

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 School:	LOL 8869 6800
Parish Deacon:	Deacon Thong Nguyen	Principal:	Ms Keiran Byrnes
Parish Office Team:	Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang Jane Nguyen	Reconciliation:	Saturday 4:30-5:30pm
Office Hours: Monday-Friday:	9am - 3.00pm	Baptismal Preparation:	17th July 2024
WEEKDAY MASS:	Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am Thursday 9.00am	Baptism:	28th July 2024
WEEKEND MASS:	Saturday Vigil 6pm Sunday 8am & 9.30am	Sacrament Co-Ordinator:	Mrs Artelle Lenthall
		Parish Website:	www.olol7hills.com.au
		Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY 26 May 2024 • Year B



Let us Pray for the Sick

Catherine, Elizabeth & Monika, Leonila Ahillon, Florence Arinanan, Mary Attard, Sarah Bartolo, Rosella Booth, Penny Briscoe, Para Dias, Ronald Fountain, Renuka Fernando, Ronald Gomez, Chmouneh Hayek, Clare Kinsley, Anthony Janicska, Mary Jordan, Paul Leong, Damian & Roslyn McNally, Blago Milicevic, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Carlos Moreno, Sharon O'Keefe, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Eustace Ratnam, Sue Tiplado, 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: Emma Barriom, Barrie Chamberlain, Frank Camenzuli, Bruno Di Fabio, Dulcie Duraisamy, Bonosa Enfesia, Jasmin Fernando, Cynthia Lopez, Domenica Lucchese, Marie Marchand, Ariston Marabe, Emmanuel Melocoton, Joseph Mifsud, Gleno Motha, Agustin Ngalongalay, Bernalou Palmos, Perl Perera, Magelende Sapinosa, Domingo Villarta Snr.

Anniversaries: T.F. Augustine, Amelita Amon, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Elizabeth & James Daly, Carmela Carboni, Maurice Camenzuli, Catherine Chandra, Stella Cini, Aloysean Corera, Georgina & Mark Falzon, Melvyn Fernandes, John Fernando, M.A Fernando, Juliet Francis, Rita Hili, Teodoro Garcia, Christine Gomez, Josephine Gomez, Helen Hili, Oliver Jordan, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Gwyn & James McNally, Sheena Landagan, Rita Leon, Gil Opina, Thoai, Loi & Nga Nguyen, Custodio Palmos Jnr, Cordula Paiva, Heliodore Paiva, Jose Reyes, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Rosary Silva, T.Thenmoli, Arsenio Laberinto Udan, Melchor Usman, Pastora Villarta.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, Lisette & Joe Aristobil, France Angseeing, Carmen Attard, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sam Borg, Saviour Caruana, Fe Licup Carmen, Myrna Cruz, Tania McGove, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonio, Tania, Vivian, Joe & Launcer De Guire, Nevis Fernando, Carmen & Joseph Formosa, Sammy Formosa, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Sam Gabo, , Evangeline & Jose Garcia, Leandro Garcia Sr, John & Marian, Mary & Sam Galea, Frans Gutajar, Selvam Irudayaraj, Pauline Meilak, Mangion & Cini Family, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Mary Mifsud, Joseph Mifsud, Emilia & William Mifsud, Maria Reyes, Anton & Lourda Motha, Louis, Stephen & Joseph Mula, Mary & Francis Muscat, John & Roseline Ratnam, Thiruchelvem Philomina, Connie Redman, Jose Sanchez, Jonathan Tek Kie, Tony Vassollo, Jim Vella, Sharmane, Shane Vaz, Vinnie Zahra, William & Zarenu.

Names are to be submitted to the Parish Office on or before a Thursday and will be published for 4 weeks at a time



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 at the Parish Office or contact Maryse Angseeing on 0467 701 010 .

