

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

23 November 2025 | Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

Revelation 5:12; 1:6

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord sits as King for ever.
The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Psalm 28:10-11



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) 8863 8801

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 –

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

The need to be cared for

In her book *My Grandfather's Blessing*, Dr Rachel Naomi Remen tells the story of a colleague who was one of the few women on the university hospital faculty. A professor of medicine, she was the model of the kind of physician her students wanted to become. A superb researcher, clinician and teacher, her passion, energy and dedication were legendary among faculty, students and staff.

Then she discovered a lump in her breast. The chief of the department performed her surgery, and the mass was found to be malignant. The chief went to the recovery room to tell her the hard news as soon as she awakened. Still groggy from the anaesthesia, she listened to the surgeon's words. She then closed her eyes for a brief time and said in a barely audible voice the most difficult words she had ever uttered: "Now someone will have to take care of me."

Her plight left the rest of the medical staff shaken. It had taken cancer for this hard-working physician to give herself permission to be cared for.

All of us, in some way, to some degree, are vulnerable, hurting, despairing. We are all in need of compassion, of forgiveness, of support, of assurance.

In the shadow of the cross, we can finally admit our need for healing, for peace, for God. Like the doctor who now must accept her own mortality and the care of others, the "good thief" hanging on the cross with Jesus is finally able to see what his life has become and recognise his need for God. And Jesus does not disappoint him.

The hope of Christ's reign begins with confronting our sinfulness and accepting responsibility for the wrong we do; only then can we begin to realise our potential for the healing and grace that can transform our lives in the love and hope of God.

-Fr John



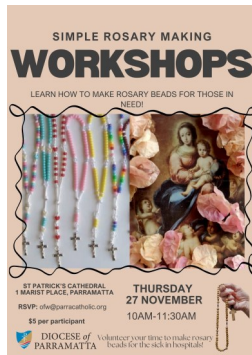
Other News and Events

Rosary Making Workshops: 27 November

Our team have been running workshops teaching people **how to make rosaries** and donating finished rosaries to hospital chaplains throughout the diocese. We have 2 remaining dates for this popular workshop:

• Thursday 27th Nov, 10am at **St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta** in the Cloister Hall.

Costs are \$10 per person – payable on arrival (includes all materials). To register for one of these sessions please email: ofw@parracatholic.org. For more information, please visit parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops



Baulkham Hills Christmas Luncheon: 25 December

The Parish of Baulkham Hills are are hosting a Christmas Lunch for anyone **who will be on their own** on Christmas Day. You may be in town for a visit, or just moved into the area, or may simply be unable to share Christmas Day with your loved ones. **So come and share it with us.** It will be held on **Thursday 25 December** in and around the **St Michael's Primary School hall**, and everyone is welcome, families and individuals. But places are limited, so you will need to register to attend. For more information, contact the parish office on **(02) 9639 0598** or email baulkhamhills@parracatholic.org.



Donate to Jesuit Refugee Services this Christmas!

As Christmas approaches, Jesuit Refugee Services is calling upon the community to support their work accompanying and serving people seeking asylum who are facing homelessness. Parishes and communities are invited to contribute to JRS' Advent Food Drive, collecting pantry staples to stock their Foodbank, purchasing supermarket gift cards for groceries over the holiday period or donate to their Christmas Appeal. For more information about how you can help, please contact Kristen on (02) 9356 3888 or email kristen.lazarus@jrs.org.au.



CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

You can make a difference this Christmas.
 Please donate to help refugees, people seeking asylum, and their families this giving season.

• Cooking oil (750ml/1L) • Long life full cream milk (1L) • Dry chickpeas (375g, 1kg) • Dry red lentils (375g, 1kg) • Canned tomatoes (400g) • Canned chickpeas or lentils (400g) • Canned black, kidney or cannellini beans or 4 bean mix (400g) • Canned veggies or fruit • Canned Condensed milk	• Canned coconut milk (400ml) • Canned plain tuna in oil (95g, 190g, 425g) • Pasta • Pasta Sauce • Instant Noodles • Sweet biscuits & savory snacks • Salt (500g, 1kg) • Sugar (500g, 1kg) • Instant coffee & tea bags (black tea)	• Laundry detergent liquid • Dishwashing liquid • Shampoo • Conditioner • Soap • Deodorant • Toothbrushes • Toothpaste • Razors & shaving cream • Nappies (size 4, 5, 6) • Incontinence Aid (8-15 yrs, adult XL)
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Supermarket gift cards (\$50, \$75, and \$100) also enable families to choose the items they need most

For any questions, please contact
Vaish at foodbank@jrs.org.au

Parish Updates

◇ **To our kind volunteers:** Please see **updated cleaning roster** on our **Notice Board**. Please email the parish office using this address, harrisark@parracatholic.org, so you can receive the cleaning roster via email or if you do not have an email address, call/leave a message on 02 8863 8801. Apologies if our internet connection was inactive when you tried to contact us. Thank you so much again for your help.

◇ In **November**, all masses to be celebrated at St Oliver's will be offered for all those who have died, especially for those our parishioners have asked to be remembered. Special envelopes for November masses are available at the church foyer. The names of your departed loved ones will be entered in our parish's Book of Remembrance which will be placed in front of the altar during November. The names of the deceased will not be published in the bulletin in November, **except for those recently deceased**.



