

# 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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<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran	<b>Parish School:</b>	LOLO 8869 6800
<b>Parish Office Team:</b>	Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang, Frank Paiva, Laura Ilioski	<b>Principal:</b>	Ms Keiran Byrnes
<b>Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday</b>	9am - 3.00pm	<b>Reconciliation:</b>	Saturday 4:30-5:30pm
<b>WEEKDAY MASS:</b>	Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am Thursday 9.00am	<b>Baptismal Preparation:</b>	15 July 2026
<b>WEEKEND MASS:</b>	Saturday Vigil 6pm Sunday 8am & 9.30am	<b>Baptism:</b>	26 April 2026
		<b>Sacrament Co-Ordinator:</b>	Mrs Artelle Lenthall
		<b>Youth Co-Ordinator:</b>	Diana Park
		<b>Parish Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.olol7hills.org.au">www.olol7hills.org.au</a>
		<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/LOLO7Hills/">https://www.facebook.com/LOLO7Hills/</a>

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 19 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, Pandora Crew, 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, 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@lol7hills.com.au](mailto:secretary@lol7hills.com.au)  
We can also arrange for Holy Communion or a visit if required.

### Let us Pray for the Deceased

**Recently Deceased:** Salvatore Marra, Roger Ampo, Ma. Romina Palmos Austria, Maria Coleiro, Gerald Fernades, Gerry Fernandes, William "Bill" Gregory, Kay Hotschilt, Vincent Jayapala, Antonia Murazzo, James Muscat, Mary Josephine Fernando Pulle, Dammita Soza, Jessie Zammit.

**Anniversaries:** Astrid Abeleda, Leisle Abreo, Mary Alagiah, Lourdes Apalisok, Cristina Apolinario, Lisette & Joe Aristobil, Elvina Barnaba, Saro Chary, Joseph Chary, Sary Chary, Maria Dalgado, Samuel Doraisamy, Blaise Costa, Mary Camenzuli, Rita de Silva, M.A Fernando, Rienzie Fernando, Monte Franco, Agostino Fantin, Zoltan Gartner, Manuel Jacob Gomez, Elizabeth Jean Hancock, John Harriss, Kathleen Harriss, Mary Holmgren, Leonie Jordan, Michael Kolosa, Pietro Marra, A. Mansoor, Anton Motha, Albert Moroney, Irene Moroney, Thomas Morrissey Snr, Charles Muscat, Jason Muscat, Marcel Spetter, Sem Serna, Ben Wijitr Benjautr, Thomas Morrissey Snr, Jason Muscat, Tony Muscat, Felix & Andreanna Muscat, Jane Zammit.

**Remembrance:** France Angseesing, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Antonio, Amelia & Germana Bertimato, Sam Borg, Peter & Antonio, Frank, Maurice & Joseph Camenzuli and Camenzuli Family, Joseph, Lim Cho, Myrna Cruz, 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 & Lancer De Guire, Edmundo Deloso, Joseph & Carmena Formosa, Evangeline & Leandro Garcia Snr, Jose Garcia, Mario & Joe Gat, Francisco Giusa, Salatori Giogio, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Selvam Irudayaraj, Vincent, Rita, Glen & Ian Jayapala, J.B, Jonathan Tek Kie, Mangion & Cini Family, Tessie & Andy Mangine, Maureen & John Mead, Pauline Meilak, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Joseph & Doris Mifsud, Mary Mifsud, William & Emelia Mifsud, Bertu, Albert, Paul, Louis, Stephen & Joseph Mula and Mula Family, Lourda Motha, Xavier Motha Jr, Mary & Francis Muscat, Jason Muscat & family, Falzon & Muscat families, Cole Ngan, Jacintha Noronha, Eamon & John O'Sullivan, John Portelli, Eustace Ratnam, Jose & Maria Reyes, John & Roseline Ratnam, Mary Silva, John Spiteri, Jonathan Tek Kie, Sheadon Trek, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Jim Vella, 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.

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**FIRST READING** *A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33*

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him: I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence. 'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

The Word of the Lord.

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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM****(R) Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.' **(R.)**

2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.

I keep the Lord ever in my sight:

since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **(R.)**

3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.

For you will not leave my soul among the  
dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **(R.)**

4. You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,

at your right hand happiness for ever. **(R.)**

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**SECOND READING** *A reading from the first letter of St Peter 1:17-21*

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

The Word of the Lord.