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 and Matt's Point 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



KEEP UP TO DATE

By visiting our parish website with news, the bulletin, prayers and much more - a great way to stay up to date with what's on in our parish Visit www.olol7hills.org.au

FIRST READING *A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 4:32-34. 39-40*

Moses said to the people: 'Put this question to the ages that are past, that went before you, from the time God created man on earth: Was there ever a word so majestic, from one end of heaven to the other? Was anything ever heard? Did ever a people hear the voice of the living God speaking from the heart of the fire, as you heard it, and remain alive? Has any god ventured to take to himself one nation from the midst of another by ordeals, signs, wonders, war with mighty hand and outstretched arm, by fearsome terrors – all this that the Lord your God did for you before your eyes in Egypt?

'Understand this today, therefore, and take it to heart: The Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other. Keep his laws and commandments as I give them to you today so that you and your children may prosper and live long in the land that the Lord your God gives you for ever.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM**(R) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

2. With his word the heavens were made,
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.
He spoke; and they came to be.
He commanded; they sprang into being. **(R.)**

4. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:14-17*

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!'

The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:
to God who is, who was, and who is to come.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the first holy Gospel according to Matthew 28:16-20*

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them.

He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord



Dear friends,

Straight after the Feast of Pentecost focusing on the role of the Holy Spirit as our Advocate before God, we have a feast reminding us of the mystery of God, the one Jesus reveals to us in the Gospel today as he instructed the disciples to extend his discipleship by baptising them 'in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

Back to the fourth century, Arius and his followers claimed that Jesus was higher than other creatures in the universe, but less than God. This view obviously undermined Jesus' role in our human salvation, since the Church has believed that he is essential in accomplishing salvation for us. Consequently, St Anathasius and St Basil together with the group known as the Cappadocians counter-claimed that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are equally responsible for our salvation, and each must be divine, therefore they are three Persons of the one God, or put it in another way that 'God exists in three Persons.' In simple language, the Father is identified as the Creator, the Unbegotten, the Son as the Saviour and the Begotten and the Holy Spirit as the Sanctifier, the One proceeding from the Father and the Son in God's salvation plan for humanity.

The Council of Florence then pointed out the inter-relationship between three Persons of the Trinity, that 'the Father is wholly in the Son and wholly in the Holy Spirit; the Son is wholly in the Father and wholly in the Spirit; the Holy Spirit is wholly in the Father and wholly in the Son.'

Although the Trinity is celebrated every time as we gather together in the Eucharist, this solemn celebration of the Holy Trinity was set aside in the Church liturgy since 1334 to help us more aware both of the presence and of the role that each Person of the one God in our salvation process.

Let us give praise and thanks to the Son for giving us a glimpse into the mystery of God by revealing the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit to us, his followers. Pray that we shall be blessed with God's ever companionship in our mission to go and make more disciples for Jesus.

Have a Trinity-filled week,

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

CONFIRMATION 2024

Please pray for the children due to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday night the 31st of May 2024.

May God bless them on this sacred and special day and may the commitment they make continue to sustain and strengthen them on their personal Faith Journey. Amen.

BECOME A CATECHIST AN SRE VOLUNTEER!

SRE's are parish volunteers who: Teach and share their faith with children who attend government schools; Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time with young people. OLOL SRE's go into Seven Hills, Seven Hills North, Bert Oldfield, Vardys Road State primary schools & The Hills Sports High School. New volunteer SRE's will be given support, training and teaching materials. For further enquiries please contact Deacon Thong in the parish office.

PARISH THINK TANK PLANNING SESSION

Parishioners interested in the future of our parish are warmly invited to join with the Parish Council at our next meeting on Wednesday, 5th June at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room. In the light of a new way of walking together which is synodality, we would appreciate your input on a five-year plan. Our current focus is on setting up Family Groups in the parish in the coming months. If you can join us please message Eugene at eugene_miu@hotmail.com or Adrian at foggabolla1@gmail.com. Recommended reading: parracatholic.org/synod/draftdiocesanplan.

