

# 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](mailto:secretary@olol7hills.com.au)

**Parish Priest:** Fr Henry Huu Duc Tran  
**Parish Deacon:** Deacon Thong Nguyen  
**Parish Office Team:** Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang, Jane Nguyen  
**Office Hours: Monday-Friday:** 9am - 3.00pm  
**WEEKDAY MASS:** Tues, Wed, Fri. 8.00am  
Thursday 9.00am  
**WEEKEND MASS:** Saturday Vigil 6pm  
Sunday 8am & 9.30am

**Parish School:** OLOL 8869 6800  
**Principal:** Ms Keiran Byrnes  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:30-5:30pm  
**Baptismal Preparation:** 18th September 2024  
**Baptism:** 11th August 2024  
**Sacrament Co-Ordinator:** Mrs Artelle Lenthall  
**Parish Website:** [www.olol7hills.com.au](http://www.olol7hills.com.au)  
**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

## 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 11 August 2024 • Year B



### Let us Pray for the Sick

Rico Abadam, Leonila Ahillon, Florence Arinanan, Mary Attard, Rodney Bell, Sarah Bartolo, Rosella Booth, Ben Dixon, Alma Caguimbal, Mary Camilleri, Para Dias, Ronald Fountain, Renuka Fernando, Chmouneh Hayek, Anthony Janicska, Mary Jordan, Clare Kinsley, Paul Leong, Blago Milicevic, Rynan Michael, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Maricar Poblete, Debra Price, Camy Ratnam, Eustace Ratnam, Sue Tipaldo, Vivian Tomines, 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](mailto: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, Vivienne Cameron, Barrie Chamberlain, Muriel Chary, Grace Caruana, Florencia Dela Cruz, Anna Maria De Palma, Dulcie Duraisamy, Carmelo Galea, Henrieta Fernando, Jasmin Fernando, Ricardo Garcia, Francisco Giusa, Cynthia Lopez, Elaine Siu Ling Miu, Edwin Tabone, Marie Thomas, David Waring

**Anniversaries:** Fe Abadiano, Vic Azzopardi, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Ronald Barley, Giovanni Barnaba, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Nazarene (Ronnie) Borg, Rose Camilleri, Joseph Caruana, Terry Caruana, Catherine Chandra, Paula Simone Commarmond, Aloysean Corera, John Fernando, Nevis Fernando, M.A Fernando, Juliet Francis, Oliver Jordan, Anthony Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Zenaida Garcia, Christine Gomez, Josephine Gomez, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Edouard Mahomudally, Lyn Morrissey, Tony Muscat, Sheena Landagan, Rita Leon, Laurence Morrissey, Eamon O'Sullivan, Cordula Paiva, Rosita Riveral, Jose Reyes, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Michael Sant, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Natalie Spiteri, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udan.

**Remembrance:** Neil Amaratunga, France Angseeing, Carmen Attard, Roy, Mary & Des Barney, Sam Borg, Zeferino Cabasa, Myrna Cruz, Saviour Caruana, Fe Licup Carmen, Tania McGove, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonio, Tania, Vivian, Joe & Launcer De Guire, Nevis Fernando, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Sam Gabo, Mary & Sam Galea, Evangeline Garcia, Leandro Snr Garcia, Jose Garcia, Constance Gaycroft, Frans Gutajar, Selvam Iudayaraj, Pauline Meilak, Mangion & Cini Family, Antonio Mancina, Maureen & John Mead, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Mary Mifsud, Joseph Mifsud, Emilia & William Mifsud, Laureano Reyes, Maria Reyes, Anton & Lourda Motha, Louis, Stephen & Joseph Mula, Mary & Francis Muscat, John & Roseline Ratnam, Benigno Riveral Sr, Frances Shepherd (Taiarol), Jonathan Tek Kie, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Vinnie Zahra.

*\*Names are to be submitted to the Parish Office on or before a Thursday and will be published for 4 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 and EFTPOS Terminals** are 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

### 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 Angseeing on 0467 701 010.

### 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](http://www.olol7hills.org.au)



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**FIRST READING** *A reading from the first book of Kings 19: 4-8*

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life: I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

The word of the Lord.

