

St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

Harris park



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19 January 2025 | Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

Psalm 65:4

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us.

1 John 4:16



Weekday Mass Times Resume
Tuesday 4th February 2025

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.

Gospel Reflection – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19th January

New dreams begin to be realised as we begin the story of Jesus.

Today's Gospel is John's account of Jesus' first great "sign": the transformation of water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana. For the churches of the East, the miracle at Cana is the fourth great event of the Lord's Epiphany or manifestation to the world (the first three: his birth at Bethlehem, the adoration of the magi, and his baptism at the Jordan by John). Despite Jesus' protestations to his mother, his time as Messiah is now upon the world (at least Mary has no doubt).

Cana brings together two important scriptural symbols that point to the Messiahship of Jesus:

Wine in abundance was considered a sign of the Messianic age to come, one example: Isaiah 54: 5-14, Reading 4 for the Easter Vigil). The water in the six large stone jars used for the ritual washings prescribed by the first covenant is transformed by Jesus into wine, prefiguring the new covenant to be sealed in Jesus' blood (which we celebrate in the wine of the Eucharist).

The limitless love of God for his people is exalted throughout Scripture in the image of *marriage*. Today's first reading from Isaiah (62: 1-5) is a beautiful example of this tradition; in the Gospels, Jesus refers to himself as "the Bridegroom" who comes to bring his people to the wedding feast of the Father. The love between spouses is the strongest (if still imperfect) image we have to understand the depth of God's love for his holy people.

The evangelist John pulls together these two powerful Messianic symbols of wine and marriage to introduce the public ministry of Jesus, the long-awaited Messiah. Cana is the first sign that God has begun something new in the midst of his "Delight" and "Espoused." God's time has come to dream new dreams – hope that transforms hurt into reconciliation, despair into confidence, alienation into community.

Compassionate God,
may we dare to hope in your mercy and compassion.

Let your grace and wisdom enlighten our vision
and open our hearts to dream your dream of justice and reconciliation
for all your sons and daughters.

In imitating Christ the Bridegroom's humble service,
may we press "new wine" for our common tables;
in our love and compassion for one another, may all of our brothers and sisters find their place at your Son's wedding feast.

Activities



Pope Francis opened the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica, the evening of 24 December 2024 officially inaugurating the **2025 Jubilee of Hope**. (Image: Vatican Media)

He reassures during his Christmas evening Mass that the Christ Child of Bethlehem offers the world infinite hope and joy.

The Ordinary Jubilee will conclude with the closing of the same Holy Door on 6 January 2026, the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.

Jubilee to strengthen faith and recognize Christ in our midst

“During the Holy Year,” the Pope has prayed, “may the light of Christian hope illumine every man and woman, as a message of God’s love addressed to all! And may the Church bear faithful witness to this message in every part of the world!”

The Holy Father invited us to pray, to prepare ourselves throughout this year, so that this Jubilee may “strengthen us in our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.”

2025 Jubilee Year of Hope

(Excerpts from the letter from Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv regarding the Diocese’s involvement in the Jubilee Year 2025, Pilgrims of Hope.)

Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year for our Church, themed “Pilgrims of Hope”, a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the climate crisis.

The Jubilee of 2025 will commence on 24 December 2024 with the Opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter’s Basilica and runs to 6 January 2026, the Feast of the Epiphany, with the closing of the Door.

In our Diocese of Parramatta, I invite all to participate in the many events that will be taking place. In particular, I invite everybody to take a personal or small group pilgrimage to one or all three of our pilgrimage sites for the Jubilee Year:

- St Patrick’s Cathedral, Parramatta
- Mount Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa
- The Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents, Kellyville

As events are finalised, they will be listed on our website. Please check parracatholic.org and please follow catholicoutlook.org for further news updates.

Parish Updates

Please **NOTE** that the last *weekday* Mass for 2024 at St. Oliver’s finished with the seminary year on Friday 29th November and will resume on Tuesday 4th February 2025.

Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Eucharist 2025 Registration for St Oliver’s

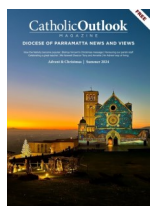
For parents and carers who have a child or children they would like to enrol in this program, here is the registration link for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist for 2025, <https://forms.gle/bUni1NUVUbAh1Qz96>. This will take place through a formation, family-centred community process. The requirement by CSPD is that your child is at least 8 years old in order to receive both Sacraments. **Please submit applications by 24th January 2025.**

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 29 January at St Andrew the Apostle Parish Marayong for Cycle 1 (Module 1). More training opportunities will be available throughout January and February. 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 2024 Advent and Christmas Summer Edition of the Catholic Outlook is now available. Please get your free copy.



