Weekly Bulletin

The Peaceful Voice

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

29th November 2026
FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT, YEAR B

Dear friends,

ORDINATION

What an uplifting occasion the triple ordination to the priesthood for our diocese was on Tuesday night at St Patrick's Cathedral. Bishop Vincent's homily, as well as our now Fr Jeff's address on behalf of the three newly ordained priests, gave strong testament to place of the ordained priesthood not being about prestige or separation. Rather it is an office given by God to some who come from among us all. And its purpose is to serve us all to keep growing our response in God's mission and our giving thanks and glory to God. If that's true, then witnessing an ordination should uplift us personally in our own dignity of being called by God. One of our many parishioners in attendance, put it quite simply on behalf of a group he was there with. He said: "We're just feeling inspired to be more and more involved!" Warmest congratulations Fr Jeff and thank you for your 'yes' that encourages our own many continuing and growing expressions of 'yes' too!









CHRISTMAS EMBRACE – United action in God's mission

Those themes of service that make a difference mentioned in the ordination are immediately very real in our parish as the season of Advent begins our *Christmas Embrace.* For those newer to the parish, we have an intensive time now and in winter each year called our *Embrace.* We EMBRACE stories of others – we EMBRACE our capacity to act, including learning of others who have made a difference – and we EMBRACE some particular chosen projects that will MAKE A DIFFERENCE (MAD) now! This theme of MAD was part of the three CONFIRMATION ceremonies for many of our young people this past week, as they were commissioned to make a difference with their gifts of the Holy Spirit.

So, this week we start the Christmas Embrace with TWO BIG ACTIONS.

1. HOUSES TO HOMES – United with other parishes of our diocese we are providing emergency safety and nurturing for many young women who are either pregnant or with children and have no safe place to go! Among them are sad and traumatic experiences of domestic violence, of rejection and of fear. As a parish I deeply and humbly encourage our shared raising of a promised $15,000 towards this urgent EMBRACE of God's mercy, love and hope.
2. JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE – Imagine having arrived here from a war zone or from other dangers and trying to survive. Our mission friends (Fr Brett SJ, Kristen Lazarus and their beautiful team) located at Parramatta, enter into those stories every day and each time I see them they tell me how much they appreciate Greystanes parish! I've asked them of the specific greatest needs for our EMBRACE effort and here they are:

I. Vegetable Oil or Olive Oil - 750ml, 2litre or 4 litre
II. Dried lentils (any colour) or dried chickpeas (1 or 2 kg)
III. Tuna (any size IN OIL)
IV. Shampoo

OUR BIG DRIVE FOR ITEMS i, ii, iii, iv is NEXT WEEKEND IN THE PARISH FOYER

V. AND if anyone would like, a great help for currently settling refugee families over Christmas, whilst the JRS food bank shuts briefly, is a supermarket voucher of any value. These can be given to any of our priests and they will be personally given to families.

God bless everyone and with friendship in God's mission –
Fr Paul

Faith B4U...

Called, Confirmed, and Commissioned to Make a Difference

Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Confirmation

Over the past months, our parish community has been blessed to walk alongside our young candidates on their Sacrament of Confirmation journey. It has been a truly grace-filled time—not only for the children preparing to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, but for all of us as a parish family.

Through our shared prayers and participation, we have been invited to pause and reflect on our own Confirmation journeys. In supporting these young people, we have renewed and confirmed our own faith, standing together as witnesses to Christ. It reminds us that the journey does not end on Confirmation Day; we are the ones called to continue nurturing our own faith and the faith of the children in our parish, guiding them by our example as they grow in discipleship.

A highlight of this journey was our visible presentation as one united body in Christ. Together, parishioners, families, and candidates added our thumbprints to create a vibrant collage of God's creation. Filled with blooming flowers, drifting clouds, and doves—the enduring symbol of the Holy Spirit—this artwork stands as a reminder that each of us leaves a unique mark on our community, yet we are woven together by the same Spirit.

