



1st Reading

Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord removes the reproach of Egypt.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 34:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.8a)

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

2nd Reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

All is new in Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Verse

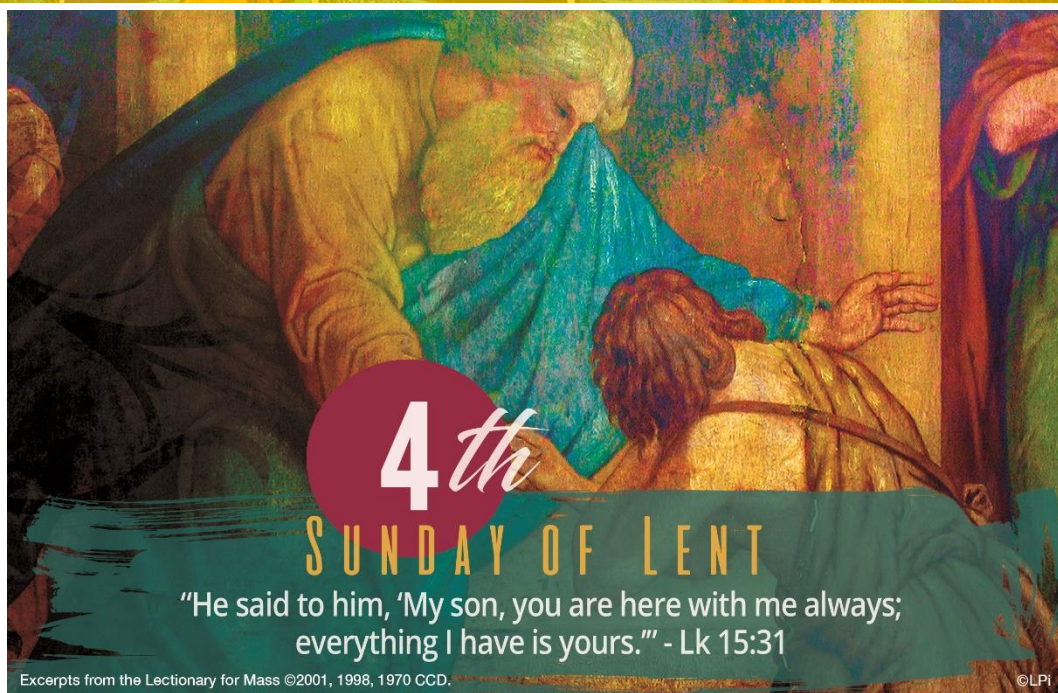
Luke 15:18

I will rise and go to my father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Gospel

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Parable of the prodigal son.



VOICE FROM THE PEWS

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

Last week, Rafa, a boy in a second grade asked my opinion on what is the best title to the story in his homework. The story is about Rufus, an unleashed dog. One day, Rufus ran and ran away till he fell into a ditch. He was there for a while until a man saw him and took him out of the ditch.

I drew a similarity between the prodigal son and Rufus. Like Rufus who has no leash, the youngest son absconded, he didn't have any direction in life no father to guide him. Rufus, motivated by his independence ran everywhere till he landed on a ditch.

The youngest son motivated by his independence and the money he possessed went everywhere, squandered all the money he got. The ditch in the prodigal son's life is the time when he hit rock bottom and realized he had nobody to turn to, no money to

spend. Rufus was saved by a man and in the youngest son's situation it's the father who saved him by showing his mercy and compassion. The jealousy of the eldest son on the extravagant welcome given by the father was just a natural reaction. When the father explained why he did it the eldest son just kept quiet and seemed appeased.

Our Heavenly Father never got tired of forgiving us no matter how many times we have sinned as long as we repent.

Our Lord always welcomes us to his loving arms. He wants all his children to be at home. This lent let us be like the son turning to the father for forgiveness, be like the father welcoming back people who have offended us and be like the eldest son offering understanding. By the way, the title I suggested is **Lost but Found**.

