

# St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

## Harris park

Website: [www.stoliversharrispark.org.au](http://www.stoliversharrispark.org.au)  
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Tel: (02) 88638801 Email: [harrispark@parracatholic.org](mailto:harrispark@parracatholic.org)



2 March 2025 | Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

Cf. Psalm 17:19-20

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

Cf. Psalm 12:6



### 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.**

Central theme: Jesus draws our attention to practical points of Christian living and challenges us to use our words as he used his in his preaching and healing ministry - to heal, to restore, and to bring back life, joy, and hope. Today's readings also instruct us to share our Christian life, love, and spiritual health by our words, and to avoid gossiping about and passing rash, thoughtless, pain-inflicting judgments on others, thus damaging their good reputation and causing them irreparable harm.

Scripture lessons: The first reading, taken from the Book of Sirach, teaches us that what is inside us is revealed through our conversation as the grain and husks are separated in a farmer's sieve, as the quality of the shaped clay is revealed in the potter's fire, and as the size and quality of a tree's fruit reveal the care it has received from the planter. Sirach's teaching serves as an excellent preview for today's Gospel, which reminds us, when we're feeling judgmental, to think before we speak because what comes out of our mouth reveals our heart. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 92) advises us to spend our time praising and thanking God for all His blessings. In the second reading St. Paul advises the Corinthian Christians "to be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain," instead of wasting time on useless and sinful conversations, which bring punishment instead of the victory of resurrection and eternal reward. In today's Gospel passage, taken from the Sermon on the Plain given in Luke's Gospel, Jesus condemns our careless, malicious and rash judgments about the behavior, feelings, motives, or actions of others by using the funny examples of one blind man leading another blind man and one man with a log stuck in his eye, trying to remove a tiny speck from another's eye. Jesus does not mean that we should not correct immoral behavior and sexual misbehavior or stop admonishing children and students as parents and teachers, or, worse, should promote moral relativism. In both Matthew and Luke, the statements that follow the prohibition on judging indicate that it is an elaboration of the Golden Rule the idea that we should treat others the way that we, ourselves, want to be treated. When Jesus says, "Judge not, lest ye be judged," he means: "Don't judge or God will judge you in your "particular" or "Last" judgment, "whichever comes first.

Life messages: We should avoid judging others because 1) No one except God is good enough to judge others because only God sees the whole truth, and only He can read the human heart. Hence, only He has the ability, right, and authority to judge us. 2) We do not see all the facts or circumstances or the power of the temptation which has led a person to do something evil. 3) We are often prejudiced in our judgment of others, and total fairness cannot be expected from us, especially when we are judging those near or dear to us. 4) We have no right to judge because we have the same faults as the one, we are judging and often in a greater degree (remember Jesus' funny example of a man with a log in his eye trying to remove the dust particle from another's eye?) St. Philip Nerl commented, watching the misbehavior of a drunkard: "There goes Philip but for the grace of God." Abraham Lincoln said that the only one who has the right to criticize is the one who has the heart to help. 5) Hence, we should leave all judgment to God, practice mercy and forgiveness, and pray for God's grace to get rid of all forms of hypocrisy in our lives. Let us remember the warning of saints: "When you point one finger of accusation at another, three of your fingers point at you."

Anthony Kadavil

## Other News and Events

### Sydney Alliance Federal Pre-Election Assembly: 13 March

Join the Diocese of Parramatta's delegation at the Sydney Alliance Federal Pre-Election Assembly 2025. A great opportunity to experience and showcase our faith in action as this non-partisan assembly invites decision-makers to commit to concrete post-election action on housing and renting, affordable and renewable energy, and climate resilience: 13 March 2025, 5:40pm–7:40pm, Morley Centre, 2 Darcy Rd, Westmead. Register at [events.humanitix.com/sydney-alliance-federal-assembly-2025](https://events.humanitix.com/sydney-alliance-federal-assembly-2025) and please include "Catholic Diocese of Parramatta" and the name of your parish or organisation.

### Catalyst for Renewal luncheon with Dr Susan Connelly rsj: 15 March

Join us for a luncheon with Dr Susan Connelly rsj on the ACBC's Social Justice Statement 2024-25 "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World" on 15 March at 12.30pm. It is held at Hunters Hill Parish Hall, tickets \$35 each. For further information, call 02 4971 4090, email [catalyst-for-renewal@outlook.com](mailto:catalyst-for-renewal@outlook.com) or book via <https://www.trybooking.com/CYPEV>

### Mount Schoenstatt Monthly Shrine Time for men

Men at the Shrine is a monthly hour for men at the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa, held on the second Wednesday of the month from 8-9pm. The hour includes a brief reflection, silent personal prayer and the opportunity for confession. The Shrine has been a place of pilgrimage in the diocese since 1968 and in 2025 is also one of the three locations in the diocese to gain the Jubilee Indulgence.



### DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

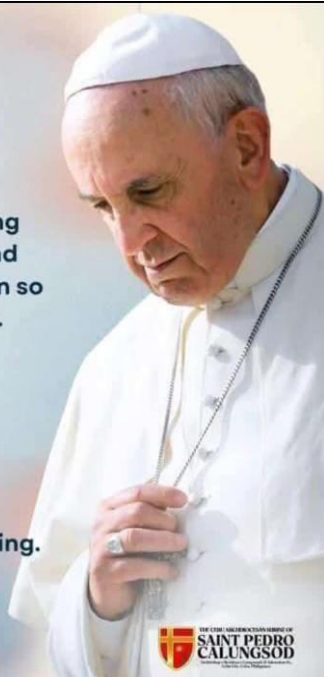
Ash Wednesday is the first day of lent and is a day of fasting. It occurs 46 days before Easter (40 fasting days and six Sundays). The ashes, applied in the shape of a cross symbolizes fragility and mortality and the need to be redeemed by the mercy of God. Far from being a merely external act, the Church has retained the use of ashes to symbolize that attitude of internal penance to which all the baptised are called during Lent.

### Prayer for Pope Francis

Heavenly Father,  
We thank you for the loving service of Pope Francis and the hope he has inspired in so many in your great mercy.

Have mercy on him in his illness now, we pray, and guide the medical staff in his care.

Grant him peace and healing.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## Parish Updates

Please take note of our Mass Times on **ASH WEDNESDAY:**  
**7 a.m. / 9:30 a.m. (school mass) / 7 p.m.**

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year (CCL 97, 1251f)**

### PARISH READING ROSTER NEXT WEEK: 8/9 MARCH 2025

Saturday 5:30 pm Gerard Pinto / Robert Aquino

Sunday 8:00 am Anne Haddad / Victoria Micalizzi 10:00 am Geoff & Monica Officer

## Diocesan Notices

### **Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 3 May**

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Saturday 3 May at Holy Family Emerton for Cycle 2 (Module 4-5). More training opportunities will be available soon.

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](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

### **FaithLIFE Lenten Scripture night by Dr Michele Connolly RSJ: 3 March**

Are you looking to read the Bible during Lent but don't know where to start? Consider the FREE Diocesan Lenten Scripture Night guided by Scripture scholar, Dr Michele Connolly RSJ. Monday, 3 March. 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM. 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown NSW 2148 – Mary Queen of the Family parish. RSVP via [parracatholic.org/events/lenten-scripture-night/](http://parracatholic.org/events/lenten-scripture-night/) OR email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

### **MGL Sisters Consecrated Life Weekend Discernment Retreat: 14-16 March**

Are you wondering what God has in store for your life? Single women aged 16-35 are invited to join us and listen for the voice of Jesus, ask questions and experience prayer, talks, sisterhood and sharing to help discern your vocation. For more information and to RSVP please contact [mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com) or call 0402 602 520.

## Our Community

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

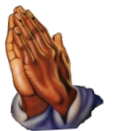
Thinking about becoming a Catholic or know someone who may be interested in exploring the Catholic faith? Contact the Parish Office for more details on joining the RCIA program.

### **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:** Deacon Rodrigo (Rudy) Rupac | Ophelia Paraan | Reynaldo Quintos | Carmencita Sampaga | 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 | Sayed Doueihy & family | Rita Fernando, Reggie & May Perumal, John & Triponie Pasangha, Cyril Fernando, Clunetileke & Jotui Pasangha, Xavier & Clara Fernando | 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 | 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:** 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, Erwin Ayuste | All the Sick especially those who are sick in our parish community

**Special Intention:** Michael, Elizabeth & Maryrose Perez, John Patacsil, Erwin Ayuste | For all our special intentions and for those who have asked us for prayers, Manuel Patacsil

**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 [harris park@parracatholic.org](mailto:harris park@parracatholic.org). For mass offerings or special intentions, you may use the envelopes provided at the church foyer.*

# Mass Readings

## First Reading

Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8

A reading from the first book of Ecclesiasticus

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,  
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.  
The kiln tests the work of the potter,  
the test of a man is in his conversation.  
The orchard where a tree grows is judged on the quality  
of its fruit,  
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.  
Do not praise a man before he has spoken,  
since this is the test of men.'

## The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 91(92):2-3,13-16

**℟. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to make music to  
your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the  
morning and your truth in the watches of the night. **℟.**

The just will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a  
Lebanon cedar. **℟.**

Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in  
the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are  
old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the  
Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **℟.**

As far as the east is from the west so far does he  
remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his  
sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **℟.**

## Second Reading

1 CORINTHIANS 15:54-58

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability,  
and when this mortal nature has put on immortality,  
then the words of scripture will come true: Death is  
swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory?  
Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is  
sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us  
thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord  
Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit  
defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always,  
knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in  
vain.

## The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Shine on the world like bright stars;  
you are offering it the word of life.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Luke 6:39-45

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus told a parable to his disciples: 'Can one blind  
man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The  
disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained  
disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you  
observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never  
notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your  
brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in  
your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own?  
Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first,  
and then you will see clearly enough to take out the  
splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor  
again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every  
tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs  
from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good  
man draws what is good from the store of goodness in  
his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store  
of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his  
heart.'

## The Gospel of the Lord.

