

## Reflection

"Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>Everyone who does evil hates the light and will not come into the light, for fear that their deeds will be exposed."

Spiritual darkness = moral blindness where persons habitually hate their fellow human.

Despite the combined light of the full moon and all the visible stars in a cloudless sky, the night does not go. But the moment the sun rises, the night makes a hasty exit." The light of the sun is such that the darkness cannot remain before it. The light of God's knowledge has a similar effect in dispelling the darkness of ignorance. We know that God is "Light".

"For, those whose ignorance is destroyed by divine knowledge, the Supreme Entity is revealed, just as the sun illumines everything when it rises".

Physical darkness is due to the absence of light.

Some people take credit as proponents of darkness and tend to interpret everything as an illusion. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet **walk in the darkness**, we lie and do not practice the truth and are susceptible to playing of egoistic pursuits. There is a topic that is trending amongst the younger generation as delusions is the solution to all problems. In other words, "*delulu is the solulu*." We've been at the stage in life where we are confused, left out by society, overwhelmed with sophisticated information, combating stressful data and just overall tired. Out of desperation they conclude: Light leads to sorrow, darkness is bliss.

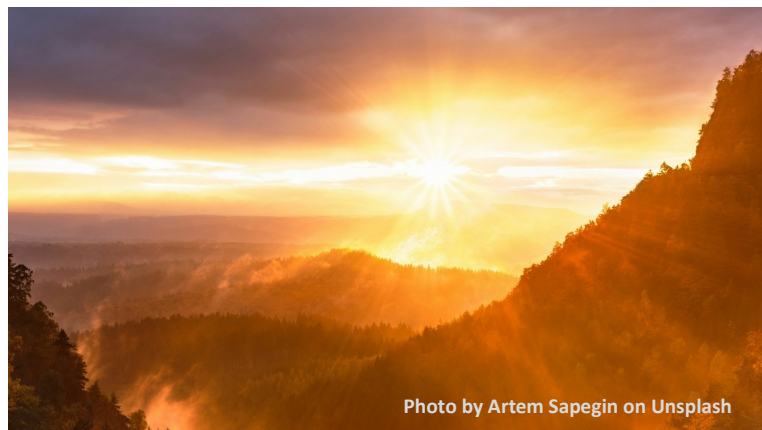


Photo by Artem Sapegin on Unsplash

Most often, darkness is responsible for creating illusions. In the cinema hall, the shades of light falling on the screen creates the illusion of reality, and people get absorbed in watching it. However, when the main lights in the cinema hall are switched on, the illusion is dispelled, and people wake up to their senses to realize that they were only watching a movie. When the light of God's knowledge begins shining brightly, the illusion beats a hasty retreat, and the soul wakes up to its true spiritual identity. God's spiritual energy illumines it with the light of knowledge.

Light emerges from God, John means by "walking in the light" (1:7). **Children of light - Children of love - children of life**, they refuse to say no to sacrifice. We walk in the light. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. He is the eternal light through which we are able to perceive clearly the realities of this world and the kingdom understanding of God as well.

Fr. Jobi

## Preparation for First Sacraments in 2024

**Reconciliation & First Eucharist** - Children in year 4 and above are invited to prepare for Reconciliation & eucharist.

**Enrolment's are now open at [www.olqp.org.au](http://www.olqp.org.au)**

**Confirmation** - Children in year 6 and above are invited to prepare for confirmation. **Enrolments open JULY**

## Prepare for Holy Week (Mini Retreat)

Come together as a community in our journey to the Cross. Tues 19 March in the St George Preca Centre, from 6:30pm for pizza and eats, followed at 7pm to 8.15pm by reflections to connect our lives to the key events of Holy Week, facilitated by the parish Life n' Faith team. All are welcome. Please rsvp to [anne.hines@olqp.org.au](mailto:anne.hines@olqp.org.au) (for catering purposes). Come as you are ... be present ... welcome what comes.

# Faith B4U...

## Young Altar Servers - Training for new and current servers on Wednesday, 13 March @ 7 pm-8 pm

Join OLQP Altar Servers and be actively involved in the Church community whilst getting to know others like yourself.

### Roles & Responsibilities:

- ◆ Setting up for Mass, e.g., the Altar
- ◆ Carrying cross/candles
- ◆ Holding books, missals and folders
- ◆ Leading the Offertory procession
- ◆ Ringing bells
- ◆ Carrying incense

Join a rotating roster or select a mass time.

If you are interested, please confirm your attendance by filling in the forms on your way out and dropping them off at the Parish Office (ph. 02 9631 8135) or emailing them to [parishoffice@olqp.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@olqp.org.au).

If you are unable to drop off the forms, call or email the office to confirm your attendance and bring the form on the night.