✍ Elsa Roberto, Parishioner.

*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:

"No one can grow if he does not accept his smallness."

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

Sharyn Byers, Viraphan Rajasombat, Virasak Rajasombat, John Bridges, Ricardo Herft, 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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Patrick Atkinson, Michael Rodrigues, Noemi Sahagun, Anne Marie Jamili, Charmaine Hatiskar, Ruby Alvir, Michael Espina

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Leuam Peter Rajasombat, Teodora Floro, Rebecca Herft, Natividad Martinez, Josephine Siazon, Lesline Arathoon, Douglas Oliver, Josefina Revilla, Birdie Fernandez, Emiliano David, Clinton Carino,

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

1ST COLLECTION	<i>For the care of our Augustinian clergy</i>	\$ 1,517.65
2ND COLLECTION	Loose plate	\$ 791.10
<i>For the administration & maintenance costs of the parish</i>	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,196.50
	Planned Giving Direct Debit & Credit Card	\$ 890.88
	Planned Giving Program Weekly Target	\$ 1,220.88
SPECIAL COLLECTION	N/A	

THIS WEEK IN SOCIAL JUSTICE DIARY:

- Tue 2 Apr:** World Autism Awareness Day
- Thu 4 Apr:** Int'l Day for Mine Awareness & Assistance in Mine Action; 1968, Assassination of Martin Luther King Jr in Memphis, Tennessee, USA
- Sat 6 Apr:** Int'l Day of Sport for Dev't and Peace
- Sun 7 Apr:** Int'l Day of Reflection on the Genocide in Rwanda; World Health Day



REFLECTION

Historical Context – Customs and Culture

The parable of the lost son is a fascinating study of Jewish culture and purity laws. The son could not have distanced himself more from Jewish custom. Firstly, he demanded his inheritance, effectively treating his father as dead. Secondly, he travels to a pagan land and then in despair finds himself feeding pigs – animals whose meat was forbidden to Jews. He knows that his actions have alienated him from his family and culture and yet when he returns, his father gives him a fine robe and a ring to wear – signs of a father claiming a son as his own.

Have you thought? – The prodigal

Because the only context in which most people ever hear the word *prodigal* is in relation to this parable, there is a common misunderstanding of the word. Because the parable is also referred to as the parable of the lost son, many people think prodigal means lost. However, to be prodigal means to be wastefully extravagant. When the son took his father's money he adopted a prodigal lifestyle. However, the irony of the story that is often lost is that the father too was prodigal in the extravagant welcome he gave. The father's extravagance echoes God's extravagant and abundant grace and love.

From the perspective of... – The older brother

We might have a little sympathy for the position of the older brother who has stuck by his father and done all that was required of him. All of a sudden his wayward brother returns and his father pulls out all the stops to welcome him home. The older brother is like the Pharisees and scribes who criticised Jesus for dining with sinners. They were sticklers for the rules and had no sense of compassion if it involved moving outside the requirements of Law. Like the older brother, they could not comprehend a God who could be extravagant in expressing his love.

Questions for Adults

In what way does the telling of the parable better answer the Pharisees than a direct confrontation? When have you been like the lost son and acted in haste only to later regret your actions? How do you respond to the older son's reaction? Have you ever had the opportunity to respond to a situation with extravagant love as the father did? What learning do you take from this week's reading and reflection?

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BAPTISMS

BAPTISM Preparation Meeting

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 9 Apr, 7.30pm, Pioneers Rm. Presenter is Joyce McMahon.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help provide essential health care, employment and training for First Australians like Michaela.

