

## A grateful Heart: seeing God in every blessing

In this Sunday's Gospel (Luke 17:11–19), we meet ten lepers crying out to Jesus for mercy. They were outcasts—isolated, broken, and forgotten by society. Yet, when Jesus healed them, only one returned to give thanks. He threw himself at Jesus' feet, praising God with a full heart. Jesus, moved by his gratitude, said, *"Rise and go; your faith has made you well."*

This story is not just about physical healing—it is about the healing that gratitude brings to the soul. Nine were cured, but only one was truly made whole, because he recognized the gift and turned back to the Giver.

I remember visiting an elderly woman in a care home some years ago. She was confined to her bed, slowly losing her strength because of illness. Yet there was something radiant about her—a peace and joy that filled the room. As we talked, she told me with a smile, "I'm just so happy and grateful to God that I can still move my neck." Months later, when she could no longer do even that, she said, "I'm just so thankful I can hear and see." I asked her in a playful way, *"If one day you could no longer see or hear, would you still find ways to thank the Lord?"* She paused for a moment, her face calm and serene, and then said softly, "I'll just be so grateful that you come to visit."

Her quiet wisdom reminded me of something Daniel Defoe gave us through his character Robinson Crusoe. When Crusoe found himself alone on a deserted island, the first thing he did was make a list: on one side, all his problems; on the other side, all his blessings. For every negative, he found a positive: no clothes—but it's warm; provisions lost—but there's fresh fruit and water. In this simple practice, Crusoe discovered that for every hardship, there was something to be thankful for. Perhaps it is time for us, too, to take an inventory of our blessings.



True gratitude opens our eyes. It helps us see that every breath, every sunrise, and every moment of care or friendship is a gift from God. It is easy to give thanks when life is full and comfortable, but the deepest gratitude often blooms in those who suffer quietly, who still whisper prayers of thanks through their pain.

As we gather this week in thanksgiving—for health, for family, for faith—let us also remember those who live alone, those in their old age, and those whose strength is fading. Even in their solitude, they teach us how to thank the Lord with what they have: the sound of a friend's voice, the light of a new morning, and the steady presence of God who never leaves them. Like that one grateful leper, may we too turn back to Jesus with thankful hearts, giving glory to God not only with our words but with our lives.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." (Psalm 107:1)

**Fr Sebastian**

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## OLQP Yearly Remembrance Mass

Coming up on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm** is the Parish's Special Yearly Remembrance Mass. With All Souls Day falling on a Sunday this year, this Mass on the Tuesday evening beforehand, is a more focussed, reflective opportunity to remember loved ones, especially those who have gone to the Lord since the last All Souls Day.

We have the names of all who have had funerals here at OLQP. But if your loved one's funeral in the past year was elsewhere, you will be able to include his or her name on the night, to be read out during a candle lighting ceremony.

# Faith B4U...

## Families are invited to the OLOP Jubilee of Hope Retreat next weekend. Saturday 18th October at Mt Schoenstatt Shrine & Retreat Centre, Mulgoa

Celebrate Mass together in the Family Hall at Mt Schoenstatt. After the Mass, there will be family activities to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope and a time of prayer and reflection as we walk through the Holy Doors. We will finish with a picnic lunch at 1pm in the tranquil grounds of Mt Schoenstatt.

Mt Schoenstatt - 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa | Please plan to arrive by 10.30am for Mass at Mulgoa

**Bring your own picnic lunch and blankets.**

**To register, please contact the parish office on 9631 8135 or email [parishoffice@olqp.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@olqp.org.au)**

## Altar Server Gathering

For those interested in being an altar server and for current servers.

**Tuesday 14th October, 7pm - 8.30pm** in the church.

Please let us know if you would like to attend by calling the parish office on 9631 8135, or email: [parishoffice@olqp.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@olqp.org.au)

## Save the date! Carols 2025

**Saturday 6th December**

5pm mass, 6pm BBQ in the hospitality area followed by carols in the church from 7pm.

