

St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

Harris park

Website: 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



17 November 2024 | Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Jer 29: 11, 12, 14

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

Ps 72:28



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.

The Heavens and Earth as we know them are passing away

Our Gospel this weekend is hauntingly *cosmic* in its character: Jesus says to us, "In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken." We sometimes forget that God is the Creator of the universe and has the power to shake up the cosmos. When we turn our electric lights on at night, we forget there is a Milky Way universe in the night sky above us.

In our world, we have become the masters of technology, and we have displaced the cosmos to the peripheries of reality. By displacing the cosmos to the peripheries of reality, we have also displaced faith.

So, how do we re-vitalise faith?

How do we face into conspiracy theories with our faith?

How do we present Truth in Christ?

Is it time to expand our concept of Christ?

We constantly pray to God to make order of our chaotic lives, but what if God is stirring our world into a new and more profound reality? The fig tree putting out leaves, the sun being darkened, the powers in heaven being shaken show that life is not meant to be nice, neat and controlled, but that we constantly live on the edge between order and disorder – between floods and bushfires, between war and peace.

As Christians today one of the weapons we have over disorder and chaos is the maxim of God that "I am doing new things among you." What new things? One of the new things which is really an old thing in the Church but with a new name is Synodality. In a world with so many man-made answers, synodality says "Stop, Listen, Listen deeply, really try to understand the other, and discern creative ways forward in collaborative decision-making in and amongst all our diversity." We live in the midst of chaotic love, and we are called to trust, hope, and endure, for from the heart of chaos God is doing new things.

Activities

Confirmation Program:

The Sacrament will be celebrated on Sunday, 24th November (Christ the King) at 10.00 am mass.

Table Talk: “Disability – Unemployment – Seeking Asylum: Navigating Multiple Challenges in Australia”

Many people in our communities struggle to find work due to a disability, their status as people seeking asylum, or even both. Challenges multiply where several factors of disadvantage overlap.

You are invited to this final Diocesan Table Talk for 2024. Hear and discuss powerful stories from people affected by overlapping challenges. Participate in meaningful small group conversations and learn how you can play a part in creating positive change: 28 November 2024, 6:00pm – 8:30pm, Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. A light dinner will be served on arrival. Find our more and register at parracatholic.org/pjetabletalk

A call for Singers and Musician for Advent and Christmas

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

DEACON MENARD’S ORDINATION TO PRIESTHOOD

In his time as a seminarian at Harris Park, Menard has contributed marvellously to the parish in our needs for music ministry, altar serving and hospitality. He continues a marvellous pastoral ministry at his current parish of St John XXIII at Stanhope Gardens.

Come and join our Community and Menard’s joy for his Ordination to the Priesthood at 7.30pm this Thursday 21st November at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Parramatta.

MET Annual Bishop Vincent Vatican II Lecture: 20 November

You are invited to Bishop Vincent’s annual lecture on Vatican II on Wednesday 20 November, 6:30pm – 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown, cnr Flushcombe Road. Register for limited seating via <https://parracatholic.org/events/vatican-ii-lecture/> for more information contact met@parracatholic.org

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 17th 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 1st 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: 23/24 NOVEMBER

Saturday 5:30 pm Kristine Alba + Olivia Estebeiro

Sunday 8:00 am Seini + Ipolito Lasalo

10:00 am Patricia and Christian Armao

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.

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.

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

Epiphany Pilgrimage and Fiesta: 2-9 January 2025

Commit the first fruits of your new year to Christ with the 2025 Epiphany Pilgrimage. Enjoy 7 days of bushwalking, fellowship and prayer as we journey from Emu Plains to the top of the Blue Mountains, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of parish communities along the way. Day 1 is a family-friendly day, with the option for a children's pilgrimage finishing with the Finnies Fiesta at St Finbars, Glenbrook. For more information and to register for all or part of the journey, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org

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. 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 for more information.

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.



Mass Intentions Of The Week

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: Kim Taejong | Phillip Wise | 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: During the month of November, the names of the deceased will be in the Book of Life and all masses celebrated at St Oliver's will be offered for all those who have died.

Anniversary: For all those whose anniversaries occur around this time

Sick: Rosalinda M. Javier | 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

Special Intention: John Patacsil | For all our special intentions and for those who have asked us for prayers

Thanksgiving: For all our blessings and prayers for thanksgiving

To our parishioners who would like to request for a home or hospital visit for the sick, please call the parish office on (02) 8863 8801 or email harrisark@parracatholic.org. For mass offerings or special intentions, you may use the envelopes provided at the church foyer.

FIRST READING

Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel

‘At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.’

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15(16):5,8-11

R. Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.

I keep the Lord ever in my sight;
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.

For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:11-14,18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite

incapable of taking sins away. He, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place forever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and pray constantly,
that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 13:24-32

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

‘Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.’

The Gospel of the Lord.