SINGLES FOR CHRIST 31 MAY

Friday the 31st May at 7pm in the parish meeting room, Singles for Christ will be holding an event. The topic of the night is 'Created Free' A Theology of the Body reflection on freedom and the human person. A light dinner will be provided, please RSVP to Judith Deloso via ajcdeloso@gmail.com

CANDLE WAX ON THE CHURCH CARPET

Please do not try to remove candle wax on the church carpet by yourselves, for you might make it worse. Instead let our staff know and we ask our carpet cleaners to treat it.

FR HENRY'S ANNUAL LEAVE

Fr Henry will take annual leave from the 1st of June till the end of the first week of July. Frs Viet, Huy, Huong, for weekend masses and Frs Alby & the Franciscan Friars from Plumpton for our weekday masses will be available to help our parish, so please make them most welcomed amongst us. In cases of emergency, please contact clergy from our neighbouring parishes, such as Lalor Park, Blacktown or Toongabbie. Our staff in the parish office are more than happy to help provide their contact numbers.

MINISTRY ROSTER UPDATE:

Roster Forms to update your latest contact information and availability to serve in various ministries for the next 6 months are now available in front of the back Sacristy, alternatively you can send or print a form from our OLOL Web Page under Parish Directory > Parish Forms.

CATECHIST MEETING 5 JUNE

There is an upcoming meeting for all catechists and anyone who is interested in becoming a catechist on Wednesday the 5th of June at 2pm in the parish meeting room. For further enquires or if you are unable to attend, please kindly contact Deacon Thong or Anne McNally through the parish office.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

During our last meeting, Dennis Farrar, diocesan co-ordinator of the Family Group Movement came and gave a talk about what the Family Group Movement is about. This is the group members of our Parish Pastoral Council have considered to introduce to our Parish community with the hope it will help to bring families of ours together and since improve the sense of belonging. We will arrange a date for Dennis to return and talk to us at all Masses one weekend.

SERVING AS PARISH MINISTERS

In response to popular requests from the community to serve as lectors, Extraordinary ministers of Communion, Acolytes and so on, I would like to invite you to pick up the form available in our Parish Directory, tick your preferred ministry, write down your name and contact number, place it in the collection plate or return it to Fr Henry, and the Parish office will contact you.

Synod 2023 Update:

Local Think Tank Sessions from May-June

Parishes and other local faith communities across the diocese are holding local Think Tank Sessions, giving local leaders and anyone involved in ministry to offer feedback on the Draft of the Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church, and contribute ideas for the practical implementation of our Diocesan Plan. To inquire about our local Think Tank session visit parracatholic.org/synod for more info.

Young Adult Faith Formation: 2 June

Young Adult Faith Formation sessions continue on Sunday 2 June at The Hustle (Unit 4, 4-6 Purdy Rd Minchinbury) at 7pm. The speaker is Fr Jeff Miller SDB who will talk about and lead discussion on The Holy Trinity. All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza and fellowship! If you have any questions, please call Mark on 0477 004 678.

Grace & Silence Retreat for Young Women: 2 June

The Mount Schoenstatt Girls and Young Women ministry invite single women aged 20 to 40 discerning a vocation to marriage and family, single life or consecrated life to a silent retreat day on Sunday 2 June 9.30am to 4.30pm at Bethany, 301 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Cost is \$25. For catering purposes, registrations close a week prior to each event. For details, contact Hannah on 0433 443 384.

Liturgical Ministers Commissioning Mass: 13 June

You are kindly invited to attend the Liturgical Ministers Commissioning Mass of 2024! More than 200 people in the last year have partaken in the Office for Worship's course to become Liturgical ministers in their parishes. At this Mass on Thursday 13 June, Bishop Vincent will commission them to go out into their parishes by living out this ministry and bringing glory to God. Please RSVP to lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org for catering purposes by 7 June.