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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM****(R) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

3. Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. **(R.)**

2. Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. **(R.)**

4. The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who revere him, to rescue  
them. Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **(R.)**

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**SECOND READING** *A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 4:30-5:2*

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ.

Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

The word of the Lord.

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**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** *A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 6:41-51*

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other.

'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day.

It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me.

Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord



Dear friends,

A friend of mine, an ex-seminarian told me once about how shocked and scandalized he was when he heard for the first time the charge from his communist teacher against Catholics as cannibals for consuming the flesh of someone, and he of course was one of the targets of such a charge due to his faith background. We then spent some time to talk about the Eucharist from a faith perspective which in no doubt facilitated our belief and acceptance of the sacrament better than those who had no faith such as his teacher.

Just like the teacher in the story above, Jesus' Jewish listeners had a big problem to digest his teaching on the Eucharist as he began to bring his conversation with them to a theological level by referring to himself as the bread coming down from heaven. They took his statement literally and as a result became bogged down in their own misconception. They failed miserably to reach the level he meant to lift them up to, the level we are privileged to enjoy today thanks to our faith.

Despite their misunderstanding and misinterpretation of his message, Jesus went on to reveal more dimensions of the Eucharist in the following part of the Gospel. He called himself 'the bread of life' and 'the living bread' which was far better than the manna God once showered upon the Israelites to keep them survived in the desert, the bread of life given by the Son of God sent to us by the Father, which is Jesus' flesh, will grant everlasting life to those who have it, and we are blessed to be one of those.

Inspired by Jesus' teaching in the Gospel this Sunday, let us offer our prayer of thanksgiving to God for the life-giving gift of his Beloved Son granted to us as food for our earthly journey through the Eucharist, and pray that the grace from the Holy Masses we celebrate this weekend will help strengthen our faith in the Son of God, to become better witnesses to him through the kindness and friendship we share both in this Faith community and beyond.

Have a Eucharistic-oriented weekend,

*Fr Henry*

## PARISH NEWS...

### SERVING AS PARISH MINISTERS

Our Diocesan Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2024 including Extra-ordinary ministers of Communion, Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Dying, and ministers at the Altar (or Acolytes) will commence from Monday 9 September 2024, our parishioners are encouraged to enrol in your preferred ministries by completing an Enrolment form and returning it to Fr Henry.

For those who wish to become Readers or ministers of the Word, please fill out the Parish Groups form and return to Fr Henry. A Formation course shall be conducted shortly in our parish.

### SRCs – CATECHISTS THANK YOU

Thank you Marilyn Hancock, Head of CCD for sparing time to come and speak to us about the Catechist ministry at the 6pm Vigil Mass and the 9.30am Sunday Mass. Thank you Rev Deacon Thong for co-ordinating the process, to our catechists for giving a helping hand, and newly enrolled SRCs for answering the call to join this ministry.

### EUCHARIST TALK CHANGE OF DATE

Please kindly note that the Eucharist talk by Fr. Henry, to the children enrolled in the 2024 Sacramental program has been moved from this weekend to next Sunday the 18th of August following the 9.30am Mass. If you have any queries please contact Artelle in the parish office.

### LOURDES PLAYGROUP

Playgroup is on every Friday during school term, 9.00am—11.00am in the Parish Meeting Room, children aged 0 to 5 years old and their carers are welcome to come along during any part of that time for a play. If you are enrolling your child at OLOL school, this is a great way to meet fellow parents and for your child to become familiar with the environment. All are welcome. To attend please register by 3pm the Thursday prior via Facebook under 'Lourdes Play Group' or contact Maria on 0432 174 056.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING IN AUGUST

All members of our Parish Pastoral Council are invited to meet on Wednesday 14 August at 7.30pm in the Parish Meeting room.

### FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION MASS TIMES

Thursday the 15th of August, mass times for the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary are at 9.00am (school led mass) and 7.00pm. All are welcome to join.

