



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 Deacon: Deacon Thong Nguyen
Parish Office Team: Rosie Sadipoor, Kim Dang, Jane Nguyen, Laura Ilioski
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: 19th February 2025
Baptism: 23rd February 2025
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall
Youth Co-Ordinator: Diana Park
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.com.au
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

9 February 2025 • Year C



Let us Pray for the Sick

Florence Arinanan, Rodney Bell, Lawrence Charles, Albert Cheng, Ben Dixon, Alma Caguimbal, Para Dias, Mary Camilleri, Lucia Fernando, Renuka Fernando, Chmouneh Hayek, Lynnda Lim-Huynh, Mary Jordan, Anthony Janicska, Klare Kinsley, Paul Leong, Melissa Mead, Zeferino Morales, Blago Milicevic, Carlos Mureno, Maricar Poblete, Veronica Portelli, Camy Ratnam, Louise Richard, Sue Tipaldo, 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: Joyce Ashton, Emma Barriom, Tricia Batongbacal, Vivienne Cameron, Murial Chary, Barrie Chamberlain, Blaise Costa, Padmini De Seram, Randy De Silva, Dulcie Duraisamy, Sandra Eichhorn, Henrieta Fernando, Rienzie Fernando, Jasmin Fernando, Ethan Garcia, Ricardo Garcia, Nazarene Jalandoni, Joan Lawrence, Venancio Legaspi, Cynthia Lopez, Therese McFadden, Richard Monreal, Jennifer Morrissey, Silvia Morales, Rufino Nilmar, Phillip Newey, Consejo F. Noblezada, Ernesto Nuevaespana, Etelka Petkovics, Eustace Ratnam, Suranjith Reberra, Michael Scott.

Anniversaries: Mary Alagiah, S. Alphonse, John Azzopardi, Horace Baptist, Ronald Barley, Romeo Biniahan, Elaine Bosen, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Denis Brophy, Catherine Chandra, Aloysian Corera, Mary Camenzuli, Alita Do Rosario, Reycheiel Dommen, Joe Falzon, John Fernando, Nevis Fernando, M.A Fernando, Constance Gaycroft, Anthony Garcia, Francisca Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Zenaida Garcia, Christine Gomez, Josephine Gomez, Bill & Helen Hili, Francis Magallanes Jr, Prudencio Monser, Thomas Morrissey Jnr, Anton Motha, Xavier Motha Jnr, Paul Mula, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Tony Muscat, Cordula Paiva, Antonio Palmos, Adrian Pereira, Elizabeth Pinter, John Portelli, Bernabe Quinto, Roseline Ratnam, Cornelio & Iuminada Rondario, Michael Sant, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Helen Tanti, Loreta Laberinto Udan, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udan, Jim Vella, Iris Warne.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, France Angseeing, Carmen Attard, Lydia, Marlene Busac, Anthony Borg, Ceferino, Rosario, Renato & Marlyn Cabasa, Toufic, Dede, Bede Marcel, Mohsen & Peter Diab, Fe Licup Carmen, Dennis Clarke, Myrna Cruz, Saviour Caruana, Tania McGove, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Launcer De Guire, Joseph & Carmena Formosa, Melvyn Fernandes, Nevis Fernando, Sammy Formosa, Mario & Joe Gat, Maximilian & Julian Epondulan, Sam Gabo, Mary & Sam Galea, Evangeline Garcia, Leandro Snr Garcia, Jose Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Elizabeth Hancock, Rita Hili, Selvam Irudayaraj, Harold, Marc, Rosine Laffuer, Sheena Landagan, A. Mansoor, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Maureen & John Mead, Pauline Meilak, Rose Merz, Maria Regina Menezes, Mangion & Cini Family, William & Emilia Mifsud, Joseph & Doris Mifsud, Mary Mifsud, Sashin Patrick Manamperi, Lourda Motha, Ngan Pin, Louis, Stephen & Joseph Mula, Mary & Francis Muscat, Andres Noblezada, Peter John & Camelita, Jesus Opulencia, Matilde T & Romeo T Palmos, Natalia Prahinog, John Ratnam, Jose, Maria, Laureano, Yolanda & Karen Reyes, Jonathan Tek Kie, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Colin Zahra, Vinnie Zahra.

