



— OUR LADY —
QUEEN OF PEACE

The Peaceful Voice

8th September 2024

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

Dear brothers and sisters,

Different priorities: Creation / Children

So often in life is the challenge to balance different priorities. Likewise is the case in the rhythm of our united faith, such as this week. On the one hand, we've just begun (1 Sept to 4 Oct) what's known among people of Christian faith as 'The Season of Creation', starting with last Sunday's 'World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation'. (See the beautiful double-sided page of quotes available in the bulletin this week that's been put together for your prayer and reflection by the parish team). AND simultaneously, another priority in the Church and wider society is 'Child Protection Week'.

All of life – All of Creation

Reflecting on these different priorities, I began thinking of what, in fact, they have in common: From our Catholic faith view of life, 'Creation' is ALL of life. It's the universe. It's micro-biological life and a grand oak. It's river systems and ecosystems. It's a tender litter of pups and a majestic whale. It's the birds of the air and the mostly still unknown world under the oceans. It's human life in the nervous and awesome anticipation of birth. And it's that same human life as child and adult, striving for purpose and belonging, for love and safety, for hope and peace.



Photo by Annie Spratt on Unsplash

Vision towards Wholeness

All of this Creation is the arena of God's vision; a vision for all of creation to keep unfolding and emerging towards wholeness. St Paul describes it that all of creation is continuing to give birth (*Romans 8*). In our Catholic Christian understanding, we humans are not somehow separate to the Creation; but instead, we are relational within it. In our Catholic Church Encyclical (that is, a teaching document from the Pope) called *Laudato Si*, it is this sense of all of life and creation being relational and connected that is so central. And so to disregard Creation and all of its connections, is to disregard our faith. The loss and the harvest, the birth and the war, the refugee and the



Photo by Fr. Paul Roberts

abundance, the fear and the opportunity, the joy and the rejection; all are related lest we disregard God, whose vision is always relational, always towards a growing inter-embrace.

Child Protection and Creation

And so we come to a focus such as Child Protection Week: Especially since the Australian Royal Commission into Institutional Abuse, there has been a much needed, heightened awareness, in the Church and Society, of the destruction caused by the sin and dysfunction of abuse. And hopefully such awareness is maturing beyond only the needed guidelines and cautions; needs that are a minimum. Child Protection is more. It is about ensuring that our children are actively given the dignity and opportunity to flourish in their appropriate involvements in life, being safe and free to explore, experience and grow. And so back to the start of this reflection; we can say that child protection is deeply relevant in our faith, as a precious element in our care for all of God's Creation, children being one of Creation's most precious gems. Let's pray for each other and our parish, that among our ways to love God in the gift of Creation, is by our deep attentiveness to honouring the wholesome involvement in life of our children.

With friendship in God's mission, Fr Paul

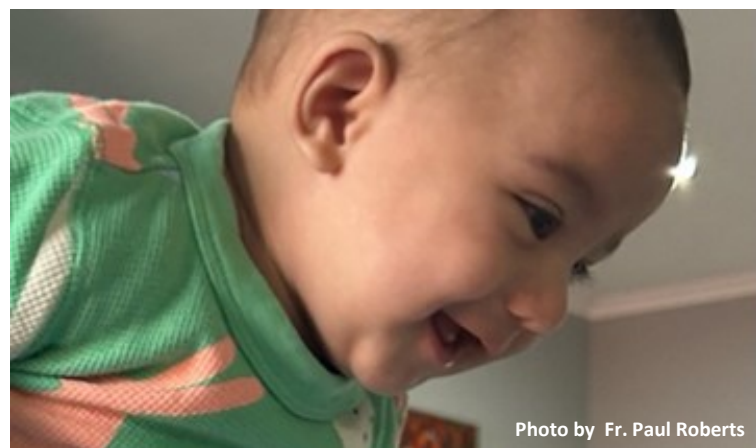


Photo by Fr. Paul Roberts

Faith B4U...

Thanksgiving of Ministry

As part of the OLQP community, we work towards our vision to grow as a community in the likeness of Christ. During September, there will be an opportunity for ministers and volunteers to come together in thanksgiving for all people who share their time and gifts with the wider community. This will be a time of prayer, a time of reflection on your ministry and to hear about next steps as the parish team develops ongoing accompaniment for ministry and volunteering in the parish.

Anyone who gives their time to a ministry or volunteering in the parish, is asked to attend **ONE** of the following sessions.

Monday 9th September 7pm - 8.30pm in the St George Preca Centre

Wednesday 11th September 7.00pm - 8.30pm in the St George Preca Centre

Thursday 12th September 7.00pm - 8.30pm via Zoom

Saturday 14th September 9.00am - 10.30am in the St George Preca Centre

Sunday 22nd September 4.00pm - 5.30pm in the St George Preca Centre

To register for one of these sessions, please **complete this form via this QR code or contact the parish office on 9631 8135.**

For more information, please contact Lisa in the parish office on Tuesdays or Wednesdays or [email lisa.bright@olqp.org.au](mailto:lisa.bright@olqp.org.au)



Positions Vacant

- **Development Manager - Property Services, Diocese of Parramatta**
- **Parish Secretary - Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere**
- **Lead Facilitator of Diocesan Plan Implementation - Diocese of Parramatta**
 - Applications close 25 September

Please visit: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Let us pray...

FOR OUR SICK, that they will be nourished with hope & recognise the loving presence of God in their lives.

