

1st Reading

Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18
The Lord establishes a covenant
with Abraham.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 27.1, 7-8, 9, 13-14 (R.1a) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

2nd Reading

Philippians 3:17 – 4:1 *Our citizenship is in heaven.*

Gospel Acclamation Verse Luke 9.35

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, hear him.

Gospel

Luke 9:28-36 Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James and John.

LITURGY TIMES

Saturday

Reconciliation, 5-5:45pm Vigil Mass, 6pm

Sunday

Mass, 8am, 9.30am and 6pm Youth Mass, 2nd & 4th Sun, 6pm Filipino Mass, 1st Sun, 3.30pm

Monday and Wednesday

Mass, 7am

(except on Public Holidays which changes to 9.05am)

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Mass, 9.05am

Anointing Mass, 1st Fri, 9.05am

Friday Night Devotions (7.30pm)

1st Fri, Taize & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

3rd Fri, Divine Mercy & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Children's Liturgy

Sat 6pm and Sun 9.30am 2nd & 4th Sun of the month (during school term)

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals by appointment



VOICE FROM THE PEWS

Like Peter, James and John, we, too, sometimes have mountaintop experiences. It is easy to pray at those times—to praise God or just sit in quiet meditation. In those brief, personal encounters with the divine, our prayers can become deeply private and powerful. However, as this Scripture reminds us, we can't stay on the mountain.

More common are our valley experiences with prayer: times when we are plugged into every distraction around us, and God feels an eternity away. Spiritual masters tell us that those prayers that seem empty and monotonous can be even more valuable than a mountaintop experience.

Those same masters remind us that while alone time with God is valuable, often Christians pray best together. Christians are not theists who believe in a totally personal, one-on-one relationship with God. We are a covenant people who believe that together we are the body of Christ. We believe in the Incarnation—

God is with us and in us. We don't have to go to mountaintops or valleys to encounter God, because we find God all around us in everyone we meet.

We find God in other people, in our parish church and in our homes. This is why communal and family prayer is so important. Every Sunday, we gather to pray together with our parish family. And so it should be with our immediate family. Choose a prayer space in your home, and gather on a regular basis. You may be surprised to find how this not-soprovide quiet family time can transfiguring moments when a kitchen or living room can seem like a mountaintop.

PERSONAL RESPONSE:

Are you comfortable praying with others? With whom do you pray? How often?

Judith Dunlap.
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The Holy Spirit Parish pays respect to the Darug People, the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather to celebrate our faith and worship God. We acknowledge with respect the elders past and present.



We are a welcoming parish. Whatever your present status in the Catholic Church, whatever your current family or marital situation, whatever your past or present religious affiliation, whatever your personal history, age, background, race or color, sexual orientation, whatever your self-esteem... you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected by the Catholic Community of Holy Spirit.

If you are not an active member of this Community, consider sharing in what we have to offer. We serve the Community through outreach, education, social activities, sacramental preparation, youth and comfort to the sick and mourning. In addition to our spiritual and outreach organisations, perhaps you have an interest in joining one of our many liturgical ministries as: Minister of Holy Communion, Lector, Welcomer, Choir, etc.

Persons are formally registered by filling out a form that is then entered into the parish data system (information supplied remains confidential). These forms are available from the parish office or in the church foyer.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the People of God at Holy Spirit Parish is to witness to and to proclaim the word of God, and to pray and celebrate the Liturgy in word and sacraments so that we may be of service to others and form a community of "one mind and one heart on the way to God." (St Augustine)

FROM POPE FRANCIS:

"God loves us. May we discover the beauty of loving and being loved."

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Our clergy and pastoral care ministers bring the sacraments of Eucharist, reconciliation, and anointing of the sick to members who are unable to participate because of illness or aging. For more information and to arrange receiving the sacraments, contact Parish Office or complete the Pastoral Care for the Homebound form available in the foyer.



PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

SICK

Seraphina Lee, Lionel Kyd, Fr Dave Austin, Marie Gonsalvez, Jack Kest,
Jen Baird, Elizabeth Harris, Andrew Boulos,
Toula Kavich, Osmundo Custodio Jr, Louis Tham, Cleo Almanzor, Harry Young,
Emily Morgan, Ruby Allen, John Crompton, Giulis Caruana,
Joseph Caruana, Emilia Rose Moya, Larissa Koch, Tony Azzoppardi,
John Mitchell, Susan Gauci

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Michael Rodriguez, Anne Marie Jamili, Charmaine Hatiskar, Ruby Alvir, Michael Espina

