

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

26 April 2026 | Fourth Sunday of Easter

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Cf. Psalm 32:5-6

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock,
alleluia.

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

Good Shepherd Sunday - 4th Sunday of Easter (Vocations Sunday)

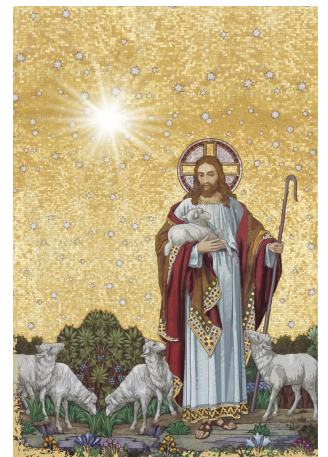
We need to pray for good pastors, religious vocations, strong marriages and those committed in partnerships in missionary efforts for our community. The Church uses this year's World Day of Prayer for Vocations to encourage in those who are being called by God (vocation) to the ministerial priesthood, the diaconate and the consecrated life to make a prayerful positive response. All Christians need to share in the responsibility of fostering these vocations: a) The faith community must continuously pray for vocations both in the Church and in their families. b) Since good priests, deacons, and people embracing the consecrated life come from good Christian families, all Christian parents need to live their faith in Christ on a daily basis, leading exemplary lives as parents and fostering good relationships with, and among, their children. c) Parents need to respect and encourage a child who shows an interest in becoming a priest or deacon or entering upon a consecrated life or who undertakes missionary efforts amongst the homeless and marginalised. Parents need to encourage their children, including their teenagers and young adults, to participate actively in the children's and youth activities in the parish, like teaching SRE in our local state schools, children's liturgy, and youth associations. What pastoral initiatives might help build strong marriages and family life? Younger and single people also need encouragement and active support in becoming altar servers, gift-bearers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, and ministers of hospitality. On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, let us begin, or continue, especially in these most stressful times in and for the Church (local and universal), to pray earnestly for continued conversion and perseverance in the Faith for our bishops, priests, deacons, those living a consecrated life, and all in family life, for we are One Body, and what one member suffers, all suffer.

Let us pray, especially this weekend for two more of our seminarians: Paul Tran, to be ordained as a Deacon-this Saturday 25th April at 6.00pm Mass at Penrith parish and Jeff Hood to be ordained Deacon this Sunday 26th April at 6.00pm at Stanhope Gardens parish. We give thanks for the fruitfulness of your prayers and support of our seminarians now progressing to Holy Orders in the Church. Let's remember Luke Huynh, Paul Tran and Jeff Hood who, this month of April, have become Deacons of our Diocese.

Fr Paul



Seminarians Luke Huynh, Jeff Hood, Paul Tran



Other News and Events

Attendance counts at all Masses over the first four weekends in May

The National Count of Attendance for 2026 will take place over the first four weekends of May, commencing on the weekend of 2–3 May 2026. This important initiative provides valuable data to support pastoral planning and resource allocation across our Diocese and the wider Church.

Ministry of Care courses: 3-24 June

Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. The course will take place every Wednesday in June at 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Please register via parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses to reserve your spot. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Sistine Chapel Revelations – An Immersive Exhibition: 16 May to 19 July

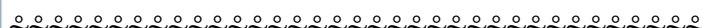
Experience the Sistine Chapel: Revelations immersive exhibition at St Mary's Cathedral forecourt, Sydney (16 May–19 July 2026). Discover breathtaking digital recreations, sacred art, and the story of salvation. Book tickets at sistinechapelsydney.com.au.

Nominations open for the 2026 Papal & Diocesan Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals – both religious and lay – who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 30 June 2026. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/

Fr Paul's Corner

Anzac Day Mass – 9.00am Saturday 25th April: The blood of our nation's young men on foreign battlefields seems to make little sense, yet year after year we march and tell their stories. Our remembrance today celebrates our solidarity with all the Anzacs stood for: a fight for truth, freedom, justice and the ushering in of a new nation- we remember the pivotal role of many indigenous people who fought and died for our nationhood and the many women both at home and abroad who gave of their lives. The Anzac spirit calls us to be courageous and creative in the face of adversity.



SAFEGUARDING IN OUR PARISH:

In our Parish of St. Oliver's, we aim to promote child safety in what we say and do. The Diocese of Parramatta's Statement of Commitment to Safeguarding outlines our commitment to being a community of safeguarding that actively promotes the dignity and rights of children and of all other persons, particularly those who may be at risk.

Clergy, religious, employees, and volunteers are all required to undertake Safeguarding training and to follow the Diocesan Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Policy. Most of our parishes have a Safeguarding Champion who co-ordinates the Safeguarding training of parish volunteers. Our Safeguarding person is Milly and the parish office team.



Fr Paul

Parish News & Updates

Who needs to be counted for the attendance count?

Everyone who is present at the Mass or other assembly: all the adults including archbishops, bishops, priests, deacons and any other celebrants, all the children and all the babies. Don't forget to include the altar servers and anyone distributing communion.

Joke of the Week: A pastor was teaching the 23rd Psalm in the Sunday school. He told the children about sheep, that they weren't smart and needed lots of guidance, and that a shepherd's job was to stay close to the sheep, protect them from wild animals and keep them from wandering off. He pointed to the little children in the room and said that they were the sheep and needed lots of guidance. Then the pastor put his hands out to the side, palms up in a dramatic gesture, and with raised eyebrows said to the children, "If you are the sheep, then who is the shepherd?" He was pretty sure that all the kids would point out to him as the shepherd. A silence of a few seconds followed. Then a young girl said, "Jesus! Jesus is the shepherd." The young pastor, obviously caught by surprise, said to the little girl, "Well then, who am I?" The girl frowned thoughtfully and then said with a shrug, "I guess you must be the sheep dog."