Adult Confirmation 2024 Formation Day: 24 August

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday 24 August from 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$25 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day. For more information please contact Lucy Woodbury on lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Winbourne Being Pentecost People Reflection Day: 8 June

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a reflection day 'Being Pentecost People' on Saturday 8 June from 9.30am to 3pm. After his resurrection, with the admonition from the Last Supper to 'be Him', Jesus Christ still calls us towards both contemplative and active life. Cost is \$30 per person, BYO Lunch. For more information or to book, contact (02) 4773 5555 or email info@winbourne.org

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2024

Getting married in 2024? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit www.parracatholic.org/celebrate/marriage/marriage-preparation to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. Email marriage@parracatholic.org or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

The Diocesan Safeguarding team are offering initial and renewal face-to-face training throughout June:

- Monday 3 June from 9.30am to 2.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown for **Modules 1-3 for those who are new to ministry**
- Tuesday 11 June from 10.30am to 2pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre for **Modules 4-5 for those who have completed Modules 1-3 in the last two years.**

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 more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Mass for Neophytes: 14 June

Each year, Bishop Vincent celebrates a special Mass for all those who have entered the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil that year. It is a wonderful opportunity to welcome back many new Catholics who were newly baptised into the family of God in the parishes across the diocese, along with their families and all the RCIA teams. This year it will be held on Friday, June the 14th at 7:30pm in St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Please RSVP for catering purposes to lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org by 7 June.

Expression of Interest: Ministry to the Sick in Hospitals

Are you interested in bringing Communion to the Sick in the Hospitals of the Diocese? You will receive formation and information necessary for this ministry. Note you will not be required to do this every week but will be placed on a roster. For more information, please contact Bernard Ellis via email bernard.ellis@catholiccarewbsbm.org.au by 15 June 2024. "The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace." - Pope Francis

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust Applications open

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and application forms are available on their website pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship. Applications close 31 July 2024.

Central Europe Pilgrimage with Fr Joseph Lam OSA: May 2025

Cosmos Tour Operators are organising a Central Europe tour for 17 days from 8 to 24 May 2025, travelling through Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria and Czechia, accompanied by Fr Joseph Lam OSA from St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook. Prices start from \$5,076 per person, excluding flights. For more information, or to register your interest, please contact the parish office on secretary@stfinbars.org.au.

Lectio Divina Facilitating Manual out now!

Sr Antonia Curtis OSB from the Benedictines at Jamberoo Abbey, NSW, has released a new manual for facilitating *Lectio Divina* prayer sessions in your parish, school or local communities. This is a fantastic resource for parish teams, catechists, youth leaders, teachers and spiritual directors. The cost of the manual is \$40, with an additional notebook for participants available for \$10. To purchase your copy, visit their online shop at www.jamberooabbey.org.au.

Free English and Citizenship Classes

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills, on a Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 2pm during school terms. Free childcare is available. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Crèche on (02) 8843 2506 or Nepean Community College (02) 4724 9000.

POPE FRANCIS' LAST REGINA CAELI OF 2024



Dear brothers and sisters, happy Feast of Pentecost, *buongiorno!*

Today, Solemnity of Pentecost, we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Mary and the Apostles. In the Gospel of the liturgy, Jesus speaks about the Holy Spirit and says that He will teach us “whatever He hears” (cf. *Jn* 16:13). But what does this expression mean? What has the Holy Spirit heard? What will He speak about?

He speaks to us with words that express wonderful sentiments, such as affection, gratitude, entrustment, mercy. Words that make us know a beautiful, luminous, concrete and lasting relationship such as the eternal Love of God: the words that the Father and the Son say to each other. They are precisely *the transformative words of love*, which the Holy Spirit repeats in us, and which it is good for us to listen to, because these words engender and make grow the same sentiments and the same intentions in our heart: they are fruitful words.

