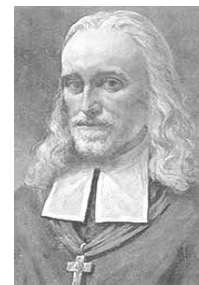




St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

HARRIS PARK



Website: www.stoliversharris.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

29 December 2019 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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

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

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday, 30th December 8:00 am
(This is the last weekday mass until it resumes in January 2020, date to be advised)

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday: Vigil 5:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Office will be closed on 23 December 2019 until 27 January 2020

PLEASE NOTE: The 7am Mass finished on the 15th of November and will resume on the 24th of February 2020.

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.

Baptism: held every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month within the mass.

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

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

Luke 2:16

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

Baruch 3:38

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...



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, itself subject to the difficulties and social pressures of its time, is offered as a model for Christian family life today.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A READER AT MASS?

If you have been thinking of becoming one of the readers at mass, you can email your name and preferred mass time to Jim Hanna on jimhanna@bigpond.com.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEER CLEANERS

Every weekend, a group of kind-hearted people give their time and make a devoted effort to keep our church clean, tidy and beautiful in the spirit of serving God and helping our parish. God bless you always.

PARISH READING ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK: 4/5 JANUARY

Saturday 5:30 pm Tram Nguyen / Jim Hanna
Sunday 8:00 am Anne Haddad / Joseph Karam
Sunday 10:00 am Seminarians



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: Al Palmer | Henry Moon, Judith, Dorothy | Joseph Boulous | Maria Muoi | Peter Thanh Arthur Moses | 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 Ray Malkoun | Namtallah & Patrick Malkoun | Samiha Frome | Holy Souls in Purgatory especially for those who have no one praying for them

Anniversary: Michael Moses | Eduardo Hermogenes

Sick: All the Sick especially those who are sick in our community

Thanksgiving: Roshan, Ashitha, Keith, Kiara Royan

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 visit for the sick.

Christmas Message from Fr Chris

Dear Parishioners and Visitors to St Oliver's,

Every good wish and blessing to you and all whom you love in this most Holy and Joyful season of Christmas. At this time of the year we remember that the all-powerful God was made present to us in the vulnerability of a new born child. God came to be with us not in power over us but in strength for us. The strength of God's Love. Jesus came to be one like us "in all things but sin" to show us that nothing can separate us from His Love. Belief in this great gift, Grace, prompts us to celebrate not only in this season but in all the seasons of our lives. This is because the Christmas event was not just a historical event but a Divine promise that is realised through the eyes of faith every day. It gives us Hope. To live in this Hope by Faith is the challenge. God is always with us even when it is hard to recognise God's presence. But God is always there encouraging us to life in all its fullness and to love with all our hearts no matter what the consequences may be. This promise is for all people and is unconditional.

Believing in this great mystery prompts us to try and act in the same unconditional way to others. To stand up in solidarity with the weak and vulnerable, the poor and the marginalised, the saint and the sinner. To stand against the powerful and the oppressive, the extremist and the prejudicial, the zealot and the bigot. The God of Christmas is for all and at all times, all we need to do is open our hearts and minds to God's Faith, Hope and Love in us and try and put it into action.

From all at the parish office and on behalf of Fr John Hogan, the Rector of Holy Spirit Seminary and all the staff and students of the Seminary, a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Fr Chris PP

BISHOP VINCENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Bishop Vincent's Christmas message can be viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zqtMPFd06Y4> or www.parracatholic.org

Happy Christmas from Bishop Vincent and the Diocese of Parramatta

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS:

11 FEBRUARY 2020

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick will be celebrated in the Diocese of Parramatta on Tuesday 11 February 2020 at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, St Patrick's Church, Blacktown at 10.30am. The Mass will include the Sacramental Rite of Anointing of the Sick and Prayers for Healing. Please RSVP to Marisa VanderHout on (02) 8838 3460 or marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org to assist with seating and catering.

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE

It is with sadness that the 2020 Epiphany Pilgrimage has been cancelled in light of the current fire situation in the Blue Mountains. We continue to keep all those affected by the fires in our thoughts and prayers and give thanks for the tireless efforts and generosity of the firefighters. There are discussions about a possible mid-year pilgrimage (July school holidays with dates TBC), with relevant information to be posted to <http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org/> as plans take shape.

CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE

Government-funded Home Care Packages. Catholic Healthcare's local Care Advisors can work with you to create a customised support plan. Their in-home services include gardening, shopping, meal preparation, transport and nursing. Get a quote on 1300 734 350

ST BERNADETTE'S LALOR PARK WEDNESDAY EVENING DEVOTIONS

St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park, is hosting weekly devotions to Mary Immaculate and St Bernadette and Adoration of the Blessed Sacraments every Wednesday evening at 7pm, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. All are welcome. For more information, contact the parish office on 02 9672 4037 or admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au

UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS ADORATION CHAPEL

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish in the Upper Blue Mountains has opened an Adoration Chapel at St Canice's Church, Katoomba. If you would like further information or would like to sign up for a weekly hour of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, please call the parish office on 02 4782 2804.