### FACE-TO-FACE RENEWAL SAFEGUARDING TRAINING AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

If you completed the initial Cycle 1 Modules 1 -3 two years ago, you are now invited to complete the renewal modules 4 -5. OLOL will be hosting these two Renewal Mandatory Safeguarding Modules 4 and 5 on: Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August from 10.00am in the hall. Please register your attendance on the form at the back of the church or through the Parish Office. If you wish to complete these modules independently at times convenient to you, please 'sign up' to:

<https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

### MANDATORY SAFEGUARDING TRAINING – CYCLE 1

Are you new to ministry or have not yet completed the initial Cycle 1 Safeguarding Modules 1 -3? These Mandatory Safeguarding Modules will: Introduce the NSW Child Safe Standards and Explain our roles and responsibilities as Mandatory Reporters in our Parish Ministries. Demonstrate ways to apply the Child Safe Standards to continue to build safe parish communities for children and all adults at risk.

Modules 1-3 will be presented at St Anthony of Padua Toongabbie on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September between 10am – 3pm. You can find other dates for face to face safeguarding training opportunities on the Diocesan Website at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>

If you wish to complete these modules independently at times convenient to you, please 'sign up' to:

<https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

### **ACBC 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement Launch: 20 August**

All are warmly invited to attend the official launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, 'Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World' on Tuesday 20 August from 10am to 12pm in St Paul's Catholic College Sports Hall, Greystanes, adjoining Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes. Please RSVP your attendance via this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/1Wd96tbs0>

### **Vale Bishop Kevin Manning**

On Friday 2 August, the Diocese of Parramatta bid a fond farewell to Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning, the second Bishop of Parramatta, during a moving service at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Visit [catholicoutlook.org](http://catholicoutlook.org) for stories, images and video from Bishop Manning's funeral. You can also share your memories of Bishop Manning via our online condolence book via <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/NR3o0u4X>. We continue to pray for the repose of his soul and give thanks to God for his earthly life.

### **Launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church**

This weekend, on Saturday 10 August, the Diocese of Parramatta launched the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church. Our pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 16 months. To download a copy of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, visit [parracatholic.org/synodality](http://parracatholic.org/synodality).

### **Diocesan Season of Creation Mass: 1 September**

The Diocese of Parramatta's Laudato Si' Action Team and Sacred Heart Parish Blackheath invite you to Mass with Bishop Vincent Long to launch the Season of Creation 2024 (1 September – 4 October) on Sunday 1 September at Sacred Heart Church, Blackheath, at 9.30am. Morning tea will be served after Mass. Let us join in praise and celebrate the gifts and wonders that God bestows on us.

### **Diocesan Season of Creation Gathering: 14 September**

You are invited to a Diocesan Season of Creation gathering on Saturday 14 September from 10am to 4pm at Winbourne Retreat Centre, Mulgoa. This event is part of Catholic Earthcare's national Season of Creation Convocation from 12-14 September. Cost is \$50 for the Diocesan gathering only, or \$100 for the full Convocation (with days 1 and 2 online). For program details, please visit [tinyurl.com/soc-gathering24](http://tinyurl.com/soc-gathering24). Register for the Convocation by 12 August at [caritas.org.au/soc-convocation](http://caritas.org.au/soc-convocation).

### **Catholic Care Keeping Kids in Mind Parenting Course: Begins 13 August**

Parenting after separation can be difficult for you and your child. This Catholic Care course over five weeks is designed to assist you in supporting your child following family separation. The sessions are held every Tuesday online from 13 August to 10 September from 10am – 12.30pm. Cost is \$150 or \$50 for concession card holders. A certificate of attendance is issued on completion of the course. To book, call (02) 8843 2500 or email [enquiries@catholiccarewsbm.org.au](mailto:enquiries@catholiccarewsbm.org.au)