This is why it is important that we nourish ourselves every day with the Words of God, the Words of Jesus, inspired by the Spirit. And many times I say: read a passage from the Gospel, get a little pocket-sized Gospel and keep it with you, making the most of favourable moments to read it. The priest and poet Clemente Rebora, speaking of his conversion, wrote in his diary: “And the Word silenced my chatter!” (*Curriculum vitae*). The Word of God silences our superficial chatter and makes us say serious words, beautiful words, joyful words. “And the Word silenced my chatter!” Listening to the Word of God makes the chatter stop. This is how to give space in us to the voice of the Holy Spirit. And then in the Adoration – let us not forget the prayer of Adoration in silence - especially that which is simple, silent, like adoration. And there, saying good words within ourselves, saying them to the heart so as to be able to say them to others, afterwards, to each other. And in this way we see that they come from the voice of the Consoler, of the Spirit.

Dear sisters and brothers, reading and meditating on the Gospel, praying in silence, saying good words: they are not difficult things, no, we can all do them. They are easier than insulting, getting angry... And so, let us ask ourselves: what place do these words have in my life? How can I cultivate them, in order to listen better to the Holy Spirit, and become an echo of Him for others?

May Mary, present at Pentecost with the Apostles, make us docile to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

POPE FRANCIS' CATECHESIS

Cycle of Catechesis. Vices and Virtues. 20. Humility

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

We will conclude this cycle of catechesis by looking at a virtue which is not part of the seven cardinal and theological virtues, but which is at the base of Christian life: this virtue is *humility*. It is the great antagonist of the most mortal of sins, namely arrogance. Whereas pride and arrogance swell the human heart, making us appear to be more than we are, humility restores everything to its correct dimension: we are wonderful creatures, but we are limited, with qualities and flaws. From the beginning, the Bible reminds us that we are dust, and to dust we shall return (cf. *Gen* 3:19); indeed, “humble” derives from *humus*, that is, earth. And yet the delirium of omnipotence, which is so dangerous, often arises in the human heart, and this does us a great deal of harm.

It takes very little to free ourselves from of arrogance; it suffices to contemplate a starry sky to restore the correct measure, as the Psalm says: “When I look at thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast established; what is man that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that thou dost care for him?” (8:3-4).

Modern science enables us to extend the horizon much, much farther, and to feel the mystery that surrounds us and which we inhabit even more.

Blessed are the people who hold in their heart this perception of their own smallness! These people they are preserved from an ugly vice: arrogance. In His Beatitudes, Jesus starts precisely from them: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven” (*Mt* 5:3). It is the first Beatitude, because it is at the base of those that follow: indeed, meekness, mercy, and purity of heart stem from that inner sense of smallness. Humility is the gateway to all the virtues.

In the first pages of the Gospels, humility and poverty of spirit seem to be the source of everything. The announcement of the angel does not happen at the doors of Jerusalem, but in a remote village in Galilee, so insignificant that people used to say, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” (*Jn* 1:46). But it is exactly from there that the world is reborn. The chosen heroine is not a little queen who grew up coddled, but an unknown girl: Mary. She herself is the first to be astonished when the angel brings God’s announcement. And in her hymn of prayer, it is indeed this wonder that stands out: “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for He has *regarded the low estate* of His handmaiden” (*Lk* 1:46-48). God is so to speak attracted by the smallness of Mary, which is above all an inner smallness. And He is also attracted by our smallness, when we accept it.

From here on, Mary will be careful not to take centre stage. Her first decision after the angelic annunciation is to go and help, to go and serve her cousin. Mary heads towards the mountains of Judea to visit Elizabeth: she assists her in the last months of her pregnancy. But who sees this gesture? No-one, other than God. The Virgin does not seem to want to emerge from this concealment. Just as, when a woman’s voice from the crowd proclaims her blessedness: “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that you sucked!” (*Lk* 11:27). But Jesus immediately replies: “Blessed rather are those that hear the word of God and keep it” (*Lk* 11:28). Not even the most sacred truth of her life – being the Mother of God becomes a reason for her to boast before men. In a world marked by the pursuit of appearance, of showing oneself to be superior to others, Mary walks decisively, by the sole power of God’s grace, in the opposite direction.

