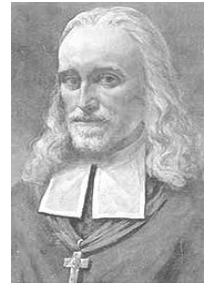




# St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

## HARRIS PARK



**Website:** [www.stoliversharrispark.org.au](http://www.stoliversharrispark.org.au)  
**Postal Address:** PO Box 9394 Harris Park NSW 2150  
**Office Address:** 35 Wigram St, Harris Park NSW 2150  
**Tel:** (02) 9637 1062 **Email:** [stoliva@bigpond.net.au](mailto:stoliva@bigpond.net.au)

### 25 December 2018 - The Nativity of the Lord

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Chris de Souza PP  
**Parish Secretary:** Lilia Tolentino

**School Principal:** Barbara Young  
**School Tel:** (02) 8633 8300

#### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:** 8:00 am  
**Friday:** 9:15 am

#### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**Saturday:** Vigil 5:30 pm **Sunday:** 8:00 am & 10:00 am  
**OFFICE CLOSED TILL 24 JANUARY 2019**

**Please note: 7 am Masses and Holy Hour finished on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November and will resume on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2019.**

#### Sacraments @ St Oliver's

**Reconciliation,** : Please contact the parish office to make an appointment.

#### **Baptism, Marriage and Funerals**

Please contact the Parish Office for information and bookings

#### **RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

Thinking about becoming a Catholic? Do you know someone who may be interested in exploring the Catholic faith? Contact the Parish Office for more details on joining the RCIA program.

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

##### Midnight Mass:

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.  
It is I who have begotten you this day.

##### Day Mass:

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

##### Midnight Mass:

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

##### Day Mass:

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

#### CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

*"Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year".*

This is the most common greeting at this time of the year. Even when we don't always feel it, most of us summon up the strength to express it in our engagement with each other. It's what is expected, what is customary. However for us, who call ourselves Christians, Christmas is a time of great Joy which spills over into all aspects of our lives because, as Christians, we acknowledge that we are never alone, never without the presence of the living God, for on this day, in the words of the angel, "a Saviour has been born for us and He is Christ the Lord". His name is "Emanuel", which means God is with us.

Our God is with us in good times and in bad times; in season and out of season. God is with us wherever we are. Our God is always trying to remind us, all of us, that we are made in His image and likeness and that His image and likeness is love. As scripture tells us: "God loved the world so much that He sent His only Son into the world, not to condemn it, but that through Him all will be saved". (Jn. 3:16). So as believing Christians in the Catholic faith we try to celebrate this great and generous act of God in three ways.

Firstly, we celebrate with thankfulness that the Lord is with us. Secondly, we celebrate with faith, that whatever hardships we may have to endure, God is with us and He will bring all things to their good. Finally, we share our great faith and hope in His love for all creation by wishing everyone a 'very Happy and blessed Christmas and a truly Joy filled New Year'.

From all of us in the Parish Office at St Oliver's at Harris Park to all our Parishioners and Visitors, we wish every blessing in this Holy Season. Let us work together in the New Year to spread and live this Christmas joy every day and to everyone.

#### Happy Christmas,

Fr Chris de Souza PP.



*Please pray for those who are sick, recently deceased, have an anniversary at this time and all those for whom you have a special intention.*

**Deceased:** Joseph Boulous | Jeanette Coorey | Queenie Nicholas | Maurice Coorey Coorey, Norman, Budwee & Nicholas Families | David (Dib) & Theresia Romanos Romanos Family | Tony & Samira Abood & their Family | Fred Betros Family Constanton Family | Namtallah & Patrick Malkoun | Samiha Frome

**Anniversary:** Michael Moses | Grraham Fear | Norman Coorey  
(Envelopes for Mass Intentions are available at the church or please contact or visit the parish office if you have any request for mass offerings or home/hospital visits for the sick.)

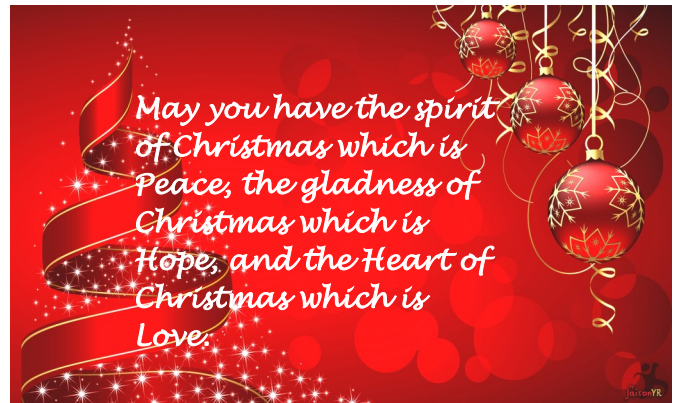
**During the Christmas Holiday Closure, we will not be able to update the bulletin with Mass Intentions and other new notices. We would like to wish the entire St. Oliver's Community a happy and holy Christmas and New Year.**

### Plenary Council Prayer

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.  
Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.  
O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia  
and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.  
Give us the grace to see your face in one another  
and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.  
Give us the courage to tell our stories  
and to speak boldly of your truth.  
Give us ears to listen humbly to each other  
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.  
Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,  
that we may live the joy of  
the Gospel.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
bread for the journey from age to age.  
Amen.*



Plenary Council 2020  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...



### 2018 Christmas Mass & Reconciliation Times: St Oliver's Harris Park

#### Mass times

Monday, 24 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve	6:30 pm
Midnight, Starting with Singing (Carols)	11:30 pm
Tuesday, 25 <sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Day	8:00 am
	10:00 am

**Thank You for Showing the Compassionate Face of Christ to Homeless Young Mothers and children in crisis**  
Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation, CatholicCare and Houses to Homes thank you for supporting the Bishop's Christmas Appeal. Thanks to your kind-hearted generosity, Houses to Homes can provide more homeless mothers with the shelter, support, independent living and parenting skills programs they desperately need. Please pray for the wellbeing of all mothers and children in Houses to Homes' care. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal)



### VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank you all for your kindness, generosity and continued support in 2018, especially during this Christmas season. SVdP pray for God's blessing upon you and your loved ones.

### PARISH READING ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK, 29 / 30 DECEMBER:

Saturday	5:30 pm	Maria Lawton / Stuart Walker
Sunday	8:00 am	Katherine Katrib / Julee Wilson
Sunday	10:00 am	Seminarians

### PARISH CLEANING ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK, 29 / 30 DECEMBER:

◆ UDC YOUTH  
Thank you and God bless.

### CHRISTMAS 2018 MASS TIMES

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation times across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains can be found by visiting: [www.parracatholic.org](http://www.parracatholic.org)

### TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Submissions to Plenary Council 2020 close on Ash Wednesday, 6 March 2019. YOUR voice matters! Make a personal submission now or join a small group. Our question is for everyone: "What you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" To make a submission or to find out more visit: <https://parracatholic.org/haveyoursayplenary2020/>

### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY: 29 DECEMBER

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite family and youth (age 18-35) to join us for a Celebration Vigil for the Feast of the Holy Family. Saturday 29 December 2018 at 3:00pm. Join us also for pizza at 5:30pm. 116-132 Quakers Road, Marayong. RSVP to Sr Paula by 27 December via [vocationsfn@gmail.com](mailto:vocationsfn@gmail.com) or 0449 656 406.

### ST OLIVER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL Wigram Street, Harris Park

We are accepting enrolments for all classes in 2019. Please contact the school office on (02) 8633 8300.