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Fernando Marzan, Renato Dizon, Freddie Mathias, Joe Vella, Doris Carabott, Giovanna Aguilina, Alicia de los Santos

Names submitted to Parish for the sick list will show for 4 weeks at a time.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS & PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME

If you are a new parishioner to Holy Spirit or an existing one and you would like to participate in the Planned Giving Program, forms are available for completion in the foyer of the Church. Please complete your details and email it to accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au or hand it to any of our priests. For your convenience we have the option of Direct Debit and/or Envelope contribution.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

1 ST COLLECTION	For the care of our Augustinian clergy	\$ 1,303.10
2 ND COLLECTION	Loose plate	\$ 622.00
For the administration & maintenance costs of the	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,204.25
parish	Planned Giving Direct Debit & Credit Card	\$ 890.88
Planned Giving Program Weekly	Target	\$ 1,220.88
SPECIAL COLLECTION	N/A	N/A

THIS WEEK IN SOCIAL JUSTICE DIARY:

Tue 19 Mar: 2003, Invasion of Iraq by USA and Allies

Wed 20 Mar: Int'l Day of Happiness

Thu 21 Mar: Int'l Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

Int'l Day of Forests; World Down Syndrome Day;

Nat'l Harmony Day; Nat'l Close the Gap Day

Fri 22 Mar: World Water Day

Sat 23 Mar: World Meteorological Day
Sun 24 Mar: World Tuberculosis Day



REFLECTION

Scriptural Context - Gospel Parallels

The account of the Transfiguration appears in all three synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke). The word, synoptic, means 'seen together' and these three gospels can be seen together because they have so much material in common. It is now accepted that the gospel of Mark was the first written as so much of it appears in the other two, while the gospels of Matthew and Luke both seem to have also drawn on another source of Jesus material (known as the 'Q' source). Despite the parallels, each writer uses the same story to convey the particular message of that gospel.

Living the Gospel - 'Listen to him!'

God's voice from the cloud claims Jesus as his Son, the Chosen One and then goes on to instruct those present – and we, the readers – to 'Listen to him!' For the disciples, this was a message not to get carried away with their own ideas about the Messiah but to listen to what Jesus was saying about the suffering he must endure and to what he was saying about true discipleship. Jesus tells us that to be a follower of his involves sacrifice, hardship and often unpopularity. It is this message we must listen to as much as the promise of salvation.

Gospel Focus - Asleep again?

It seems that at crucial points in the gospel where Jesus' true identity and mission are revealed, the disciples are falling asleep! The gospel of Luke is unique in suggesting that the disciples were sleepy at the Transfiguration. They managed to fight off sleep in this instance, but were fast asleep at the Mount of Olives as Jesus prayed in agony. The sleepiness of the disciples at these crucial times is indicative of limited grasp of what Jesus is on about. They are wearied by all that he asks of them, rather than energised by it, and consequently they're not ready to witness great events when they come along.

Questions for Adults

What message did the Transfiguration hold for the three disciples who witnessed it? What message does the event hold for us today? Why does it seem important for the gospel writer to specify that Peter did not know what he was saying? Why might this passage be selected for use during the Lenten season?

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BAPTISMS



Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office prior to attending a preparation evening. Next Baptism Preparation Evening is on Tue 26 Mar, 7.30pm, Pioneers Rm. Presenter is Michael Zammit.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help lift communities in Indonesia out of poverty.

Lives change when we all give 100%. You can donate through Parish boxes (available in the foyer), or phoning 1800 024 413 by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompass ion.

PARISH MEETINGS & EVENTS

Mon 18 March

Lenten Reflection Group, Pioneers, 10am BASIC GIFT, Church, 7.30pm TheCatholicGuy Core Group, Aug Rm, 7.30pm

Tue 19 March

SVDP, Mercy Room, 7pm

Wed 20 March

Lenten Reflection Grp, Pioneers Rm, 6.30pm BASIC GIFT, Church, 7.30pm First Aid & Welcomers, Church Foyer, 7.30pm

Thu 21 March

Bereavement Supp Prog, Pioneers Rm, 10am Servers Lenten Reflection, Pioneers Rm, 7pm

Fri 22 March

Children's Choir, Church, 4.30pm Lenten Reflection Grp, Demountable, 7.30pm

Sat 23 March

RCIC, Pioneers Rm, 9am
Lenten Reflection Group, Mercy Rm, 4pm
RCIA, Pioneers Rm, 5pm
Children's Liturgy, Church, 6pm
RCIA 1st Scrutiny, Church, 6pm

Sun 24 March

Children's Liturgy, Church, 9.30am CFCA, Demountable, 9am

THE SUNDAY FLOCK







© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a savior."