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**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:

make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** *A reading from the first holy gospel according to Luke 24:13-35*

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.' Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?' They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.



## FROM FR. HENRY

Dear friends,

We all know so well, that at the Last Supper, Jesus did something very special which had a lasting impact upon those present around him that eventful evening - taking both the bread to bless it, break it, and give it to the disciples, and the cup to give thanks and share it with them. Then asking them to do it in memory of him.

A few days after the Last Supper, with the memory of that special evening still very fresh amongst the disciple's circle, two disciples, one of them called Cleopas, set out from Jerusalem to Emmaus. While they were reminiscing about the tragic events that happened to their beloved Master, a stranger appeared from nowhere walking alongside them and expressing interest in their conversation. They kindly gave him an account of Jesus' Passion, death, and what they had heard of his resurrection. In response, the stranger used the Old Testament as a teaching tool to take them through what the prophets of old had prophesied about Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God, the Son of Man and Saviour of the world. The disciples listened to the stranger but had no idea why their strange companion referred to these teachings.

When evening came, the stranger indicated he would be travelling onward. The disciples showed their hospitality by inviting him to stay and share a meal with them. While sitting at the table with the disciples, the stranger conducted exactly what Jesus did at the Last Supper by taking the bread, blessing it, breaking it and handing it to them. On witnessing such a distinctive gesture, it triggered the striking memory of the Last Supper and the two of them instantly remembered what Jesus did with the bread and the cup and his instruction to 'do-this-in-memory-of-me'. They felt their eyes were opened and recognised that the stranger sitting right before them was their Master, risen from death.

Unfortunately, he quickly vanished but left them feeling elated. The disciples then decided to cut short their trip and returned to Jerusalem that night to share their encounter with the Risen Christ with the Apostles and their companions. They emphasised the breaking of bread, as the moment when their eyes were truly opened and they recognised him. Interestingly such a precious moment Jesus started at the Last Supper, known as the breaking of the bread began to be celebrated weekly by Jesus' disciples and followers as a ritual meal in the earliest days of the Christian Church and as a Mass or Eucharistic celebration from the fourth century onward. This has become the summit of our Catholic worship today.

As we gather for Mass this weekend, let us be mindful of the gift of the Eucharist Jesus established at the Last Supper, to offer himself as food to nourish us on our earthly journey. Pray that our celebration of this third Sunday of Easter will strengthen our bond with him and open our eyes to see him in his Body given to us and also in people around us, especially the needy.

Have a Eucharist-oriented week,

*Fr Henry*

## PARISH NEWS...

### SUNDAY EVENING MASS 5PM

This Sunday, 19th of April, we have our additional mass at 5.00pm. It is an opportunity for our parishioners, especially the young ones to attend Mass on Sunday.

### ANZAC DAY MASS

All are welcome to join us for the Anzac Day Mass at 8am on Saturday 25 April.

### PROJECT COMPASSION BOX

Thank you for supporting our Caritas Project Compassion for 2026. It would be appreciated if you could return your Project Compassion boxes as soon as possible.

### THE GROTTO: OLOL JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

Children aged 9-14yrs are invited to join us on Sunday, 19th April, 3:30pm – 6pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Scan the QR codes on the posters around the exits of the church to register or email our Youth Coordinator, Diana Park via [dianap@olol7hills.com.au](mailto:dianap@olol7hills.com.au) for more information.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

All members of our Parish Pastoral Council are invited to attend our monthly meeting on Wednesday 22 April 2026 at 7.30PM in the parish Meeting Room.

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY COURSE SEPTEMBER 2026

Those interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar, the next intake for Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will be in September. Enrolment forms are at the back sacristy.



### 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.

### 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.

### NEW ALTAR SERVERS

We invite children who received their First Eucharist last year, or before, to join as candidates for this ministry. They may sit in the front row (robes not required) at mass with the current cohort, to familiarise, prior to formal training.

### 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](mailto: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.

*More Parish news continued overpage...*

## PARISH NEWS CONTINUED...

### CHURCH HALL CANOPY RAFFLE

We have started to sell raffle tickets to help fundraise for the canopy construction and tickets continue to be on sale after all Masses in the Church foyer this weekend and the coming ones till 16<sup>th</sup> August this year, please help to buy the tickets as much as you can, and for those who wish to help distribute the tickets amongst family circles, please feel free to approach the seller on duty and register names and number of books on the record book.

