

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

PARISH OF SEVEN HILLS

"Still a wonderful place to pray & stay."

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. NSW. 2147

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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: 16th April 2025
Baptism: 27th April 2025
Sacrament Co-Ordinator: Mrs Artelle Lenthall
Youth Co-Ordinator: Diana Park
Parish Website: www.olol7hills.org.au
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OLOL7Hills/>

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9 March 2025 • Year C



Let us Pray for the Sick

Florence Arinanan, Sarah Bartolo, Lawrence Charles, Ben Dixon, Alma Caguimbal, Para Dias, Mary Camilleri, Pope Francis, Lucia Fernando, Renuka Fernando, Emily Henebery, Philippe Honore, Lynnda Lim-Huynh, Anthony Janicska, Odette James, Mary Jordan, Klare Kinsley, Paul Leong, Melissa Mead, Blago Milicevic, Zeferino Jayson Morales, Maricar Poblete, Veronica Portelli, Camy Ratnam, Sue Tiplado, 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
 We can also arrange for Holy Communion or a visit if required.

Let us Pray for the Deceased

Recently Deceased: Tricia Batongbacal, Vivienne Cameron, Carmen Cassar, Murial Chary, Blaise Costa, Irene Dassanayaka, Padmini De Seram, Randy De Silva, Sandra Eichhorn, Henrieta Fernando, Rienzie Fernando, Jasmin Fernando, Ethan Garcia, Ricardo Garcia, Gilbert Inoceto, Assad Karam, Nerissa Legaspi, Cynthia Lopez, Richard Monreal, Jennifer Morrissey, Francisca Naorbe, Leo Ngan, Jacintha Noronha, Aida Paguntalan, Etelka Petkovic, Eustace Ratnam, Suranjith Reberra, Joseph Singer, Julius Suseno, Long Thang Tran.

Anniversaries: Mary Alagiah, George Mario Attard, Horace Baptist, Ronald Barley, Romeo Biniahan, Elaine Bosen, Frank & Fortunata Baiada, Denis Brophy, Rosario Cabasa, Catherine Chandra, Aloysean Corera, Mary Camenzuli, Paul Commarmond, Dulcie Duraisamy, John Fernando, Nevis Fernando, MA Fernando, Anthony Garcia, Francisca Garcia, Teodoro Garcia, Zenaida Garcia, Christine Gomez, Josephine Gomez, Manul Jafeth, Gwyn McNally, Marie Marchand, Anton Motha, Xavier Motha Jnr, Paul Mula, Lissy, Jose & Mary Kutty, Jason Muscat, Tony Muscat, Cordula Paiva, Mile Perak, Adrian Pereira, John Portelli, John Ratnam, Cornelio & Iluminada Rondario, Nicholas Saliba, Michael Sant, Mary Silva, Rosary Silva, Marie Tanti, Loreta Laberinto Udan, Melchor Usman, Dionisio Udan.

Remembrance: Neil Amaratunga, France Angseeing, Carmen Attard, Sydney Azie, Lydia, Peter & Helen Bonnici, Marlene Busac, Barrie Chamberlain, Ceferino, Rosario, Renato & Marilyn Cabasa, Fe Licup Carmen, Catarina Camilleri, Dennis Clarke, Myrna Cruz, Saviour Caruana, Tania McGove, Sam & Silvia Debattista, Carmen, Jimmy, Antonia, Tania, Tony, Vicki, Louie, Joe & Launcer De Guire, Gilbert D'Souza, Conception & Dominic D'Souza, Christiansen Dias, Joseph & Camena 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, Charlie Gauci, Selvam Irudayaraj, Harold, Marc, Rosine Lafleur, Sheena Landagan, A. Mansoor, Apolinario & Felina Maglaya, Pauline Meilak, Mary Nichola, Cole Ngan, 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, Peter John & Carmelita, Ngan Pin, Roseline Ratnam, Felcy & Henry Rodrigues, Paulina & Santan Soares, Tony Vassollo, Shane Vaz, Vinnie Zahra.
 **Names 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 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 .

KEEP UP TO DATE

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



FIRST READING *A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 26:4-10*

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and abides in the shade of the Almighty
says to the Lord: 'My refuge,
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' **(R.)**

3. They shall bear you upon their hands
lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread
and trample the young lion and the dragon. **(R.)**

2. Upon you no evil shall fall,
no plague approach where you dwell.
For you has he commanded his angels,
to keep you in all your ways. **(R.)**

4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him;
protect him for he knows my name.
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.'
I will save him in distress and give him glory. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 10:8-13*

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved.

