

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

6 September 2026 | Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Psalm 118:137, 124

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Cf. Psalm 41:2-3

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

23rd Sunday Yr. A - Care of Creation and Father's Day



The image of a farmer- a father- harvesting wheat, gathering the sheep with his trusty sheep-dog; droving cattle; engineering a bridge or being a provider for the family are emblematic of our human endeavours to flourish in our world. We have much to be grateful for our fathers who have helped pioneer new opportunities in so many areas of life. Let's remember the unique role fathers have in families-supporting their

wives mentoring their sons and daughters, guiding, and advocating for their families. Let's also remember our retired priests who have served our faith communities over so many years. Let's also remember our fathers who are sick or who have completed their time on earth.

This weekend also marks the beginning of the season of Creation which runs from the 1st September to the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi on 4th October. This is a special time when we celebrate God as Creator and acknowledge Creation as the divine continuing action that summons us to collaborate with the Creator to love and care for God's abundant gifts of life.

As we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, let us pray for the Land we are gathered on, and for its Traditional custodians. Let us acknowledge our failures towards them and reflect on their wisdom and deep connections with God's Creation.

How do we see ourselves in relation to Creation? We have, more often than not, "seen ourselves less as members of the community of life than as consumers standing outside it, free to take what we think we need and disregard what we think we don't. We have a mistaken freedom for unlimited choice and progress for endless accumulation. But the Earth is finite. There are not enough resources to sustain eight billion people living as though restraint is an infringement of their liberty rather than a condition of our survival."

Jesus constantly drew people's attention to the natural world: "Look at the birds in the sky they do not sow or reap... and yet God feeds them." Jesus invites us to see in Creation the character and purposes of God. Many Australians understand that Aboriginal people have a special respect for nature: "What I want to talk about is another special quality of my people...It is our most unique gift. It is perhaps the greatest gift we can give to our fellow Australians... this is the gift that Australia is thirsting for. It is called 'Dadirri.' Dadirri recognizes the deep spring that is inside us. We call on it and it calls on us.

On this Father's Day, how might our fathers lead us away from being a consumer 'outside of Creation' to a place of 'Dadirri' or deep inner listening concerning the underlying reality of Creation?

Fr. Paul

Mary Colwell Hope is in our Nature in The Tablet 8th August 2026, 12
Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr Dadirri- Inner Deep Listening and Quiet Stillness

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands in which the Diocese of Parramatta sits, the land of the Darug and Gundungurra people. We pay our respects to First Peoples past, present and emerging for they hold the traditions, memories and wisdom entwined with the land that we meet on today.

Other News and Events

Parish Feast Day Triduum & Celebration at St. Padre Pio Parish: 17-20 September

All are welcome to join St. Padre Pio Parish, Glenmore Park in celebrating the Feast Day of St Padre Pio. A 3-day Triduum Novena and Mass will be held on Thursday 17 Sept and Friday 18 Sept at 7:00pm and on Saturday 19 September at 5.30pm. On Sunday 20 September, a procession will start at 10am, followed by the Feast Day Mass, Veneration, Blessing with his Relic and fellowship meal. For any enquiries: (02) 4789 2232 or glenmorepark@parracatholic.org



Catholic Care WSBM – Suicide Memorial Service: 10 September

Catholic Care WSBM, together with White Lady Funerals, invite you to a memorial service to remember loved ones who have died by suicide or tragically lost their lives. Join us on 10 September at 11am at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills. The service will include the opportunity to plant a rose bush in our Garden of Remembrance, followed by light refreshments. Free to attend, please RSVP by 7 Sept to Lisa 0439 917 129 or Christy 4731 4385.

Catholic Care WSBM – Pregnancy & Infant Loss Memorial Day at Mamre House & Farm: 13 October

Catholic Care and White Lady Funerals will be holding a memorial service followed by the opportunity to place a plant in memory of your lost loved one in our Garden of Remembrance. Where: Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills. Free to attend, please RSVP by 8 October to Lisa 0439 917 129 or Christy 4731 4385.

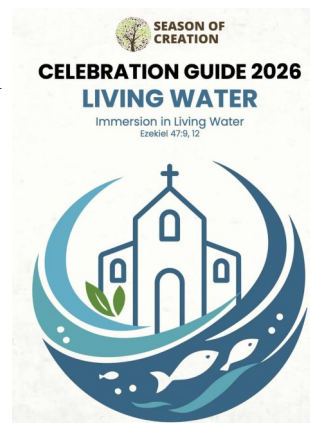
Fr Paul's Corner

This Weekend-6th September we celebrate **Father's Day**, **Retired Priests** and the **beginning of the month for the Season of Creation**.

We remember the influence of our fathers in forming our lives. We remember them for their guidance and inspiration.

It is also a time to remember our retired priests and the Appeal for the retired priests of the Diocese.

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.



Parish News & Updates

Bishop's FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

HONOUR A LIFETIME OF FAITHFUL SERVICE THIS FATHER'S DAY

DONATE AT parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal

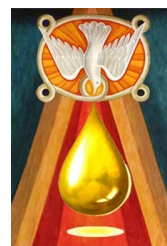


Bishop's Father's Day Appeal – Honour a lifetime of faithful service

We give thanks for the fathers, grandfathers, mentors and spiritual fathers who have guided us with love, wisdom and faith. Among them are our priests, who have devoted their lives to serving God's people. They have celebrated the Sacraments with us, prayed with us, accompanied our families and helped bring us closer to Christ. After a lifetime of faithful service, many of our senior priests now need practical care and support as they face the challenges of ageing, illness and retirement. Your generous tax-deductible gift will help care for our retired and unwell priests and ensure they can live with the dignity, care and support they deserve. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan the QR code. Thank you for caring for those who have spent their lives caring for us.