Funeral Notices

Silvia Morales

Wednesday, 12th February 2025 at 10am
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Seven Hills

Our Lady of Lourdes

Ever Immaculate Virgin, Mother of mercy, health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comfort of the afflicted, you know my needs, my troubles, my sufferings; cast on me a look of pity. By appearing in the grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary, from which you dispense your favours, and already many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and physical. I come, therefore, with the most unbounded confidence to implore your maternal intercession.

Obtain most loving mother, my requests, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Amen.



REGULAR COLLECTIONS - First and Second

FIRST COLLECTION is for the support of Priests throughout the Diocese.

ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

Account name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy
BSB: 067 950
ACC: 00 00 4265
Reference: Seven Hills - 6035

SECOND COLLECTION or Planned Giving Program

On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you very much for your ongoing support, which has been absolutely vital in keeping our Parish going strong. Projects completed include the Hall Kitchen renovation, Parish Meeting Room painting, Parish Office and Meeting Room Roof painted, Church roof cleaned and ceiling repaired and painted.

ON-LINE BANK DONATIONS

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church.
BSB: 067 950
ACC: 000552
 Reference: (Your Planned Giving envelope number or for a one off donation, 'DONATION')

IN-PERSON BANK DEPOSIT (at a Bank Inst / Branch)

Account Name: Seven Hills Catholic Church
BSB: 062 315
ACC ID # 00901486
AGENT # 660

SMART DEVICE TERMINALS

All donations made via these new machines are shared 50/50 with our Diocese.

THE PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

The Statue of Virgin Mary is available for home visitation and will reside with you for a week, being Sunday to Saturday. If you are wishing to participate, please leave your name and address with the Parish Office or contact Maryse Augseeing on 0467 701 010.

FIRST READING *A reading from the prophet Isaiah 6:1-8*

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings. And they cried out to one another in this way, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. His glory fills the whole earth.' The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke.

I said: 'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of hosts.' Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With this he touched my mouth and said: 'See now, this has touched your lips, your sin is taken away, your iniquity is purged.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: 'Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?' I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) *In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.*

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. (R.) | 3. All earth's kings shall thank you when they hear the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the Lord's ways; 'How great is the glory of the Lord!' (R.) |
| 2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. (R.) | 4. You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. (R.) |

SECOND READING *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 15:1-11*

Brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, the gospel that you received and in which you are firmly established; because the gospel will save you only if you keep believing exactly what I preached to you – believing anything else will not lead to anything. Well then, in the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve.

Next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it. I am the least of the apostles; in fact, since I persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve the name apostle; but by God's grace that is what I am, and the grace that he gave me has not been fruitless. On the contrary, I, or rather the grace of God that is with me, have worked harder than any of the others; but what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 5:1-11*

Jesus was standing one day by the lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Dear friends,

With joy and thanksgiving we gather together to celebrate in advance the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes our Patroness whose feast day is on February 11. In our Masses over this weekend, especially the 9.30AM, we commemorate the event which took place at Lourdes, a town in the southwest of France namely the apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Bernadette Soubirous at the grotto of Massabielle on Thursday February 11, 1858, and Mary revealed herself as the Immaculate Conception whose title became the subject of the dogma declared by Pope Pius IX on 8 December 1854.

Following the first apparition, Mary continued to appear to Bernadette 17 times at the grotto, and on February 24 1858 Bernadette was instructed to bath and drink from a spring that began to flow on the following day. Since then, the water at Lourdes, as we know, has been associated with lot of miraculous healings.