We can imagine that she, too, has known difficult moments, days when her faith advanced in darkness. But this never made her humility waver, which in Mary was a granitic virtue. I want to highlight this: humility is a granitic virtue. Let us think of Mary: she is always small, always without self-importance, always free of ambition. This smallness of hers is her invincible strength: it is she who remains at the foot of the cross, while the illusion of a triumphant Messiah is shattered. It will be Mary, in the days leading up to Pentecost, who will gather up the flock of disciples, who had not been able to keep vigil just one hour with Jesus, and had abandoned Him when the storm came.

Brothers and sisters, humility is everything. It is what saves us from the Evil One, and from the danger of becoming his accomplices. And humility is the source of peace in the world and in the Church. Where there is no humility, there is war, there is discord, there is division. God has given us an example of this in Jesus and Mary, for our salvation and happiness. And humility is precisely the way, the path to salvation. Thank you!

POPE FRANCIS: CHURCH OPEN TO ALL, BUT 'NO' TO BLESSINGS OF SAME SEX-UNIONS

In an interview with the U.S. broadcaster CBS, Pope Francis emphasizes that the Church welcomes everyone, while clarifying aspects regarding blessings authorized by "Fiducia Supplicans". He also criticizes surrogacy, condemns ideologies and reiterates his appeal to warring nations to find negotiated solutions to conflict.

By Salvatore Cernuzio

Pope Francis reiterated his vision of an open Church and the principle of inclusiveness, central to his pontificate, during an interview with Norah O'Donnell, Director of CBS Evening News. Recorded at Santa Marta on April 24 and aired in part on the program "60 Minutes."

"The Gospel is for everyone," he said, including all sinners, and warned that if the Church sets up "customs checkpoints", it ceases to be the Church of Christ.

Regarding the issue of blessings of same-sex unions mentioned in the doctrinal document *Fiducia Supplicans*, he clarified that while blessings are for individuals, same-sex unions cannot be blessed because it would go against "the law of the Church".

Surrogacy is a business

Regarding homosexuality, the journalist recalled the Pope's affirmation that "homosexuality is not a crime." "No. It is a human condition" he commented. And while condemning surrogacy, which he said "has become a business, and this is very bad.

It is very negative." The journalist pointed out that he for some women, such as those who are ill, it could be the only hope. "It could be. The other hope is adoption," the Pope replied, urging not to bypass the moral principle and suggesting adoption as an alternative, and adherence to moral principles.

Criticism from "conservatives"

Responding to a question on criticism from some conservative bishops in the U.S., Pope Francis said "A conservative is someone who clings to something and does not want to see beyond. It is a suicidal attitude because one thing is to take tradition into account and consider past situations, another is to lock oneself in a dogmatic box."

Appeal for peace

In the interview, conducted in the run-up to World Children's Day on May 25 and 26 in Rome, the focus shifted to children, starting with those suffering in war: in Gaza, in Ukraine, to the children who "have forgotten how to smile," the Pope repeated. Thus he again voiced his appeal to countries at war: "Everyone, stop. Stop the war. You must find a way to negotiate peace. Strive to achieve peace. A negotiated peace is always better than an endless war... Please, stop. Negotiate."

Condemnation of ideologies

Focusing on the conflict in Israel and Gaza, university campus protests, and rising anti-Semitism, Pope Francis reiterated that "Every ideology is bad, and antisemitism is an ideology, and it is bad. Every 'anti' is always bad. You can criticize one government or another, the Israeli government, or the Palestinian government. You can criticize as much as you want, but not be 'anti' a people. Neither anti-Palestinian nor anti-semitic.

Migrants and Indifference

Addressing the suffering of migrants, Pope Francis condemned widespread indifference, likening it to Pontius Pilate's hand-washing: "Many out there see what happens, the wars, the injustices, the crimes... It's indifference. Please, we must let our hearts feel again. We cannot remain indifferent to these human tragedies. The globalization of indifference is a very bad disease."