### CHURCH HALL CANOPY RAFFLE

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$500 Cash – 4<sup>th</sup> Prize: \$200 Cash

The raffle will be drawn at the end of the 9.30AM Mass on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

### PARISH HALL CANOPY THANK YOU

We thank all who partake in our Fund-Raising programs for the Hall Canopy building, by signing the Plaque book or by buying and helping with selling of the Raffle, especially Theresa Thu Myint and her family who generously donated a large sum of money towards the project. Your continued support of this project is much appreciated.

### ZUMBA FOR A CAUSE

Join us for a fun and energetic "Zumba for a Cause" on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> April at 10:30am in our Parish Hall, Our Lady of Lourdes, Seven Hills. Come dance, get fit, and support a meaningful cause. Proceeds will go towards helping those in need. All are welcome. Bring your friends and family. For more info contact: Ian Epondulan via [youthlol7h@gmail.com](mailto:youthlol7h@gmail.com)

### OLOL FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT (FGM)

The "Divine Fellowship" group will meet on Monday 27-April at 8:30am, for a hike around Prospect Reservoir. Please contact the parish office for more info on FGM.

### 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.

## OLOL 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>.

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### Positions Vacant:

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

More details at: [parracatholic.org/jobs](http://parracatholic.org/jobs)

### Bishop Vincent presents Archbishop Ryan Jimenez: 21 April

Archbishop Ryan Jimenez, Archbishop of Agana 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](http://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](mailto:Earnest.Henry@vinnies.org.au)

### Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers: 12 May

All liturgical ministers – readers, servers, extra ordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place at 7:30pm on 12 May 2026, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Liturgical ministers are asked to please arrive by 7pm and be seated by 7:15pm. To register the number of guests and ministers attending please register by Thursday, 7th May. To register please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto: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 <https://parracatholic.org/events/music-workshop-exploring-music-for-the-solemnities>. Further enquiries, please contact [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795.

### Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities for May 2026

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on 2 May at St Joseph's Parish, Kingswood. More training opportunities are available throughout May at different parishes. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For further information, email: [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

### 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](mailto:safeguarding@parracatholic.org).

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## POPE LEO'S REGINA CAELI

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday and happy Easter once again!

Today, on the Second Sunday of Easter, dedicated to Divine Mercy by Saint John Paul II, the Gospel recounts the appearance of the risen Jesus to the Apostle Thomas (cf. Jn 20:19–31). This event took place eight days after Easter, while the community was gathered together. There, Thomas encountered the Master, who invited him to look at the marks of the nails and to put his hand into the wound in his side, and to believe (cf. v. 27). This scene invites us to reflect on our own encounter with the risen Jesus. Where can we find him? How can we recognise him? How can we believe? Saint John, who narrated the event, gives us precise indications: Thomas met Jesus on the eighth day, in the gathered community, and recognised him in the signs of his sacrifice. His profession of faith, the highest in the entire Fourth Gospel, emerged from this experience: “My Lord and my God!” (v. 28).

Of course, it is not always easy to believe. It was not easy for Thomas, and it is not easy for us either. Faith needs to be nourished and sustained. For this reason, on the “eighth day” — that is, every Sunday — the Church invites us to do as the first disciples did: gather together and celebrate the Eucharist. During Mass, we listen to the words of Jesus, we pray, we profess our faith, we share God’s gifts in charity, we offer our lives in union with the Sacrifice of Christ. His Body and Blood nourish us, so that we too may become witnesses of his Resurrection, as indicated by the term “Mass,” which means “sending forth,” or “mission” (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1332).

The Sunday Eucharist is indispensable to the Christian life. Tomorrow I will depart for my Apostolic Journey to Africa. Some of the martyrs of the early African Church, particularly the Martyrs of Abitene, have left us a beautiful testimony in this regard. When offered the chance to save their lives by renouncing the celebration of the Eucharist, they replied that they could not live without celebrating the Lord’s Day. It is there that our faith grows and is strengthened. It is there that our efforts, though limited, are united by God’s grace to the actions of the members of a single body — the Body of Christ — for the accomplishment of a single great plan of salvation that embraces all humanity. It is through the Eucharist that our hands become “the hands of the Risen One,” giving witness to his presence, mercy and peace. The signs of work, sacrifice, illness and the passing of the years are often etched into our hands, just as they are in the tenderness of a caress, a handshake, or a gesture of charity.