Sheepish Question:

God has kept his promise, but how am I doing with mine?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

The Voice From The Pews

Are you interested to share your faith experiences, God-moments or reflections that may help others to grow in their faith! Feeling inspired to inspire others then write your name down on the sign-on sheet in the foyer. The sharing can be in the form of an essay around 300 words, a prayer or a poem. Sign-up sheet available in the foyer.

Safeguarding Superheroes

Ensuring a safe environment for young people is an essential requirement of any ministry initiative. In collaboration with the Office for Safeguarding & Professional Standards, we will aim to build the capacity of youth and adults to create, promote and sustain, safe youth ministry and equip them for a role as volunteer safeguarding officer in their parish or movement. Thursday 28 March, 6:30-9pm at NOVOTEL Hotel, Norwest. For more info, click on: https://parracatholic.org/cyp-keeping-our-young-people-safe/

6 WEEKS OF LENT GIVE 6 THINGS

This Lent, donate 1 item each week to give to refugees living in this community.





March 10 - April 14

The foodbank provides much needed fresh food, non-perishable items, and toiletries to over 350 individuals and families every month. Jesuit Refugee Services have identified six staple items that are most frequently requested, and we are encouraging parishioners to bring one designated item to the church each week over Lent.



4 INSPIRING SESSIONS

Session 1

on w

Tuesday 2 April 10.00am and 7.30pm

Session 2

Wednesday 3 April 10.00am and 7.30pm Session 3

Thursday 4 April 10.00am and 7.30pm

Session 4

Friday 5 April 10.00am and 7.30pm

FREE ADMISSION

TheCatholicGuy.com



We need volunteers for our Parish Mission event (TheCatholicGuy), 2-5 April. If interested, please write your name in the sign-on sheet available in the foyer.

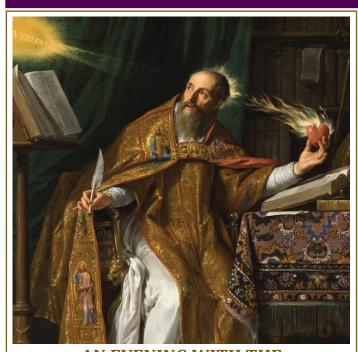
- Carpark attendants
- Welcomers
- Hospitality (set-up tables and serve food and drinks)

BRING A
PLATE OF
FOOD TO
SHARE

WHEN
YOU COME
TO ANY OF THE
PARISH
MISSION
EVENT
(THE CATHOLIC
GUY)
SESSIONS.
THANK YOU.

III JRS

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



AN EVENING WITH THE FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE

All are invited to seek God together as a community, based on friendship, hospitality and prayer with discussions on the scriptures and works of St Augustine of Hippo.

Friday, 29 March 2019, 7.30 pm Pioneers Room



The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in the Diocese of Parramatta has engaged Dr Laurie Woods to present on the Gospel of St Luke.

Venue: Institute for Mission, Marion St., Blacktown

Time: 10am - 2pm

Dates: Fridays, March 22, 29, April 5, 12

All are welcome. BYO lunch.

Please register with Maree on 02 8838 3486

PUBLIC CONVERSATION

with Dr Austen Ivereigh & Bishop Vincent Long

You are warmly invited to a public conversation between papal biographer & UK Catholic journalist Dr Austen Ivereigh and Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv as they discuss Pope Francis and becoming a humble, listening and learning Church.

Wed 20 March at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. RSVP by 13 March to Br Mark O'Connor on mark.oconnor@parracatholic.org.





SESSION 3: Dealing with Intense Emotions

Pls register at the Parish Office or call Rita on 8843 2575 for more details.



THURSDAY 4 APRIL (within the session of the Parish Mission– The Catholic Guy) 10am and 7.30pm

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH 2019 Sacramental Preparation

REGISTER ONLINE: www.holyspiritstclair.com.au

FIRST COMMUNION (Year 4)

- Parent Information & Catechesis Meeting
 - Mon, 6 May @ 9.30am (1 hr)
 - ♦ Wed, 8 May @ 7.30pm (1 hr)
- Preparation Sessions will be held during the month of May (3 weeks)
- First Communion Masses: 1-2, 15-16, 22-23 June 2019

(Early bookings can be made online thru the Parish Website. Bookings will be confirmed at the Parent Information Meeting)

FIRST RECONCILIATION (Year 3)

- Parent Information & Catechesis Meeting
 - Mon, 29 July @ 9.30am (1 hr)
 - Wed, 31 July @ 7.30pm (1 hr)
- Preparation Sessions will be held during the month of August (3 weeks)
- First Reconciliation: late August 2019
- Thanksgiving Mass: 14-15 September 2019

NOTE: Children with special needs are most welcome to join the preparation.

