ST. OLIVER PLUNKETT CATHOLIC CHURCH

35 Wigram Street, Harris Park NSW 2150
PO Box 9394 Harris Park NSW 2150

www.stoliversharrispark.org.au
(02) 88638801 harrispark@parracatholic.org

8 November 2026 | Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

Cf. Psalm 87:3

Communion Antiphon

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread.

Cf. Luke 24:35

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) 88638801

Office Hours:
Tuesday & Friday:
10:00am-3:00pm
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.

Be Ready for the Lord

32nd Sunday in Yr. A

The Bride doesn't figure strongly in this Gospel story. There is strong anticipation for the Bridegroom to arrive but who and where is the bride in this story? The Bridegroom is Christ. The Bride is the whole Church. We are the faithful waiting for Christ to arrive. Our readiness must be continual. We are not just associates of the bride and bridegroom but living members of the Church. We are the Beloved and Covenanted people of God through Baptism. Each of us shares in the betrothal and marriage of God-with-us.

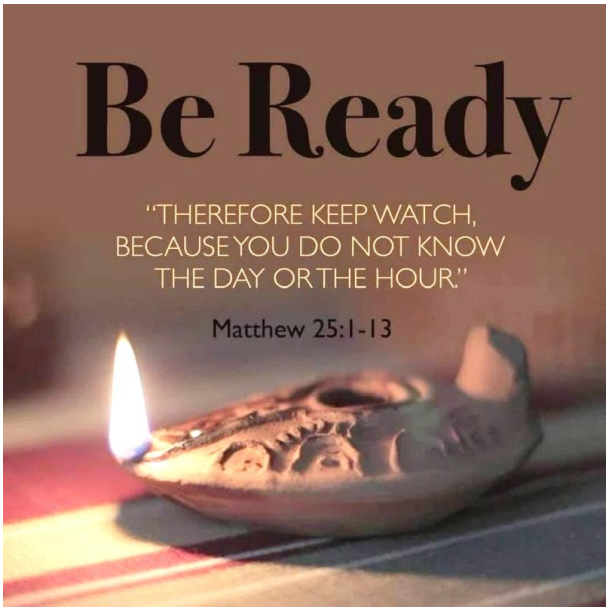
We are more than spectators or brothers and sisters invited to the Feast. We are claimed and beloved of God, but what is the oil we burn to keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts? The oil of gladness comes with the Word of God and our Sacraments and our striving to stay close to God in prayer. Those who have taken the precaution to bring plenty of oil light up the night and are able to meet the Bridegroom face to face. The foolish ones who have neglected to celebrate with the oil of gladness of faith are left stranded and desperate when the Bridegroom arrives at an hour unexpected.

It is natural for us to fear death and try to ignore and avoid it and not face into the reality. On the one hand we have the fear of death, on the other hand faith gives us an entirely different view of death. When Christ comes to take us home this is not a fearful time but a time of expectation of the fullness of joy. It will be the encounter of God revealing himself fully to us and us entering into the fullness of God.

But we must do our part to enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ's coming by lighting our lamps and keeping our faith alive in the good oil of His Word, His Sacraments and our constant prayer listening for His voice in our hearts and responding in Mission in His Church.

Are our faith-oil stocks depleted? Is the flame of our faith flickering? What is God calling my attention to? Who are the bearers of light around me calling me to deeper holiness? This week how might I fan into a flame the sparks of my faith-life?

Fr Paul Marshall



News and Events

Please Save the Date!
Bishop Vincent invites the faithful to celebrate the ordination of three new priests
(By Outlook Contributor, 28 October 2026)



The ordination of **Paul Tran, Jeff Hood and Luke Huynh** will take place on the Memorial of Saints Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions, Vietnamese martyrs who gave their lives for their faith. The date holds particular significance for the Vietnamese Catholic community including Paul, Luke and Bishop Vincent, all born in Vietnam, and where their faith journeys began.

The ordination of a priest is a moment of great joy for the whole Church. Through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, Paul, Jeff and Luke will be called to proclaim the Gospel, celebrate the sacraments and accompany all people through the joys and challenges of life. **Please come and join in celebrating their ordination on** Tuesday, 24 November 2026 at 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta. Livestream link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHhEQ1pQ6K4


(L-R) Deacons Luke Huynh, Jeff Hood, and Paul Tran. Image: Diocese of Parramatta

Fr Paul's Corner



November is Dedicated to the Holy Souls

We reflect on the communion of saints as we dedicate this month for the holy souls and remember the church suffering.

In November, we remember the souls in purgatory who need our prayers. All masses to be celebrated at St Oliver's during this month will be offered for all those who have died, especially for those our parishioners have asked to be remembered. You may use the November mass offering envelopes to write the names of your departed loved ones which will be entered in our book of remembrance to be placed in front of the altar during this month of November. The names of the deceased will not be published in the bulletin during this month, except for those who died recently.

Through prayer and remembrance, we entrust our departed loved ones to God's mercy and keep their memory close to our hearts.



Parish Updates

Thanksgiving Mass of Deacon Luke at St. Oliver's on Saturday, 28th November



"Our three deacons, **Paul Tran, Jeff Hood and Luke Huynh,** will be ordained to the priesthood on Tuesday, the 24th November at 7.30pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. It will be a special occasion for over 20 years of combined studies in theology and spirituality for our three men who will shortly be serving in different parishes in our Diocese. While Jeff Hood has been serving as a deacon in Greystanes and Paul Tran as a deacon in Windsor, Luke Huynh is better known to many of you in Harris Park as his pastoral placement has been among us. **Luke** will be celebrating his **Thanksgiving Mass** here at St. Oliver's on Saturday, 28th November at 5.30pm. It is fitting that we help in a celebration for Luke after his Mass with us. We are looking for helping hands to prepare food for serving afterwards. A few days later, Luke departs to Vietnam with his Mum for other Masses in his home country over the Christmas period" – *Fr Paul*

Meanwhile, our mainstay coordinator for our parish events and parish council leader, Jim Hanna has started engaging people for the special event and will be needing your assistance. Please watch this space for updates about this very significant event for Deacon Luke and our parish.

