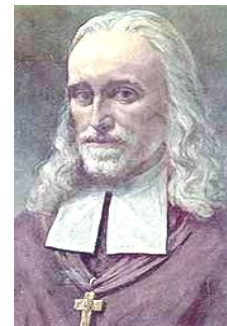


St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

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



3 August 2025 | Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

Psalm 69:2, 6

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have given us, O Lord, bread
from heaven, endowed with all
delights and sweetness in every taste.

Wisdom 16:20



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

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vocations Awareness Week

God continues to call all of us to himself. Vocations do not just belong to the priestly or religious caste. Maybe you are called to be a talented musician to bring joy into people's lives; maybe you are called to be an engineer to build new infrastructure-dams for water supply, bridges for access, roads and tunnels for travel; maybe you are called to be an artist to bring colour into our world and thrill people's senses; maybe you are called to be a nurturer of family life-raising children in a loving home environment; maybe a healer as a doctor; a carer of a person with disabilities. Our world is rich with vocations beyond what we think of as 'a vocation.'

Who mentors us in our vocation into life? God constantly calls and mentors us if we can stay silent long enough to hear His gentle, small voice gently nudging us towards ultimate realities. Our psalm response says it all: "O Lord, you have been our refuge from generation to generation." And "teach us to number our days, that we may gain wisdom of heart." Our first reading from Ecclesiastes reflects on the futility of pursuing worldly wealth and possessions and St. Paul in Colossians urges us to put to death earthly desires and focus on the new life found in Christ. This new life transcends worldly concerns and brings true fulfillment. Jesus, in the Gospel shares the parable of the rich fool who hoarded his wealth without considering the needs of others.

So, how is God calling you at this time? How does the Spirit draw us closer to God? We can be prompted by a word of invitation to join an interest group. For instance, you may be invited to join a book-reading group and you may find in yourself the gift of a love of literature as well as the fellowship and sharing of a supportive group of friends.

In this Vocations Awareness week, how might we call others to a deeper love of Christ and our community? In our parish, here at Harris Park, we have the Holy Spirit Seminary. A seminary is a seed-bed for the Gospels. We currently have nine seminarians from Australia and overseas. Along with an academic and pastoral program, seminarians are called into a deeper relationship with Christ learning about the many spiritual prayer traditions. Let's pray for the changing face of the Church and the changing face of priesthood for today's world. Let us pray for the call of God to touch many more hearts for service in the priesthood of the baptized as well as the ministerial priesthood.

"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus. When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus Christ." (St. John Vianney)

- Fr. Paul Marshall



Other News and Events

Catholic Religious Australia 10,000 for 10 Initiative
To mark the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Catholic Religious Australia has launched the "10,000 for 10" initiative to encourage the planting and/or protection of 10,000 trees. If you cannot plant a tree, you can protect one or make a donation to a not-for-profit organisation focused on regenerative projects. To learn more, visit <https://www.catholicreligious.org.au/10000-for-10>

Responding in Mercy – Pilgrims of Hope: 10 September and 5 November

The Mercy Futures team is privileged to present **Sr Áine Barrins RSM** all the way from Ireland, who will be joining them in Parramatta to share her invaluable insights into *Catherine McAuley, Woman of Hope*. This is an unprecedented two-part presentation which will take place over our final two sessions – **10 September and 5 November, 6:30 pm**. Come along and bring a friend (or few) and be part of this unique presentation. Both these sessions will also be livestreamed, and the link will be provided closer to the date. Please RSVP to mercyfuture@parrasom.org.au with any dietary requirements by 3 September (part 1) or 29 October (part 2).