For all enquiries contact the Parish Office:
W: www.holyspiritstclair.com.au
P: 02 9670 8222
A: 5 Todd Row, St Clair

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"God has promised forgiveness to your repentance, but He has not promised tomorrow to your procrastination."

St Augustine of Hippo 354-430 AD

WORD SEARCH This is my chosen Son!														
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1	Ε	Т	Т	Α	V	1	Р	K	J	Ε	M	Z	K	L
L	Q	1	S	Н	Ε	L	T	Ε	R	S	R	М	K	0
S	Т	М	0	S	Ε	S	Υ	Z	В	R	R	Q	Ν	0
K	В	L	Р	D	N	J	U	D	Р	Ε	Т	Ε	R	Р
Ε	Q	Q	Α	F	R	1	G	Н	Т	Ε	N	Ε	D	G
L	С	1	1	С	Q	Т	С	L	0	U	D	Χ	Н	S
М	Н	М	Н	Н	Ε	В	В	0	U	Z	D	F	Ε	Н
G	V	В	Υ	0	М	С	L	0	Т	Н	Ε	S	Α	I
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© 2004 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd														
chosen clothes heavenly Moses shelters shining				cloud frighter mountain Peter Son three			ied							
ON A LIGHTER NOTE														

Mary Clancy goes up to Father O'Grady after his Sunday morning service, and she's in tears.

He says, 'So what's bothering you, Mary my dear?'

She says, 'Oh, Father, I've got terrible news. My husband passed away last night.'

The priest says, 'Oh, Mary, that's terrible. Tell me, Mary, did he have any last requests?'

She says, 'That he did, Father.'

The priest says, 'What did he ask, Mary?'

She says, 'He said, Please Mary, put down that gun....'

SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINT JOSEPH

Patron Saint of families, fathers, expectant mothers, workers and carpenters

Feast Day: 19TH March



St Joseph, who descended from a royal lineage, was born in Bethlehem in 90 BC, and died in Nazareth, in 18 AD. Scripture tells us that he was a carpenter, the husband of Mary, and the foster father of Jesus.

Joseph was a compassionate, caring man. When he discovered Mary was pregnant after they had been betrothed, he knew the child was not his but was as yet unaware that she was carrying the Son of God. He knew women accused of adultery could be stoned to death, so he resolved to send her away quietly to not expose her to shame or cruelty. However, when an angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins," he did as the angel told him and took Mary as his wife. (Matthew 1:19-25).

Joseph loved Jesus and his one concern was for his safety. When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately fled to Egypt with Mary and Jesus, and waited there until the angel told him it was safe to go back (Matthew 2:13-23).

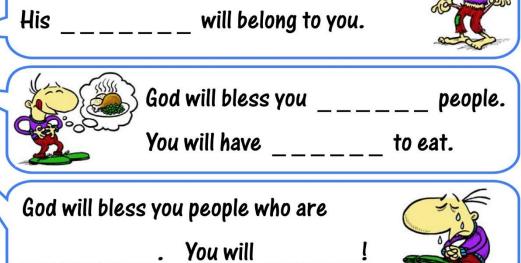
Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe Joseph probably had died before Jesus entered public ministry.

An initiative of Evangelization and Catechesis Commission

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Fill in the missing	words
for each of Jesus'	
using the pictures	as clues.
Draw Jėsus prea	

God wil	II bless you people who are $___$.	65
His _	$____$ will belong to you.	



Jesus told his disciples that even though people may be mean to you, as a follower of Christ you will have a great reward in heaven.
What do you think your rewards in heaven will be?

Find the opposites of the following words, then use the circled letters to make a word we use that describes heaven.

	HAPPY
	TICKL 1

WEAK > ___



ASLEEP ____

HEAVY ____

LITTLE ___

____ OPEN

Heaven is God's

NEXT WEEKEND (24 MARCH): 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT, Yr C

1st Reading

Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15 The Lord calls Moses from a burning bush.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8+11 (R.8a) The Lord is kind and merciful.

2nd Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 We must learn from the example of our ancestors.

Gospel Acclamation Verse

Matthew 4.17

Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Gospel

Luke 13:1-9 The parable of the fig tree.