Lives change when we all give 100%. You can donate through Parish boxes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

PARISH MEETINGS & EVENTS

Mon 1 April

Lenten Reflection Group, Pioneers Rm, 10am
PPC Executive, Augustine Rm, 5pm
BASIC GIFT, Church, 7.30pm

Tue 2 April

Mother's Group, Pioneers Rm, 9.45am
TheCatholicGuy, Church, 10am & 7.30pm

Wed 3 April

TheCatholicGuy, Church, 10am & 7.30pm
Lenten Reflection Grp, Augustine Rm, 6.30pm

Thu 4 April

TheCatholicGuy, Church, 10am & 7.30pm
Lenten Reflection Grp, Pioneers Rm, 7.30pm

Fri 5 April

Reconciliation & Anointing Mass, Church, 8.30am
TheCatholicGuy, Church, 10am & 7.30pm
Children's Choir practice, Church, 4.30pm
Lenten Reflection Grp, Demountable, 7.30pm

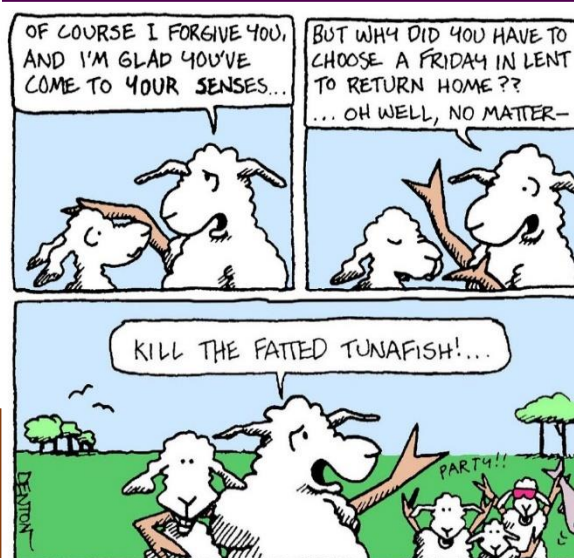
Sat 6 April

RCIC, Pioneers Rm, 9am
WHS, Augustine Rm, 10am
TheCatholicGuy Women's Sat session, Church, 1pm
Lenten Reflection Group, Mercy Rm, 4pm
RCIA, Pioneers Rm, 5pm
RCIA, 3rd Scrutiny, Church, 6pm

Sun 7 April

Reconciliation classes, Pioneers Rm, 10.30am
CFC, Demountable, 4pm

THE SUNDAY FLOCK



© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"Let us celebrate...he was lost, and has been found."

Sheepish Question:

This Lent how will I truly celebrate God's mercy?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

The Voice From The Pens

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.



THURS 4 APRIL - 10am and 7.30pm
(within the session of The Catholic Guy)

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

**Drop your donations to the
JRS FOODBANK BOX available in the foyer.**

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

Tuesday 2 April
10.00am and 7.30pm

Session 3

Thursday 4 April
10.00am and 7.30pm

Session 2

Wednesday 3 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.**

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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

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: 15 September 2019

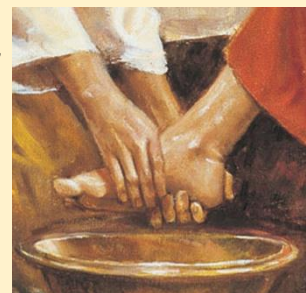
NOTE: Children with special needs are most welcome to join the preparation.

For all enquiries contact the Parish Office:

W: www.holyspiritstclair.com.au • E: admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au
P: 02 9670 8222 • A: 5 Todd Row, St Clair

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

In order to involve the entire assembly in the Mandatum, i.e., the washing of feet, it is necessary to have as many ministers as possible. Anyone may choose to help, you do not have to be an existing minister, simply write your name on the sheet in the foyer.



No previous experience is necessary. Fr Peter will explain to you what to do. Please pray about it. Thank you.

We are in need of volunteers to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist for our Easter Sunday Masses, 8am and 9.30am (21 April). If available, please write your name on the sign-on sheet available in the foyer. Thank you.

**PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION: 14 April**

The annual Palm Sunday procession is on again. Process with Bishop Vincent from Parramatta Town Hall to St Patrick's Cathedral for a World Youth Day Mass and Event on Palm Sunday. Starting at 5:20pm. Register at: parracatholic.org/cyp

PALMS NEEDED FOR PALM SUNDAY

If you can donate palms please drop them off at the church on

Sat 13 April at 8am

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GOOD FRIDAY:

- TO SET-UP CHAIRS
- HANG CURTAINS TO BLOCK OUT THE CHURCH

Fri 19 April, 8am

**Anointing of the Sick**

Anointing Mass on Fri 5 Apr, 9.05am

Reconciliation available before Mass from 8.30-9am
Join us for the Catholic Guy session after Mass, followed by refreshments. Please bring a plate to share

Couples for Christ Australia
SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER

Sunday, 7th April from 8:30am to 5pm
around the Mackillop Place area



Proceeds to support CFCA evangelization works and the Parish's Lenten Project Compassion.

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



“There can only be two basic loves... the love of God unto the forgetfulness of self, or the love of self unto the forgetfulness and denial of God.”

St Augustine of Hippo
354-430 AD

WORD SEARCH

I was lost but now am found

A	R	J	X	S	J	U	N	L	W	I	O	D	B
Z	I	C	Z	L	R	G	M	F	W	N	B	M	I
X	N	E	P	H	U	Y	Y	J	J	T	E	S	O
D	G	L	R	X	H	B	D	N	F	W	R	B	U
J	S	E	O	F	R	I	E	N	D	L	Y	F	A
U	P	B	P	X	U	A	N	X	S	V	O	O	P
D	K	R	E	J	B	L	N	T	T	E	O	U	V
Z	F	A	R	O	E	A	T	S	A	I	M	N	E
H	E	T	T	W	L	F	C	V	R	F	G	D	C
X	L	E	Y	K	A	P	E	K	V	G	L	A	D
F	B	E	G	G	E	D	W	F	I	O	M	V	B
S	V	O	B	E	Y	E	D	K	N	U	X	C	L
J	R	Z	J	Y	C	K	V	L	G	G	A	Y	H
R	O	U	J	M	B	W	A	S	T	E	D	D	C
T	K	H	Y	S	G	T	Q	O	S	L	A	V	E

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TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS:

begged	celebrate	eats
found	friendly	glad
obeyed	property	ring
slave	starving	wasted

ON A LIGHTER NOTE

My wife has a slight impediment in her speech. Every now and then she stops to breathe. (Jimmy Durante)

By the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere. (Billy Crystal)

SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINT ISIDORE OF SEVILLE

Patron Saint of the Internet, computer users, computer technicians, programmers and students
Feast Day : 4th April



In 1997, Pope John Paul II decided that the internet could use a patron saint to guide Catholics in its proper use. He chose Saint Isidore of Seville (560-636), Doctor of the Church.

Saint Isidore of Seville, was born in 560 AD, in Cartagena, Spain. His parents were of a high social rank, and were instrumental in converting the Visigothic kings from Arianism to Catholicism. His three siblings, Leander of Seville, Saint Florentina and Fulgentius of Cartagena, have all been declared saints.

In the year 600 AD, Isidore succeeded his brother, Saint Leander, as Bishop of Seville. During this time he devoted himself to caring for the poor, reformation of the clergy, fostering monastic life, educating the faithful after two centuries of barbaric rule under the Goths, and extirpating heresies. Isidore became known as the greatest teacher in Spain. He wrote several books on theology and science, and commentaries on books of the Old and New Testaments. After serving more than 32 years as Archbishop of Seville, Saint Isidore died on 4 April 636 AD, aged 76, in Seville, Spain. He was canonized in 1598 in Rome by Pope Clement VIII, and is venerated in both the Catholic and Eastern orthodox churches.