And commenting on the news that the state of Texas is trying to shut down a Catholic organization at the border with Mexico offering humanitarian assistance to undocumented immigrants "pure madness." "Closing the border and leaving them there is madness," the Pope emphasized. "The migrant must be welcomed. Then we will see how to manage them. Maybe they need to be sent back, I don't know, but each case must be considered humanely."

No tolerance for abuse

The interview also touches on the issue of abuses within the Church, a crime the Pope repeats that "cannot be tolerated." At the same time, he acknowledged that more needs to be done, because "unfortunately the tragedy of abuse is enormous" and it must be ensured that it not only gets punished but never happens again.

GENERAL NOTICES...

NEW TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES? HOW CAN WE SERVE YOU?

Welcome. Wherever you are in your faith journey, it is great to have you. Please visit our website or call the parish office. We're here to serve you. www.olol7hills.org.au

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

SICK AND/OR HOMEBOUND?

Would you like to receive Communion? Or seriously ill or in danger of death? We have dedicated ministers who can visit and bring you communion. Feel free to approach or call Fr Henry for the Holy Anointing of the Sick. Please call the parish office 9622 2920

FUNERALS

When a Funeral is to be celebrated, please contact the parish office to organise a meeting with Fr Henry. Funerals are not permitted on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation.

BAPTISM

Parents desiring Baptism for their children are encouraged to contact the parish office to arrange for the required preparation class for parents.

MASS INTENTIONS

All Mass intentions must be submitted to the Parish Office on or before Thursday. Names will be published for 4 weeks at a time.



LOURDES OVER 50s GROUP

Over 50s meeting Thursday 13th June 2024, 10.30am– 1pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate to share. Look forward to seeing you there.

Lourdes: Luminate Young Adults Group

The next group night will be in May. If you would like more information please kindly contact Ian Epondulan: youtholol7h@gmail.com or search 'Lourdes 7Hills Young Adults' on Facebook.

LOURDES PLAYGROUP

Our Lady of Lourdes 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 9.30am-11.00am in the Parish Meeting Room. For further information please contact Maria Hosni 0432 174 056 or the Parish Office.

FREE ZUMBA CLASSES

Every Tuesday and Thursday 5.30pm-6.30pm in the Hall. Everyone Welcome!

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.

OLOL PARISH CALENDAR

MAY

31	Confirmation Mass	7.00pm
31	Singles for Christ Evening	7.00pm
JUNE		
1	Fr Henry commences annual leave	
5	Catechist Meeting	2.00pm

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

25/26 May

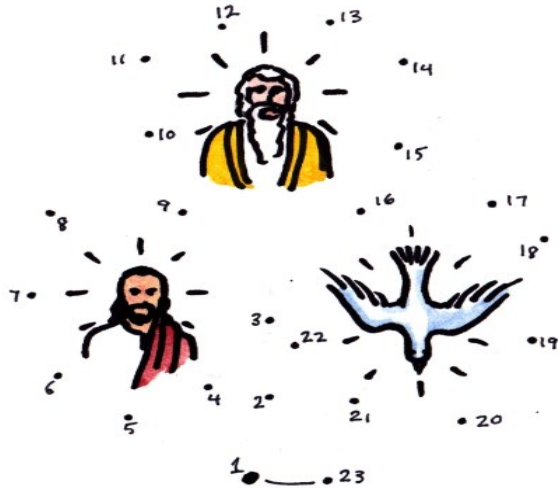
Acolytes	Vigil: James Dinning 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Ian Epondulan	
Ministers	Vigil: SUB RQD, Frank Paiva 8am: Lorraine Fernandes, VOLUNTEER 9.30am: C. Brooks, P. Gow	
Readers	Vigil: L. Bellissimo, A. Punch 8am: K. Walker, M. Santos 9.30am: C. Diaz, A. Han	
Altar Servers	Vigil: M. Gluovic, J. Martinez, B. Spadaro 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: S. Cullili, A. Melki	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ	
Musicians	Vigil: OFS 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am:	
Flowers	Annette & Mary	
Church Cleaning	22 May	Jessie Borg Anne McNally Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Edgardo Barcelon	