Elie Aboumelhem, Mary Anjoul, George Attard, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning, Mario Curmi, Kathleen Davies, Nerida Fabri, Solonge Faddoul, Joe Farrugia, Margaret John, Margaret Jones, Rachel Karbic, Tulla Kavich, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Brendon Onorato, Delma Ryan, Benjie Santiago, Carmel Thompson, Connie Tudman, Eddie Vella, Grace Widjaya, Jasper Wilhite, Maureen Zarb

FOR DEATH ANNIVERSARIES, that they now know the fullness of life & delight in God - may they pray for our active purpose in God's Mission.

FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED, may our Lord embrace them with unimaginable joy & bless those who grieve with the power of hope. *Funeral dates listed below when known. Funeral notices are displayed on the notice board in the church foyer. Every attempt is made to stay current, but it is best not to make that your only or final source of personal information.*

Gino (Luigi) Biocca - 10th Sept @ 11am, Joseph Gauci, Carmelo Iaquinto - 17th Sept @ 10.30am, Paul Vella

Life and Faith Enrichment

Confirmation.

We are currently accepting enrolments for the Sacrament of Confirmation for children in Year 6 and above. Please see the Parish website for details.

Prayer and Reflection with Sr Leone.

Sr Leone will facilitate a morning of prayer and reflection this **Wednesday 11th September, 10am – 11am** in the St George Preca Centre. Morning tea provided, all welcome.

For more information: anne.hines@olqp.org.au

OLQP Craft Market

OLQP Parish will have its annual fundraising Craft Market on **Sat 16 Nov** from 8am-2pm. Proceeds from this year's market will be going to support **Melita Eagles Sports Club.**



On the day we will be holding a raffle and would be very grateful if you would be able to donate something towards this - all donations, large and small, make a difference. If you are willing to contribute, could you please let us know at your earliest convenience. If you are forwarding a Gift Voucher, could we kindly request that it be valid from the date of the Craft Market (16/11/24). In appreciation we would be happy to promote your business by placing your business logo at the venue on the day and on our Facebook page.

We appreciate any assistance you may be able to give us to support this very worthy cause. For further information please contact:

craftmarketgreystanes@gmail.com or **0417 675 721**

Greystanes Maltese Seniors

Monday 9 September @ 10:30am, St George Preca Centre. **Information on Australian Citizenship Contact: Marisa Previtera 0414 863 12**
Members and friends always welcome

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Our Mission: To grow as a community in the likeness of Christ.

Safeguarding is a priority at OLQP

Volunteers, group leaders and assistant group leaders are asked to complete the Safeguarding modules either online or in person. Details below.

ONLINE: To sign up & log into your Safeguarding modules, visit: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

IN PERSON TRAINING: To find a training session near you & to register, visit: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

SRE (scripture teachers)

We currently need a SRE teacher for **Tuesdays at 10.30am** at a local public school. If you are able to assist, or would like further information, please **contact Patricia Shaw 9631 8135**.

Children's Liturgy Volunteers needed

Children's Liturgy - Once a month with a small team to share the Gospel with our young children during either the 8:30am or 10:30am Mass. School Terms only. For details contact the Parish Office on:

P: **9631 8135** / E: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

MET FaithLIFE Spirituality Short Course

Are you searching for a deeper understanding of spirituality and wanting to further discern God's call in your life? Sign up for a free 3-session FaithLIFE Spirituality short course with spiritual directors and experts on spirituality **Tuesdays 17 SEP + 24 SEP + 1 OCT!** Click the link to register: <https://parracatholic.org/events/met-faithlife-short-course-s-session-1/#register>

Catholic Schools Bishop Manning Support Fund

Would you like your child to receive a Catholic education but are worried that your family cannot afford it? Please consider applying for a bursary that will cover the school fees, the cost of uniforms and equipment for primary or secondary school students for up to four years of enrolment. The fund, named in honour of the recently deceased Bishop Kevin Manning, is a Diocesan charity that seeks to ensure all families who want a Catholic education for their child can receive one. Please visit : <https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/affordable-education/bishop-manning-support-fund>. Applications close 18 October.

FEAST DAYS



This week we celebrate

13th Friday St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor

14th Saturday The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

This Week's Readings

1st Reading

Isaiah

35:4-7

2nd Reading

James

2:1-5

Gospel

Mark

7:31-37

Next Week's Readings

1st Reading

Isaiah

50:5-9

2nd Reading

James

2:14-18

Gospel

Mark

8:27-35

Mass Times

Monday - 9:15am

Tuesday - 9:15am

Wednesday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Thursday - 9:15am

Friday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Saturday - Vigil 5:00pm (live streamed)

Sunday - 7:00am | 8:30am | 10:30am | 6:00pm

Memorial Mass - Last Tuesday night of each month (except December) at 7:00pm

Mass for Peace with anointing of the sick - First Saturday of each month (except January) at 10:30am

Reconciliation:

Saturday - 4:00pm - 4.45pm

Please join us via Facebook or Website, olqp.org.au, every Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Rosary in the church: Weekdays at 8:30am & Friday nights at 7:30pm

ZOOM option available Friday night for those who cannot travel to the church for rosary.

Meeting ID: 896 7944 2594 | Passcode: rosary

P: 9631 8135 | E: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Emergency Contact Only 0447 509 207

Parish Office hours: 9am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm Monday to Friday

PO Box 5035 Greystanes 2145 | 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes

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