In 688 AD, the fifteenth Council of Toledo paid tribute to Saint Isidore “... the extraordinary doctor, the latest ornament of the Catholic Church, the most learned man of the latter ages, always to be named with reverence.”

An initiative of Evangelization and Catechesis Commission

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Lent is a time to focus on the act of forgiveness. We ask God to forgive us for the wrong things that we do. In the story of the prodigal son....

What wrong things did the younger son do? _____

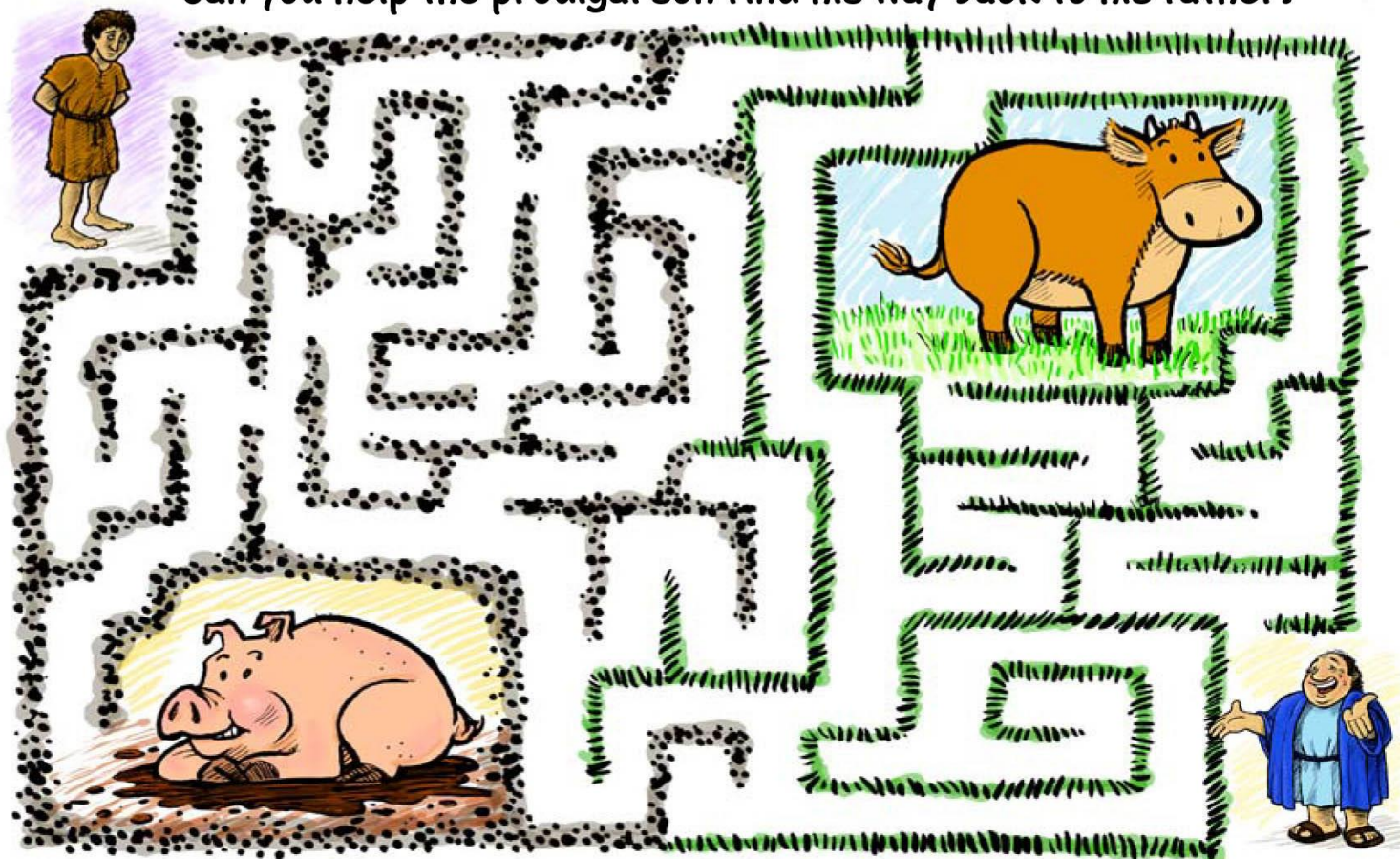
What did he do to show he was sorry? _____

When I do things against my friends, I can show them that I am sorry by...