## Helping Others this Lent...

Please consider donating the following items to Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS):

- sugar
- salt
- condensed milk
- nappies, sizes 3, 4 & 5. Other sizes are OK.
- dry chickpeas
- instant coffee
- tea bags
- women's deodorant
- instant noodles

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

## Let us pray...

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

Mary Anjoul, George Attard, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning, Mario Curmi, Maria Golkowski, 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, they now know the fullness of life & delight in God - may they pray for our active purpose in God's Mission.**

Dulcie Cotter

**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.*

Teena Carollo, Jacintha Lovell, Erlindo Mina, Mary Mizzi, Joseph Zahra

## This Lent at OLQP

Pope Francis has invited every Christian community this Lent *'to offer its members moments set aside to rethink their lifestyles, to examine their presence in society and the contribution they make to its betterment'*. In this spirit, OLQP is offering:

- **Lent around your Table:** A new Lent Card is available at all church doors this weekend – containing simple, relevant reflection questions and the next Sunday Gospel to share with a partner, family, friend or by yourself
- **Lenten Enrichment Group (Tuesday):** This week will be our last gathering. Please join us either during the DAY (10-11am Youth Room) OR in the NIGHT (7-8pm St George Precia Centre) Guide booklet available for \$5 at the group - All welcome
- **Prepare for Holy Week (Mini Retreat):** Tues 19 March in the St George Precia Centre, from 6:30pm All are welcome. Full details on front cover.
- **Friday Night Stations, Rosary, Adoration, Benediction:** 7pm - Come for all or part (more details in this bulletin)
- **Reconciliation – Communal:** Mon 18 March 7pm - Celebrate the Church's 2nd Rite Sacrament of Reconciliation – God's grace ready for Easter

*Here's to an enriching Lent for all - Replies or more info - Parish Office 96318135 or email [anne.hines@olqp.org.au](mailto:anne.hines@olqp.org.au)*

## Prayer and Reflection with Sr Leone

Sr Leone will facilitate a morning of prayer and reflection next Wednesday March 13th @10am – 11am in the George Precia Centre. Morning tea provided, all welcome. For more information: [anne.hines@olqp.org.au](mailto:anne.hines@olqp.org.au)

# Our sponsors...

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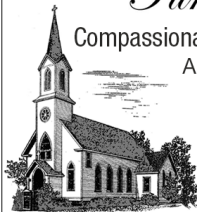
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# Our Mission: To grow as a community in the likeness of Christ.

## Details - OLOP Friday nights of Lent

We will be alternating two specially prepared versions of the Stations of the Cross. Each Friday needs three people to present from a script. They can be people of any age – from three different families each time (or singles or from different couples), who have experience of public reading/speaking. Anyone keen is very welcome to **contact** parishioner **Lucita** who will kindly coordinate – [lqrtutoring@gmail.com](mailto:lqrtutoring@gmail.com) – Those presenting each Friday will meet with their co-presenters at 6.30pm and become familiar with the script.

- **All parishioners and any people you invite are welcome to all or part of any of these evenings which start at 7pm.** So, come only to Stations - or only later - or to all - as you are able. Expected finish time each week is around 8.15pm.
- **Structure each time:** Stations at 7pm / Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament around 7.30pm / 10 minutes silence / Rosary / 10 mins silence / Benediction and reservation of the Blessed Sacrament

## NOW AVAILABLE - In Person Training!

**Have you had a chance to complete your first three Mandatory Safeguarding Modules as yet?**

Face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown on Tuesday mornings in March.

- **Module 2: Tuesday 12 March (10.00am – 11.30am)**
- **Module 3: Tuesday 19 March (10.00am – 11.30am)**

To register, please visit <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?topic=safeguarding>

*Thank you for working together to keep our community safer.*

## SRE 2024

**Are you looking for a new challenge for the new year.**

Now is the time to share your faith with the young people in our local Primary schools. We currently need a teacher for Thursday afternoon. If you are able to assist, or would like further information, please contact Patricia Shaw 9631 8135.

## Volunteers needed for 2024

**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 call Parish Office on:

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

## Positions Vacant

**For job opportunities in the Diocese of Parramatta: Administrative Assistant (Sacred Heart Parish, Mt Druitt South)**

**Please visit:** [parracatholic.org/about/jobs/](http://parracatholic.org/about/jobs/)

### This Weeks Readings

1st Reading  
2 Chronicles  
36:14-16, 19-23

2nd Reading  
Ephesians  
2:4-10

Gospel  
John  
3:14-21

### Next Weeks Readings

1st Reading  
Jeremiah  
31:31-34

2nd Reading  
Hebrews  
5:7-9

Gospel  
John  
12:20-30

## 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

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Join us on...

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

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