

14th June 2026

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Year A

WINTER EMBRACE 2026

Dear friends,

As mentioned last week, this weekend we're starting our parish 'WINTER EMBRACE', a wording we've been using for a few years now both mid year and later at Christmas too. What it suggests is threefold: Firstly, is our commitment to EMBRACING others' stories by our learning and appreciating their circumstances. Second is the EMBRACING of our capacity to make a difference by being inspired by some inspirational people (eg saints and standouts) in our faith tradition. And third is the EMBRACING of some projects to make a difference.

EMBRACING STORIES OF OTHERS

For this week, we'll just highlight a couple of things to get us going. One of those is to say thank you to our parish Social Justice Group for organising the visit of Jacob to the parish this weekend who, as announced, will share a little of his story at the 8.30am and 10.30am Mass.

In common with many of us, Jacob loves Australia. In common with many fewer, Jacob's story includes life as a refugee. Welcome to you and your story among us Jacob! We'll have a further chance to meet him during the special morning tea between those two Masses (from 9.30am to 10.15am).



SRI LANKAN KIDS ON PLANTATIONS

Another focus of our EMBRACE is a project through which we as a parish have also previously made a real difference. This is the school kids in Sri Lanka, who are children of poor workers who live on plantations and receive extremely little income. Our providing of school resources for them is a seemingly simple gesture, but one that brings enormous joy and allows these



children and families to know they matter and are connected to the wider human and faith family. We do this by partnering with a marvellous Sri Lankan Australian lady named Anne Salvador, who voluntarily started an organisation called 'Network Heaven' for this purpose. The Diocese of Galle is the key region served and Bishop Raymond of that Diocese always writes a superb letter of appreciation to us.

The pictures here are just a couple of the many, many hundreds of beautiful young people who received school items from our Winter Embrace efforts through Anne's network last year. They would not otherwise have these basics for education.



Please bring new items for the Sri Lankan children during the next three weekends using the following guide:

1. A4 size Exercise Books (96 pages or 120 pages)
2. Coloured Pencils (preferably 12 in a pack)
3. Texta Colours
4. Pens (blue, black and red biros)
5. HB Lead Pencils, Sharpners
6. Erasers and Rulers
7. Pencil Cases
8. Sticker Sheets
9. etc

More about EMBRACE over these weeks – as we also wish both our onsite schools well for their Winter Sleepout activities later this week; part of their embracing of the stories of others who are struggling.

With friendship in God's mission,
Fr Paul

Faith B4U...

Is your Safeguarding up to date?

All Clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children's Guardian Act 2019 to be current and complete their Safeguarding Training every 2 years. This is different to a Working with Children's Check (WWCC).

Check with the Parish Office to see when you are due to update your Safeguarding Training or refer to the points below.

- If you are new to Ministry or have not yet completed any Safeguarding training, you need to complete the Introductory Modules 1 to 3 (Cycle 1)
- If you completed Modules 1-3 in 2024 or earlier. You are now due to complete Modules 4 & 5 (Cycle 2)
- If you completed Modules 4 & 5 in 2024 or earlier. You are now due to complete the Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3)

Safeguarding Training Modules can be completed online at:
<https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>

Onsite Face-to-Face Mandatory Training will be available on the 19th September at OLQP for Modules 4 & 5 (Cycle 2)
Please register at:

<https://parracatholic.org/events/mandatory-safeguarding-training-cycle-2-modules-4-5-19-september/>

Or contact the parish office at: parishoffice@olqp.org.au or phone: 9631 8135

Tri-Diocesan Social Justice Dinner

Parishioners across the three Sydney dioceses are welcome to attend the 2026 Tri-diocesan Social Justice Dinner, to be hosted at All Saints parish hall in Liverpool on **Wednesday 1 July**. We will hear about the stubborn persistence of slave-like working conditions even in modern Sydney, most often experienced by new migrants, and we will reflect on the role church communities can play in helping victims to become aware of their rights at work and escape situations of exploitation.

Free to attend, registration is essential
<https://events.humanitix.com/tri-diocesan-social-justice-dinner-2026>

Let us pray...