When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 4:1-13*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

The Gospel of the Lord



Dear friends,

With the celebration of Ash Wednesday we have begun the forty-day-long journey of Lent taking us through five Sundays of Lent and leading us to Palm Sunday and finally to the commemoration of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection.

As we walk through these forty days and nights of Lent, we call to mind the forty days and nights Jesus stayed in the wilderness where he had to face both his hunger due to his fast and three different temptations thrown at him by the devil.

Apart from the forty-day spell of Jesus in the desert, the forty days of Lent also takes us back to the time of the Great Flood in Noah's time when God caused the rains to come down upon earth for forty days and nights to purify the world (cf Gen 7.12), and also the forty years that the Israelites were made to wander in the desert as a purifying exercise prior to their settlement in the land God promised them (Dt 8.2-5).

Back to the temptations the devil tried to tempt Jesus with, the first, as we know, has something to do with food, the second with vanity, and the third with power, Jesus effectively used the word of God as his weapon of choice to deal with the devil. Jesus in fact quoted three passages from the book of Deuteronomy (cf 8.3; 6.13; 6.16) to fight back his tempter and successfully chased him away in the end.

On the note of the devil, we remember one of the key points Pope Francis has repeatedly encouraged us not to forget which is about the presence of the devil in our world, and in the book entitled 'On Heaven and Earth' in 2010 he was quoted to say, "I believe that the Devil exists" and "his greatest achievement in these times has been to make us believe that he doesn't exist."

Let us pray today for the grace to make us aware of the real presence of the devil popping up here and there to find opportunities to fail us with money, power and vanity, and we also ask for the strength to resist whatever temptations we are faced with and defeat them as Jesus showed us.

Let us continue to pray for Pope Francis that he will enjoy a quick recovery from the illness and return to complete his works to lead the Church.

Have a temptations-awareness week,

Fr Henry

PARISH NEWS...

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR LENT

- Lent begins from Ash Wednesday.
- In Lent there is no Alleluia at Mass.
- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence for healthy Catholics.
- Lent is a penitential time of prayer, self-denial and helping others.

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 next Sunday Evening Mass will be next weekend 16 March.

LENTEN PROGRAM A FRESH START WITH JESUS

The theme of our Lenten program this year is "Start Anew In Christ". There are two choices for face to face reflection, meeting at 7.15am before Mass on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and 8.15am on Thursday. The other opportunity is to join us online on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 - 8.30pm for a prayerful overview of the weeks readings. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7961550398?omn=82703441237>. Enquiries - Adrian - 0408 649 327

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS 2025

Reconciliation and First Communion

The Sacramental Program for 2025 has now commenced, please keep these children in your prayers during their faith journey. A gentle reminder that the fourth Meeting will be Wednesday the 19th of March at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall, if you miss this, a repeat will follow on the Saturday 22nd March at 4.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

PROGAM PASSPORT SIGNING

All children doing the Sacramental Program this year have received a passport to be signed as they attend Sunday Mass. For those who happen to go to Mass somewhere else, please ask the celebrant there to sign the passport.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during LENT.
Starts Friday 7th March
at 7.30pm.



LENTEN RETREAT FOR ALL

We put our Cars in for Service; Lent is the time for us to put ourselves in for Service! Let's do it! Check your Diary and Come along! Saturday March 15, 2025. Time: 9.30AM- 3PM in the Parish Meeting Room. Lunch will be provided. The Theme is: 'Speak Lord, your servants are listening' This day will be interesting, and too good to miss. Your companion for the day is Fr Kevin Walsh an Experienced Retreat Giver and Missioner. Please RSVP on the clipboard available at the rear of the church or contact the Parish Office.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

Thank you to all those who attended the youth leader team meeting. We decided upon 'The Grotto' as our new official name for the Junior Youth Group which stands for G-games, R-relationships, O-outreach, T-together, T-through, O-Our lady. We invite children aged 9-14yrs old to join us for our first junior meeting on the 16th of March from 3pm-4.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Food Provided.