When I do things against my family, I can show them that I am sorry by...

When I do things against God, I can show him that I am sorry by...

Can you help the prodigal son find his way back to his father?



NEXT WEEKEND (7 APRIL): 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT, Yr C

	6 APR, 6PM	7 APR, 8AM	7 APR, 9.30AM	7 APR, 6PM
1st Reading Isaiah 43:16-21 <i>God has done and will continue to do great things.</i>	Acolyte/Senior Server Gloria Slade	Acolyte/Senior Server John Shelley	Acolyte/Senior Server Tony Cleary	Acolyte/Senior Server Phillip Roffey
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 126.1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5, 6 (R.3) <i>The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.</i>	Eucharistic Ministers Hazel Littlewood Pat Dowd Bernadette Stevens Josephine Schembri Lois Schleifer Moiria Rebello Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	Eucharistic Ministers Louise Bucholtz Gloria Slade Faye Aboghazaleh Annette Brackett Ron Brackett Lisa Brackett Frances Flood Christine Younes	Eucharistic Ministers Chloe Daley Sue Oram Seaview Kama Tina Fernandes Michael Paulo Jenny Kyd Aruna Heslop Unise Blake	Eucharistic Ministers James Wren James Pirota Pearl Joson Lena Maclean Lumen Decena Esther Rose Jan Manzanaras Volunteer Needed
2nd Reading Philippians 3:8-14 <i>God has done and will continue to do great things. Paul forfeits all for Christ.</i>	Reader 1 Marion Durbin	Reader 1 Christine Younes	Reader 1 Tess Barnes	Reader 1 Karina Micallef
Gospel Acclamation Verse Joel 2.12-13 <i>With all your heart turn to me, says the Lord, for I am tender and compassionate.</i>	Reader 2 Michael Farrugia	Reader 2 Micheal Hay	Reader 2 Ken Allen	Reader 2 Jodie Donlan
Gospel John 8:1-11 <i>The Pharisees confront Jesus with an adulteress.</i>	Commentator Sheila Francis	Commentator Dawn Timmins	Commentator Cathy Allen	Commentator James Pirota
	Music Gabrielle Rumora	Music Luchie's Choir	Music Luchie's Choir	Music Volunteer Needed
	Powerpoint Sherise Oliveira	Powerpoint Carol Vella	Powerpoint Ivan Fernandes	Powerpoint Volunteer Needed
	Junior Servers Myles Morgan Adrian Tauro	Junior Servers Michael Iotua Angelina Dicenso	Junior Servers Joseph Westerlund Paul Pavlovic Gabriel Gil	Junior Servers Maya Barros Aleks Worobiej
	Devotional Stall Fiona Ferreira	Devotional Stall Louise Bucholtz	Devotional Stall Margaret Portelli	Devotional Stall Volunteer Needed
	Welcomers Margaret Herbert Sonia Oliveira Selwyn Oliveira	Welcomers Frances Flood Dorotea Seed Yvette Pinto	Welcomers Jenny Kyd Sue Oram Joe Duval	Welcomers Kriz Florido Esther Rose

FLOWERS: Group 1 (Purple)
CLEANERS: Group 4
BANNERS: Purple

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

Facebook

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)

Priory

3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair P 9834 2527

Parish Staff

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, Paola Dicenso, Margaret Portelli, Eleanor Stuart (BASIC GIFT Youth Representative)

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