### **MET Worship Children's Liturgy Workshop: 19 September**

Children's liturgy team members are invited to attend a workshop with an outline of the Diocesan Guidelines and a Children's Liturgy Q&A session with the Diocesan Liturgy Educator, Sr Mary-Louise Walsh. This will be held on Thursday 19 September from 7pm – 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. To register or for more information, please email Lucy [lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org) or on this link <https://parracatholic.org/events/met-childrens-liturgy-workshop-19-sept/>

### **Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities**

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 17 August at St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, Kenthurst, for Modules 4-5. More training opportunities will be available throughout August and September. 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](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

### **Central Europe Pilgrimage with Fr Joseph Lam: May 2025**

Final few places are available for the Cosmos tour of Central Europe with Fr Joseph Lam from St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook. The tour runs for 15 days from 11 to 25 May 2025, travelling through Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria and Czechia. Prices start from \$5,290 per person, excluding flights. For more information or to register your interest contact Ruby Travels Worldwide on 0401 895 998, email [june.rubytravels@gmail.com](mailto:june.rubytravels@gmail.com) or via [rubytravelsworldwide.com](http://rubytravelsworldwide.com)

### **Winbourne Being Peaceful Change Reflection Day: 17 August**

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a reflection day on 'Being Peaceful Change' on Saturday 17 August from 9.30am to 12.30pm. "Before you speak of peace, you must first have it in your heart" (St Francis of Assisi). How might we achieve this unity and carry it forward? Cost is \$15 per person. For more information or to book, contact (02) 4773 5555 or email [info@winbourne.org](mailto:info@winbourne.org)

### **Get #Active4Vocations: Spur on our City2Surf team and Holy Spirit Seminarians**

This National Vocations Awareness Week, a faithful group of Holy Spirit Seminarians, priests, and parishioners are getting #Active4Vocations in the 14km City2Surf, on Sunday 11 August to promote priestly vocations and support our seminarians' formation. Please spur them on with your prayers and a donation to help our seminarians become priests. Scan this QR code to donate or visit [tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations](http://tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations). If you feel called to the priesthood, visit [parracatholic.org/contribute/discern-my-vocation/priesthood](http://parracatholic.org/contribute/discern-my-vocation/priesthood)



### **The FaithFeed: 6 September**

Looking for great conversations + live atmosphere + storytelling from those in their 20s, 30s 40s? Sign up for The FaithFeed, Friday 6 June 2024 – Doors open 7PM w/ live music for 7:30PM start. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via QR or get in touch with the team via [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

### **ACBC Absent from the Table Survey**

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is undertaking a research project aimed at investigating why some Catholics do not participate in regular weekly Sunday Mass. The survey, for those who self-identify as Catholics and are 18 years and over and who do not regularly attend weekly Mass on Sunday, is anonymous and will close on 20 August. The survey and information about the project can be found at <https://bit.ly/AbsentFromTheTableSurvey>

### **Luddenham-Warragamba Parish Youth Connect evening: 18 August**

Sacred Heart Parish, Luddenham-Warragamba invites young people aged 12 to 25 for a Youth Connect evening at Holy Family Church, Luddenham on Sunday 18 August from 6pm to 8pm. Join us for Encounter Night, hosted by the Youth Mission Team. Call Alicja to register or for more information – 0438 776 945.

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## POPE FRANCIS' ANGELUS



Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

Today the Gospel tells us about Jesus who, after the miracle of the loaves and fishes, invites the crowds who are looking for him to reflect on what took place to understand the meaning of it (cf. *Jn* 6:24-35).

They had eaten the food that was shared and seen how even with few resources all had been fed and had their fill through the generosity and courage of a young man who made available what he had with others. (cf. *Jn* 6:1-13). The sign was clear: if everyone gives to others what they have, with God's help, even with little everyone can have something. Let us not forget this: if one gives to others what one has, with God's help,

even with little everyone can have something.

The crowds did not understand: they mistook Jesus for some kind of magician and went back to look for him, hoping he would repeat the miracle as if it were magic (cf. v. 26).

