

St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

Harris park



Website: www.stoliversharrispark.org.au
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Tel: (02) 88638801 Email: harrispark@parracatholic.org

10 May 2026 | Sixth Sunday of Easter

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people,
alleluia.

Cf. Isaiah 48:20

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

If you love me, keep my commandments,
says the Lord, and I will ask the
Father and he will send you another
Paraclete, to abide with you for ever,
alleluia.

John 14:15-16

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



6th Sunday of Easter Yr. A || 10th May 2026 - Mother's Day

Welcome to our Mother's Day weekend honouring our mothers and all the important women in our lives. We remember and pray for all mothers and those who fulfil the mothering role in our lives. We praise and thank God for these special women whose nurturing and motherly love shows us a glimpse of the great love God has for us. We also remember and pray for the mothers who are no longer with us; those who have gone home to be with God.

As mothers who love and advocate for their families from one generation to another so, too, the Holy Spirit is the guarantor of expressing unchanging truth and is also the guarantor of bringing out an abiding newness from our ancient truths.

There is a cross in following the Risen Jesus as "The Way, the Truth, and the Life." To illustrate this point, Pope Leo XIV recently corrected President Trump who asserted that the Church had said that Iran should possess nuclear arms and that such a position would endanger Catholics worldwide. On the contrary, the Holy See's stance for decades has been clear and consistent: categorical opposition, grounded in both moral theology and international advocacy for disarmament. "The Church has spoken for years against all nuclear weapons. There is no doubt about that," the Pope said, dismissing the accusation without escalating the tone. The Pope sought to correct falsehood while avoiding confrontation. "If someone wishes to criticize me for proclaiming the Gospel, they should do so with the truth," he added. (Zenit.org 5/5/26)

In our Gospel today, Jesus asks the Father for another Advocate (the Holy Spirit) to be with us and to aid us. Pope Leo, through the rich tradition of the Church, is only expressing unchanging truths from the deposit of faith, in a militarized and nuclear arena unimaginable in first century Israel. A "culture of death" (Pope John Paul II) and "a tomb psychology" (Pope Francis) envelopes so much of our world today. However, the Spirit, the Advocate, still speaks in our Church. And our mothers take a stand for peace and tranquility advocating for all families across the world. As the stakes get higher, recent Popes have articulated the prophetic Spirit of God: "War, no more war, war never again." (Pope Paul VI). In April 1963, Pope John XXIII issued *Pacem in Terris* (Peace in the World). The words of John XXIII from 1963 resonate just as clearly in 2026:

"Hence, justice, right reason, and the recognition of man's dignity cry out insistently for a cessation to the arms race. The stockpiles of armaments which have been built up in various countries must be reduced all around and simultaneously by the parties concerned. Nuclear weapons must be banned. A general agreement must be reached on a suitable disarmament program, with an effective system of mutual control.... Everyone must sincerely co-operate in the effort to banish fear and the anxious expectation of war from people's minds.... (there is a) realization that true and lasting peace among nations cannot consist in the possession of an equal supply of armaments but only in mutual trust. And we are confident that this can be achieved, for it is a thing which is not only dictated by common sense but is in itself most desirable and most fruitful of good." (n.112-113)

A reassuring last word from Jesus: "I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you forever, the Spirit of Truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you." (John 14.15-17). Our mothers symbolize what is best in peace and their advocacy for more trust in human relations.

Fr. Paul



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.

Parish Team Employment – Greystanes

Co-ordinator of Volunteers

Initially 15 hrs/wk onsite for a suitably qualified/experienced person: Collaborating as a parish team member with a focus on promoting, organising and celebrating parishioner involvement in ministry/service.

Overseeing the safeguarding requirements for those in ministry/service whilst assisting processes for both practical and enriching ongoing formation. For a role description and requirements for making application, please contact: parishoffice@olqp.org.au by 12 May 2026

Corpus Christi Adoration at Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill

On the Feast of Corpus Christi, Mary Immaculate Parish Quakers Hill will have the Blessed Sacrament exposed between their Sunday Masses: following the end of the 7:30am Mass to the start of the 5:30pm Mass. Everyone is welcome to come especially between 1:15pm to 5:15pm as the church will be open and quiet for personal reflection. For more information, please contact the parish office on 9626-3326 or email on parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au

Fr Paul's Corner

A Tribute to our Mothers:

What do you value about your mothers? What few words might describe your mother? Their constancy, their care, their understanding, their unfailing commitment to each aspect of your lives...from your physical well-being to your emotional and spiritual well-being...your education, getting you to your football game, your basketball, soccer or debating team...The encouraging word...the hug in desperate times...Mother's day stops us and focuses us on our mothers and who they REALLY are for us.