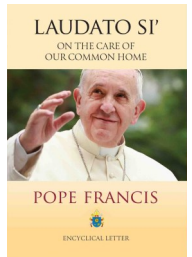


Where: Parramatta Congregation Centre, 6 Victoria Rd. Parramatta (Catherine McAuley Room)

National Social Justice Statement Launch – Serving Homeless People with Mental Ill-Health: 13 August
You are invited to the online launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2025–2026 on 13 August 2025, 12pm–1:30pm AEST. The new statement will focus on "Signs of Hope on the Edge – Serving Homeless People with Mental Ill-Health". Please register at tinyurl.com/sjslaunch25-26

Laudato Si': Catholics for our Common Home.

On 23 July, 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

CONGRATULATIONS and WELCOME to **Eden Jayce Perera** who will receive the **Sacrament of Baptism** this Saturday, the 2nd of August 2025 at St. Oliver's. We pray and ask God to bless you and your family.



Catholic Mission Appeal at St Oliver's On 19/20 July

On behalf of the Church in Zambia we would like to again thank you for your generosity.

Your gift is helping empower women, provide essential healthcare, and bring hope to vulnerable communities.

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 positive impact for many around the world.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission



PARISH READING ROSTER NEXT WEEK: 9/10 August

Saturday 5:30 pm Kristine Alba / Jim Hanna
Sunday 8:00 am Seini & Ipolito Lasalo

10:00 am Carol Isaac / Nick Tagnipis

Diocesan Notices

MET Natural Fertility Instruction Sessions: 19 August
MET Natural Fertility are organising a series of instruction sessions on the Natural Family Planning methods offered by the Diocese of Parramatta via Zoom. Learn how to chart your cycle, space out pregnancies and identify the best time to reach your family goals. The next session on the Sympto-Thermal Method will be held on Tuesday 19 August from 7.15pm to 8.15pm. For more information and to register, please visit parracatholic.org/natural-fertility

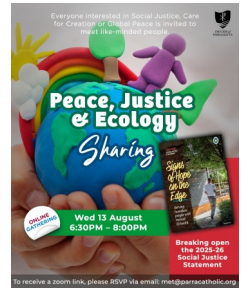
Catholic Catechism and Spiritual Warfare: 16 August
Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill, will be hosting a talk by Fr Jose Francisco Syquia from the Archdiocese of Manila on a variety of Catholic topics on Saturday 16 August 2025 at 3:30 pm. The talk will be followed by the Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm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

Low Cost Counselling Services

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. Whether you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters, Catholic Care is here to help. Call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.

Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings – 2025-26 Social Justice Statement: 13 August

"Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings" are quarterly online gatherings for everyone interested in social justice, care for creation, or global peace. The next gathering on Wednesday 13 August from 6.30pm to 8pm will break open the 2025-2026 ACBC Social Justice Statement: "Signs of Hope on the Edge – Serving Homeless People with Mental Ill-Health", which will be launched on the same day. To receive a Zoom link, please RSVP to met@parracatholic.org



Volunteers needed at Catholic Care Emerton!

Catholic Care is looking for volunteers to help at their Walk-In Centre in Emerton on Tuesdays to Thursdays. Volunteers would assist welcoming people into the drop-in centre, greeting clients for counselling appointments, assisting the local Aunties' yarnning and art gatherings, reception of the OzHarvest food delivery and overall assistance with Catholic Care projects and programs. For more information, please contact Catholic Care on (02) 8843 2500.

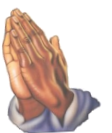
Our Community

Liturgical Ministry Course Begins September 2025

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in September 2025 in Blacktown. This free formation is open to anyone in the diocese interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. To enrol and for more information, please contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795. Registrations close 19 August, 2025 but spaces are limited so enrol now to avoid disappointment.



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

Deceased: Soloman & Mam Saidi Frangie | Reggie & May Perumal, John & Tripony Pasangha, Xavier & Clara Fernando, Pius & Mercy Fernando, Irwin & Joan Jayawardana | 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: 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

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 89(90):3-6, 12-14, 17

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. **R.**

You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the morning
In the morning it springs up
by evening it withers and fades. **R.**

Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. **R.**

In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. **R.**

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