They were the protagonists of an experience in their journey, but they did not grasp its significance: their attention focused only on the loaves and fishes, the actual food that finished immediately. They did not realise that this was only an instrument through which the Father, while satisfying their hunger, revealed something far more important to them. And what did the Father reveal to them? The path of life that lasts forever and the taste of bread that satisfies beyond any measure. The true bread, in short, was and is Jesus, his beloved Son made man (cf. v. 35), who came to share our poverty in order to lead us through it to the joy of full communion with God and with our brothers and sisters (cf. *Jn* 3:16).

Material things do not give fullness to life. They help us go forward and are important, but they do not fulfill our lives. Only love can do that (cf. *Jn* 6:35). And for this to happen, the path to take is that of charity which keeps nothing for itself, but shares everything. Love shares everything.

And does this not happen also in our own families? We can see it. Let us think of parents who struggle all their lives to raise their children well and leave them something for the future. How beautiful when this message is understood, and the children are grateful and in turn become supportive of each other like brothers and sisters! How sad, on the other hand, when they fight over inheritance – I have seen so many cases and it is sad - and they are fighting each other and perhaps they do not speak to each other again for years! The message of a father and a mother, their most precious legacy, is not money. It is the love with which they give their children everything they have, just as God does with us, and in this way, they teach us to love.

Let us ask ourselves, then: what kind of relationship do I have with material things? Am I a slave to them, or do I use them freely as instruments to give and receive love? Am I able to say "thank you" to God and my brothers and sisters for the gifts I have received. And do I know how to share them with others?

May Mary, who gave Jesus her whole life, teach us to make everything an instrument of love.

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### After praying the Angelus the Holy Father continued:

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Last Friday in Bkerke, Lebanon, Patriarch Estephan El Douaihy was beatified. He led the Maronite Church with wisdom from 1670 to 1704 during a difficult time marked also by persecution. A teacher of the faith and an attentive pastor, he was a witness of hope always close to the people. Even today, the Lebanese people suffer so much! In particular, I think of the families of the victims of the explosion at the Port of Beirut. I hope that justice and truth will soon be done. May the new Blessed sustain the faith and hope of the Church in Lebanon, and intercede for this beloved country. Let us applaud the new Blessed!

I am following with great concern what is taking place in the Middle East, and I hope that the conflict, already terribly bloody and violent, will not spread even further. I pray for all the victims, especially the innocent children, and express my sympathy to the Druze community in the Holy Land and the populations in Palestine, Israel, and Lebanon. Let us not forget Myanmar. Let us have the courage to resume dialogue so that there is an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and on all fronts, the hostages are freed, and the people are helped with humanitarian aid. Attacks, even targeted ones, and killings can never be a solution. They do not help to walk in the path of justice, the path of peace, but generate even more hatred and revenge. Enough, brothers and sisters! Enough! Do not stifle the word of the God of Peace, but let it be the future of the Holy Land, the Middle East and the entire world! War is a defeat!

I am equally concerned about Venezuela, which is experiencing a critical situation. I make a heartfelt appeal to all parties to seek the truth, to exercise restraint, to avoid any kind of violence, to settle disputes through dialogue, to have at heart the true good of the people and not partisan interests. Let us entrust the country to the intercession of Our Lady of Coromoto, so loved and venerated by Venezuelans, and to the prayer of Blessed José Gregorio Hernandez, whose witness unites us all.

I express my closeness to the people of India, especially Kerala, who have been hard hit by torrential rains, which have caused numerous landslides, resulting in the loss of life, many displaced persons and extensive damage. I invite you to join me in my prayers for those who have lost their lives and for all those affected by such a devastating calamity.

Today, the memorial of the Holy Curé d'Ars, some countries celebrate the "feast of the parish priest." I express my closeness and also my gratitude to all those parish priests who with zeal and generosity, at times amidst much suffering, offer themselves for God and the people. Let us applaud our parish priests!