Dear brothers and sisters, in a world that is in such great need of peace, this calls on us more than ever to be steadfast and faithful in our Eucharistic encounter with the risen Lord, so that we may go forth as witnesses of charity and messengers of reconciliation. May the Virgin Mary help us to do this, she who is blessed because she was the first to believe without seeing (cf. Jn 20:29).

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### Post-Regina Caeli

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today, many Eastern Churches celebrate Easter according to the Julian calendar. In communion of faith in the Risen Lord, I extend my heartfelt wishes for peace to all these communities. I accompany these wishes with my fervent prayer for all those suffering due to war, particularly for the dear people of Ukraine. May the light of Christ bring comfort to afflicted hearts and strengthen the hope for peace. May the international community’s attention to the tragedy of this war not waver!

In these days of sorrow, fear, and unwavering hope in God, I feel closer than ever to the beloved people of Lebanon. The principle of humanity, inscribed in the conscience of every person and recognized in international law, entails a moral obligation to protect the civilian population from the horrific effects of war. I call on the parties in the conflict to declare a ceasefire and urgently seek a peaceful solution.

Next Wednesday marks the third anniversary of the start of the bloodstained conflict in Sudan. How much the Sudanese people are suffering, innocent victims of this inhuman tragedy! I renew my fervent appeal to the warring parties to silence their weapons and begin, without preconditions, a sincere dialogue aimed at ending this fratricidal war as soon as possible.

Now, I welcome all of you – Romans and pilgrims alike – especially the faithful who celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday at the Shrine of Santo Spirito in Sassia. I greet the Musikverein Kleinraming, from the Diocese of Linz in Austria, the faithful who have come from Poland, the young people from the Collège Saint Jean de Passy in Paris, and those of various nationalities from the Focolare Movement. I also greet the pilgrimage group from the community of San Benedetto Po and the confirmands from Santarcangelo di Romagna and San Vito.

I will depart tomorrow for my ten-day Apostolic Journey to four African countries: Algeria, Cameroon, Angola and Equatorial Guinea. Please keep me in your prayers.

I wish everyone a happy Sunday!

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## POPE LEO ON BOARD PLANE TO ALGERIA: 'I am not a politician, I speak of the Gospel.'

*Vatican News*

During the short flight to Algeria, Pope Leo addressed the journalists—as is tradition on papal flights—answering questions about the statements US President Donald Trump made against him on the Truth Social network.

The Pope stressed that he does “not see my role as that of a politician. I am not a politician, and I do not want to enter into a debate with him.” Moreover, he continued, “I do not think the message of the Gospel should be abused as some are doing. I continue to speak strongly against war, seeking to promote peace, dialogue, and multilateralism among states to find solutions to problems. Too many people are suffering today, too many innocent lives have been lost, and I believe someone must stand up and say there is a better way.”

The Pope then renewed the same call with which he began his pontificate: peace. “I say this to all world leaders, not only him [President Trump]: let us end wars and promote peace and reconciliation.” Responding to an American journalist who asked the same question, the Holy Father explained, “I have no fear of the Trump administration or speaking out loudly of the message of the Gospel, which is what I believe I am here to do, what the Church is here to do.” “We are not politicians,” he argued. “We don’t deal with foreign policy with the same perspective he might understand it, but I do believe in the message of the Gospel, as a peacemaker.”

### **US Bishop responds**

In response, US Archbishop Paul Coakley, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, said he was “disheartened” by the President’s words. “Pope Leo is not his rival, nor is the Pope a politician,” he said in a statement. “He is the Vicar of Christ, who speaks from the truth of the Gospel and for the care of souls.”

### **An ongoing message of peace**

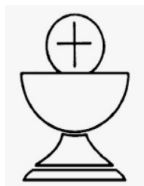
Peace is one of the guiding themes of this Apostolic Journey to four African nations. This journey, Pope Leo explained, is special for a number of reasons, including that it was meant to be “the first of the pontificate.” He expressed his joy at being able to revisit the land of St. Augustine, who, the Pope said, “offers a very important bridge in interreligious dialogue.” This opportunity to travel to the place where this North African saint served as bishop is a blessing for the Pope, but, he stressed, “also for the Church and for the world, because we must always seek bridges to build peace and reconciliation.”