1/2 June

Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Eugene Miu	
Ministers	Vigil: C. Gonzales, M. Simic 8am: J. Irudayaraj, F. Paiva 9.30am: G. Basili, M. Michael	
Readers	Vigil: N. Do Rosario, J. Sarmiento 8am: A. McNally, P. Ferriols 9.30am: M. Aquino, E. Pieris	
Altar Servers	Vigil: E. Reardon, D. Sant, J. Sant 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: M. Pieris, J. Pieris, F. Wanandy	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Tongan Choir	
Musicians	Vigil: Youth for Christ 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Couples for Christ	
Flowers	Fenty & Liz	
Church Cleaning	1 June	Judith Deloso, Edgardo Barcelon, Edgar Cabrera
Welcomers	Vigil: Helen Gonzales 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: S. Pieris, E. Barcelon	

The Kids' Bulletin

Feast of the Most Holy Trinity
Sunday May 26th, 2024



There are three Persons in God:
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
But there is still only one God!
Saint Patrick taught the Irish people about
the BLESSED TRINITY by showing the
people something else that is three-in-one.
What is it? Connect the dots to find out!

The words below have been written in code. Use the hints in the decoder at the top of the page to help break the code (the letters on top are the correct answers, the letters on the bottom are the code). Write the correct word on the line provided beside each code word.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

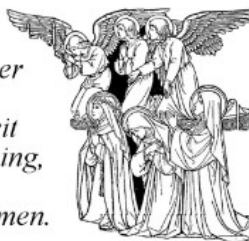
- 15-2-5-25 _____
- 2-1-16-20-9-26-9-14-7 _____
- 14-1-13-5 _____
- 4-9-19-3-9-16-12-5-19 _____
- 6-1-20-8-5-18 _____
- 19-16-9-18-9-20 _____
- 5-1-18-20-8 _____
- 19-15-14 _____
- 20-5-1-3-8-9-14-7 _____
- 14-1-20-9-15-14-19 _____

OBEY	BAPTIZING	NAME	DISCIPLES	FATHER
SPIRIT	EARTH	SON	TEACHING	NATIONS

We pray that the Blessed Trinity will be glorified by all creatures when we say this prayer:



*Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit
as it was in the beginning,
is now,
and will be forever. Amen.*



The Great Commission

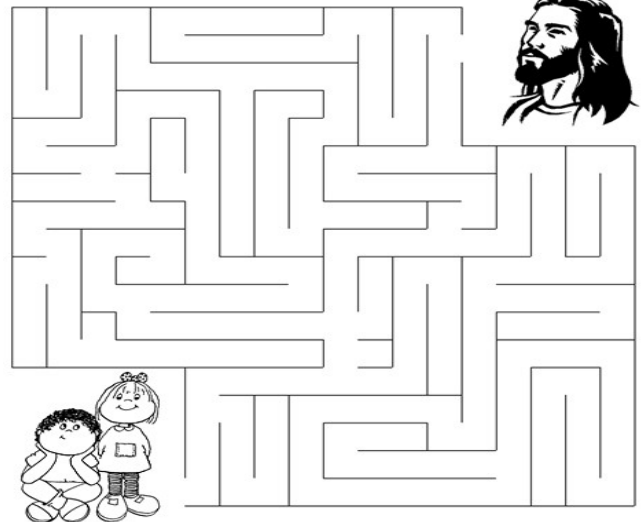
Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 28:16-20



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

OBEY	DISCIPLES	EARTH	AUTHORITY
JESUS	MOUNTAIN	ALWAYS	TEACHING
BAPTIZING	HEAVEN	COMMANDED	ELEVEN
NATIONS	MAKE	WORSHIPED	GIVEN



I can help my friends find the way to Jesus!