I greet you, Romans and pilgrims from Italy and from many countries, especially the group from the Czech Republic, the Companions of Saint Ursula, the faithful from Chiusa Sclafani and Siderno, the young people from San Vito dei Normanni, the young men from the Sacro Cuore parish in Padua and the bicyclists from Sambuceto. With joy I send greetings to the participants in the First Youth Festival of Portugal being held in Fatima. Dear young people, I see that last year's enthusiastic experience in Lisbon continues to bear fruit. Thanks be to God! I pray for you and please pray for me at the Chapel of the Apparitions.

I wish you all a happy Sunday. And please, do not forget to pray for me. Enjoy your lunch. Arrivederci!

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## POPE FRANCIS

### BULL OF INDICTION OF THE ORDINARY JUBILEE OF THE YEAR 2025

#### FRANCIS BISHOP OF ROME SERVANT OF THE SERVANTS OF GOD

#### TO ALL WHO READ THIS LETTER MAY HOPE FILL YOUR HEARTS

10. During the Holy Year, we are called to be tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind. I think of *prisoners* who, deprived of their freedom, daily feel the harshness of detention and its restrictions, lack of affection and, in more than a few cases, lack of respect for their persons. I propose that in this Jubilee Year governments undertake initiatives aimed at restoring hope; forms of amnesty or pardon meant to help individuals regain confidence in themselves and in society; and programmes of reintegration in the community, including a concrete commitment to respect for law. This is an ancient appeal, one drawn from the word of God, whose wisdom remains ever timely. It calls for acts of clemency and liberation that enable new beginnings: "You shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants" ( *Lev 25:10*). This institution of the Mosaic law was later taken up by the prophet Isaiah: "The Lord has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour" ( *Is 61:1-2*). Jesus made those words his own at the beginning of his ministry, presenting himself as the fulfilment of the "year of the Lord's favour" (cf. *Lk 4:18-19*). In every part of the world, believers, and their Pastors in particular, should be one in demanding dignified conditions for those in prison, respect for their human rights and above all the abolition of the death penalty, a provision at odds with Christian faith and one that eliminates all hope of forgiveness and rehabilitation. In order to offer prisoners a concrete sign of closeness, I would myself like to open a Holy Door in a prison, as a sign inviting prisoners to look to the future with hope and a renewed sense of confidence. 11. Signs of hope should also be shown to the *sick*, at home or in hospital. Their sufferings can be allayed by the closeness and affection of those who visit them. Works of mercy are also works of hope that give rise to immense gratitude. Gratitude should likewise be shown to all those healthcare workers who, often in precarious conditions, carry out their mission with constant care and concern for the sick and for those who are most vulnerable. Inclusive attention should also be given to all those in particularly difficult situations, who experience their own weaknesses and limitations, especially those affected by illnesses or disabilities that severely restrict their personal independence and freedom. Care given to them is a hymn to human dignity, a song of hope that calls for the choral participation of society as a whole. 12. Signs of hope are also needed by those who are the very embodiment of hope, namely, *the young*. Sadly, they often see their dreams and aspirations frustrated. We must not disappoint them, for the future depends on their enthusiasm. It is gratifying to see the energy they demonstrate, for example, by rolling up their sleeves and volunteering to help when disasters strike and people are in need. Yet it is sad to see young people who are without hope, who face an uncertain and unpromising future, who lack employment or job security, or realistic prospects after finishing school. Without the hope that their dreams can come true, they will inevitably grow discouraged and listless. Escaping into drugs, risk-taking and the pursuit of momentary pleasure does greater harm to them in particular, since it closes them to life's beauty and richness, and can lead to depression and even self-destructive actions. For this reason, the Jubilee should inspire the Church to make greater efforts to reach out to them. With renewed passion, let us demonstrate care and concern for adolescents, students and young couples, the rising generation. Let us draw close to the young, for they are the joy and hope of the Church and of the world! 13. Signs of hope should also be present for *migrants* who leave their homelands behind in search of a better life for themselves and for their families. Their expectations must not be frustrated by prejudice and rejection. A spirit of welcome, which embraces everyone with respect for his or her dignity, should be accompanied by a sense of responsibility, lest anyone be denied the right to a dignified existence. *Exiles, displaced persons and refugees*, whom international tensions force to emigrate in order to avoid war, violence and discrimination, ought to be guaranteed security and access to employment and education, the means they need to find their place in a new social context. May the Christian community always be prepared to defend the rights of those who are most vulnerable, opening wide its doors to welcome them, lest anyone ever be robbed of the hope of a better future. May the Lord's words in the great parable of the Last Judgement always find an echo in our hearts: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" for "just as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me" ( *Mt 25:35-40*). (to be continued)