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.



If we can please help a fellow parishioner…



One of our parishioners is earnestly looking for work, can be a casual teacher, kitchen hand or cleaner. Please talk to Fr Paul or contact the parish office on 02 8863 8801 if you can assist directly or be able to direct the person, so we can provide the assistance needed.

PARISH READING ROSTER: 14/15 November 2026

Saturday:	5:30 pm	Jim Hanna / Adrian Agasen		
Sunday:	8:00am	Anthony Melham / Katherine Katrib	10:00am	Patricia Armao

Diocesan Notice

Local World Youth Day & the Feast of Christ the King Mass: 22 November
Join us at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, 22 November at 11am for Mass celebrating Local World Youth Day and the Feast of Christ the King. Give thanks for our youth leaders and celebrate the commissioning of 2027 leaders. Light refreshments follow. All welcome!

Parramatta Street Feast: 17 November



You are warmly invited to the Parramatta Street Feast, a Festival of Welcome: 17 November 2026, 10:45am–2:30pm, St Patrick's Cathedral Precinct, Parramatta. It's a space for people from all walks of life to come together in a spirit of community, solidarity and friendship, and to enjoy delicious food, free services, creative activities and great music! You can support the Street Feast as a volunteer, or share your talent by hosting an activity table. Find out more and express your interest at parracatholic.org/streetfeast

Red November Mass for persecuted Christians: 25 November
Join us at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta as we pray in solidarity with persecuted and suffering Christians around the world. Celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, join us on Wednesday 25 November at 7:30

Online Information Session on the Undergraduate Certificate of Theology: 11 November
An online information session is being held on Wednesday 11 November at 8pm, for all those interested in the Undergraduate Certificate of Theology being offered by BBI Taite in partnership with the Diocese of Parramatta. Learn more about the course structure, delivery modes and assessment from Profession Gerard Moore, BBI Taite Principal and Course Coordinator. Register here: parracatholic.org/connect/events/?topic=theology

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass: 15 November
Join us for the annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass to be held on Sunday 15 November at 2:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, followed by afternoon tea. Those celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate. If you would like to attend, please register your full names, years married, and numbers attending via parracatholic.org/events/wedding-anniversary-mass by 6 November.

Christmas Fete at Bodington Wentworth Falls: 4 December
Catholic Healthcare is raising funds to help our residents tick off their bucket list wishes — every contribution makes a difference! Date: 4 December 2026. Time: 4.30pm – 7pm. Location: 6 Bodington Drive (off Tableland Rd), Wentworth Falls.Enjoy local stalls, a toy raffle, refreshments, BBQ, and festive fun for all. Come celebrate community, joy, and the spirit of giving!

Community Updates

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)

Mass Intentions Of The Week

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.





The names of our departed loved ones are entered in our parish book of remembrance which is going to be placed in front of the altar for the whole month of November.

Anniversary: George Adib Lattouf | Elizabeth Khoury | Consolacion Concepcion | Rebecca (Tp) Conferido Marasigan | Vincent Budwee | Maurice & Martha Haddad | Alonzo Rae Monis | For all those souls whose anniversaries occur around this time

Sick: John Nemer | 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 Intention: John Patacsil | John & Emma Nemer | Jemal, Kone Wetzell (birthdays) | Thomas Leong Sr. | (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: Rosa Wetzel & family | Luigi, Jackie & Jonathan Perumal | Mrs. Lourduraj & Regan | 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 harrispark@parracatholic.org. For mass offerings or special intentions, you may use the envelopes provided at the church foyer.

Mass Readings

First reading **Wisdom 6:12-16**

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Wisdom is bright and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her
and graciously shows herself to them as they go,
in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 62:2-8**

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary.
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **R.**

Second reading **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord

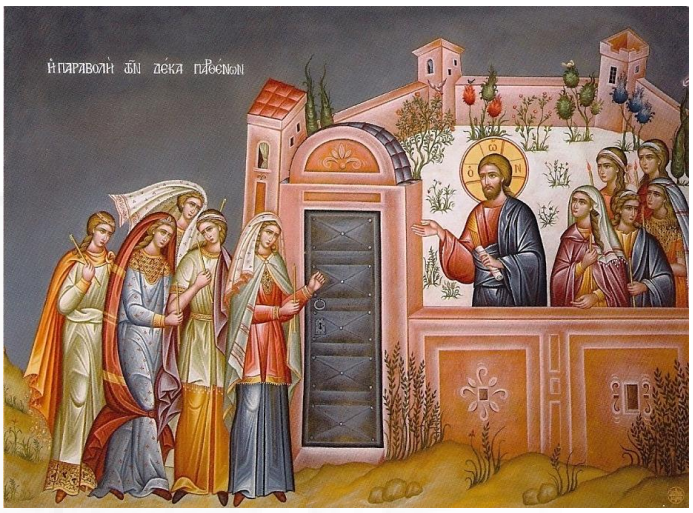
Gospel Acclamation **Matthew 24:42,44**

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel **Matthew 25:1-13**

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Some Feast Days this week:

9 November: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
10 November: St. Leo the Great
11 November: St. Martin of Tours
12 November: St. Josaphat
13 November: St. Frances Xavier Cabrin