On March 24 Bernadette was asked to initiate the construction of a chapel in honor of the Blessed Virgin. Later on Bernadette entered the Sisters of Charity and Christian Instruction at Nevers in 1865 and died in 1879. She was then beatified in 1925 and canonized in 1933.

It's fair to say that Bernadette was called to join Jesus' discipleship as a religious sister to serve the Lord and the poor in particular and also to bear witness to the divine healing through Our Lady of Lourdes, and her calling could help us reflect well upon the call of Peter, James and John in the Gospel this Sunday in which Jesus, after demonstrating his divine power to help them catch a lot of fish the day after a disappointing night at the sea, invited the trio to leave their fish catching profession and become catchers of men for God, and they happily left both their family and fishing gear and became Jesus' disciples.

Like Peter, James and John in the Gospel and Bernadette of Lourdes, we are called to be Jesus' disciples in the world today and bear witness to him through what we say and do in our daily lives, let us ask the Lord for his guidance to show us what we can do in our specific circumstances, and Our Lady of Lourdes for her support to help us fulfill our call the way most pleasing to Jesus.

Happy Feast Day and have a grace-filled week,

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

PARISH FEAST DAY: FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

We will celebrate our Parish Feast day this weekend, the 8th and 9th of February. Following the Sunday 9.30am Mass there will be a festive celebration in the Parish hall. Please join us for this joyful occasion.

SUNDAY EVENING MASS AT 5PM

From February this year, we begin to have an extra Sunday Mass at 5PM on every third Sunday of the month with the intention to offer an extra opportunity for our parishioners, especially the young ones to attend Mass on Sunday. Our first Sunday Evening Mass will be on 16th February at 5PM.

HOME VISITS

Deacon Thong Nguyen would like to offer his service for home visits and Holy Communion to our local elderly or those who are unable to attend Mass due to illness. Any parishioners who would like to volunteer to join his team in bringing God to the sick and elderly please contact Deacon Thong on 0452210951 or via the parish office.

LOURDES PLAYGROUP

Will be returning for 2025 from Friday 21st February, 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. To attend please register by 3pm the Thursday prior via Facebook search under 'Lourdes Play Group' or contact Maria on 0432 174 056.

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.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENT MASS

Reconciliation and First Communion Enrolment Mass

The Enrolment Mass for parents wishing to enrol their Year 3 (or above) child in the 2025 Sacramental program will be on Sunday 16th February during the 9.30am mass. Parents and children attend this Mass. Please arrive 10-15mins early with your completed enrolment form and contribution.

LOURDES OVER 50s GROUP MEETING

Over 50s meetings return on Thursday 13th February 2025, 10.30am– 1pm. Please bring a plate to share. Look forward to welcoming you back!

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please show your deepest respect for our House of God at Seven Hills by not bringing any food into the church, that includes the crying room. Parents are always encouraged to bring soft toys and crayons for children to work with our weekly bulletin.



*Happy Feast
Day 2025*

*Our Lady of
Lourdes pray for
us.*

DIOCESAN NEWS

Diocesan World Day of Prayer for the Sick: 11 February

A World Day of Prayer for the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Tuesday 11 February 2025 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2025 via parracatholic.org/world-day-prayer-feb11

Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings online gathering: 13 February

"Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings" are quarterly online gatherings for everyone interested in social justice, care for creation, or global peace. They are an opportunity to connect, meet like-minded people, and discuss what's happening in the Peace, Justice & Ecology space. In February, the PJE Sharing will focus on raising the age of criminal responsibility in NSW and Caritas' Project Compassion. You are invited to join Thursday 13 February 2025, 6:30-8:00pm. To receive a zoom link, please RSVP to met@parracatholic.org

Music for Lent Workshop: 13 February

Musicians and Liturgy Planners are invited to attend an evening exploring Music for Lent on Thursday 13 February from 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. The session will be presented by Eric Grella, the Music Formation Facilitator, Mission Enhancement Team. Registrations are essential, please RSVP by 11 February via parracatholic.org/music-workshop

