

# 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) 88638801 Email: [harrispark@parracatholic.org](mailto:harrispark@parracatholic.org)



10 November 2024 | Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let my prayer come into your presence.  
Incline your ear to my cry for help,  
O Lord.

Cf. Ps 87:3

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread.  
Cf. Lk 24:35



### **Weekday Mass Times**

**Tuesday to Friday: 7:00 am**

### **Weekend Mass Times**

**Saturday: Vigil 5:30pm**

**Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am**



**Administrator:** Fr Paul Marshall

**School Principal:** Pascale Rone

School Tel: (02) 8633 8300

**Parish Secretary:** Lilia Tolentino

Tel: (02) 88638801

### OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday & Friday: 10:00 am. - 3:00 pm

Wednesday: 8:00 am - 12:30pm

### Sacraments @ St Oliver's

**For Baptism, Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Marriage and Funerals**, please ring or email the parish office for assistance.

## Risking all for Christ- The Widow's mite

We give thanks to the extended Hanna family, relatives, friends and our dedicated women and team from Our Lady of Lebanon church at Harris Park, who last Sunday, were up at 5.00am to bake bread for our St. Oliver parish fund-raiser at our 8.00am and 10.00am Masses. One lady, 91, drove herself from Thornleigh to mix the dough and bake the bread! *Surely, a present-day widow who put in everything she had!* Our venture raised \$5,000 for the parish! Thank you everyone for your generosity. Two asylum-seeker families with children who struggle to put food on the table and pay rent were beneficiaries of this fundraiser receiving \$1000 each to assist with power bills and groceries. The two families were thrilled to receive this help! ...which leads into our gospel message for today: According to St. Ambrose, 'God does not consider what one gives but what one keeps.' Could it be that we give too little and keep too much?

**The Widow's Mite:** According to the Mishnah (Shekalim VI. 6)- an ancient Jewish text- there were 13 trumpet-shaped receptacles that stood up against the wall of the Court of Women that functioned to gather the gifts of the faithful for the temple treasury. As Jesus and his disciples sat and watched the comings and goings of those offering their gifts of support, they observed many wealthy worshipers placing significant sums into the temple treasury. But it was not until Jesus observed the tiny gift of two *lepta* (equivalent to a couple of pennies), given by a poor widow, that He was moved to comment on the proceedings. It was not the woman's poverty that made her gift significant for Jesus. For Him, it was the fact that this widow, alone among all the contributors lined up to give their offerings, gave her all. The very rich put in much, and the moderately well-off put in a decent amount. But all those who had gone before this widow had limited their giving by holding back a major portion of their money for their own use. This widow stood alone as the one who had turned over, as an offering to God for His use, everything she had -- two *leptons*. Those two, almost worthless coins represented her last shred of security, her fragile thread of hope for the future. With all her concern for being an obedient servant of God, the widow gave all she had as an offering -- even her future -- for the sake of God. In other words, she gave herself totally into God's hands with the sure conviction that He would give her the support she needed.

## Activities

### **Diocesan Advent Week Scripture Reflection Evening: 26 November**

In what way would you say I'm 'awaiting' God's presence this Advent? How do I see myself in Advent Scripture stories this year? Register for the Diocesan Advent Scripture Reflection Evening with Dr Michele Connolly RSJ on Tuesday 26 November 2024 – 6:30PM to 8:30pm. RSVP via [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

### **Calix Society: 12 Step Recovery and Catholic Spirituality**

Are you or a loved one troubled by addiction or alcoholism? The Calix Society is a way to recovery that incorporates 12 Step recovery and Catholic Spirituality. Sydney Unit meets Monthly at St Joseph, Enfield. Mass (5:30pm) and "About Calix" talk (6:30 - 7:30pm). We also meet weekly via zoom and have an annual retreat. Contact: Tim 0401 600 422 or Kevin 0435 668 382 or [calixsydney@outlook.com](mailto:calixsydney@outlook.com). See: <https://www.calixsociety.org/>

**We welcome Izzak Haleluka to our faith community who received the Sacraments of Initiation on 10 November 2024**



<https://saint-anthony.org/event/rcia-sacraments-of-initiation-session-1/>

### **Confirmation Program has commenced:**

Next meeting 13 Nov Confirmation lessons at 5.00pm at St. Oliver's primary school. The Sacrament will be celebrated on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00am Mass

### **Prayers for Deacon Menard:**

Please continue to pray for Deacon Menard as he prepares for his priesthood ordination on 21 November 2024

### **Seminarians on Retreat 10th – 15th November**

Parramatta seminarian begin their retreat this week with Bishop David Walker at East Kurrajong.

Please pray for them.

### **A call for Singers and musician for Advent and Christmas**

We are looking for singers / Musicians / Power point operators to assist during the Christmas, New Year period. Please see Fr. Paul or Fr. John.

## Parish Updates

### **FAMILY MASS**

Our next Family Mass involving our School families and, by extension, to all our extended parish families will be on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00am. Let's make it a family re-union time in thanksgiving to God for the past year and make a special effort to invite those of our families not usually at Mass to come along and extend a welcoming hand to them. We come together to unite in our faith and to pray for peace and good-will within our families and for our world family. Let it be a door to Advent and Christmas.

