

# 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:** 25th 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/>

## 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 25 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, 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, Murial Chary, Grace Caruana, Dulcie Duraisamy, Carmelo Galea, Henrieta Fernando, Jasmin Fernando, Ricardo Garcia, Hector Lordi, Cynthia Lopez, Elaine Siu Ling Miu, Marie Thomas, David Waring.

**Anniversaries:** Ronald Barley, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Rose Camilleri, Joseph Caruana, Terry Caruana, Catherine Chandra, Aloysean Corera, Josephine Cortis, Paula Simone Commarmond, Clive Diggelman, Joan Falzon, John Fernando, Nevis Fernando, M.A Fernando, Juliet Francis, Anthony Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Zenaida Garcia, Christine Gomez, Josephine Gomez, John Johnson, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Lyn Morrissey, Tony Muscat, Rita Leon, Ignacio Nonato Snr, Sheena Landagan, Mary Moore, Laurence Morrissey, Cordula Paiva, 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, Myrna Cruz, Saviour Caruana, Fe Licup Carmen, Tania McGove, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonio, Tania, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Lancer De Guire, Nevis Fernando, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Sam Gabo, Mary & Sam Galea, Evangeline Garcia, Leandro Snr Garcia, Jose Garcia, Frans Gutajar, Selvam Irudayaraj, Melvyn Fernandes, Pauline Meilak, Mangion & Cini Family, Michael (Mike) McNamee, Maureen & John Mead, 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, Benigno Riveral Sr, 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



### 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)

### 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.

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**FIRST READING** *A reading from the first book of Joshua 24:1-2. 15-18*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our 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,<br>his praise always on my lips;<br>in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.<br>The humble shall hear and be glad. <b>(R.)</b>            | 4. Many are the trials of the just man<br>but from them all the Lord will rescue him.<br>He will keep guard over all his bones,<br>not one of his bones shall be broken. <b>(R.)</b>      |
| 2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked<br>to destroy their remembrance from the earth.<br>The Lord turns his eyes to the just<br>and his ears to their appeal <b>(R.)</b>  | 5. Evil brings death to the wicked;<br>those who hate the good are doomed.<br>The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.<br>Those who hide in him shall not be<br>condemned. <b>(R.)</b> |
| 3. They call and the Lord hears<br>and rescues them in all their distress.<br>The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;<br>those whose spirit is crushed he will save. <b>(R.)</b> |   |

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**SECOND READING** *A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 5:21-32*

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy.

He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

The word of the Lord.

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**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:  
you have the words of everlasting life.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** *A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 6:60-69*

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord



Dear friends,

All the Gospel accounts in the last three Sundays highlight the tension between Jesus and his Jewish followers gradually rising as they began to ask Jesus questions about the feasibility of his claims as the bread coming down from heaven, the bread given as his flesh, and his flesh as real food and his blood as real drink to give eternal life to the partakers. Their language began to turn from diplomatic of the weeks before to confrontational in the Gospel today as they no longer hid their frustration against what he preached, something they defined as intolerable and unacceptable. 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' They frankly told him. In response, Jesus on the one hand acknowledged their disappointment and on the other hand continued to teach what he was sent down from heaven to teach, and this time he turned their focus on the precious value of his words that he called life-giving and brought forth by the spirit.

More significantly Jesus also realized that even some of the disciples had difficulties to digest his teachings and started to consider the move to betray him. It could not be wrong for us to call this moment as the turning point drawing the line between those who remained with him and those who decided to turn away from him with Judas Iscariot as their representative, the one the evangelist vaguely revealed to us in the story.

When witnessing such a move amongst his followers and disciples, Jesus turned to his closest collaborators namely the Apostles and invited them to clarify their position. 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' asked Jesus. Peter, on behalf of the others confirmed their decision to stick with Jesus, and publicly professed their faith in him as the Holy One of God who has the message of eternal life.