We invite you to pause and view this beautiful collage on display in the church foyer after Mass. Take a moment to look for your thumbprint, reflect on our shared journey, and say a silent prayer for our newly confirmed youth.

As we celebrate this milestone in thanksgiving, let us continue to pray for our young people and for one another. May we all go forth boldly, knowing we are called by name, confirmed in the love and strength of the Holy Spirit, and commissioned to go out and make a real difference in our parish, our schools, and the wider world.

Thank you to the families, sponsors, catechists, and every parishioner who helped make this celebration memorable and we continue to keep the flame of faith alive in our community

Sr. Anne



OLQP Carols 2026

Please join us for this joyful occasion of carol singing led by our parish choir, parish musicians and our schools.

Where: In the Church

When: Saturday 5th December from 6:30 to 8:00pm

Including: BBQ from 5:45pm to 6:30pm in the hospitality area (adjacent to the church), a live Nativity, glowsticks and Santa.

Young children may dress as angels or shepherds.

All are welcome. Bring a friend of any faith or background.

High School Aged Youth Group

All Welcome to THIS SUNDAY, 6th DECEMBER, Gathering.

Straight after 6pm Mass until 8.30pm – Food included

THIS WILL BE OUR LAST YOUTH GATHERING FOR THE YEAR!

Parent/Guardian please come in person to pick up the explanation and guideline details the first time your son/daughter attends

- 1st Sunday nights of the month during School Terms

Thank you

Let us pray...

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

Chantel Adrien, Mary Anjoul, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Catherine Buttigieg, Mary Camilleri, Karl Croning, Charlie D'Anastas, Kathleen Davies, Jeanette Dib, Nerida Fabri, Delina Galea, Dorothy Gatt, Mary Ghantous, Phillip Gough, Kay Jaunais, Margaret Jones, Tulla Kavich, Patrick Kelly, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Martin Portelli, Jeizek Reyes, Benjie Santiago, Martin Shaw, Barbara Stanton, Carmel Thompson, Cathy Vella, Eddie Vella, Joe Vella, 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

Kathy Stanicak

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*

Roberto Di maio, Patricia Seabrook

We acknowledge the Dharug people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand

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

OLQP Men's Group – SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 12th December in the St George Preca Centre.

Start Time: 7:45am

This last gathering for the year will include a BBQ breakfast, prayer, reflection on the past year, and an outlook for next year.

Please bring your Rosary Beads.

All men over 18+ welcome.

For more info contact Nicky on 0403 124 345

Seven of our eight new school leaders of St Paul's College



Pictured with Bishop Vincent at last weekend's leadership Mass.

From L-R Dominic (V.Capt), Chris, Sean, Zac, Liam (Capt), Sebastian, Amogh, (Eric absent)

Let's pray for these young men and for leadership at every level of the community, Church and world.

Bishop's Good Works Appeal

Help a young mother break the cycle of violence and homelessness.

This Christmas, embrace the spirit of the Nativity story. Let the birth of our Saviour, Jesus, inspire us to reach out to those in need – especially vulnerable homeless women and children. Your tax-deductible gift this Christmas can provide young mothers and their children with secure shelter, nourishing food, and the support they need to build a strong family life and a hopeful future. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal. Thank you for your generosity, Christian kindness and compassion.

FEAST DAYS

This week we celebrate

30th Monday St Andrew, apostle

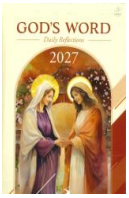
3rd Thursday St Francis Xavier, priest,

On Sale in the Parish Office

Columban Calendar 2027 - $10

God's Word 2027 - $22

EFTPOS Available



This Sunday's Readings	Next Sunday's Readings
1st Reading Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1,3-8	1st Reading Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9	2nd Reading 2 Peter 3:8-14
Gospel Mark 13:33-37	Gospel Mark 1:1-8

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.
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