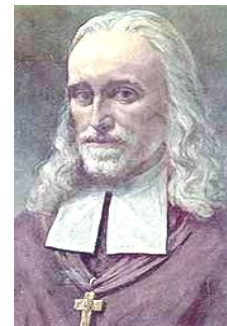


St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

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



27 July 2025 | Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in
his house;
he himself gives might and strength to
his people.

Cf. Psalm 67:6-7, 36

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

Psalm 102:2



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.**

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.

Gospel Reflection

17th Sunday in Year C

Persistence in Prayer and God's Generosity

Persistent Prayer in Genesis 18: Our first reading from Genesis finds Abraham bargaining with God for the people of Sodom. God threatens to destroy the town, and Abraham intercedes in prayer to God: "Will you, indeed, sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city-will you then sweep away the place and not spare the fifty righteous who are in it?" Abraham then bargains God down to ten righteous men in the town and God's response is "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." This spells out for us the power of persistent prayer and how our dialogues with God can influence his mercy.

God hears our prayers: Our psalm today picks up the same themes: "I thank you, Lord, with all my heart; you have heard the words of my mouth...on the day I called you answered me; you increased the strength of my soul."

And how do we pray? In the Gospel, the disciples ask Jesus to teach them to pray. This prompts Jesus to give them the Lord's prayer-giving us a formula for prayer. This prayer teaches us the intimacy of God to us such that we can call God "OUR" Father and that we can ask God for our daily bread. What God gives us is no ordinary bread but the "forever" bread of the Eucharist.

Boldness in Prayer: Jesus encourages boldness in prayer through the parable of a persistent friend seeking bread. This teaches us to approach God with confidence knowing that He desires only to give us good gifts, most especially the gift of the Holy Spirit.

God's Generosity: Just as a Father gives good gifts to his children, God also desires to give us what we need. Of course what we think we need, God knows may not always be in our best interest. But, be like the persistent man in the parable who wasn't shy about knocking on his neighbour's door at midnight.

- Fr. Paul Marshall



Other News and Events

PROJECT COMPASSION

Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to:

Harris Park Catholic Parish

Thank you

Your generosity during Project Compassion this year will support our neighbours worldwide, empowering the most vulnerable people to build a just future for themselves, their families and communities.

Kirsten Sykes
Caritas Australia CEO

UNITE AGAINST POVERTY

this Lent

fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au (02) 7254 5120 #projectcompassion

Letter of thanks to St Oliver's for Good Friday Donations



Holy Land Commissariat

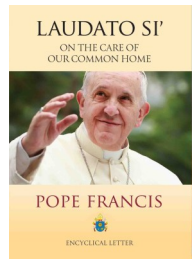
"On behalf of the Holy Land Custody of the Franciscan Friars and the Christians of the Holy Land, I would like to sincerely thank you and your parishioners for your contribution of \$1,220 to the Good Friday Holy Land Collection for 2025.

The Holy Places rely heavily on the Good Friday donations and pilgrims to continue to maintain the historical sites that mean so much to our Christian/Catholic faith."

Fr Bernie Thomas
OFM Commissary of the Holy Land, Australia

Laudato Si': Catholics for our Common Home.

Last Wednesday in Parramatta - Mauricio Lopez Oropeza - one of Latin America's dynamic Catholic lay leaders spoke on the beauty, mystery and possibility of the Amazon Basin. He spoke how women in remote communities in the Amazon have sustained the Church there and how, without women, the Church would have broken down and collapsed, had women not been there through their prayer, catechizing and missionary work. Mauricio spoke of the 410 Indigenous communities in the Amazon and how they are the Protectors of the forests. With massive de-forestation, these communities, and the richness of their culture, are being killed by greed for rainforest timber. Worse, the Amazon contains one third of the world's primary forests and these forests are the lungs of the world producing so much of our oxygen. The forests are quickly being reduced to savannah which spells disaster, not only for the Amazon, but for the world as well. It is a prophetic and urgent call for justice ahead of the UN climate talks taking place in Brazil this November.



Parish Updates

Grandparents' Day: The Memorial of St. Joachim and Ann this weekend- Mary's parents and Jesus' grandparents- calls to mind the amazing contribution grandparents bring to families everywhere. They bring love, presence, wisdom, faith and guidance to their sons and daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Grandparents, more than ever, are carrying the burdens of many families today. We honour them today for their loving witness and caring dedication. Let's pray for our grandparents in our Masses this weekend.



Catholic Mission Appeal at St Oliver's Last Week: 19/20 July

We would like to thank you for your generosity supporting the Church in Zambia and missionaries like Sr Jane and Kayula.

Thanks to your kindness, women like Sharon will have the skills to provide for their families, and mothers like Grace can give birth with dignity. Your gift will also support a variety of Church programs around the world.

To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work. Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at catholicmission.org.au/mission. Your action will make a profound change on people's lives.