PROJECT COMPASSION FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet Toefuata'iga from Samoa, Lam from Vietnam and Irene from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413



Positions Vacant

- Administration Assistant: Mission Enhancement Team
- Risk & Compliance Facilitator: Governance, Risk & Compliance

More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Nominations open for the 2025 Papal & Diocesan Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Papal & Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals and groups—both religious and lay—who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 31 May 2025. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/

MET Celebrating Holy Week Liturgies: 11 March

Musicians and Liturgy Planners are invited to attend an evening exploring Music for the Easter Triduum on Tuesday 11 March 2025 from 7pm to 9pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. The session will be presented by Eric Grella, Music Formation Facilitator, Mission Enhancement Team. Registrations are essential, please RSVP online by 6 March <https://parracatholic.org/events/music-easter-triduum/> All enquiries contact ofw@parracatholic.org | 0488 000 211.

Pilgrimage 2025

Fr. Clifford D'souza is inviting you to join him on a pilgrimage to the saints of Portugal, Spain, France and Italy- Fatima, Avila, Loyola, Lourdes, Nevers, Lisieux, Paris, Padova, Assisi and Rome. 31 August-19 September 2025. For more details pls contact Fr. Clifford on cliff_dsouza03@yahoo.com.au or atitours.com.au

Sydney Alliance Federal Pre-Election Assembly: 13 March

Join the Diocese of Parramatta's delegation at the Sydney Alliance Federal Pre-Election Assembly 2025. A great opportunity to experience and showcase our faith in action as this non-partisan assembly invites decision-makers to commit to concrete post-election action on housing and renting, affordable and renewable energy, and climate resilience: 13 March 2025, 5:40pm–7:40pm, Morley Centre, 2 Darcy Rd, Westmead. Register at events.humanitix.com/sydney-alliance-federal-assembly-2025 and please include "Catholic Diocese of Parramatta" and the name of your parish or organisation.

Celebrating Holy Week Liturgies Seminar: 22 March

Acolytes, Ministers at the Altar, Senior Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion are invited to attend this day seminar which will focus on the different Holy Week and Easter Triduum liturgies presented by Mr Chris Ohlsen. Saturday 22 March from 9:30am-3pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Liturgies covered: Palm Sunday, Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. Morning tea and lunch provided.



Global Mission: No age limit!

Ever thought volunteering overseas was beyond you? IT'S NOT. Palms always values our older participants for the wisdom they share in communities!

Palms is celebrating Seniors Week with a special [online session](#) showcasing older volunteers' experience and insights from the mission field. Explore our [opportunities](#) and match your life experience to the experience of a lifetime!

Venue: Online via Zoom- Scan the QR or register at palms.org.au/events

Date: Thursday 27 March 2025

Time: 11 am – 12 pm

02 9560 5333

palms@palms.org.au



LOL SAFEGUARDING NEWS

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 17 & 24 March

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Monday 17 and 24 March at Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill for Cycle 2 (Modules 4 and 5). More training opportunities will be available soon. 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.

Safeguarding the Elderly Project: 13 March

Are you interested in sharing and listening to ideas about how we can meet the needs of older people in our Parish communities? You are invited to 'Share a Cuppa' on Thursday 13 March from 10am-12noon at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Those involved in ministries such as Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Pastoral Care Groups, are invited to share their experiences and reflections. RSVP by Monday 3 March with any dietary requirements to: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org Please contact Maria Kervin (Manager, Prevention, Healing & Support) at: mariakervin@parracatholic.org if you would like more information on hosting such a Morning Tea within your own Parish with your Ministry Team.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 3 May

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Saturday 3 May at Holy Family Emerton for Cycle 2 (Module 4-5). More training opportunities will be available soon. 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





The Holy See Press Office issued the following medical update on Pope Francis' health on Tuesday evening. The Pope is receiving treatment for bilateral pneumonia at Rome's Gemelli Hospital. *"The clinical condition of the Holy Father remained stable today. He did not experience episodes of respiratory failure or bronchospasm. The Pope did not run a fever, and he remained alert, cooperative with therapies, and oriented. This morning, he transitioned to high-flow oxygen therapy and underwent respiratory physiotherapy. As scheduled, tonight he will resume non-invasive mechanical ventilation until tomorrow morning. The prognosis remains guarded.*

"During the day, he alternated between spending time in prayer and at rest, and this morning he received the Eucharist."

Pope Francis' overall clinical condition remains stable, including heart, kidney, and blood values.