Ambrose Opens Good Shepherd Plumpton Preschool: Enrol Now

Ambrose is excited to announce the official opening of Good Shepherd Plumpton preschool on Thursday, 30th January. Our spacious indoor rooms are filled with resources for play and inquiry-based learning, while the outdoor area offers garden beds, climbing equipment, bike tracks, a sandpit, and more for imaginative play. We're open from 7am – 6pm, welcoming children aged 2 to 5. Limited vacancies available: www.ambrose.org.au/early-learning-good-shepherd-plumpton/

LOLO SAFEGUARDING NEWS

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 15 February

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 15 February at St Monica's Richmond for Cycle 1 (Modules 1-3). More training opportunities will be available throughout February and May. 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

Supporting the Safety of Our Community

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Seven Hills and The Diocese of Parramatta take the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons seriously. This includes past or present forms of abuse. Safeguarding those who are vulnerable is part of the mission that Jesus Christ entrusts to our Church. We all have a role to play in safeguarding those who are vulnerable. Concerns about safeguarding may be referred to Fr Henry, our Parish Priest, or directly to the: Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards Ph (02) 8838 3419 or via Email: safeguarding@parracatholic.org.

FaithLIFE Scripture Short Courses for adults: 12-26 February

Are you looking to read the Bible more in 2025 but don't know where to start? Consider the FREE FaithLIFE Scripture Short Course guided by Scripture scholar, Dr Michele Connolly RSJ. Wednesdays, 12, 19, & 26 February. 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown - Bishop Bede Heather Centre. RSVP via <https://parracatholic.org/faithlife> OR email met@parracatholic.org

Women's Lenten Retreat at Mount Schoenstatt: 21-23 February

Join us at Mount Schoenstatt for a reflective retreat inspired by 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. The retreat runs from 7pm on 21 February to 4pm on 23 February. Costs are \$240 per person for a shared room, \$290 per person for a single room (limited availability), or \$60 per person per day for day attendance. Accommodation and meals are included, or lunch for day attendees.

Register by 12 February by contacting Sr M Elizabeth Foley at bookings@schoenstatt.org.au or 02 4773 8338.

Continue the Marist Spirit at St Patricks: Sunday Feb 23

We invite you to be part of an important conversation on how we can continue the Marist Spirit in St Patricks Church Hill community. With the Marist Fathers set to leave St Patrick's in December 2025 after 157 years, this is an opportunity to reflect on their legacy and explore ways to develop the Marist spirit. Join us for a discussion led by Marist Laity Australia as we discern the future of the Marist presence at St Patrick's. Time 10 am to 11 am in the Crypt of St Patrick's Church Hill. All are welcome! For more information www.maristlaityaustralia.com

Australian Catholic Historical Society 'Tragedy and farce: The Sister Liguori story': 16 February

The next Australian Catholic Historical Society event is on Sunday, 16 February, at 2:00 PM in the crypt of Saint Patrick's, Church Hill. Jeff Kildea, Barrister and Historian, will present *Tragedy and Farce: The Sister Liguori Story*. All are welcome; no charge.

Visit <https://australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/> for details and resources.

Disclosure

If someone tells you directly about abuse, this is known as a disclosure. Disclosure requires a response. An easy way to remember how to respond is the 3 R's – REASSURE, RECORD AND REPORT (THE "3 RS")

REASSURE: They did the right thing to tell you. They have a right to be safe and are not in trouble. You will tell someone who can help.

RECORD: Record anything you are told or what you may observe. Include the date, time, parties involved and sign the record and use the information recorded to report.

REPORT: Report the incident immediately or as soon as practicably possible. Add your name and title to the report. It is important that if you have any concern, you must let your Parish Priest /Coordinator know.

This is really important

– it's not up to you to prove that something is happening

– you only need a reasonable belief to act and as leaders we must do that.

