil: <i>Easter Roster</i> 8am: A.McNally, M.Santos 9.30am: C.Brooks, P.Gow | |
| Readers | Vigil: <i>Easter Roster</i> 8am: K.Walker, B. Motha 9.30am: R.Graham Nigli, N. Arambulo | |
| Altar Servers | Vigil: <i>Easter Roster</i> 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: A.Faulkner-Dhiman, K.Cassaniti, | |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Young Adults Group | |
| Musicians | Vigil: Maximilian Chorale 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Couples for Christ | |
| Flowers | Fenty & Liz | |
| Church Cleaning | 11 April | Tongan Community Edgardo Barcelon Edgar Cabrera Aman Rawah |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Edgardo Barcelon Kathy Chamberlain | |

11/12 April

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Acolytes | Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Jerome Irudayaraj 9.30am: Kilifi Huihui | |
| Ministers | Vigil: N.Shami, R.Soaes 8am: Volunteer, F.Paiva 9.30am: G.Basili, A.Walker | |
| Readers | Vigil: A.Franco, N.Sumcad 8am: J.Cabasa, P.Ferriols 9.30am: K.Huihui, Z.Smith | |
| Altar Servers | Vigil: C.P Bellamin, J.Hoang, E.Reardon 8am: J.Blackshaw, C.Smith 9.30am: N.D'Cruz, M.Stormer, E.Wright | |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Parish Office | |
| Musicians | Vigil: Fr Henry 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir | |
| Flowers | Claudette, Raquel, Tess | |
| Church Cleaning | 16 April | Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman Edgardo Barcelon |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Volunteer | |

The Kids' Bulletin

Easter Sunday
April 5th, 2026



Easter Sunrise Surprise

He is not here; he has risen! Luke 24:6a (NIV)
The puzzle is based on Luke 24:1-12 (NIV).



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

The two men on the road to Emmaus didn't know the man who came and walked with them on Easter morning. Use the colour code below to see if you can figure out who it was!

- ◆ Red
- ◆ Purple
- Skin-colour
- Yellow
- Brown
- White

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| living women | tomb first | rolled spices | risen away | dead bowed |
| faces morning | stone week | entered body | ground fright | remember day |



HE IS RISEN

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.