PARISH READING ROSTER NEXT WEEK: 25/26 JANUARY 2025

Saturday 5:30 pm Gerard Pinto / Robert Aquino

Sunday 8:00 am Anne Haddad / Victoria Micalizzi 10:00 am Patricia & Christian Armao

Diocesan Notices

Liturgical Ministry Course returns in 2025

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in 2025 in Blacktown and Penrith. This free formation is open to anyone in the diocese interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. To enrol and for more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org. Registrations close 28th January, 2025 but spaces are limited so enrol now to avoid disappointment.

MET Natural Fertility Creighton Model Introduction Session: 19 February

Are you looking for help to track your fertility cycle? Come and explore the Creighton Model FertilityCare System – a Natural, Effective, Healthy and Scientific approach to achieve, space/avoid pregnancy or monitor women's health. Engaged and married couples, single women and those wanting to know more about their menstrual cycles are welcome to attend. This free session will be held on Wednesday 19 February from 7:15-8:15pm via Zoom and is valued at \$125. To register or for more information, contact catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org or 0400 427 605.

Catholic Care Mamre Supported Playgroup

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering a free supported playgroup which operates on Thursdays from 10am to 12pm during school terms at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Supported Playgroup on (02) 8843 2506.

Diocese of Parramatta Tribunal Office

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, to offer advice and assistance regarding marriage annulments and dissolution of marriages. Interviews are preferably conducted in person with Zoom and telephone interviews in special circumstances. Please contact the Tribunal Office on (02) 8838 3480 or email tribunal@parracatholic.org.

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.

Outside Our Community

For those who are also looking for a pilgrimage outside Sydney, Saints Peter & Paul's Old Cathedral at Goulburn, a beautiful, meticulously restored 19th century building, is only about 90 minutes drive south. Saints Peter & Paul's is unique for being the only church in the world built from greenstone, which was quarried just outside the city and thought to be 440 million years old. Fr Tony Percy, from the Old Cathedral's Restoration Committee said of particular interest to pilgrims are the 19th century French Stations of the Cross, which are three-dimensional and have exquisite colours. **To book your pilgrimage at the Old Cathedral, located on the corner of Verner and Bourke streets, Goulburn, contact 0403 631 797, or email goulburn@cg.org.au**



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: Lynneus Lusanea | Benjamin Santiago | All those who died recently, especially those who used to be part of this parish community as parishioners or relations of our parishioners

Deceased: Saide & son Soloman Frangie | Bishop Arnold Orowae | Namtallah & Patrick Malkoun | Frank & Ray Malkoun | Romanos Malkoun | Samiha Frome | Joe & Clare Boulous | Isaac & Ruby Moses | Rachael Sumagui & Artemio, Abraham, Augustus, Rebecca & Tranquilina Patacsil, Yolanda & Donald Muir, Erwin Ayuste | David (Dib) & Theresia Romanos | Romanos Family | Pamela Romanos | Evelyn Betros | Tony & Samira Abood & their Family | Fred Betros Family | Constanton Family | Queenie & Nicholas Nicholas, Namtullah & Christine Coorey, Rizcullah & Patricia Coorey & family, Jabour & Doura Nicholas & family, Saidie & Joseph Coorey & family, Najia & Toufic Samyia, Maurice Farhart, James Haddad, All deceased members of the Nicholas, Coorey, Budwee & Norman families | All Holy Souls in Purgatory especially for those who have no one praying for them

Anniversary: Samantha Diaz | Jaime Lapitan | For all those whose anniversaries of death occur around this time

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

Special Intention: John Patacsil | Erwin Ayuste | 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 harrisparke@parracatholic.org. For mass offerings or special intentions, you may use the envelopes provided at the church foyer.

Mass Readings

First reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

About Zion I will not be silent,
about Jerusalem I will not grow weary,
until her integrity shines out like the dawn
and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity,
all the kings your glory,
and you will be called by a new name,
one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.
You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the
Lord,
a princely diadem in the hand of your God;

no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken',
nor your land 'Abandoned',
but you shall be called 'My Delight'
and your land 'The Wedded';
for the Lord takes delight in you
and your land will have its wedding.

Like a young man marrying a virgin,
so will the one who built you wed you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,
so will your God rejoice in you.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30

℟ Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **℟**

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **℟**

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name. **℟**

Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **℟**

Second reading

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit;
there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to
the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in
different people, it is the same God who is working in
all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is
given to each person is for a good purpose. One may
have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by
the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching

instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another
the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again
the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the
power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift
of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and
another the ability to interpret them. All these are the
work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes
different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

cf. 2 Thess 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 2:1-11

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of
Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also
been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine
provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother
of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said
'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.'
His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells
you.' There were six stone water jars standing there,
meant for the ablutions that are customary among the
Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus
said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water', and they
filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told
them 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the
steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine.
Having no idea where it came from – only the servants
who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the
bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best
wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have
had plenty to drink; but you have kept the best wine till
now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was
given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and
his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.