Above all, Jesus indirectly talked about faith as he made the point about how God helps people to believe in him. 'No one can come to me unless the Father allows him,' said Jesus, and we consider faith as God's gift to us, a gift we are given not because of our own merits, but out of the Father's love for us. Faith helps both the disciples of old and us as Jesus' followers today believe in him as the Son of God, and his teaching especially the one about the Eucharist calling himself the bread of life, the bread from heaven, the gift of his flesh to give eternal life to those who share it.

Let us pay more attention to the precious gift of faith God has given to help us believe in Jesus as the Son of God and give thanks to God for such a wonderful gift. We also ask Jesus to strengthen our faith in him and especially in the Eucharist, the sacrament he established at the Last Supper to keep nourishing us as we journey towards our eternal home.

Have a faith-filled weekend,

*Fr Henry*

## PARISH NEWS...

### THE PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Thank you to Silvia & Dumas Morales, for donating a carry box for our pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Lourdes. Dumas has meticulously handcrafted the wooden casing himself. We thank them both for their thoughtfulness and generosity towards our parish.

### NEW MINSITERS IN OUR PARISH

We are privileged to have the service of new ministers who have recently completed their liturgical courses, they are as follows: Patelisio Kama as Acolyte, Tom Perak and Kilisitina Talikimuli Kama as Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion and ministers of Communion to the Sick and Dying; also Anthonyne Pushparajan, Justine Saji and Kilisitina Talikimuli Kama as Reading ministers. On behalf of the Parish I would like to thank each of them for offering their services.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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>



## DIOCESAN NEWS

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

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](https://parracatholic.org/synodality).

### 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](https://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.

### 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](https://tinyurl.com/soc-gathering24). Register for the Convocation by 12 August at [caritas.org.au/soc-convocation](https://caritas.org.au/soc-convocation).

### Mount Druitt South Parish Fete: 15 September

The Sacred Heart Parish South Mount Druitt fete will be held on Sunday 15 September at Sacred Heart Primary School, Mt Druitt, from 10am to 3pm. Activities include a While Elephant stall, jumping castle, chocolate wheel and showbags. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9832 3896.

### Glenmore Park St Padre Pio Feast Day Celebrations

Everyone is invited to join Glenmore Park Parish for the parochial feast of St Padre Pio.

The parish will be celebrating a three day Triduum:

- Thursday 19 September – 7.00pm Novena to *St Padre Pio* and Mass
- Friday 20 September – 7.00pm Novena to *St Padre Pio* and Mass
- Saturday 21 September – 5.30pm Novena to *St Padre Pio* and Vigil Mass

With the feast day celebrations on Sunday 22 September from 10am with a solemn procession with the relic, Mass, veneration and blessing of the relic. For enquiries, contact the parish office on (02) 4789 2232

or [glenmorepark@parracatholic.org](mailto:glenmorepark@parracatholic.org)

### Winbourne The Aramaic Lord's Prayer Reflection Day: 28 September

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a reflection day on 'The Aramaic Lord's Prayer' on Saturday 28 September 9.30am to 12.30pm. Returning to what Jesus actually said is a truly enlightening and prayerful experience. Cost is \$15 per person. For more information or to book, contact 4773 5555 or email [info@winbourne.org](mailto:info@winbourne.org)

### ACBC 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has formally launched its 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, 'Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World'. In the statement, Australia's Bishops scrutinise the signs of our own troubled times, observe the violence around us, and ask why it is so. Download your copy of the Statement and a range of resources by visiting <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

### Bishop's Father's Day Appeal supporting our retired priests

This Father's Day, let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests' lifelong gifts of faithful service. They have dedicated their lives to guiding us spiritually and emotionally, often at great personal sacrifice. Your compassionate donation cares for our clergy's health and wellbeing during sickness and retirement. Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal at [parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](https://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal) or scan this QR code.



### 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)



### Mount Druitt South Parish Our Lady of Good Health Novena: Begins 30 August

Please join the community of Sacred Heart Parish, Mount Druitt South for the Novena and Feast of Our Lady of Good Health, from 30 August until 8 September. There will be Masses in the evenings followed by Rosary and Novena. We conclude on 8 September, the Nativity of Our Lady, with Mass at 6pm followed by a light supper. For further information, contact the parish office on (02) 9832 3896.