POPE FRANCIS' ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

Today the Gospel of the liturgy (*Lk 2:22-40*) tells us about Mary and Joseph who take the infant Jesus to the Temple of Jerusalem. In accordance with the Law, they present Him in God's dwelling, to recall that life comes from the Lord. And while the Holy Family carries out what was always done among the people of Israel, from generation to generation, something happens that had never occurred before.

Two elders, Simeon and Anna, prophesy about Jesus: they both praise God and talk about the child "to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem" (v. 38). Their heartfelt voices resound among the ancient stones of the Temple, announcing the fulfilment of Israel's expectations. Truly God is present in the midst of His people: not because He dwells within the four walls, but because He lives as a man among men. And this is the novelty of Jesus. In Simeon and Anna's old age, the novelty takes place that changes the history of the world.

For their part, Mary and Joseph were amazed at what they heard (cf. v. 33). Indeed, when Simeon holds the child in his arms, he calls him in three beautiful ways, which are worthy of reflection. Three ways, three names that he gives Him. Jesus is *salvation*, Jesus is *light*; Jesus is a *sign of contradiction*.

First of all, Jesus is *salvation*. Simeon says, praying to God, "my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples" (vv. 30-31). This always leaves us astounded: universal salvation concentrated in just one! Yes, because in Jesus dwells the fullness of God, of His Love (cf. *Col 2:9*).

Second aspect: Jesus is "a *light* for revelation to the Gentiles" (v. 32). Like the sun that rises over the world, this child will redeem it from the darkness of evil, pain and death. How much we need light, this light, even today!

Finally, the child embraced by Simeon is a *sign of contradiction*, "so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (v. 35). Jesus reveals the criterion for judging the whole of history and its drama, and also the life of each one of us. And what is this criterion? It is love: those who love, live; those who hate, die.

Jesus is salvation, Jesus is light, and Jesus is the sign of contradiction.

Enlightened by this encounter with Jesus, we can then ask ourselves: what do I expect in my life? What is my great hope? Does my heart wish to see the face of the Lord? Do I await the manifestation of His plan of salvation for humanity?

Let us pray together to Mary, mother most pure, that she may accompany us through the lights and shadows of history, that she may always accompany us to the encounter with the Lord.

After the Angelus

Dear brothers and sisters!

Today in Italy we celebrate the *Day for Life*, on the theme "*Transmitting life, hope for the world*". I join with the Italian bishops in expressing gratitude to the many families who eagerly welcome the gift of life and in encouraging young couples not to be afraid of bringing children into the world. And I greet the Italian Movement for Life, which is fifty years old. Best wishes!

Tomorrow in the Vatican the international Summit on children's rights will be held, entitled "Love them and protect them", which I have had the joy of promoting and in which I will take part. It is a unique opportunity to bring the most pressing questions regarding the life of the little ones to the centre of the world's attention. I invite you to join in prayer for its success.

And with regard to the primary value of human life, I reiterate a "no" to war, which destroys; it destroys everything, it destroys life and induces us to disregard it. And let us not forget that war is always a defeat. In this Jubilee year, I renew my appeal, especially to Christian governors, to do their utmost in the negotiations to bring all the ongoing conflicts to an end. Let us pray for peace in tormented Ukraine, in Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Myanmar, Sudan and North Kivu.

I greet you all, from Italy and other parts of the world. I greet in particular the faithful of Valencia, Barcelona, and Seville; the students of the "Rodríguez Moñino" of Badajoz, Spain, and those of the "École de Provence" of Marseille; the parish group from Nanterre and those from Poland, Croatia, Bulgaria and India. I greet the young people of the *Immacolata*.

I greet the faithful of Vighizzolo, Seregno and Cologno Monzese, UNITALSI of the diocese of Camerino-San Severino Marche, the Scouts from Nola, and the members of the Serra Club International. I greet the ministrants of the "Regina degli Apostoli" pastoral community of the diocese of Milan.