Parish Self-Assessment Review on Working With Children Check (WWCC) Registers

Very Important: Fr Paul would like to ask for the assistance of all volunteers who may be required to have a WWCC.

Examples of ministries where volunteers would require a WWCC include:

- ☐ Special Religious Education Teachers,
- ☐ Sacramental Teams,
- ☐ Children's Liturgy,
- ☐ Youth Ministry, and
- ☐ Adult Ministers of the Altar (Adult Server, Senior Server, Acolyte)

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list.

If you think that this applies to you, please check and update your WWCC and your Safeguarding Training.

This data will provide evidence that our Ministry Teams who work directly with children are suitable, supported and are up to date with verified Working With Children Check Numbers; and, all those in volunteer ministries, as Mandatory Reporters, are up to date with their Mandatory Safeguarding Training.

PARISH READING ROSTER NEXT WEEK: 29/30 November

Saturday 5:30 pm Gerard Pinto / Robert Aquino
 Sunday 8:00 am Anne Haddad / Victoria Micalizzi

10:00 am Patricia Armao / Natasha Joseph

Diocesan Notices

Bishop's Christmas Appeal – supporting Catholic Care Grief and Loss Counselling

Christmas is drawing near, and with it the promise that God is with us. For many in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, that promise is needed right now. Your generosity is the way to open the doors of hope for the broken-hearted ensuring that no one in our community grieves alone. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan the QR code. Thank you.



**OPEN THE DOORS
OF HOPE TO
GRIEVING HEARTS
THIS CHRISTMAS**

"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." - Matthew 5:4

Bishop's Christmas Appeal
parracatholic.org/appeal

New 2026 Academic Scholarship Opportunity

Nagle College Blacktown is now offering a limited number of Academic Scholarships for Year 7 students commencing in 2026. These scholarships are intended to recognise exceptional academic promise and help make an excellent Catholic secondary girls' education more accessible to families. Please review the eligibility criteria and application process on the school website as soon as possible. Learn more here: <https://www.nagleblacktown.catholic.edu.au/nagle-scholarship>.

School Holiday Sacred Music Workshop: 21 January 2026

For students from years 4 – 12 at the Cathedral. Please see attached flyer for more information or visit this link [School Holiday Sacred Music Workshop Registration Form - January 2026](#)

Registrations close
Wednesday 14 January

Positions Vacant

Catholic Chaplain –
Catholic Care Western
Sydney and the Blue
Mountains
Parish Secretary
(permanent part-time) –
Our Lady of Mount
Carmel Parish, Wentworthville
More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

Caritas Australia's Global Gifts are Christmas Cards with purpose!

Global Gifts

Your gift supports vulnerable communities around the world.

Purchasing Global Gift Christmas cards can help to build a brighter future for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty.

DONATE NOW

www.globalgifts.org.au
1800 024 413

Every card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for the Global Gifts of your choice you will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card. View the range of Global Gifts: www.globalgifts.org.au

SING A NEW SONG!

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY
MUSIC WORKSHOP**

COME ALONG FOR A FUN DAY OF SINGING AND
EXPLORATION OF SACRED MUSIC

SESSION DATE & TIME
Primary & High School
Years 4 – 12

WEDNESDAY 21 JANUARY
9:30am – 2pm

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, CLOISTER HALL
MORNING TEA & LUNCH PROVIDED

STUDENTS WILL FORM A CHOIR TO LEAD THE
SINGING AT THE 11AM SOLEMN MASS
WITH BISHOP VINCENT
ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
SUNDAY 25 JANUARY

FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION
SCAN THE QR CODE
REGISTRATIONS CLOSE WEDNESDAY 14 JANUARY

Our Community



Please pray for the children of our school and our parish who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday, 23rd of November at 10 am mass at St Oliver's to be celebrated by Very Rev. Peter Williams.



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.



Deceased:

In November, the Church remembers all those who have died.
All Mass Intentions for the Deceased will be entered in the
Book of Remembrance
Which will be placed in front of the altar
and will be offered for the whole month of November.



Recently Deceased: Kevin Abood (6 November 2025) | Fahim Laoulach

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: Luigi, Jackie & Jonathan Perumal | 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

2 Samuel 5:1-3

A reading from the second book of Samuel

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel."' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 121:1-5

℟ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. ℟

Jerusalem is built as a city
strongly compact.

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord. ℟

For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgment
of the house of David. ℟

Second Reading

Colossians 1:12-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God
and the first-born of all creation;
for in him were created
all things in heaven and on earth:
everything visible and everything invisible,
Thrones, Dominions, Sovereignities, Powers –
all things were created through him and for him.
Before anything was created, he existed,
and he holds all things in unity.
Now the Church is his body,
he is its head.

As he is the Beginning,
he was first to be born from the dead,
so that he should be first in every way;
because God wanted all perfection
to be found in him
and all things to be reconciled through him and for him,

everything in heaven and everything on earth,
when he made peace
by his death on the cross.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 11:9,10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 23:35-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The people stayed before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said, 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