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

Chantel Adrien, Elie Aboumelhem, Mary Anjoul, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning,, Kathleen Davies, Nerida Fabri, Gabrielle Farfus, Delina Galea, Dorothy Gatt, Kay Jaunais, Margaret Jones, Rachel Karbic, Tulla Kavich, Patrick Kelly, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Benjie Santiago, Barbara Stanton, Carmel Thompson, Cathy Vella, Eddie Vella, Joe Vella, Sue Watters, Gerard Watts, Grace Widjaya, Maureen Zarb, Joseph Zerafa, Melissa Zerafa, Muna Zora

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

Roman Attard, Sarah O'Connell

FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED, may our Lord embrace them with unimaginable joy & bless those who grieve with the power of hope. *Funeral details are correct at time of print, but it's best to not make this your only source.*

Giuseppe Ragusa – 19 June @ 11am

Sing a New Song – Music workshop for Children: 14 July

Do you have a child in Year 4-12? Invite them to come along to our 'Sing A New Song Holiday Music Workshop', for a fun day of singing and exploration of sacred music.

When: Tuesday 14 July 2026, 9.30am-2pm

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 1 Marist Place Parramatta
Morning tea and lunch provided.

Student participants will form a choir that will sing at the Solemn Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta on Sunday 19 July at 6pm.

Register here: parracatholic.org/events/school-holiday-music-workshop/

Adult Confirmations 2026

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year.

This will be on **Saturday 29th August, 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown**. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$40 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day.

The Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 1st September, 2026 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral.

Please Note: Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday 18th August, 2026.

For more information, please contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Parish Office – Closed Thursday

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday 18th June as both Geraldine and Christine will be attending an all-day Parish Deanery Meeting at the Diocese.

For all emergencies, please call 0447 509 207

Emails and phone messages will be actioned upon their return. Thank you and apologies for any inconvenience.

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

Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit & Seminar at St Patricks Cathedral: 14 -28 June

Out of love for the Eucharist, St Carlo Acutis created a website that compiled the details of every recorded Eucharistic miracle. These miracles are moments of extraordinary grace, where Christ's real presence in the Sacred Host is manifested in some physical way. The Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition has since been made available for display in parishes throughout the world where people are able to spend time learning about these extraordinary events as a community of faith.

Throughout this year, the Diocese of Parramatta is displaying the Exhibition at various parishes for people to come and see. St Patrick's Cathedral will be the first host parish from Sunday 14th to Sunday 28th June in the Cloister Hall. Guest Speaker: Fr Gerard Kelly, Biblical Roots of the Eucharist | Saturday 27th June at 4pm in the Cloister Hall.

Please RSVP for the Seminar by Fr Gerard via parracatholic.org/events/eucharistic-miracles-exhibit

CYP Annual LIFTED Retreat for year 10 -12's

You're invited to LIFTED Retreat! A one-day retreat for 16-17 year olds from across the Diocese at St Paul's, Winston Hills on Thursday, 15 July. Together we will enter a weekend of connection, prayer and reflection on the theme of Abundance, inspired by John 10:10. Whether you're just beginning your faith journey, looking for community or need a mid-year renewal, the LIFTED Retreat welcomes you with open arms. Limited spots available.

Registrations close 19 June. parracatholic.org/events/lifted-high-school

Discernment retreat for women by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth invite women 18-35 for one day discernment retreat on Saturday, 4 July 2026, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at 116-132 Quakers Road, Marayong.

The retreat offers Mass, adoration, inspiring talks, small group sharing, and quiet reflection time.

Bring your questions, your hopes, and an open heart as we listen to God together. Cost is free.



REGISTER TODAY

Eucharist28 – Hearts Set Ablaze!

The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be a festival of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music – a truly 'once in a lifetime' experience, and a transformative moment for our nation. For more information and regular updates, please register on the website: eucharist28.org

Positions vacant

Housekeeper Supervisor - Holy Spirit Seminary, Harris Park.

Parish Secretary - St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Exodus
19:2-6

2nd Reading

Romans
5:6-11

Gospel

Matthew
9:36 - 10:8

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Jeremiah
20:10-13

2nd Reading

Romans
5:12-15

Gospel

Matthew
10:26-33

Mass Times

Monday - 9:15am

Tuesday - 9:15am

Wednesday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Thursday - 9:15am

Friday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Saturday - 9:15am (except January

- Vigil 5:00pm (live streamed)

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

Mass for Peace - all welcome - followed by Anointing of the Sick - 1st Saturdays 9:15am (except January)

Memorial Mass - all welcome - and offered for recent losses and 1st/2nd anniversaries - 2nd Saturdays 9:15am

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 6:30pm

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

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

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