Free call: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission



PARISH READING ROSTER NEXT WEEK: 2/3 August

Saturday 5:30 pm Jackie Perumal / Siji Lino
Sunday 8:00 am Victoria Micalizzi

10:00 am Patricia Armao / Natasha Joseph

Diocesan Notices

HOPEFEST: 8-10 August

HOPEFEST is a Diocesan Jubilee of Hope three-day experience for all ages hosted by St John XXIII Parish, Glenwood-Stanhope Gardens.

Experiences will include praise & worship, a local pilgrimage from Stanhope Parish to the Franciscan Shrine in Kellyville, community activities, life & faith workshops and opportunities to celebrate the sacraments.

Register via <https://parracatholic.org/events/hopefest/>



Catholic Catechism and Spiritual Warfare: 16 August

Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill, will be hosting a talk by Fr Jose Francisco Syquia from the Archdiocese of Manila on a variety of Catholic topics on Saturday 16 August 2025 at 3:30 pm. The talk will be followed by the Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm which will be celebrated by Fr Syquia. For further information and to RSVP, please click on the link: <https://forms.gle/KBGM6qjt2DsdG8uS7>.

Volunteer communicators needed

We're inviting parish volunteers and community members to express their interest in joining the Volunteer Communicators Network to support storytelling across the Diocese. If you know talented writers, photographers, videographers or social media creators, please let them know we'd love to connect! Please invite them to complete an [Expression of Interest form](#) and indicate their preferred availability, and we'll be in touch.

Diocesan Homelessness Week Memorial Service – Wrapped in Love: 8 August

You're warmly invited to a Memorial Service during Homelessness Week on **Friday 8 August 2025, 6:30pm–7:30pm** at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta.

Together, let us honour and remember those who have died while experiencing homelessness or hardship, through prayer, reflection and a spirit of compassion. Whether you want to commemorate a friend or stand in solidarity, all are welcome. This heartfelt gathering is hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta, St Patrick's Cathedral, Catholic Care, and other community partners. You can find more information at parracatholic.org/events/homeless-memorial-service



Rome from Home (Youth and Young Adults): 2 August

A retreat for young adults aged between 13 and 35, who want to grow in faith, find community, and be inspired on their journey. To be held on Saturday 2 August (12:30pm – 6pm) at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong, 36-40 Breakfast Rd, Marayong. Register by 26 July: <https://parracatholic.org/events/rome-from-home/>

Our Community

Registrations now open: Diocesan Retreat Opportunities

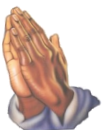
The diocese is hosting retreat opportunities for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope. Take the opportunity to step away from your usual routine to experience a diocesan retreat - a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God. Registrations are now open. For more details and to register, see the three options of retreats below:

August 16: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/>

November 15: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/>



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: Fr Tim Hogan | Maria Thi Nguyen (Bishop Vincent's mother) | All those who died recently, especially those who used to be part of this parish community as parishioners or relations of our parishioners

Deceased: Reggie & May Perumal, John & Tripony Pasangha, Xavier & Clara Fernando, Pius & Mercy Fernando, Irwin & Joan Jayawardana | Alice Monis | Queenie & Nicholas Nicholas, Namtullah & Christine Coorey, Rizcullah & Patricia Coorey, Jabour & Doura Nicholas & family, Saidie & Joseph Coorey & family, Najia & Toufic Samyia, All deceased members of the Nicholas, Budwee & Norman families, Veronica Coorey | Namtallah & Patrick Malkoun | Frank & Ray Malkoun | Romanos Malkoun | Samiha Frome | Joe & Clare Boulous, Isaac Moses, Ruby Moses | Artemio, Abraham, Augustus, Rebecca & Tranquilina Patacsil; Yolanda & Donald Muir; Rachael Sumagui | David (Dib) & Theresia Romanos | Romanos Family | Pamela Romanos | Evelyn Betros | Tony & Samira Abood & their Family | Fred Betros Family | Constanton Family | All Holy Souls in Purgatory especially for those who have no one praying for them

Anniversary: Marie Therese Nemer | Joe Boulous | Clare Boulous | For all those whose anniversaries of death occur around this time

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

Special Intentions: John Joaquin, Agnes, Napoleon, Manuel, Virginia & Jorge Patacsil & his families; Elizabeth, Michael & Maryrose Perez; Erwin Ayuste | For all our special intentions and for those who have asked us for prayers

Thanksgiving: Ruby Gonsalvez and family | Alice Monis | 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 harrispar@parracatholic.org. For mass offerings or special intentions, you may use the envelopes provided at the church foyer.*

Mass Readings

First Reading

Genesis 18:20-32

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' the Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No,' he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 137:1-3,6-8

R Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

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**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Though I walk in the midst of affliction you give me life and frustrate my foes. **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

Colossians 2:12-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Romans 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 11:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy,
your kingdom come;
give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.
And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them:

'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