### St Phoebe Webinar 2024: 3 September

Australian Catholics Exploring the Diaconate, supported by Catholic Religious Australia invite you to the 2024 St Phoebe webinar "Where are St Phoebe's successors today?" on Tuesday 3 September at 7.30pm AEST. Join Geraldine Doogue AO, Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO and Dr Sandie Cornish to reflect on synodality and access for women to the diaconate. To register, visit [www.liturgyonthemargins.org/events](https://www.liturgyonthemargins.org/events)

### From Darkness to Light – An exploration of domestic violence: 8 September

The Marist Family Justice, Peace and Integrity in Creation Committee are hosting an event, "From darkness to light: an exploration of domestic violence" at Holy Name of Mary Church Hall, Hunters Hill, on Sunday 8 September from 1.30pm to 4pm. Guest speakers include Livia La Rocca, a psychologist with 20 years' experience and Nicole Yade, CEO of the Women and Girls Emergency Centre. RSVP by 1 September via [www.maristlaityaustralia.com/dark-to-light](https://www.maristlaityaustralia.com/dark-to-light)

### Campion College Early Christianity Symposium: 27 – 28 September

Campion College is delighted to announce an upcoming symposium, "Shepherd at the Crossroads: Converging Traditions in Early Christianity," to be held on September 27-28, 2024, at the college campus in Toongabbie. This event offers a unique opportunity to delve into the multicultural and multi-traditional character of Early Christianity and its enduring influence. Two-day tickets are available for \$120 per person while a one-day ticket will cost \$70 per person. Concession pricing is available. To purchase tickets and learn more about the event, visit [www.campion.edu.au/event/early-christianitysymposium](https://www.campion.edu.au/event/early-christianitysymposium)



*Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!*

Today, the Gospel tells us about Jesus, who says, very simply: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven" (Jn 6:51). Before the crowd, the Son of God identifies himself with the most common and ordinary food- bread: "I am the bread". Among those who are listening to Him, some start arguing among themselves (cf. v. 52): how can Jesus give us His own flesh to eat? Even today, we ask ourselves this question, but with wonder and gratitude. Here are two attitudes to reflect on: wonder and gratitude before the miracle of the Eucharist.

Firstly: *wonder*, because Jesus' words surprise us. But Jesus always surprises us, always! Also today, in the lives of each one of us, Jesus keeps surprising us. The bread from heaven is a gift that exceeds all expectations. Those who do not grasp Jesus' way remain suspicious: it seems impossible, even inhuman, to eat the flesh of another (cf. v. 54). Flesh and blood, however, are the humanity of the Saviour, His very life offered as a nourishment for our own.

And this brings us to the second attitude: *gratitude*. First: *wonder*. Now, *gratitude*, because we recognize Jesus where He makes Himself present for us and with us. He makes Himself bread for us. "Whoever eats my flesh remains in me and I in him" (cf. v. 56). Christ, the true man, knows well that one must eat to live. But He also knows that this is not enough. After multiplying the earthly bread (cf. Jn 6:1-14), He prepares an even greater gift: He Himself becomes true food and true drink (cf. v. 55). Thank you, Lord Jesus! Let us say "Thank you, thank you" with all our heart.

The heavenly bread, which comes from the Father, is the Son Himself made flesh for us. This food is more than necessary because it satisfies the hunger for hope, the hunger for truth, and the hunger for salvation that we all feel not in our stomachs, but in our hearts. Every one of us needs the Eucharist!

Jesus takes care of the greatest need: He saves us, nourishing our lives with His own, and He will do this forever. And it is thanks to Him that we can live in communion with God and with each other. The living and true bread is not, therefore, something magical, no. It is not something that will immediately solve all problems, but it is the very Body of Christ, that gives hope to the poor and overcomes the arrogance of those who gorge themselves at their expense.