#### POPE FRANCIS writes letter on how literature can educate the heart and mind By Tiziana Campisi

A good book opens the mind, stimulates the heart, and prepares us for life, Pope Francis writes in a [letter to future priests](#), but also all pastoral workers and Christians will appreciate "reading novels and poems as part of one's path to personal maturity." With his letter on the role of literature in formation, written on 17 July and published Sunday, 4 August, Pope Francis aims to encourage "a renewed love for reading" and above all "to propose a radical change of course" in the preparation of candidates for the priesthood, so that more space is given to reading literary works. Because literature can educate "the hearts and minds of pastors" to "the free and humble exercise of our use of reason" and to "a fruitful recognition of the variety of human languages," thus broadening human sensitivity and leading to greater spiritual openness. Moreover, the task of believers, and of priests in particular, is to touch the hearts of contemporary people so that they may be moved and open before the proclamation of the Lord Jesus, and in all this "the contribution that literature and poetry can offer is of incomparable value." **Beneficial effects of reading** In his letter Pope Francis first emphasises the beneficial effects of a good book that can "provide an oasis that keeps us from other choices that are less wholesome," and when "in moments of weariness, anger, disappointment or failure, when prayer itself does not help us find inner serenity," can help us get through difficult moments and "find peace of mind". People used to dedicate themselves to reading more often "before our present unremitting exposure to social media, mobile phones and other devices", observes the Pope, who points out that in an audio-visual product, although more complete, "the time allowed for 'enriching' the narrative or exploring its significance is usually quite restricted", while reading a book the reader is much more active. A literary work is "a living and ever fruitful text." It happens, in fact, that in reading, the reader is enriched by what is received from the author, and this enables him to make the richness of his own person flourish. **Devoting time to literature** While it is positive that "some seminaries have reacted to the obsession with 'screens' and with toxic, superficial and violent fake news, by devoting time and attention to literature," to reading and discussing books, new or old, that have much to say, Pope Francis acknowledges that in general those in formation for ordained ministry may not have enough time to dedicate to literature, sometimes considered "a 'minor art' that need not belong to the education of future priests and their preparation for pastoral ministry." "Such an approach is unhealthy", says the Pope, and can lead to "serious intellectual and spiritual impoverishment of future priests", who thus do not have privileged access which literature grants to the very heart of human culture and, more specifically, to the heart of every individual". Because, in practice, literature has to do with what each of us desires from life, he writes, and it enters into an intimate relationship with our concrete existence and all its tensions, desires and meanings.

**Encountering Jesus** In order to "respond adequately to many people's thirst for God, lest they try to satisfy it with alienating solutions or with a disembodied Jesus", believers and priests, in proclaiming the Gospel, must endeavour so that "everyone be able to encounter *Jesus Christ made flesh, made man, made history*." One must never lose sight of the "flesh" of Jesus Christ.

## 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)

**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 12th September 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 August. If you would like more information please kindly contact Ian Epondulan: [youtholol7h@gmail.com](mailto: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.

### PIETY SHOP

Located at the back of the church. Please come have a browse after mass.