The frequency of bronchospasms is not unexpected in the context of pneumonia like that affecting the Pope. However, his health situation remains complex. **Let us continue to pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis so that he will get well very soon and return to lead our Church as its Commander-in-Chief.**

POPE FRANCIS' ANGELUS FROM THE HOSPITAL

Dear brothers and sisters,

In this Sunday's Gospel (*Lk 6:39-45*), Jesus makes us reflect on two of the five senses: *sight* and *taste*. With regard to *sight*, He asks us to train our eyes to observe the world well and to judge our neighbour with charity. He says: "Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye" (v. 42). Only with this gaze of care, not condemnation, can fraternal correction be a virtue. Because if it is not fraternal, it is not correction! With regard to *taste*, Jesus reminds us that "every tree is known by its own fruit" (v. 44). And the fruits that come from man are, for example, his words, which ripen on his lips, since "for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks" (v. 45). Rotten fruits are violent, false, vulgar words; good ones are the just and honest words that give flavour to our dialogues. And so we can ask ourselves: how do I look at other people, who are my brothers and sisters? And how do I feel looked at by others? Do my words have a good flavour, or are they imbued with bitterness and vanity?

Sisters and brothers, I am still sending you these thoughts from the hospital, where as you know I have been for several days, accompanied by doctors and healthcare professionals, whom I thank for the attention with which they are taking care of me. I feel in my heart the "blessing" that is hidden within frailty, because it is precisely in these moments that we learn even more to trust in the Lord; at the same time, I thank God for giving me the opportunity to share in body and spirit the condition of so many sick and suffering people. I would like to thank you for the prayers, which rise up to the Lord from the hearts of so many faithful from many parts of the world: I feel all your affection and closeness and, at this particular time, I feel as if I am "carried" and supported by all God's people. Thank you all! I pray for you too. And I pray above all for peace. From here, war appears even more absurd. Let us pray for tormented Ukraine, Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Myanmar, Sudan and Kivu. Let us entrust ourselves confidently to Mary, our Mother. Happy Sunday, and *arrivederci*.

POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE TO THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR EPISCOPAL CELEBRATIONS

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

I greet the Father Abbot Primate and the Dean of the Pontifical Liturgical Institute, with the professors and students who have attended this second edition of the course for those responsible for episcopal liturgical celebrations. I am pleased to note that you have once again accepted the invitation formulated in the Apostolic Letter *Desiderio desideravi*, continuing to study the liturgy, not only from a theological perspective, but also in the area of celebratory praxis. This dimension touches the life of the people of God and reveals its true spiritual nature (cf. Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen gentium*, 9).

Therefore, the person responsible for liturgical celebrations is not just a teacher of theology; he is not a scribe, who applies the norms; he is not a sacristan, who prepares what is needed for the celebration. He is a teacher placed at the service of the prayer of the community. While humbly teaching the liturgical art, he must guide all those who celebrate, keeping the ritual rhythm and accompanying the faithful in the sacramental event. As a mystagogue, he prepares every celebration wisely, for the good of the assembly; he translates into celebratory praxis the theological principles expressed in the liturgical books (*Caeremoniale Episcoporum*, 9). Thus assisted, the pastor can gently lead the entire diocesan community in the offering of self to the Father, in imitation of Christ the Lord. Dear brothers and sisters, every diocese looks to the Bishop and the Cathedral as celebratory models to be imitated. I urge you, therefore, to propose and foster a liturgical style that expresses the following of Jesus, avoiding unnecessary pageantry or prominence. I invite you to carry out your ministry in discretion, without boasting about the results of your service. And I encourage you to transmit these attitudes to the ministers, lectors and cantors, according to the words of Psalm 115 quoted in the Prologue of the Benedictine Rule: "Not to us, Lord, not to us give the glory, but to your name alone" (cf. nos. 29-30). In all of your tasks, do not forget that care for the liturgy is first and foremost care for prayer, that is, for the encounter with the Lord. When he proclaimed Saint Teresa of Ávila as doctor of the Church, Saint Paul VI defined the mystical experience as a love that becomes light and wisdom: the wisdom of the divine and the human (cf. *Homily*, 27 September 1970). May this great master of spiritual life be an example to you: indeed, to prepare and guide liturgical celebrations means bringing together divine and human wisdom. The first is acquired through prayer, meditation and contemplation; the second comes from study, the commitment to deepen, the ability to listen. To succeed in these tasks, I advise you to keep your eyes on the people, of whom the Bishop is pastor and father: this will help you to understand the needs of the faithful, as well as the forms and ways to promote their participation in liturgical action. Since worship is the work of the whole assembly, the encounter between doctrine and pastoral care is not an optional technique, but a constitutive aspect of the liturgy, which must always be incarnated, inculturated, expressing the faith of the Church. Consequently, the joys and sufferings, the dreams and concerns of the people of God possess a hermeneutical value that we cannot ignore (cf. *Videomessage to the International Congress of Theology at the U.C.A.*, Buenos Aires, 1-3 September 2015). I like to recall, in this regard, what the first dean of the Pontifical Liturgical Institute, Benedictine Abbot Salvatore Marsili, wrote. It was in 1964: with foresight he invited us to become aware of the message of the Second Vatican Council, in the light of which no true pastoral work is possible without liturgy, because the liturgy is the peak to which all the action of the Church tends. (cf. S. Marsili, *Riforma Liturgica dall'alto*, Rivista Liturgica 51 [1964] 77-78).