SAFEGUARDING EDUCATION DAY– Please diarise Saturday 9th May 9.30am-4.00pm- St. Oliver's Parish Hall. In preparation for a parish safeguarding audit by the Government in June, our parish (and all parishes in the Diocese and our Parramatta Deanery) need to be safeguarding compliant. Anyone who works directly with children-such as Acolytes, Leaders of Children's Liturgy and those working with children in sacramental preparation need to obtain an up-to-date Working with Children Check. Even if you do not work with children, you may be working with vulnerable adults and the 9th May date is an opportunity to become informed about the protocols a parish needs to be compliant with to honour recent Safeguarding Legislation. Please RSVP to Lilia at the Parish Office harrisparke@parracatholic.org by Tuesday 5th May if you are attending. Tea and coffee provided. Please bring your own lunch.



National Count of Attendance for 2026

Our parish need volunteers to assist with the actual head count at each mass time over the next four weekends in May. Please let us know if you can assist.

PARISH READING ROSTER : 2/3 May 2026

Saturday 5:30 pm Kristine Alba / Jim Hanna

Sunday 8:00 am Anne Haddad / Victoria Micalizzi

10:00 am

Patricia Armao / Natasha Joseph

Diocesan Notices

Bishop Vincent's Homily for the ordination of Luke Huynh to the Diaconate

By Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, 12 April 2026, Catholic Outlook (The following was extracted from article)

Dear Luke,
You are ordained to diaconal ministry today in the context of changing times. We face considerable head winds going forward. Yet like the disciples in the Upper Room, we have the presence of the Lord, wounded, risen and vindicated. We are strengthened by his power and his example to be the wounded healers beyond our own faults and limitations. Your ordination today brings joy, hope and renewal to us. The Church here and beyond is reinvigorated by your passion for the Gospel and enriched by your gifts. Your fellow clergy and God's people are strengthened by your companionship. May your work for the faith in Jesus Christ be blessed abundantly. May Mary our Mother surround you with her maternal love, inspire you with her faithful discipleship and support you with her intercession.



Image: Donna Laurianto/threetwoone photography/Diocese of Parramatta

Be The Witness arrives this September - but the movement is already underway across our diocese. Join us for Witness Live! - a powerful event powered by music, story and community as we step into Be The Witness. Experience live performances (including exclusive previews from The Witness). Hear real testimonies. Connect with others who are part of this growing movement. Whether you're all-in or just curious, you need to be there. Come along. Bring a friend. Be part of it. Which Witness Live! event will we see you at? Why not all of them!

Sun 3 May – 11:30am-12:30pm at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown
Sun 10 May – 9:30-10:20am at St Andrew's church, Marayong
Sun 17 May – 5.30-6pm at St John 23rd, Stanhope Gardens

Schoenstatt Annual Marian Pilgrimage Day Sunday 17th May 2026

Program:
9.30am Sacrament of Reconciliation is available
10.00am Welcome & Opening Prayer
10.30am Holy Mass with Bishop Tony Percy - Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney
2.00pm Eucharistic Procession OR Anointing of the Sick
3.00pm Benediction

Please bring your Pilgrim Mother Shrines along. Drinks & food will be available for purchase. This is an outdoor event - bring your own chairs.

Address: 230 Fairlight Road Mulgoa

Contact: Sr. M. Rita 0493 026 628

Web: www.schoenstatt.org.au

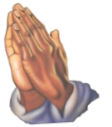


Our Community

SAFEGUARDING EDUCATION DAY – Please diarise Saturday 9th May 9.30am-4.00pm- St. Oliver's Parish Hall.



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: Roberto Mamaryl | Johnson Anthony | Maxcyne Castellino | George Almonte | All those who died recently, especially those who used to be part of this parish community as parishioners or relations of our parishioners

Deceased: Bishop Arnold Arowa, Andrew Allen Pitaia | Raymond, Etour & Joe Romanos | Joe & Clare Boulous, Isaac & Ruby Moses | Namtallah & Patrick Malkoun, Frank & Ray Malkoun, Romanos Malkoun & Samiha Frome | Queenie & Nicholas Nicholas, Namtullah & Christine Coorey, Rizcullah & Patricia Coorey, Jeanette & Veronica Coorey, Jabour & Doura Nicholas & family, Saidie & Joseph Coorey & family, Najia & Toufic Samyia, Vincent Budwee, John Doumit, All deceased members of the Nicholas, Coorey, Budwee & Norman families | Artemio, Abraham, Augustus, Rebecca & Tranquilina Patacsil; Yolanda & Donald Muir; Rachael Sumagui, Melissa, Petronillo & Rebecca Llanillo | David (Dib) & Theresia Romanos | Romanos Family | Pamela Romanos | Evelyn Betros | Tony, Kevin & 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 souls whose anniversaries occur around this time

Sick: Marcia Clayburn, Roseline & Craig Meyn | Zachariah Cortez | Antonio Pires | 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: Sidney Lavyo Imbun | Cristina Yara Pipi | Melhem Family | John Joaquin, Agnes, Napoleon, Manuel, Virginia & Jorge Patacsil & his families; Elizabeth, Michael & Maryrose Perez; Erwin Ayuste | Wap-Hill, Sidney, Kimberley, Richard | 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 harrispar@parracatholic.org. For mass offerings or special intentions, you may use the envelopes provided at the church foyer.

Mass Readings

First Reading

Acts 2:14, 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 22:1-6

℟ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. ℟

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. ℟

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. ℟

Surely goodness and kindness
shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I
dwell for ever and ever. ℟

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 10:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,
I am the gate of the sheepfold.
All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;
but the sheep took no notice of them.
I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:
he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.
I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