### 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.

### OLOL PARISH CALENDAR

#### August

14	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	7.30pm
15	Feast of the Assumption Masses	9am & 7pm
18	Mass & Eucharist Talk (Sacramental program families)	9.30am
21	Eucharist Sacramental Meeting (3rd)	6.30-7.30pm
24	Eucharist Sacramental Meeting (3rd) <b>Rpt</b>	4.30-5.30pm

## OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

### 10/11August

Acolytes	Vigil: Daniel La Guidara 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Sandy Manamperi	
Ministers	Vigil: L. La Guidara, A. Do Rosario 8am: B. Motha, L. Fernandes 9.30am: M. Aquino, P. Gow	
Readers	Vigil: N. Do Rosario, J. Irudayaraj 8am: F. Paiva, F. Kennedy 9.30am: Tom Perak, E. Pieris	
Altar Servers	Vigil: A. Monteiro, A. La Guidara, C. La Guidara 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: J. Pieris, M. Pieris	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group	
Musicians	Vigil: Shaun's Group 8am: Fr. Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir	
Flowers	Claudette & Judith	
Church Cleaning	10 Aug	Tongan Community, Edgardo Barcelon, Edgar Cabrera
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Sastina Pieris	

### 17/18August

Acolytes	Vigil: James Dinning 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am: Ryan Epondulan	
Ministers	Vigil: L. Bellissimo, A. Bellissimo 8am: B. J. Irudayaraj, M. Santos 9.30am: C. Brooks, A. Walker	
Readers	Vigil: J. Sarmiento, A.Punch 8am: E. Miu, S. Manamperi 9.30am: A. Han, N. Arambulo	
Altar Servers	Vigil: C. Bellamin, L. Sadipoor, S. Thoms 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: A. Melki, C. Attard Parish Office	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Parish Office	
Musicians	Vigil: K. Thoms & C. Woodward 8am: Fr. Henry 9.30am: OFS	
Flowers	Fennie & Angela	
Church Cleaning	15 August	Cathy Hutchings, Annette Peatman, Edgardo Barcelon,
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Ugre 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain	

# The Kids' Bulletin

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 11th, 2024



Jesus told the people that He was the Bread of Life. The people were confused and wondered what He was talking about. So He explained again, and told them this:

" \_\_\_\_\_ "

(Use all the letters that you pass in the maze to fill in the blanks and find out what Jesus said) John 6:41-51

## Heavenly Bread

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." John 6:51 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 6:41-51



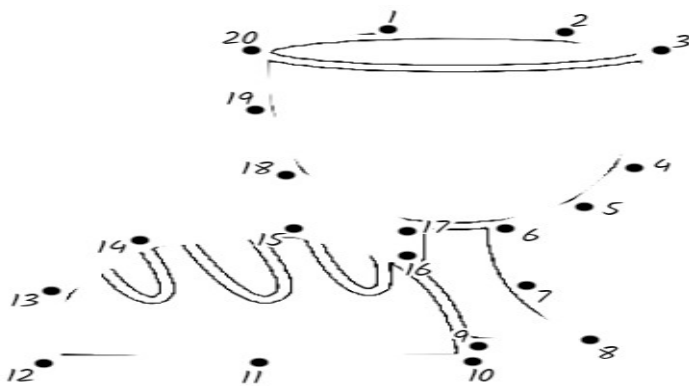
"I am the living bread."

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

FOREVER	ATE	WORLD	DIED	BREAD
LIFE	FLESH	DESERT	LIVING	JESUS
EVERLASTING	HEAVEN	TRUTH	BELIEVE	MANNA

In this Gospel Reading, who is the Bread of Life?

- a. Jesus Christ
- b. The High Priests
- c. The apostles



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

Substitute the letter for the number to reveal the coded words.

1. 22-11-23-11-20-6 \_\_\_\_\_
2. 10-4-7-26-19 \_\_\_\_\_
3. 17-7-26-23-7-20 \_\_\_\_\_
4. 14-9-4-7-23-7-4 \_\_\_\_\_
5. 14-22-7-13-17 \_\_\_\_\_
6. 3-9-4-22-19 \_\_\_\_\_
7. 7-16-7-4-20-26-22 \_\_\_\_\_
8. 22-11-14-7 \_\_\_\_\_

HEAVEN	BREAD	LIFE	FOREVER
ETERNAL	LIVING	FLESH	WORLD