As I invite you to make these words the fundamental perspective of your ministry, I hope that every one of you will always have at heart the people of God, whom you accompany in worship with wisdom and love. And do not forget to pray for me. *From "Gemelli" Hospital, 26 February 2025*

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. I. The Infancy of Jesus. 8. “Son, why have you done this to us?” (Lk 2:49). The finding of Jesus in the Temple

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

In this last catechesis dedicated to the childhood of Jesus, we will start from the episode in which, at twelve years of age, He stays in the Temple without telling His parents, who are anxiously looking for Him and find Him after three days. This account presents us with a very interesting dialogue between Mary and Jesus, which helps us to reflect on the *path of the mother of Jesus*, a journey that was certainly not easy. Indeed, Mary set out on a spiritual itinerary during which she advanced in her understanding of the mystery of her Son.

Let us look back at the various stages of this journey. At the beginning of her pregnancy, Mary visits Elizabeth and stays with her for three months, until the birth of the little John. Then, when she is now in her ninth month, due to the census she goes with Joseph to Bethlehem, where she gives birth to Jesus. After forty days they go to Jerusalem for the presentation of the child; and they return on a pilgrimage to the Temple every year thereafter. But with Jesus still a baby they had taken refuge in Egypt for a long time to protect Him from Herod, and only after the king's death did they settle again in Nazareth. When Jesus, having become an adult, begins His ministry, Mary is present and a protagonist at the wedding at Cana; then she follows Him “at a distance”, up to His last journey to Jerusalem, and until His passion and death. After the Resurrection, Mary remains in Jerusalem, as Mother of the disciples, sustaining their faith while awaiting the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout this journey, the Virgin is a *pilgrim of hope*, in the strong sense that she becomes the “daughter of her Son”, the first of His disciples. Mary brought into the world Jesus, Hope of humanity; she nourished Him, made Him grow, followed Him, letting herself be the first to be shaped by the Word of God. As Benedict XVI said, “We see how completely at home Mary is with the Word of God ... we see how her thoughts are attuned to the thoughts of God, how her will is one with the will of God. Since Mary is completely imbued with the Word of God, she is able to become the Mother of the Word Incarnate” (Encyclical *Deus caritas est*, 41). This unique communion with the Word of God does not however save her the effort of a demanding “apprenticeship”.

The experience of twelve-year-old Jesus going missing during the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem frightens Mary to the point that she also speaks for Joseph as they take their son back:

“Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety” (*Lk 2:48*). Mary and Joseph felt the pain of parents with a missing child: they both thought that Jesus was in the caravan with their relatives, but after not seeing Him for an entire day, they began the search that would lead them to retrace their steps. Upon returning to the Temple, they discover that He who, in their eyes, until a short time before, was still a child to protect, suddenly seems grown up, capable now of getting involved in discussions on the Scriptures, of holding His own with the teachers of the Law.

Faced with His mother's rebuke, Jesus answers with disarming simplicity: “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” (*Lk 2:49*). Mary and Joseph do not understand: the mystery of God made child exceeds their intelligence. The parents want to protect that precious son under the wings of their love; instead, Jesus wants to live His vocation as the Son of the Father who is at His service and lives immersed in His Word.

Luke's *infancy narratives* thus close with Mary's final words, which recall Joseph's paternity towards Jesus, and with Jesus' first words, which recognize that this paternity traces His origins from that of His heavenly Father, whose undisputed primacy He acknowledges.

