

# St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

## Harris park

Website: [www.stoliversharrispark.org.au](http://www.stoliversharrispark.org.au)  
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23 February 2025 | Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Cf. Psalm 12:6

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God, who is coming into this world.

John 11:27



### 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.

### **Love your Enemies**

**Central theme:** Today's Scripture readings challenge us to make three types of correct choices in life. First, we are advised to choose the "golden rule" including loving our enemies and showing sensitivity to the feelings and needs of others. Second, we need to choose unconditional, agape love instead of envy, jealousy and hatred in our relationships with others. Third, we must choose graceful and merciful forgiveness instead of harboring revenge and planning retaliation.

**Scripture lessons:** The first reading shows us how David made the right choice, respecting God's anointed king by forgiving his offenses, while Saul continued to make the wrong choices, perpetuating his own misery in seeking his revenge. In the Responsorial Psalm, Ps 103, the Psalmist reminds us of the mercy of God and His compassion which we should practice in our choices. In the second reading, St. Paul tells us how the "First Adam" made a wrong choice of disobedience, bringing death into the world, whereas Jesus, the "Second Adam," made the right choice of fulfilling his Father's saving plan for mankind by accepting acute suffering and a heinous death. Today's Gospel (Luke 6:27-38) gives us Jesus' revolutionary moral teaching about correct choices in our human relationships, based on the necessity of our following the "Golden Rule" and our obligation to behave like the children of a loving, forgiving, merciful, and compassionate Heavenly Father. Our relationships in our communities become truly Christian when we follow the Golden Rule, "*Do to others as you would have them do to you*," as Jesus amplifies it, obeying the additional commands of radical Christian love we are to exercise as God's children (and Jesus' adpted brothers and sisters), "*Love your enemies...Do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you and pray for those who maltreat you.*" Jesus orders us to love our enemies and to be merciful and compassionate to everyone as God our Father is loving, merciful, and compassionate. He concludes by instructing us to stop judging others and start forgiving all who offend us.

**Life Messages:** 1) We need to practice the Golden Rule in its full form: The Golden Rule asks us to do to others what we would like them to do to us. If we obey, loving others and expressing that love by loving words and deeds, we will start receiving the same love from others in higher intensity. Further, if we want others to forgive our offenses, our words of criticism, and our thoughtless judgments against them, then we should start forgiving their offenses against us and start appreciating their good qualities while encouraging them and supporting them in their needs.

2) We need to pray for the strength to forgive. At every Mass we pray the "Our Father", asking God to forgive us as we forgive others. Our challenge is to overcome our natural inclination to hate family members, co-workers, neighbors and all who offend us. To meet that challenge, we need to ask God for the strength to forgive each other. We must forgive, because only forgiveness truly heals us. If we remember how God has forgiven us, it will help us forgive others. Let us start forgiving right now by curbing the sharp tongue of criticism, suppressing the revenge instinct, and bearing patiently the irritating behavior of a neighbor. (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.



**THE FAITH FEED**

WHAT DOES LIFE & FAITH LOOK LIKE IN YOUR 20S, 30S AND 40S?

Discover what it can look like at The FaithFeed, hosted by the community at Baulkham Hills Catholic Parish!

**RSVP TODAY:**



**SATURDAY 29 MARCH | 6:30 - 8:00 PM**  
1 CHAPEL LANE, BAULKHAM HILLS - ST MICHAEL'S PARISH

### Join the Diocese of Parramatta's Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage

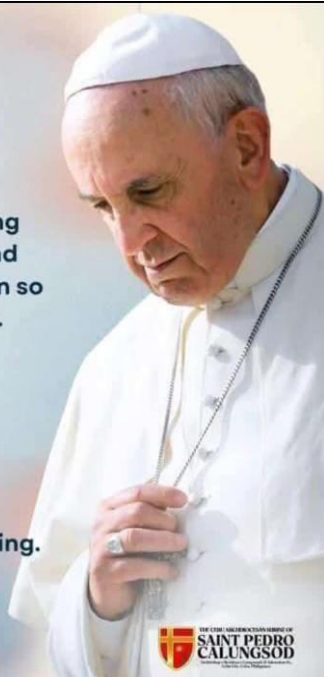
Young people (18-35) across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to embark on an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from 19 July – 5 August 2025. The journey includes a visit to Greece, tracing the footsteps of Saint Paul, before heading to Rome for the celebration. Express your interest today at [parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025](https://parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025)

### 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

### 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)

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

### PARISH READING ROSTER NEXT WEEK: 1/2 MARCH 2025

Saturday 5:30 pm Kristine Alba / Jim Hanna

Sunday 8:00 am Anthony Melham / Katherine Katrib 10:00 am Patricia Armao / Nick Tagnipis

## Diocesan Notices

### **LIFTED Launch: 27 February**

Join us for LIFTED Launch on Thursday, February 27th, from 6:45 PM to 9:30 PM at West HQ, Rooty Hill! Get a sneak peek at exciting events we have planned for young Catholics, including the Jubilee Year Pilgrimage and Australian Catholic Youth Festival. Enjoy a night of prayer, formation, and fun with fellow young Catholics. Register now: [parracatholic.org/events/liftedlaunch/](http://parracatholic.org/events/liftedlaunch/)

### **Young Adult Faith Formation on St Therese of Lisieux: 2 March**

Young Adult Faith Formation sessions recommence on Sunday 2 March 2025 at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, South Mt Druitt (9 Ropes Creek Rd Mt Druitt) at 7pm. The speaker is Simon Carrington who will talk about and lead discussion on St Therese of Lisieux. All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza, and fellowship! If you have any questions, please call Mark on 0477 004 678.

### **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 Doueih & 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

**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

1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23

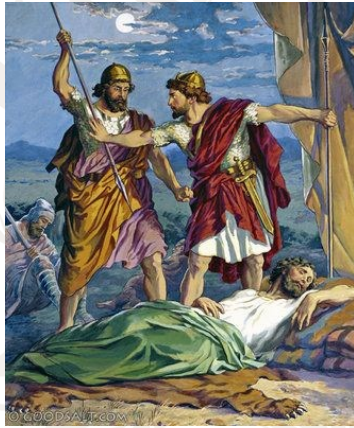
A reading from the first book of Samuel

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.'

David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.



David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

## The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13

### ℟ The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. ℟

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. ℟

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repays us according to our faults. ℟

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 15:45-49

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

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

## The Word of the Lord

### Gospel Acclamation

John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

### Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.'

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

### The Gospel of the Lord.