Let us ask ourselves, then, brothers and sisters: Do I hunger and thirst for salvation, not just for myself, but for all my brothers and sisters? When I receive the Eucharist, which is the miracle of mercy, do I stand in awe before the Body of the Lord, who died and rose again for us?

Let us pray together to the Virgin Mary, that she may help us to welcome the gift of heaven in this sign of the bread.

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### **After the Angelus**

*Dear brothers and sisters!*

Today, in Uvira, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Italian missionaries of Saint Francis Xavier Luigi Carrara, Giovanni Didoné, and Vittorio Faccin, along with Albert Joubert, a Congolese priest, were beatified. They were killed in that country on November 28th, 1964. Their martyrdom crowned a life spent for the Lord and for their brothers and sisters. May their example and intercession foster paths of reconciliation and peace for the good of the Congolese people. A round of applause for the newly Blessed!

And let us continue to pray that paths of peace may be found in the Middle East — Palestine, Israel — as well as in the suffering Ukraine, Myanmar, and every war-torn region, through dialogue and negotiation, refraining from violent actions and reactions.

I greet all of you, dear faithful of Rome and pilgrims from Italy and various countries. In particular, I greet those from the state of São Paulo in Brazil; and also the Sisters of Saint Elizabeth.

I send my greetings and blessings to the women and girls gathered at the Marian Shrine of Piekary Śląskie in Poland, and I encourage them to witness the Gospel joyfully in their families and society. And I greet the young people of the *Immacolata*.

I wish everyone a happy Sunday. Please do not forget to pray for me.

Have a good lunch, and *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

17. The coming Jubilee Year will also coincide with a significant date for all Christians, namely, *the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the celebration of the first great Ecumenical Council, that of Nicaea*. It is worth noting that, from apostolic times, bishops have gathered on various occasions in order to discuss doctrinal questions and disciplinary matters. In the first centuries of Christianity, synods frequently took place in both East and West, showing the importance of ensuring the unity of God's People and the faithful proclamation of the Gospel. The Jubilee can serve as an important occasion for giving concrete expression to this form of synodality, which the Christian community today considers increasingly necessary for responding to the urgent need for evangelization. All the baptized, with their respective charisms and ministries, are co-responsible for ensuring that manifold signs of hope bear witness to God's presence in the world.

The Council of Nicaea sought to preserve the Church's unity, which was seriously threatened by the denial of the full divinity of Jesus Christ and hence his consubstantiality with the Father. Some three hundred bishops took part, convoked at the behest of the Emperor Constantine; their first meeting took place in the Imperial Palace on 20 May 325. After various debates, by the grace of the Spirit they unanimously approved the Creed that we still recite each Sunday at the celebration of the Eucharist. The Council Fathers chose to begin that Creed by using for the first time the expression "We believe", [10] as a sign that all the Churches were in communion and that all Christians professed the same faith.

The Council of Nicaea was a milestone in the Church's history. The celebration of its anniversary invites Christians to join in a hymn of praise and thanksgiving to the Blessed Trinity and in particular to Jesus Christ, the Son of God, "consubstantial with the Father", [11] who revealed to us that mystery of love. At the same time, Nicaea represents a summons to all Churches and Ecclesial Communities to persevere on the path to visible unity and in the quest of fitting ways to respond fully to the prayer of Jesus "that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me" ( *Jn* 17:21).

The Council of Nicaea also discussed the date of Easter. To this day, different approaches to this question prevent celebrating the fundamental event of our faith on the same day. Providentially, a common celebration will take place in the year 2025. May this serve as an appeal to all Christians, East and West, to take a decisive step forward towards unity around a common date for Easter. We do well to remind ourselves that many people, unaware of the controversies of the past, fail to understand how divisions in this regard can continue to exist.