FLOWERS: Group 4 (Purple)

CLEANERS: Group 2 **BANNERS: Purple**

23 MAR, 6PM

Acolyte/Senior Server Ted Uy

Eucharistic Ministers

Fe Uy Lois Schleifer Marion Durbin Lorensz Herft Sylvia Herft Lea Jadraque Dita Sy Pat Dowd

Reader 1

Romeo Prieto

Reader 2 Lea Jadraque

Commentator

Janice Salmon Music

Couples for Christ

Powerpoint

Nanette I. **Junior Servers**

Myles Morgan Jake Fenech

Devotional Stall

Fiona Ferreira

Welcomers

Terry Serrao Selwyn Oliveira Sonia Oliveira

24 MAR, 8AM

Acolyte/Senior Server **Edward DeLeon**

Eucharistic Ministers

Celeste Lapid Belen Leynes Frances Flood Louise Bucholtz

Elsa Roberto Annette Brackett Lisa Brackett Faye Aboghazaleh

Reader 1

Frances Flood

Reader 2 Espy Sarno

Commentator

Vitolina Fidow

Music Gabrielle Rumora

Powerpoint

Christine Younes

Junior Servers

Joseph Westerlund Francis Buenavista

Devotional Stall

Volunteer Needed

Welcomers

Espy Sarno Dorotea Seed Yvette Pinto

24 MAR, 9.30AM

Acolyte/Senior Server Fred Harris

Eucharistic Ministers

Shirley Croning Uinise Blake Anabel Jader Ken Allen Nilo Gajo Seaview Kama Marthese Grima Volunteer Needed

Reader 1

Michael Paulo

Reader 2 Carmen Marcelo

Commentator

Volunteer Needed

Music Children's Choir

Powerpoint

Joseph Valladores

Junior Servers

Rhys Sarno Isaiah Banguis

Devotional Stall

Marthese Grima

Welcomers Ray Portelli

Sue Oram Volunteer Needed 24 MAR, 6PM

Acolyte/Senior Server Bert Llamas

Eucharistic Ministers

Peter Smith Lena Maclean Roslyn Smith James Pirotta Lumen Decena Olga Esguerra Esther Rose Volunteer Needed

Reader 1

Volunteer Needed

Reader 2

Derrick Pereira

Commentator

James Pirotta

Music

BASIC GIFT

Powerpoint BASIC GIFT

Junior Servers Seb Santos

Raphael Ortiz

Devotional Stall

Jacinta Paulo

Welcomers

Chervawn Wren Eleanor Stuart Esther Rose

Holy Spirit Parish St Clair • Erskine Park • Parts of Kemps Creek

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians

Diocese of Parramatta

www.parra.catholic.org.au

Holy Spirit Parish St Clair-Erskine Park • Holy Spirit Parish St Clair Family Ministry • BASICGIFT (Youth Ministry) **Parish Office** 5 Todd Row (PO Box 103) St Clair NSW 2759

P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au W www.holyspiritstclair.com.au

Office Hours

9.00am to 5pm (Monday to Friday)

3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair P 9834 2527

Priory Parish Staff

Facebook

Parish Moderator: Fr Michael Belonio, OSA P 9670 8201 E mbelonio@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA P 9670 8202 E ptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Asst Pastor: Fr Sumesh Joseph Illikkaparambil, OSA P 9670 8204 E sjoseph@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Augustinian Brother: Bro Quang Tuyen Pham, OSA (Tuyen) P 9670 8203 E tpham@holyspiritstclair.com.au Parish Secretary: Elisa Reynolds P 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Tue-Fri)

Parish Bookkeeper: Mila Llamas P 9670 8205 E accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Mon and Wed)

SRE Coordinator (Catechists): Margaret Currie M 0411 468 921 E dmcurrie@tpg.com.au Sacramental Coordinator: Germaine Gil P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Parish Youth Contact: Patrice Moriarty M 0423 968 054 E pm12_88@hotmail.com

Parish Council

Chair: Margaret Fono • Asst Chair: Sarah Cañete-Damole • Secretary: Bernadette Stevens Members: Cathy Allen, Anna Gregoriou, Jamie Dowsett, Gus Morgan, Manuel Fidow, Eleanor Stuart

Fr Michael Belonio OSA, Fr Peter Tangey OSA, Fr Sumesh Joseph Illikkaparambil OSA, Br Quang Tuyen Pham OSA

Schools/College Holy Spirit Primary School (7 Todd Row, St Clair) P 02 8886 3200 W www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au Trinity Primary School (61 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 8856 6200 W trinitykempscreek.catholic.edu.au

Emmaus Catholic College (87 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 9670 8300 W emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au

Retirement Vill Emmaus Retirement Village (85 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 8804 0200