Dear brothers and sisters, like Mary and Joseph, full of hope, let us also set out in the footsteps of the Lord, who does not allow Himself to be contained by our precepts, and allows Himself to be found not so much in a place, but in the response of love to the tender divine paternity, a response of love that is filial life.

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 March 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 March, 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.

MARCH 2025		
12	St Joseph Novena Mass	7.00pm
13	Over 50's Meeting	10.30am
14	Stations of the Cross	7.30pm
15	Lenten Retreat	9.30am-3.00pm
19	4th Meeting—Sacramental Program	6.30pm

OLOL MINISTRY ROSTER

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

8/9 March		
Acolytes	Vigil: Frank Paiva 8am: Louis Fernandes 9.30am: Ramzee Michael	
Ministers	Vigil: N. Shami, B. Motha 8am: L. Fernandes, T. Perak 9.30am: M. Aquino, M. Michael	
Readers	Vigil: Yxaak & Yxavel Dino 8am: M. Santos, P. Ferriols 9.30am: E. Pieris, N. Arambulo	
Altar Servers	Vigil: Julian & Orlando Martinez, C. Bellamin 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: K. Cassaniti, Jenolin & Majerin Pieris	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Young Adults Group	
Musicians	Vigil: OFS 8am: Fr Henry 9.30am: Tongan Choir	
Flowers	Claudette & Siani	
Church Cleaning	8 March	Tongan Community Edgardo Barcelon Edgar Cabrera
Welcomers	Vigil: Volunteer 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Edgardo Barcelon	

15/16 March		
Acolytes	Vigil: Derick Soares 8am: Terry Jordan 9.30am: Ryan Epondulan	
Ministers	Vigil: D.Green, R.Soaes 8am: B.Mohta, F.Paiva 9.30am: E.Miu, C.Brooks	
Readers	Vigil: C.Rodrigues, A.Punch 8am: J.Irudayaraj, A.McNally 9.30am: C.Diaz, A. Hye Rin Han	
Altar Servers	Vigil: A.Bagatella, S.Thoms, K.Maruthanayagam 8am: H.Winter 9.30am: A.Melki, C.Attard	
Morning tea (after 9.30am Mass)	Parish Pastoral Council	
Musicians	Vigil: K.Thoms & Chris Woodward 8am: Christine Clarke 9.30am:	
Flowers	Fennie & Angela	
Church Cleaning	20 March	Cathy Hutchings Annette Peatman Edgardo Barcelon
Welcomers	Vigil: Ram Urge 8am: Volunteer 9.30am: Kathy Chamberlain	

The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Lent
March 9th, 2025

The Temptation of Christ

When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. Luke 4:13 (NIV)

Based on Luke 4:1-13



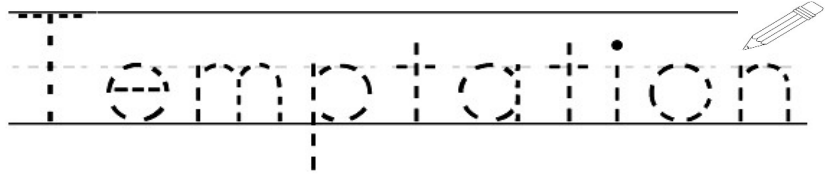
Luke 4:1-13

Jesus spent 40 days in the desert preparing for His work. During Lent we spend 40 days getting ready to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection.

Can you find your way into the desert to be with Jesus?

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

DESERT	ANGELS	WORSHIP	HUNGRY	KINGDOMS
TEMPTED	DEVIL	JORDAN	AUTHORITY	BREAD
SPIRIT	JERUSALEM	COMMAND	FORTY	STONE
LIVE	DAYS	WORLD	TEMPLE	HOLY



Choose the word that best matches the definition.

1. A heavenly being, often shown as a human figure with a halo and wings
A. star B. cloud C. sun D. angel
2. A food made of flour and water, shaped into loaves, and baked
A. meat B. bread C. fruit D. gravy
3. To try to get someone to do wrong
A. love B. praise C. tempt D. lie
4. The evil ruler of Hell, and enemy of God
A. angel B. prophet C. man D. devil
5. To show a strong feeling of love and respect for God
A. tempt B. disobey C. worship D. fear
6. To feel a need or desire for food
A. thirst B. tired C. hungry D. sleepy
7. The entire Earth and all the places and things on it
A. heaven B. world C. sky D. country
8. A small rock
A. boulder B. stone C. sand D. mountain