#### *Anchored in hope*

18. Hope, together with faith and charity, makes up the triptych of the "theological virtues" that express the heart of the Christian life (cf. *1 Cor* 13:13; *1 Thess* 1:3). In their inseparable unity, hope is the virtue that, so to speak, gives inward direction and purpose to the life of believers. For this reason, the Apostle Paul encourages us to "rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer" (*Rom* 12:12). Surely we need to "abound in hope" (cf. *Rom* 15:13), so that we may bear credible and attractive witness to the faith and love that dwell in our hearts; that our faith may be joyful and our charity enthusiastic; and that each of us may be able to offer a smile, a small gesture of friendship, a kind look, a ready ear, a good deed, in the knowledge that, in the Spirit of Jesus, these can become, for those who receive them, rich seeds of hope. Yet what is the basis of our hope? To understand this, let us stop and reflect on "the reasons for our hope" (cf. *1 Pet* 3:15). *(to be continued)*

## POPE FRANCIS TO RIMINI MEETING: FAITH IN JESUS IS WHAT IS ESSENTIAL IN LIFE *By Vatican News*

Pope Francis has sent a message to participants in the 2024 *Meeting for Friendship Among Peoples*, commonly known as the Rimini Meeting.

Each year, prominent politicians, entrepreneurs, representatives of religion and culture, intellectuals, artists, athletes, and others converge on the Italian city of Rimini for a cultural experience "driven by the desire to discover the beauty of reality".

In his letter, released on Monday and signed by Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin, the Pope highlighted the theme for this year's Meeting - "If we are not after the essential, what are we after?"

### **Quest for true meaning of life**

The letter notes that "the search for what constitutes the core of the mystery of life and reality is of crucial importance" amid the challenges of the day, and offers encouragement for "that endeavour to seek... that which brings forth the beauty of life."

The Pope urges participants to see, in the struggles of modern life, "a call to reflection" aimed at opening hearts for an encounter with God and fostering in every person an awareness of self, of neighbour, and of reality.

This, in turn, reveals that what is most important in life is not material goods or successes, but "that relationship that sustains us, rooting our journey in trust and hope" that is, friendship with God, which is then reflected in our relationships with others.

### **What is most essential: faith in Jesus Christ**

The letter recalls the Pope's speech to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith earlier this year: "What is essential, most beautiful, most attractive, and at the same time most necessary for us is faith in Jesus Christ".

The Pope expresses his appreciation and support for the Rimini Meeting, and encourages everyone to become "responsible protagonists for change, actively collaborating in the mission of the Church to give life to places where the presence of Christ can be seen and touched."

Finally, Pope Francis expresses his hope that the 2024 Rimini meeting "might inspire many to become seekers of the essential, and make the passion for the proclamation of the Gospel – a source of liberation from all slavery and a force that heals and transforms humanity – blossom in their hearts."



## 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 12th September, 6.30pm. If you would like more information please 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

28	Father's Day School Mass	9.15am
28	Eucharist Sacramental Meeting (4th)	6.30pm
31	Safeguard Training	10.00am
31	Eucharist Sacramental Meeting (4th) RPT	4.30pm

## OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

### 24/25 August

Acolytes	Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Ernie Gartner 9.30am: Eugene Miu	
Ministers	Vigil: R. Soares, M. Mifsud 8am: Edith Gartner, S. Manamperi 9.30am: B. Chandler, P. Gow	
Readers	Vigil: C. Rodrigues, M. Simic 8am: K. Walker, F. Paiva 9.30am: R. Nigli, C. Diaz	
Altar Servers	Vigil: J. Hoang, J. Martinez, O. Martinez 8am: H. Winter, K. Cassaniti 9.30am: Volunteer	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Couples for Christ	
Musicians	Vigil: Nina's Group 8am: Fr. Henry 9.30am: Nina's Group	
Flowers	Annette & Mary B.	
Church Cleaning	28 August	Jessie Borg Anne McNally Egardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Georgina Basili	

