

Ministry Roster.

Ministry	This Week, 25th Sunday in Ord Time. 18/9).		Next Week, 26th Sunday in Ord Time. (25/9.)	
	Vigil	8:30AM.	Vigil	8:30 AM.
<u>Acolyt</u>	P. Speter	J. Hall	P. Speter	P. Doherty
<u>Commentator:</u>	Alan W.	T. Griffiths	C. Rannaste	P. Gannon
<u>Reader:</u>	Ang W.	Cathy VG	J. McInerney	M. David
<u>Flowers:</u>	J. Gannon (Baptism)		Maria Dodd	
<u>Cleaning:</u>	L Blahut & M David.		Tamarae Griffiths & Gladys Hitchen	

If you are unable to carry out your ministry please organise a replacement or call Richard on the Parish phone number listed on the first page of this bulletin.

"THE WISDOM OF AGE" Book Launch

Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust invite you to the Book Launch of

The Wisdom of Age - Reflections on Growing Old in the Blue Mountains to be launched by Trish Doyle at 2pm Sunday 18th September at Our Lady of the Nativity Primary School Lawson. Entrance via Somers Street, Lawson (side gate.) Further details available on a Flyer in the church foyer.

Confirmation was celebrated last Wednesday evening at St Canice's Church in Katoomba. Our 13 Confirmation candidates joined 12 candidates from Upper blue Mountains parish and Blackheath parish. The young people were anointed with the Sacred Oil of the Chrism to share in the work of Jesus both locally and in the world beyond. The Confirmation was conferred by the V.Rev, Chris de Souza VG EP who represented our Catholic Community within the Diocese of Parramatta.

We pray for all the newly confirmed that they will always remember to use the Gifts of the Spirit given to help them in their lives as brothers and sisters of Jesus .

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal caring for those who have cared for us.

Our priests devote their lives in service to God and our faith community.

Your kind-hearted donation will help our Clergy Support Foundation's health and wellbeing team to care for the 21 retired clergy in our Diocese and provide our priests with the practical and emotional support needed for a comfortable retirement. Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal **Thank you.**

**World Day of Migrants and Refugees - "Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees": 25 September**

The Diocese of Parramatta's "Diocesan Journey... Walking with Refugees" Team invites you to a family friendly event on the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Sunday 25 September in Blacktown. Mass will be celebrated at 2pm by Bishop Vincent Long at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown, followed by an afternoon of fun, food and fellowship at the All Saints of Africa Centre, 63 Allawah St, Blacktown. Please register at www.shorturl.at/ahxyZ or call 0476 873 519.

***Our Lady of Nativity Parish Bulletin .***

254 Great Western Highway, Lawson, NSW 2783. **PO BOX 44, Lawson, 2783.**

Phone: **4759 1034 or 0418 214 548.**

Email: lawson@parracatholic.org

Parish Website: www.lawsoncatholicchurch.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Slyney - 4754 1052. **Emergency:** 0418 461 316.

Assistant Priest: Fr Shinto Francis - 4754 1052. **Emergency:** 0415 077 969.

Parish Office Hours: Thursdays & Fridays 9.30 am - 3.30 pm.

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:00 PM & Sunday 8:30 AM.

Weekday Masses: Tuesdays at 5:00 PM only for the present.

Masks are now recommended and we do not have any limits on capacity anymore. Baptisms: First & Third Saturdays at 11:00 AM. **Weddings:** Call the office & six months notice. **Funerals:** Call the office.

What God wants.

In the [Second Reading](#) Paul says it is the will of God that every human being be saved.

But it is part of Christian doctrine that not all human beings are saved. Not all human beings go to heaven when they die. How could it be that an omnipotent God wills something, and yet it doesn't happen?

Here we need to remember that heaven is more like a marriage than it is like a place.

For a human person to be in heaven is for her to be united in love to God. Now, union between God and a human person requires that each have a mind and a will, in order for there to be two to unite together. If God's mind and will are the only ones present, then whatever there may be, it isn't union between God and another person.

In consequence, God cannot bring about union all by himself. God can do all the work needed for union. He can offer the grace necessary for it as a gift. But if the will of a human person rejects that grace and refuses God, then even an omnipotent God can't get union with that person. God cannot succeed in giving grace if a human person chooses to reject it.

We have to see therefore that there are some things that God wants and does not get. The will of God is that every human being be saved, but not all human beings are saved, because a human being can reject God's grace.

But there is no frustration of God's will as a result.