He closed his greeting to journalists by highlighting the journey’s overall mission—to continue forward with the “same voice and the same message: what we want to do is promote peace, reconciliation, respect, and consideration for all peoples.”

### **On the ground in Algeria**

The papal plane touched down in the capital city of Algiers, and Pope Leo was welcomed by the President of the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria, Abdelmadjid Tebboune. Greeted by rainy weather, the Holy Father went directly into the Salon d’Honneur (Hall of Honor) of the airport, where a young girl in traditional dress presented him with flowers before the Honor Guard performed different anthems. Following the welcome ceremony, Pope Leo had a brief private meeting with President Tebboune.

After the private audience, the Pope traveled to the Maqam Echahid (Martyrs’ Memorial) for his first stop during the three-day visit to Algeria.



## 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](http://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 14th May 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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

21	SCHOOL TERM 2 STARTS	
22	OLOL 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.**

### 18/19 April

Acolytes	Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am: Faylene Kennedy	
Ministers	Vigil: L. La Guidara, B. Motha 8am: J. Mai, M. Santos 9.30am: T. Perak, C. Brooks	
Readers	Vigil: M. Simic, Yxavel Dino 8am: J. Irudayaraj, A. McNally 9.30am: E. Pieris, R. Saldanha	
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. La Guidara, C. La Guidara, A. Bagatella 8am: C. Bellamin 9.30am: M. Pieris, J. Pieris, L. Sager	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir	
Musicians	Vigil: Christine Clarke 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Christine Clarke	
Flowers	Fennie, Angela, Kamela	
Church Cleaning	22 April	Jessie Borg Anne McNally Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Sastina Pieris, Raul Graham Nigli	

### 25/26 April

Acolytes	Vigil: Darryl Green 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am: Ramzee Michael	
Ministers	Vigil: J. Franco, M. Mifsud 8am: J. Irudayaraj, F. Paiva 9.30am: M. Michael, P. Gow	
Readers	Vigil: A. Pushparajan, A. Punch 8am: J. Sarmiento, T. Perak 9.30am: M. Aquino, J. Nonanto	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Saoirse Costello, Sebastian Costello, Leonardo Costello 8am: J. Blackshaw 9.30am: C. Attard, L. Sadipoor, C. Cmith	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ	
Musicians	Vigil: Nina's group 8am: Christine Clarke 9.30am: Nina's group	
Flowers	Annette & Siajni	
Church Cleaning	7 May	Lourdes Spiteri Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: J. Deloso, R. Ugre 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: E. Barcelon, K. Chamberlain	

# The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Easter  
April 19th, 2026

## On the Road to Emmaus

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.  
Luke 24:31a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 24:13-35 (NIV).



A B D E F G H I K N O R T  
⌒ 0 9 □ x ↓ - > / < ⊖ ⊕ 1

The disciples on the road to Emmaus didn't recognize Jesus at first. How did they recognize Him eventually?  
Use the code to find out!

⌒ < 1 - □ 0 ⊕ □ ⌒ / > < ↓  
⊖ x 1 - □ 0 ⊕ □ ⌒ 9

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

WALKED	JESUS	SUFFER	CRUCIFIED
MOSES	BREAD	BELIEVE	VISITOR
THANKS	FOOLISH	PROPHET	EYES
CLEOPAS	OPENED	VILLAGE	EMMAUS

Choose the word that best matches the definition below.

- \_\_\_ 1. A period of twenty four hours  
A. month B. week C. year D. day
- \_\_\_ 2. Carrying on a conversation with someone  
A. talking B. walking C. open D. day
- \_\_\_ 3. A person who visits  
A. visitor B. prophet C. priest D. Moses
- \_\_\_ 4. To travel on foot  
A. visit B. walk C. talking D. open
- \_\_\_ 5. To put to death on a cross  
A. bury B. hang C. crucify D. day
- \_\_\_ 6. The Old Testament man who received the Ten Commandments from God  
A. Noah B. David C. Moses D. Jacob
- \_\_\_ 7. The organs which make people able to see  
A. ear B. heart C. mouth D. eyes
- \_\_\_ 8. Not closed  
A. bread B. open C. day D. walking
- \_\_\_ 9. A food made from flour and water, mixed together and baked  
A. fruit B. bread C. meat D. jello
- \_\_\_ 10. Not false  
A. travel B. true C. hear D. spoken