I wish you all a good Sunday. Please, do not forget to pray for me. Enjoy your lunch, and *arrivederci!*

POPE FRANCIS' AUDIENCE

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. *Jesus Christ our Hope. I. The Infancy of Jesus. 2. "The Annunciation. Mary listens and is willing (cf. Lk 1:26-38)"*

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Today we will resume the catecheses of the Jubilee cycle on *Jesus Christ our hope*.

At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke shows the effects of the transforming power of the Word of God, which reaches not only the halls of the Temple, but also the poor dwelling of a young woman, Mary, who, betrothed to Joseph, still lives with her family.

After Jerusalem, the messenger of the great divine annunciations, Gabriel, is sent to a village never mentioned in the Hebrew Bible: Nazareth. At that time, it was a small village in Galilee, in a remote area of Israel, a border area with the pagans and their contamination.

It is there that the angel brings a message of an entirely unheard-of form and content, so much so that Mary's heart is shaken, disturbed. In the place of the classic greeting, "Peace be with you", Gabriel addresses the Virgin with the invitation "*Hail!*", "*rejoice!*", an appeal dear to sacred history, because the prophets use it when they announce the coming of the Messiah (cf. *Zeph 3:14; Joel 2:21-23, Zec 9:9*). It is the invitation to the joy that the Lord addresses to His people when the exile ends and the Lord makes His living and active presence felt.

In addition, God calls Mary with a loving name unknown in biblical history: *kecharitoméne*, which means "filled with divine grace". Mary is full of divine grace. This name says that God's love has already for some time inhabited, and continues to dwell in Mary's heart. He says how "gracious" she is, and above all how God's grace has accomplished in her an inner engraving, making her His masterpiece: full of grace.

This loving moniker, which God gives only to Mary, is immediately accompanied by reassurance: "Do not be afraid!", "Do not be afraid!": the presence of the Lord always gives us this grace of not fearing, and so He says to Mary: "Do not be afraid!". God says "Do not be afraid" to Abraham, Isaac and Moses in history: "Do not be afraid!" (cf. *Gen 15:1; 26:24; Dt 31:8; Joshua 8:1*). And He says to us too: "Do not be afraid, keep going; do not be afraid!". "*Father, I am afraid of this*"; "*And what do you do when...*". "*I am sorry, Father, I will tell you the truth: I go to the fortune teller*". "*You go to the fortune teller!*". "*Ah yes, I have my palm read...*". Please, do not be afraid! Do not be afraid! Do not be afraid! This is good. "I am your travelling companion": and He says this to Mary. The "Almighty", the God of the "impossible" (*Lk 1:37*) is *with* Mary, together with and beside her; He is her companion, her principal ally, the eternal "I-with-you" (cf. *Gen 28:15; Ex 3:12; Jdg 6:12*).

Then Gabriel announces to the Virgin her mission, making echo in her heart numerous biblical passages referring to the kingship and messianic nature of the child that must be born of her, and that the child will be presented as the fulfilment of the ancient prophecies. The Word that comes from on High calls Mary to be the mother of the Messiah, that long-awaited Davidic Messiah. She is the mother of the Messiah. He will be king, but not in the human and carnal manner, but in the divine, spiritual manner. His name will be "*Jesus*", which means "*God saves*" (cf. *Lk 1:31; Mt 1:21*), reminding everyone forever that it is not man who saves, but only God. Jesus is the One who will fulfil these words of the prophet Isaiah: "It was not an envoy or a messenger, but His presence that saved them [with] His love and pity" (*Is 63:9*).