God wills to let a person's salvation depend entirely on her—not, of course, in the Pelagian sense that she can save herself without grace, but in the sense required by the [First Reading](#): it is up to her and her alone whether or not she refuses the saving grace of God. And if she refuses it, then because God willed to create her as a person with a will of her own, God cannot give her the grace that she will not have.

God wants lovers, not slaves. And that is why, although it is God's will that all human beings be saved, when some are not saved, God's will is still fulfilled, only in a different way.

Eleonore Stump



Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Dennis Hitchen Snr.

Sick: Rob Nickl, Maurice Rooney, Lan Franco Matteucci, Moira Sattler, Anthony Griffin, Daniel Smith, Eamonn Spellman, Sienna Erdmanis, Norah Buckland, Max Dodd and all Private Intentions. *Due to the strict privacy laws, names of the deceased and sick can only be included in the Bulletin with the permission of the immediate family. Thank you.*

THIS WEEKS READINGS

First Reading

Amos 8:4-7

Unfair business practices and injustice to the poor will be judged by God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 113: 1-2,4-6,7-8

Praise be to God, who raises up the poor.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-8

Paul tells Timothy that prayer for those in authority is pleasing to God because God wills the salvation of all.

Gospel Reading

Luke 16:1-13 (shorter form, Luke 16:10-13)

Jesus tells a parable about a dishonest steward who is commended for his prudence; one cannot serve both God and money.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel sounds puzzling to contemporary readers, but it can be made less so by considering the economic system which stands behind the parable. A steward is dismissed because he is squandering his master's property. He is called dishonest because he is not serving the interests of the rich man, his employer. In response the steward, in an attempt to ensure favor for himself among the rich man's debtors, brokers repayment of the rich man's loans by foregoing the interest and fees that had been levied to line the steward's pockets. It is this action, in which the steward puts aside his greed and takes the longer perspective in order to enhance his security, which is commended by the rich man.

The passage concludes with three morals for the listeners. The first exhorts the listener to be prudent about the use of wealth. Like the steward in the parable, those who would follow Jesus must put transitory affairs in proper perspective. Christians should handle the affairs of temporal life with an eye toward eternal life.

The second concerns trustworthiness. Those who can be trusted in small things can also be trusted in great things. If Christians handle money and other passing things responsibly, then they can also be trusted with the affairs of the Kingdom of God.

Finally, Jesus tells his listeners that no one can serve two masters simultaneously. God must be put ahead of money.

SANTA MARIA

CONFERENCE CENTRE

Available for meetings,
functions and
conferences. Phone
Sr Veronica on
4759 1116.

OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY

SCHOOL

7 Somers Street, Lawson.

Phone: 4753 2200. Email:

oln@parra.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady of the Nativity parish offer our thanks and appreciation to Geoff Weule who for many years worshipped in this parish and was instrumental in supplying the new organ after the fire.

Geoff is unwell and will be moving into care shortly. We ask the Lord to bless him in the next phase of his journey.

Fr. Paul



On Thursday there will be a public holiday. One way to spend the day would be to attend the Wonder and Awe walk at 11am in the Rhododendron Gardens at Blackheath. We could give thanks for the life of Queen Elizabeth as well as give thanks for the natural beauty in the iconic gardens. Please see the Season of Creation Events sheet for more details.

Also families might consider a whole weekend of camping as hi-light of the Season of creation. It's on at **Wooglemai Catholic Bush Retreat, Oakdale on 30th Sept through to 2nd October** more details on the insert or the website.

Maureen Deanery Pastoral Council

PARISH SENIORS' (PREVIOUSLY OVER 50'S) GROUP: next bus trip is being held on **Wednesday, 28th September, to Wildwood Gardens, Bilpin** followed by **lunch at Lithgow Workies Club**. Bus will be leaving at 9am from the Somers Street bus loop returning around 3.30pm. The cost of the bus trip is \$40 which includes bus fare, garden entry and morning tea at the gardens. Lunch will be at one's own expense. We currently have 4 seats available on the bus, if you would like to join us on the day, please contact Paula Currie on 0416 185 651.

Dear OLN Friends

For your information I am taking 2 weeks leave from next **Monday 19th September** until **Wednesday 5th October**. Christine Rannaste will be in the office each Wednesday and Friday from 9.30am – 3pm.

Should you wish to contact the Parish office please call 47591034 or 0418 214 548 between 9am – 3pm during the working week – or email the Parish on

lawson@parracatholic.org

Richard.