## Christ's Catholic Community

Come and join us in understanding the Gospels more deeply. Fridays at 10am in the Youth room.

**Contact: Mary Testa 0403 302 283**

## On sale in the Parish Office

**God's Word 2026 - \$20.00**

**Columban Art Calendar 2026 -\$10.00**

## Festa thank you

A huge thank you to everyone who made this year's Festa such a huge success. An enormous amount of work goes into planning the Festa each year, especially this special 60th anniversary year. Thank God for the wonderful weather, everyone who helped and everyone who attended.



Craft Market Greystanes  
Saturday 15th November, 2025  
8am - 2pm  
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## Did you know?

*Pope Francis reminds us that water supply "used to be relatively constant, but now in many places, demand exceeds supply... and at critical moments this supply has not been managed with fairness and equality of access." (Cf LS 28)*

**How has access to quality water affected developing nations, especially the most vulnerable peoples?**

## 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, Rita Attard, Norm Beard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning, Kathleen Davies, Nerida Fabri, Solonge Faddoul, Delina Galea, Mario Grima, Kay Jaunais, Margaret Jones, Rachel Karbic, Tulla Kavich, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Brendon Onorato, Benjie Santiago, Carmel Thompson, Connie Tudman, Eddie Vella, Joe Vella, Gerard Watts, Grace Widjaya, 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.**

Joseph Elkhoury, Catherine Vaz

**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.*

Michael Millerez

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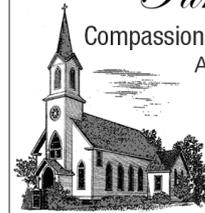
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# Our Mission: To grow as a community in the likeness of Christ.

## Safeguarding is a priority at OLOP

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>. Email [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org) for more information.

*If you volunteer at the parish and are unfamiliar with Safeguarding, please contact the parish office for more details.*

## Seniors Mobile Phone Workshop

Learn how to use basic functions on your phone.

Monday 20th Oct at 10am-12.30pm in the St George Preca Centre

Free, but registration is essential - call Frances Montesin 9631 9095 or Lawrence Gatt 0404 462 344

Just bring your smartphone, notebook and pen.

## Greystanes Maltese Seniors

Monday 13 October @ 10:30am in the St George Preca Centre

Join us for Morning Tea

Members & Friends all welcome!

Contact: Frances Montesin 0404 257 495

## Helping Others ...

Please consider donating the following items to:

**Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)** are in need of the following items:

**Canned goods:** Red kidney beans, Black beans, 4 bean mix, Cannellini beans, Chickpeas, Lentils, Corn, Canned Fruit, Canned veggies

**Other items:** Dry red lentils, Dry chickpeas, Pasta, Pasta sauce, Sweet biscuits, Instant noodles, Shampoo & conditioner

Donated food can be placed into the JRS basket located in the Narthex (main church entrance).

**St Vincent de Paul:** Non perishable foods—please place in the Vinnies basket in the narthex.

### This Sunday's Readings

#### 1st Reading

2 Kings  
5:14-17

#### 2nd Reading

2 Timothy  
2:8-13

#### Gospel

Luke  
17:11-19

### Next Sunday's Readings

#### 1st Reading

Exodus  
17:8-13

#### 2nd Reading

2 Timothy  
3:14 - 4:2

#### Gospel

Luke  
18:1-8

## 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](http://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

## FEAST DAYS

### This week we celebrate

15<sup>th</sup> Wednesday **St Teresa of Jesus**, virgin, doctor

17<sup>th</sup> Friday **St Ignatius of Antioch**, bishop, martyr

18<sup>th</sup> Saturday **St Luke**, evangelist

P: 9631 8135 | E: [parishoffice@olqp.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@olqp.org.au)

Emergency Contact Only 0447 509 207

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

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