



— OUR LADY —
QUEEN OF PEACE

The Peaceful Voice

9th March 2025
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

A Journey with Hope...

Rwanda is a landlocked country in East Africa and it is called in French '*Pays des mille collines*' which means '*land of thousand hills*'. I was missioned here for 6 memorable years in the district of Butare, where our sisters have worked for more than 30 years. One of the remarkable stories about how people travelled in the days without automotive was that they went by foot to get to another village or district and never was discouraged of how far it was to where they were going, when in fact you would be walking for miles and miles over the hills, down the valleys and crossing villages to get to your destination. This was a way to encourage you to reach your destination. Some of you may relate to this with your own experiences, which is why, this Lenten journey we started together on Ash Wednesday can be the journey to unite with Jesus in this these forty days.

We have begun the year 2025 with it being the Jubilee Holy Year, the pilgrims of hope. Some of us may have experienced entering through the '*Holy Door*' of our local Diocese. This connects us to the Universal Church where the '*Holy door*' was opened by Pope Francis. The Holy Door of the Church in Rome is normally kept sealed but when the Holy Father invites us to enter into the next spiritual threshold then it is opened. For instance, this year the invitation is to open ourselves to the fresh outpouring of graces and to embrace the gift of hope. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24FTbGtK91g>)

The Jubilee prayer wishes that the graces may awaken in us, so to spread the joy and peace.

This aligns beautifully with the journey of faith as we embark our Lenten journey in *Hope*. This journey of forty days is a grace filled time. It encourages us to transform and renew and be cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel (The Jubilee Prayer).

Two years ago, back in London, we accompanied a group of 66 young people to the World Youth Day in Lisbon. As part of the spiritual preparation, we did a three day '*Camino de Santiago*' from Sahagun



Sr Anne walking the 'Camino de Santiago' in Spain.

municipality of Spain. It was that time of the year when the sun was blazing hot and there was no shade and we needed to get to the next stop before the night fall. This experience like that of Rwanda, we had to encourage one another. It was a time to stay focus on the road, and each step became meaningful and at the same time the interior voices of opposition were surfacing to 'give-up', however we stayed focused.

So, as a community of OLQP, the invitation is to set a time aside and making a commitment, perhaps the best way for you and Jesus, asking him to help you to be open to his grace and transform one aspect of your life.

May we all have a blessed grace filled journey this Lent.

**United with our blessed Mother,
Sr Anne SMSM**

A small gift makes a BIG DIFFERENCE

Over the next 6 weeks of Lent, you can support refugees and people seeking asylum by donating these essential items.

WEEK 1: Basmati Rice

All donations support JRS (Jesuit Refugee Services Australia). Donated food can be placed into the JRS basket located in the Narthex (main church entrance) OR brought to the Parish Office.

Be joyful in HOPE
Patient in affliction
And faithful in prayer

Romans 12:12

Faith B4U...

Hospitality Ministry

After many of our Masses, we have a wonderful ministry of gathering and hospitality, where our community share conversation and a cuppa.

To help us continue this ministry of hospitality, it would be great to have some people to join our teams.

Can you help?

Maybe you are able to help out once a month? Please contact the Parish Office to leave your details.

If there are other ways you would like to help, please let us know.

For our current teams

Can all ministers for hospitality please complete the sign-in and sign-out sheet in the kitchen. This helps us in our commitment to ensure safe and responsible places for all.

Could you also please complete the roster sheet that is with the sign in sheet.

And if you haven't been to hospitality after Mass before, come along as together we continue to grow as a community in the likeness of Christ.



Project Compassion 2025 shares 3 stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** (To-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.

You can support through donation boxes or by scanning the QR code.



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, John Attard, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boisset, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning, Kathleen Davies, Nerida Fabri, Solonge Faddoul, 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, 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.

Beverley Byers, Domenico Delzio, Gregory Pathinather

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.*

Morning Tea for Seniors

The Parish is hosting a Morning Tea for Seniors and for those in ministries who offer support to the Elderly.

The Office for Safeguarding Diocese of Parramatta is keen to hear our ideas and thoughts through listening and dialogue on how we can develop strategies to meet the needs of the elderly in our community.

Please join us to share a cuppa and ideas on:

Friday 14th March, after morning Mass

10am - 12pm in the St George Preca Centre

Please RSVP with any dietary needs to the Parish Office by: Wednesday 12th March.

Stations of the Cross for Lent

With Rosary, Adoration, Benediction.

Will begin on the Friday 14th March - following the First Sunday of Lent (NOT Friday after Ash Wednesday)

Stations will be held five Fridays in a row at

7.00pm - FRIDAY 14th March, 21st March, 28th March, 4th April, 11th April

Following Stations, each time, **at 7.30pm**, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, plus Rosary and Benediction, concluding by just after 8pm.

Social Justice Group Meeting

The March meeting of the OLQP Social Justice Group will be held on this coming **Tuesday night (11th March)** at the St. George Preca Centre commencing at **7.30pm**. All are welcome to attend.

Nominations open for the 2025 Papal & Diocesan Awards

For information or to submit a nomination, visit parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/

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

Safeguarding is a priority at OLQP

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on **Monday 17 and 24 March at Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill for Cycle 2 (Modules 4 and 5)**. More training opportunities will be available soon. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>

For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

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

At the Well Gathering for Women: 23 March

This gathering is a small scale, casual gathering of women aimed at providing a space for conversation. For more information and to register visit parracatholic.org/events/at-the-well-gathering-23-march/

Positions Vacant

Administration Assistant: Mission Enhancement Team

Risk & Compliance Facilitator: Governance, Risk & Compliance

More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Be part of the Children's Liturgy Team

Share the joy of celebrating our faith with the children of our parish!

Children's Liturgy is celebrated at 8.30am and 10.30am Sunday Masses during the school term.

Call the Parish Office on 9631 8135 for more information to become a leader or helper for this enriching ministry.

This Sunday's Readings

1st Reading
Deuteronomy
26:4-10

2nd Reading
Romans
10:8-13

Gospel
Luke
4:1-13

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading
Genesis
15:5-12, 17-18

2nd Reading
Philippians
3:17-4:1

Gospel
Luke
9:28-36

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

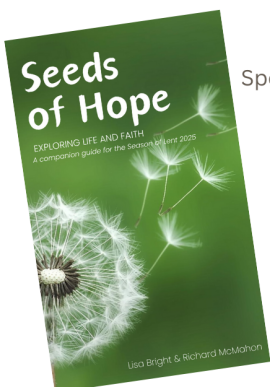
Please join us via Facebook or Website, olqp.org.au, every Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

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

Lenten Reflection Groups



Spend time with others reflecting on scripture this Lent with the theme of hope in this Jubilee Year.

Each week we will reflect on the Gospel for the following Sunday.

Tuesdays 10am - 11am
4, 11, 18, 25 March, 1, 8 April
Wednesdays 7pm - 8pm
12, 19, 26 March, 2, 9 April

in the Youth Room next to the Church.

Reflection Guides available for purchase at the Parish Office - \$5.
Register for a group via the sign up sheets in the Church or the Parish Office or call - 9631 8135. All welcome.



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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