

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

20 September 2026 | Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people,
says the Lord. Should they cry to
me in any distress, I will hear them,
and I will be their Lord for ever.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have laid down your precepts
to be carefully kept; may my ways
be firm in keeping your statutes.

Psalm 118:4-5

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

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Yr. A

Can you remember what it is like to be "picked last?" As children, it may have been for a footy or soccer team or a debating team. As an adult it may have been as an asylum seeker who, after 13 years in Australia, only this year received permanent residency. The parable today is about the landowner's generosity towards the "last picked people." At the eleventh hour (5pm), the landowner comes out for the last time and finds a group still lingering and looking for work. The parable ends with a complete reversal of expectations. The last to be hired are the first to be paid: "The last will be first, the first will be last." This is the realm of the Kingdom of God where the generosity of the Landowner-God reaches out to the last called as equally as to the first. This story upends our belief that salvation is earned through effort. God's grace is not a wage – it is a gift.

If one is into competition, success, and rewards this Gospel doesn't make any sense. It makes little sense from the idea of justice. This parable is not about justice; it is about mercy and generosity.

Let us open our hearts to God's generosity. And having experienced it, let it serve as a model for how we treat others.

This weekend Michelle from Catholic Mission Sunday will speak of the works of Catholic Mission in caring and helping the marginalized. Mission is not the work of individuals alone. As Pope Leo XIV describes it, mission is born of love, lived in love and leading to love. The focus for Catholic Mission in 2026 is for building a future for children in Malawi.

Last weekend there was a Rectors' Conference in Melbourne with seminary rectors attending from Perth, Brisbane, Wagga, Melbourne, Fiji, New Zealand, Parramatta and Sydney. At the inter-seminary soccer competition our Parramatta side succeeded in winning against Melbourne and Brisbane but were beaten by the Neocatechumenate and Sydney. While not securing a trophy our seminary team showed great flare and promise securing a third place.

Fr. Paul



Other News and Events

SCHOENSTATT COUPLES' ORIENTATION DAY

Are you looking for ways to strengthen your marriage and grow together in faith? Married couples are warmly invited to a Schoenstatt Couples' Orientation Day on:

Sunday, 27 September 2026, 1:30pm – 3:30pm, Joseph Kentenich House Marian Hall, Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa NSW 2745.

Free Registration – Afternoon Tea Provided. Come and discover how Schoenstatt spirituality can help couples grow in love, friendship and faith, and strengthen their family life. RSVP by 25 September Derek & Joycelyn Boog – 0420 543 364 Sr Luisa Maria – 0439 537 976



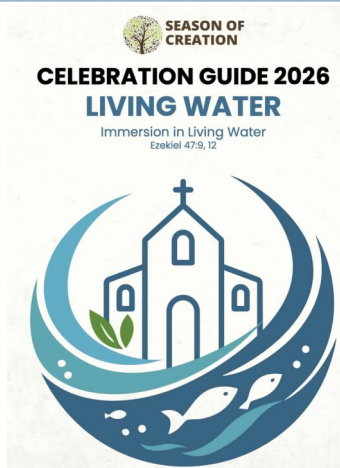
Engaging Your Faith (EYF) is back in October!

Catholic Theological College invites you, your parish staff, volunteers, and parishioners to our EYF online presentation series. The series

features nine stand-alone sessions on a range of themes, presented by CTC staff. Experienced academics from Catholic Theological College present on a variety of topics such as: science and faith issues including AI, moral theology, politics and religion, the Gospels of Matthew and John, biblical languages, canon law, and religion and ethics. Cost: \$25 per session: General audience || \$40 per session: Teachers applying for Catholic school accreditation. All sessions are booked directly through Humanitix. Please note that registrations close at 5pm two business days before each session. Email: ctc@ctc.edu.au || www.ctc.edu.au

Fr Paul's Corner

The Season of Creation runs from 1st September (the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4th October (the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of Ecology). The global theme for the 2026 Season of Creation is "Living Water," paired with the symbol of Immersion in Living Water. Inspired by the biblical vision in Ezekiel 47. 1-12, this theme highlights a powerful river flowing from the temple of God that grows continuously deeper, transforming barren lands, reviving stagnant waters, and fostering vibrant, flourishing ecosystems of landscapes and care for humanity. It is a wonderful image of the waters welling up to eternal life which speaks of our Baptism from which graces flow to us through all our life. Baptism makes us co-responsible with God for partnering in Creation, loving and raising up those on the margins, and worshipping God as our Creator.



Bishop's Father's Day Appeal 2026: Thank you for caring for our spiritual fathers
Appreciation for the donations received for the recent Father's Day Retired Priests Appeal.

Parish News & Updates

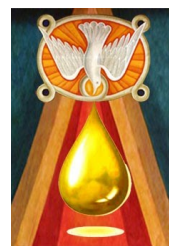


Bishop's Father's Day Appeal 2026: Thank you for caring for our spiritual fathers

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal Because of your compassion, our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal helped to provide much-needed care and support for those who have dedicated their lives to serving our community. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2026 Enrolment

To be eligible for preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation at this time your child should be 10 years of age by the 30th June, 2026. Although, we do recommend that your child be in Year 5 (or above). Families are asked to carefully consider their availability before registering, as attendance at all sessions is an important part of the preparation process. Please register before **25th of September 2026**. Please note: The Sacrament of Confirmation Mass will be on **Sunday 22nd November 2026 at 10:00am**. Link for the Sacrament of Confirmation 2026 registration: <https://forms.gle/bMvzr2LSvKij2DES8>



This week, you are invited to partner with Catholic Mission and the Church in Malawi as we support families rebuilding after devastating floods and help children access education close to home.