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>



PARISH READING ROSTER : 12/13 September 2026

Saturday 5:30 pm Jim Hanna

Sunday 8:00 am Victoria Micalizzi

10:00 am

Carol Isaac / Nick Tagnipis

Diocesan Notices

MET Natural Fertility Session: 7pm via Teams: 10 September

Are you looking for help to track your fertility cycle? Come and explore a Natural, Effective, Healthy and Scientific approach to achieve, space/avoid pregnancy or monitor women's health. Engaged and married couples, single women, and those wanting to know more about their menstrual cycles are welcome to attend. If you'd like to learn the Creighton Model FertilityCare System <https://fccau.org/> this free session is valued at \$125 and gives you all the information you need to be ready for Session 2. To register or for more information visit parracatholic.org/natural-fertility

Music Workshop for Weddings & Funerals: 10 September

All musicians in the diocese are invited to attend the Office for Worship's new upcoming music workshop on 10 September at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre from 7pm-8:30pm. Mr Eric Grella will focus this workshop on choosing music that is suitable for weddings and funerals and will be present to answer any questions you may have. Please register via parracatholic.org/music-workshop

Pro-life rally outside NSW Parliament House: 15 September

A pro-life rally is to be held outside NSW Parliament House, at 6pm on Tuesday September 15th in support of a bill banning the practice of sex-selective abortion. A show of significant numbers will greatly help this cause as we advocate for the protection of all unborn children and particularly our baby girls who are especially vulnerable. They have no voice but ours. Please do all you can to attend and bring others with you. This will be a family friendly event. More information can be found at: <https://www.drjoannahowe.com.au/nswrallyforlifeseptember2026>



Be a Witness to the Holy Shroud of Turin

Exhibition at St Patrick's Cathedral: 6-13 September

An extraordinary opportunity to encounter the mystery and history of the Holy Shroud of Turin. Show in the Chapel St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta from 6-9 September 2026. 9 am to 6 pm. 10-13 September 2026 - 9 am to 10 pm. And while you're

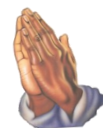
there, experience Be the Witness, a powerful musical exploring the life of Jesus through the eyes of Peter from 10-13 September 2026 at Riverside Theatre, Parramatta.

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: Tony Haddad | Alwyn Phillips | Arthur Bridge Sr. (father of Fr Arthur Bridge) | Fr Eugene Stockton | All those who died recently, especially those who used to be part of this parish community as parishioners or relations of our parishioners

Deceased: (Unknown) "Recently passed away family members and other souls | Dominique & Therese Nguyen | 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 | Clare Boulous | Joe Boulous | Samuel Villamena Talisayon | 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 | Wap-Hill, Sidney, Kimberley, Richard | For all our special intentions and for those who have asked us for prayers

Thanksgiving: 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 harrisparke@parracatholic.org. For mass offerings or special intentions, you may use the envelopes provided at the church foyer.*

Mass Readings

First Reading

Wisdom 13:1-9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

Empty-headed by nature are all who are unaware of God, and who, from good things seen, have not been able to discover Him-who-is, or by studying the works, have not recognised the Artificer, but have thought fire or wind or the swift air, the circle of the stars or forceful water, the starry constellations of heaven, to be the gods of the world. If charmed by their beauty, they have taken these for gods, let them know how much the Master of these excels them, since he was the very source of beauty that created them. If struck by their power and energy, let them consider from these how much mightier is he that formed them, since through the grandeur and beauty of the creatures their Author is by analogy perceived. Small blame however attaches to them, for perhaps they go astray only in their search for God and their eagerness to find him; familiar with his works, they search for him and are seduced by the eye, seeing so much beauty. But even so, they have no excuse: if they are capable of knowing so much that they can weigh up the world, how have they still not found its Master?

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psal **Psalm 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c**

℟ May the Lord rejoice in his works.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!
O Lord my God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and honour,
wrapped in light as with a robe! ℟

You set the earth on its foundation,
immovable from age to age.
You wrapped it with the depths like a cloak;
the waters stood higher than the mountains. ℟

You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow in between the hills.
There the birds of heaven build their nests;
from the branches they sing their song. ℟

How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your creatures.
Bless the Lord, O my soul. ℟

Second Reading

Colossians 1:15-20

A reading from the letter of Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God, the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, thrones, sovereignties, rulers, authorities – all things were created through him and for him. He exists before all things, and in him all things hold together, and he is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, so that he should be supreme in every way; because God wanted all fullness to be found in him and through him to reconcile all things to him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 104:24

Alleluia, alleluia!
How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 6:24-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘No one can be the slave of two masters: a person will either hate the first and love the second, or be attached to the first and despise the second. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money. ‘Therefore I tell you not to worry about your life, what you should eat, nor about your body, what you should wear. Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, by worrying, add one single cubit to your span of life? And why worry about clothing? Learn from the flowers of the fields, how they grow; they neither work nor spin, yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his glory was clothed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grasses of the field which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more clothe you, who have so little faith? So do not worry; do not say, “What should we eat? What should we drink? What should we wear?” It is the gentiles who strive for all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Strive first for his kingdom, and righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Feast Days this week:

5 September: St. Teresa of Calcutta (Kolkata)
8 Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
12 Most Holy Name of Mary

“The best way to show my gratitude to God is to accept everything, even my problems, with joy.” (St. Teresa of Calcutta)