One of the truly great gifts I believe mothers give to families is their ability to transform their own suffering and pain and to turn that into fruitful service of their families and communities. Mothers have an incredible ability to go beyond their own tiredness and pain thresholds so that they can really continue to be there for their family and community. They give without counting the cost. We can't put a dollar value on our mothers because they are of infinite worth.

We recall that Motherhood is but a reflection of the deeply nurturing side of our loving God. The love commandment that Jesus gives his disciples depends on God's limitless love for the world. Mothers, you bring a love which most truly reflects that limitless love of God, for you keep loving unconditionally and perseveringly through all the seasons of our lives. On this Mother's Day, Lord we ask that You especially bless our mothers whether living or dead, for they continue to nurture and guide us from their home or their eternal home.

Happy Mother's Day



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.

Thank you very much to Gerard Pinto and Malcolm Malkoun for volunteering to assist with the attendance count at 5:30 pm Saturday and 8 am Sunday masses.



School / Parish Toilets Renovations

Beginning early next month (June), major renovations are planned for the school toilets. The car park will still be accessible for parking at weekend masses but there will be trucks, construction and temporary toilets located in the car park facing Wigram Street. It is anticipated that the scope of works would extend from 4th June to mid-July 2026.

SAFEGUARDING EDUCATION DAY – Saturday 9th May 9.30am-4.00pm- St. Oliver's Parish Hall.
Thank you to those who attended the training.

Positions Vacant:

Housekeeper Supervisor – **Holy Spirit Seminary**, Harris Park

Parish Secretary – St Monica's Catholic Church, Richmond

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

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.

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 : 16/17 May 2026

Saturday 5:30 pm Jackie Perumal / Siji Devasia

Sunday 8:00 am Anthony Melham / Katherine Katrib

10:00 am

Geoff & Monica Officer

Diocesan Notices

Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers: 12 May

All liturgical ministers – readers, servers, extra ordinary ministers are invited to attend on 12 May 2026 at 7:30pm, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Families and friends are also invited. Liturgical ministers are asked to please arrive by 7pm and be seated by 7:15pm. To register the number of guests and ministers attending please register by Thursday, 7th May via 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.

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.

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/

Bishop's Good Works Appeal

Across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, people turn to the Church for care, hope, guidance and belonging. Through the Bishop's Good Works Appeal, our Diocese supports vital ministries including Holy Spirit Seminary, Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. Over the coming weeks, this Appeal will support Holy Spirit Seminary at Harris Park, helping form the future priests our Diocese will need in the years ahead. Your generosity provides education, spiritual formation, pastoral training and safe accommodation for seminarians as they answer God's call. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan the QR code. Thank you for supporting the future priests of our Church.

Grow Food at Home: Upskill with a Local Farmer Workshop (16 & 20 May)

Penrith City Council is hosting two FREE food-growing workshops at Mamre House (181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills). You'll learn a lot in this workshop and be empowered to start growing some of your own food, with a focus on winter harvest crops. Learn more at <https://parracatholic.org/events/grow-food-at-home-workshop/>

Catholic Charismatic Renewal 'The Power of Pentecost' annual event: 24 May

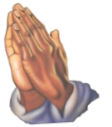
The Catholic Charismatic Renewal Parramatta Diocese and Emmaus Prayer Community Greystanes is hosting PENTECOST SUNDAY – "The Power of Pentecost" on SUNDAY 24TH MAY 2026 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church Greystanes from 2 pm to 4.30pm.

Our Community

Thank you for your generosity. FIRST COLLECTION goes to the Clergy Foundation. SECOND COLLECTION goes to the support of the Parish.



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

Deceased: Clare Margaret Hastie | Sayed Doueih | 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 | 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 | 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 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 65:1-7, 16, 20

℟ Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! ℟

'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. ℟

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. ℟

Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. ℟

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth
whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,
because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;
I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.

On that day you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them
will be one who loves me;
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