Through projects like St Peter's Nyamukuta Primary School, the Church is creating a place where children can learn, be nourished, and grow with dignity, regardless of their background or beliefs.

As we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Day, we are reminded by Pope Leo XIV that we are 'One in Christ, United in Mission'.

Join with us in celebration and action by supporting this work with a compassionate gift. Use the provided appeal envelope, scan the QR code, or visit catholicmission.org.au/united to make a difference today.

PARISH READING ROSTER : 26/27 September 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



Annual Marian Procession at Our Lady of the Rosary, Kellyville: 10 October

The Marian Procession is a special parish celebration honouring Our Lady of the Rosary, the Patroness of our parish and community. Following the 6:00pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, 10 October 2026, parishioners will process from Our Lady of the Rosary Church to the Shrine of the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents, Kellyville, praying the Rosary and singing Marian hymns.

Bishop Vincent Presents: Kim Daniels on 'AI, Pope Leo and the future of human dignity'

Join us on **13 October at 6 pm** to hear from one of the Church's foremost experts on Catholic Social Thought and its importance in the age of artificial intelligence. A lawyer by training, Ms Daniels served for 10 years as a member of the Vatican Dicastery for Communication until 2026, and during the Synod on Synodality from 2021-2024 was an expert participant and coordinator of the study group that focused on the Church's mission in the digital age. Registration is essential, visit parracatholic.org/kim-daniels



Public Talk on Nurturing an Australian Spirituality – Pre-Colonisation, Colonisation and Walking Together: 1 November

Join Aboriginal Catholic leader Evelyn Parkin as she explores the meeting of Aboriginal and Christian spirituality, the impact of colonisation, and pathways for walking together. This presentation is part of a series titled the Stockton Conversation, named after the late Fr Eugene Stockton, STD, LSS, who was its inspiration and patron. Sunday 1 November 2026, 2.00pm, Mavis Wood Hall, Mid-Mountains Community Centre, 7 New Street, Lawson. All welcome.

Express your interest to be a Stall Holder or Performer at LIFTED Live in the Forecourt 2026!

Be part of a vibrant evening filled with music, dance, activities, food, and community fun hosted by Catholic Youth Parramatta on Saturday, 24th October, within the precinct of St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. We invite local performers, small business and organisations to express their interest via the links below! Expressions of Interest close Sunday 20th 11:59pm. Stall Holder EOI: <https://forms.gle/9cbayafAiumdgWW1dA> Performer EOI: <https://forms.gle/cza7pTd48eNL9MxM6>

Major Pilgrim Relic & Exhibition of St Carlo Acutis: 28-30 September

The First-Class Major Pilgrim Relic of St Carlo Acutis will be at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta from 28 to 30 September. Come and pray before the Major Pilgrim Relic of St Carlo Acutis and experience the Vatican International Exhibition of The Eucharistic Miracles of the World. The Major Pilgrim Relic will be housed in the Chapel for personal prayer and veneration throughout the visit. All welcome. Find the full program on parracatholic.org/events/relic-exhibition-st-carlo-acutis



Got your wedding plans under control?

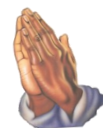
How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit our web site: www.engagedencounter.org.au Choose any of the coming Weekends: Nov 14-15, Feb 13-14

Our Community

Thank you for your generosity during our first collection (for the needs of the clergy actively serving in the Parramatta Diocese) and second collection (for our parish expenses).



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: Lucreta Leonardo | Peter Phillip Helen | Tony Haddad | Alwyn Phillips | All those who died recently, especially those who used to be part of this parish community as parishioners or relations of our parishioners

Deceased: Dominique Nguyen, Theresa Le | Daraban Karam | Andrew A. Pitaia, Bishop Arnold Arawa | (Unknown) "Recently passed away family members and other souls | Joe & Clare Boulous, Isaac & Ruby Moses | Namtallah & Patrick Malkoun, Frank & Ray Malkoun, Samiha Frome & Romanos Malkoun | 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 | Artemio, Abraham, Augustus, Rebecca & Tranquilina Patacsil; Yolanda & Donald Muir; Rachael Sumagui, Melissa, Rebecca & Petronillo 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: Vincent Budwee | Maurice & Martha Haddad | Alonzo Rae Monis | For all those souls whose anniversaries 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: (Unknown) Family members' peace | 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: Kimberley, Wap-Hill, Sidney & Richard | 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

Isaiah 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts. covenant of the Most
High, and overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 144:2-3,8-9,17-18

℟ The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. ℟

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. ℟

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. ℟

Second Reading

Philippians 1:20-24,27

A reading from the letter of Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

cf Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at

about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Feast Days this week

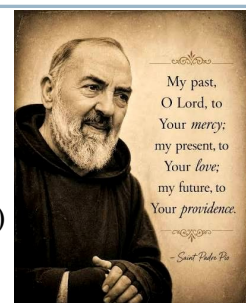
September 21: St. Matthew the Apostle

September 22: St. Thomas of Villanova

September 23: St. Adomnán and

St. Padre Pio (St Pius of Pietrelcina)

September 26: Sts. Cosmas and Damian



My past,
O Lord, to
Your mercy;
my present, to
Your love;
my future, to
Your providence.

— Saint Padre Pio