This motherhood shakes Mary to the core. And as the intelligent woman she is, thus capable of reading into events (cf. *Lk 2:19,51*), she tries to understand, to discern what is happening to her. Mary does not look outside, but within. And there, in the depths of her open and sensitive heart, she hears the invitation to trust in God, who has prepared for her a special "Pentecost". Just as at the beginning of creation (cf. *Gen 1:2*), God wants to nurture Mary with His Spirit, a power capable of opening what is closed without violating it, without encroaching on human freedom; He wants to envelop her in the "clouds" of His presence (cf. *1 Cor 10:1-2*) because the Son lives in her, and her in Him.

And Mary is illuminated with trust: she is "a lamp with many lights". Mary welcomes the Word in her own flesh and thus launches the greatest mission ever entrusted to a woman, to a human creature. She places herself in service: she is full of everything, not like a slave but as a collaborator of God the Father, full of dignity and authority in order to administer, as she will do at Cana, the gifts of divine treasure, so that many will be able to draw from it with both hands.

Sisters, brothers, let us learn from Mary, Mother of the Saviour and our Mother, to let ourselves open our ears to the divine Word and to welcome it and cherish it, so that it may transform our hearts into tabernacles of His presence, in hospitable homes where hope grows. Thank you!

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 February 2025, 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 February. If you would like more information please 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 9.00am-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.

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.

FEBRUARY 2025

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| 13 | Over 50's Meeting | 10.30am |
| 16 | Sacramental Program 2025 Enrolment Mass | 9.30am |
| 16 | Tongan Group Rosary in Parish Meeting Room | 11.00am |
| 19 | 1st Meeting—Sacramental Program | 6.30pm |
| 19 | Baptism Preparation Program | 7.30pm |

LOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

8/9 February

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| Acolytes | Vigil: Darryl Green 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Ramzee Michael | |
| Ministers | Vigil: M. Mifsud, M. Simic 8am: L. Fernandes, J. Irudayaraj 9.30am: A. Walker, B. Chandler | |
| Readers | Vigil: Yxaak & Yxavel Dino 8am: F. Paiva, A. McNally 9.30am: N. Arambulo, B. Motha | |
| Altar Servers | Vigil: A. Monteiro, C. Bellamin, M. Glu- vic 8am: Volunteers 9.30am: L. Sadipoor, J & O Martinez | |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Parish Pastoral Council - Feast Day | |
| Musicians | Vigil: OFS 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir | |
| Flowers | Claudette & Siani | |
| Church Cleaning | 8 Feb | Tongan Community Edgardo Barcelon Edgar Cabrera |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Judith Deloso 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Raul Nigli | |

15/16 February

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| Acolytes | Vigil: Abel Do Rosario 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am: Fayelene Kennedy | |
| Ministers | Vigil: N. Shami, J. Sarmiento 8am: M. Santos, T. Perak 9.30am: E. Miu, G. Basili | |
| Readers | Vigil: R. Saldanha, N. Do Rosario 8am: P. Ferriols, J. Cabasa 9.30am: Z. Smith, E. Pieris | |
| Altar Servers | Vigil: Leonardo, Sebastian & Saoirse Costello 8am: Chris Bellamin & Volunteer 9.30am: Majerin & Jenolin Pieris, K. Cassaniti | |
| Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass) | Flore & Co. | |
| Musicians | Vigil: K. Thoms & C.W 8am: Christine Clarke 9.30am: Maximilian Chorale | |
| Flowers | Fenty & Angela | |
| Church Cleaning | 20 Feb | Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman Edgardo Barcelon |
| Welcomers | Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Sastina Pieris | |

The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 9th, 2025



Luke 5:1-11

Peter had been fishing all night and caught nothing. But when Jesus told him to let the nets down again, they got filled right up! Can you draw enough fish to fill the nets?



Fishing for People

Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" Luke 5:10b (NLT)

The puzzle is based on Luke 5:1-11 (NLT).



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

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|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Peter | people | deep | washing | nets |
| shore | preaching | fishing | boats | Jesus |
| sinking | afraid | Sea | Galilee | fishermen |



On February 11, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the title given to Mary when she appeared to Bernadette Soubirous in 1858 in Lourdes, France.