### **NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS**

Beginning with All Saints' Day on Friday, the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, all masses celebrated at St Oliver's in November will be offered for all those who have died. The names of the deceased will not be published in the bulletin during the month of November. As has been customary for our parish, there will be a book of remembrance which will be placed at the altar during all masses in November. Please use the November mass offering envelopes to submit the names of your departed loved ones that you would like to be entered in the Book of Life. A suitable offering for November masses is \$20, as recommended by the ACBC. However, please, remember that all names of your departed friends and family will be recorded in the Book of Life regardless of the donation you make or not make.

### **NEXT PARISH READING ROSTER: 9/10 NOVEMBER**

Saturday 5:30 pm Reema & Nelton D'Souza

Sunday 8:00 am Anthony Melham | Katherine Katrib

10:00 am Nick Tagnipis | Monica Officer

## Diocesan Notices

### From the Pastoral Plan 2024-2028: Behold, I Am With You Always

“Synodality is built on mutual listening, compassion without judgement, and a desire to understand and even celebrate differences. A synodal faith community knows itself to be imperfect and so fosters respectful listening, especially to the voices that have been marginalised or excluded. A Synodal Church cannot exist when unilateral decisions are made without adequate communal consultation and discernment, regardless of who is making the decision. What structures in the local community and training will be necessary to enhance communal decision-making for a Synodal Church?” (Pg. 51-52, Pastoral Plan). Explore how we can listen and discern together: [www.parracatholic.org/synodality](http://www.parracatholic.org/synodality).

### Free Theology books: Clearing of Bishop Bede Heather Centre library

As the Bishop Bede Heather Centre will be undergoing renovations, the library books are available for collection, free of charge. There are many books in all categories – biblical studies, philosophy, ethics, spirituality, ministry, homiletics, parish renewal, liturgy, sacraments and MORE. You are welcome to visit on the following days, from 10 AM to 4 PM: Wednesday 6 November, Tuesday 12 November and Friday 22 November. Contact [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) for more information.

### Annual Mass for Deceased Clergy: 19 November

The Diocese of Parramatta invites you to the annual Mass for our Deceased Clergy on Tuesday 19 November at 9.00am at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys, followed by prayers at the gravesites of clergy buried in St Marys Cemetery. All are welcome to attend and give your gift of prayer to those whose lives were dedicated to bringing us all closer to Christ. We encourage **each parish to offer a Mass for the deceased priests who have served in your own parish**, to unite in prayer for this special intention.



## Our Community

### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

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

### For Home Visits

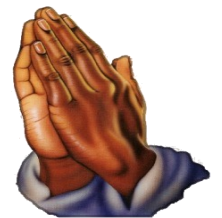
Is there anyone you know who is in need of visitation in the parish area of Harris Park? Please inform Fr Paul and Fr John or contact the parish office and let us know of their situation, location and need



*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.*

**Recently Deceased:** Martha Hanna (Fr Paul Hanna Sister) | Fr. Vince Redden | Ignatius Lasarado | All those who died recently, especially those who used to be part of this parish community as parishioners or relations of our parishioners

**Deceased:** Peter Tri Tran | Isaac Moses | Rachael Sumagui; Artemio, Abraham, Augustus, Rebecca & Tranquilina Patacsil, Yolanda & Donald Muir | Rizcullah & Patricia Coorey & family; Jabour & Doura Nicholas; Queenie & Nicholas Nicholas; Namtullah & Christine Coorey; Saidie & Joseph Coorey; Kevin Coorey; All deceased members of the Nicholas, Coorey, Budwee and Norman families | Joe & Clare Boulous | Isaac & Ruby Moses | Namtallah & Patrick Malkoun | Frank & Ray Malkoun | Romanos Malkoun | Samiha Frome | David (Dib) & Theresia Romanos | Romanos Family | Pamela Romanos | Evelyn Betros | Tony & Samira Abood & their Family | Fred Betros Family | Constanton Family | All Holy Souls in Purgatory especially for those who have no one praying for them



**Anniversary:** Mories Jabre | George Adob Lattouf | Joy Antony Varavumkal | Molly Toy | Pantaleon Jimenez | For all those whose anniversaries occur around this time

**Sick:** Virginia, Agnes, Napoleon, Jorge, Manuel & Joaquin Patacsil, Elizabeth & Michael Perez, Naty & Maria Aurora Degamo, Erwin Ayuste, Neil Patacsil | All the Sick especially those who are sick in our parish community



# Mass Readings

## FIRST READING

1 King 17:10-16

### A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,

jug of oil shall not be emptied,

before the day when the Lord sends

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

### The Word of the Lord

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
Who is just to those who are oppressed.

It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
The Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
Who raises up those who are bowed down.

It is the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger. **R.**

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 7:23-28

### A reading from the letters to the Hebrews

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began.

Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

### The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3

### Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

### Alleluia!

## Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

### A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.' He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

### The Gospel of the Lord.