### 31 Aug/1 September

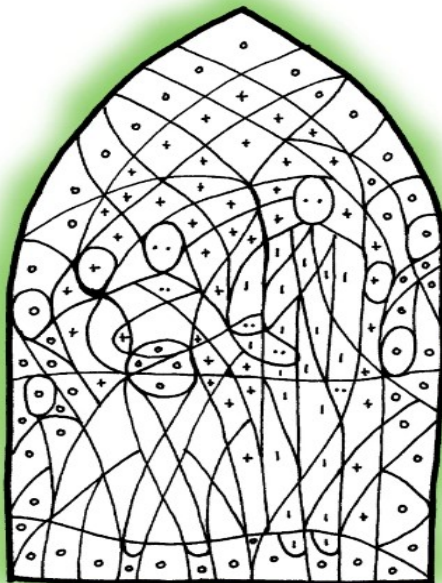
Acolytes	Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Fayelene Kennedy	
Ministers	Vigil: C. Gonzales, T. Perak 8am: L. Fernandes, F. Paiva 9.30am: K. Huihui, C. Brooks	
Readers	Vigil: B. Motha, N. Do Rosario 8am: P. Ferriols, A. McNally 9.30am: K. Huihui, E. Pieris	
Altar Servers	Vigil: M. Gluvic, D. Sant, J. Sant 8am: Chris Bellamin, Volunteer 9.30am: J. Pieris, M. Pieris	
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	5 September	Lourdes Spiteri Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Helen Gonzales 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Sastina Pieris	

# The Kids' Bulletin

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 25th, 2024

## To Whom Shall We Go?

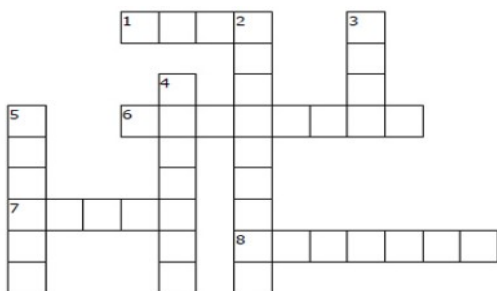
"You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. John 6:67-68 (NIV)  
The puzzle is based on John 6:60-69



Saint Paul tells us how much Jesus loves the Church. What does he say that Jesus and the Church are like? Use the colour code to colour the picture and find out!

- o Red
- Blue
- ! Black
- .. Skin colour

Ephesians 5:21-32



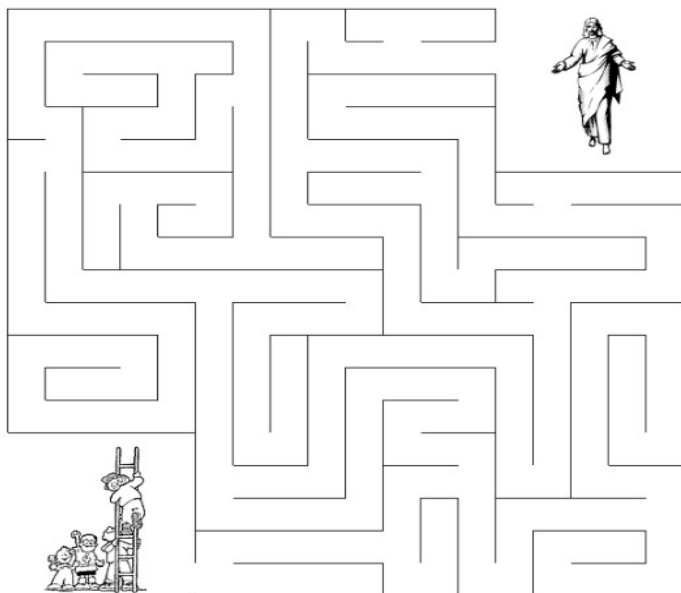
### ACROSS

1. Difficult to understand, accomplish, or finish
6. Sharing knowledge with others
7. To go away from; depart; abandon or forsake
8. Continuing forever

### DOWN

2. The original followers of Jesus
3. To reverse directions
4. To accept as true or real
5. To come after; to go behind someone

BELIEVE	HARD	DISCIPLES	TEACHING
ETERNAL	TURN	LEAVE	FOLLOW



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

GIVES	GRUMBLING	BETRAY	LIFE	WORDS
ETERNAL	TURN	BACK	BELIEVE	JESUS
LEAVE	KNOW	TEACHING	FOLLOW	HARD



"MASTER TO WHOM SHALL WE GO?"