

St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

Harris park

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Tel: (02) 88638801 Email: harrispark@parracatholic.org



9 February 2025 | Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Your merciful, love, O God,
we have received in the midst of
your temple. Your praise, O God,
like your name, reaches the ends of
the earth; your right hand is filled
with saving justice.

Cf. Psalm 47:10-11

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of
all the peoples.

Luke 2:30-31



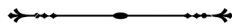
Weekday Mass Times

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.

Stepping out into the Deep

Amongst the frustrations of steep rents, uncertainty of interest rates, and other anxieties for families today, there is also a concern for our well-being as a Church and community. And there are families who have a child with sickness or disability who live hour by hour often with flagging hope.

It is in these moments that Jesus says to us, "Put out into the deep" 'Duc in altum'. This is scary because it means going out 'one more time' into apparently fished out waters...going back yet again to Westmead hospital for a sick child; spending another day with a sick spouse; battling on as a single Mum or single Dad against all odds; facing another day as a victim of abuse; living another day as one who has been an abuser and having paid for that with imprisonment, long-term unemployment and marginalization by the community; leaving a relationship to join a religious order or priesthood.....and, Jesus,.....you are asking me to go out into the deep of life again to meet more head-rush and stress?? Yet, those who are obedient to Jesus find that, often in surprising ways, empty nets become full to breaking point...as there was a "holy interruption" in the lives of Peter, James and John, so, we, too, may experience this " holy interruption" in our lives. Just as Jesus called the apostles into new depths to become "catchers of people", chosen to net others for the kingdom. So, we, too are called to be disciples for others in 2025 for our children, for our elderly parents, for those struggling with the meaning of life....Put out into the deep – put our hope and trust in our Creator God. For the apostles it meant dispossession of their identity as ordinary fishermen; it meant trading in their boats and leaving their business behind. God does not demand that Simon-Peter become a better man before he was qualified to follow Him. Jesus welcomed and called him just as he was. So it is with us, God calls us to step out even with all our flaws and shortcomings. Being obedient to Jesus' call effects a reversal of fortunes. Surprisingly, empty nets become full.

Reflection: Gospel of Luke 5:1-11



Activities

Pope's February prayer intention: 'For vocations to priesthood, religious life'

(Extracts from article written by Devin Watkins, 6 February 2025, Catholic Outlook)

"Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel called to live Jesus's mission in life: either through the priestly life, or religious life." Pope Francis' appeal for prayers in The Pope Video, which was released on Tuesday to accompany his prayer intention for February 2025.

Drawing on his own vocational experience, the Pope recalled that at 17 years old he had other plans for his life that didn't include becoming a priest. "But one day, I went into the church...and God was there, waiting for me!" he said.

The Holy Father recalled that God calls many young people to serve His people through a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. "God still calls young people even today, sometimes in ways we can't imagine," he said. "Sometimes we don't hear because we're too busy with our own things, our own plans, even with our own things in the Church."

Yet, added Pope Francis, the Holy Spirit reveals God's plan for our lives by speaking to the heart of young people.

The task of Catholics, he added, is to accompany their spiritual journey, so that they will be willing and able to welcome the call to a religious vocation. "Let's trust young people!" concluded Pope Francis. "And, above all, let's trust God for He calls everyone!"

Accompanying young people on their vocational journey

The Pope Video, released by the [Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network](#), depict scenes from the early life of Jorge Mario Bergoglio, now Pope Francis, along with images from the daily lives of young people today.

The effect, according to a press release, is to tie the youth of the future Pope to contemporary young people, whom God calls to a priestly or religious vocation in a similar way.

(This [article](#) originally appeared in [Vatican News](#).)



FaithLIFE Scripture Short Courses for adults: 12-26 February

Are you looking to read the Bible more in 2025 but don't know where to start? Consider the FREE FaithLIFE Scripture Short Course guided by Scripture scholar, Dr Michele Connolly RSJ. Wednesdays, 12, 19, & 26 February. 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown - Bishop Bede Heather Centre. RSVP via <https://parracatholic.org/faithlife> OR email met@parracatholic.org

2025 Jubilee Year of Hope

Please note -

In our Diocese of Parramatta, three of our pilgrimage sites for the Jubilee Year are:

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

Please check parracatholic.org and please follow catholicoutlook.org for further news updates.

Reminder that **one of the conditions** for receiving a **plenary indulgence** by passing through one of the Holy Doors is to **"pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff."**

Parish Updates

Ongoing Work on school handrails at St Oliver's next weekend 8/9 Feb

Please note that due to some work going to be done on the handrails just outside the school office, this particular space may not be suitable for parking on Saturday and at worse, also on Sunday morning next weekend, 8/9 February. The rest of the school playground should be free for parking. The school management apologises for any inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.



Word of God Sunday: 9 February

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on February 9 in 2025. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. Visit catholic.org.au/wordofgodssunday to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 15 February

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 15 February at St Monica's Richmond for Cycle 1 (Modules 1-3). More training opportunities will be available throughout February and May. 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

PARISH READING ROSTER NEXT WEEK: 15/16 FEBRUARY 2025

Saturday 5:30 pm Jackie Perumal / Siji Lino

Sunday 8:00 am Anne Haddad / Victoria Micalizzi 10:00 am Carol Isaac / Natasha Joseph

Diocesan Notices

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.

Women's Lenten Retreat at Mount Schoenstatt: 21-23 February

Join us at Mount Schoenstatt for a reflective retreat inspired by 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. The retreat runs from 7pm on 21 February to 4pm on 23 February. Costs are \$240 per person for a shared room, \$290 per person for a single room (limited availability), or \$60 per person per day for day attendance. Accommodation and meals are included, or lunch for day attendees. Register by 12 February by contacting Sr M Elizabeth Foley at bookings@schoenstatt.org.au or 02 4773 8338.

Diocesan World Day of Prayer for the Sick:

11 February

A World Day of Prayer for the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Tuesday 11 February 2025 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2025 via parracatholic.org/world-day-prayer-feb11

Memorial Mass of St Josephine Bakhita:

16 February

All are welcome to attend the Memorial Mass of St Josephine Bakhita, the Patron Saint of South Sudan and Sudan, and Victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown on Sunday 16 February at 2pm. We hope you will join us to commemorate the victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking in Australia and worldwide and thank God for the gifts that the South Sudanese and Sudanese communities contribute to our society.

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: Capt. Thomas Rodrigues | 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 & 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, Namtallah & 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 harrisark@parracatholic.org. For mass offerings or special intentions, you may use the envelopes provided at the church foyer.

Mass Readings

First reading

Isaiah 6:1-2,3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord of Hosts seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings.

And they cried out to one another in this way,

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts.
His glory fills the whole earth.'

The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said:

'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost,
for I am a man of unclean lips
and I live among a people of unclean lips,
and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of Hosts.'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With this he touched my mouth and said:

'See now, this has touched your lips,
your sin is taken away,
your iniquity is purged.'

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying:

'Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?'

I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23(24):7-10

R. In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**

All earth's kings shall thank you when they hear the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the Lord's ways: How great is the glory of the Lord!' **R.**

You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

Second reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

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

[Brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, the gospel that you received and in which you are firmly established; because the gospel will save you only if you keep believing exactly what I preached to you – believing anything else will not lead to anything.

Well then,] in the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it.

I am the least of the apostles; in fact, since I persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve the name apostle; but by God's grace that is what I am, and the grace that he gave me has not been fruitless. On the contrary, I, or rather the grace of God that is with me, have worked harder than any of the others; but what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Matt 4:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 5:1-11

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus was standing one day by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied, 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

