

EASTER VIGIL (20 Apr):

1ST READING Genesis 1:1-2:2 God saw all he had made, and indeed it was aood.

2ND READING Genesis 22:1-18 *Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac.*

3RD READING Exodus 14:15-15:1 Tell the children of Israel to march on, to walk through the sea on dry ground.

4TH READING Isaiah 55:1-11 Come to me and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant.

5TH READING Romans 6:3-11 Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again.

GOSPEL Luke 24:1-12 Why do you look for the living among the dead?

EASTER SUNDAY (21 Apr):

1ST **READING:** Acts 10:34, 37-43 *Peter recounts the deeds of Jesus.*

RESP. PS, Psalm 118.1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (*R*.24)

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

2ND READING: Colossians 3:1-4 *Jesus made himself lowly and was exalted.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: 1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 20:1-9 Mary Magdalene finds the tomb empty, Peter sees and believes.

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

On Easter we celebrate that God's love conquered death and that Jesus is forever alive in the world. We rejoice in our freedom from the slavery of sin and the bondage of fear and anger that can lead us to sin. We rejoice in our own new life in Christ. Easter is an alleluia day. It is the greatest, biggest, most important feast day in every Christian's life, and it should be celebrated every day by every Christian.

Jesus came to our tiny planet to help us remember something that we had forgotten: We are children of God. Jesus is our brother not only on his mother's side, but on his Father's side, too. He shared our humanity to remind us that through him we share in his divinity.

Jesus died for this truth, rose in this truth and lives in this truth today, through each of us.

In baptism, we choose to live our lives in Christ as lovers, healers and peacemakers. There is no place for greed

or prejudice. And as we grow into the divinity Christ shares with us, we become more and more freed from the slavery of fear and anger, self-righteousness and false pride. We grow away from sin and become the person God created us to be, using our unique gifts and talents to make a better world.

If we remember who we are and whose we are, our everyday lives take on new meaning. If we believe that we truly share in Christ's life, then we know that nothing can defeat us. Does this mean we won't suffer or get hurt? Of course not, but we know that no matter what we encounter, God's strength and courage are at our disposal. We are not alone.

What a message of hope in a world full of all sorts of hurtful things. Share this message with your family and friends, and celebrate your life in Christ. Celebrate Easter. Have a party!

> Fr Myk Belonio

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:

"Let the risen Jesus enter your life—welcome him as a friend, with trust:

he is life!"

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

Jeanette Furness, John Grompton, Danny Lee, Sharyn Byers, Viraphan Rajasombat, Virasak Rajasombat, John Bridges, Seraphina Lee, Marie Gonsalvez, Jen Baird, Elizabeth Harris, Andrew Boulos, Toula Kavich, Osmundo Custodio Jr, Louis Tham, Cleo Almanzor, Emily Morgan, Ruby Allen, John Crompton

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Warwick Jones, Rita Gatt, Azon Denuevo, Sarto Coutinho, Vinny Doogue, Doris Magro, Noel Nettel, Ricardo Herft

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Tony Kuljanic, Therese Cotte, Lila Matilda Joseph, Peggy Sinclair

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 ^{S1} COLLECTION	For the care of our Augustinian clergy	\$ 1,741.60
2ND COLLECTION For the administration & maintenance costs of the parish	Loose plate	\$ 1,022.05
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,116.15
	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:

Mon 22 Apr: Int'l Mother Earth Day

Tue 23 Apr: World Book and Copyright Day

Thu 25 Apr: ANZAC Day; World Malaria

Day; 1945, Opening of First United Nations Conference with 45 nations attending

Sun 28 Apr: World Day for Safety & Health

at Work



REFLECTION

Historical Context - Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene, or Mary of Magdala, plays an important role in the gospel accounts of the resurrection. She was obviously a significant follower of Jesus, being named as a witness to the crucifixion, discovering the empty tomb and the first to encounter the risen Christ. One would think that she would hold a prestigious place in the Church, but for many years she was confused with another character identified in the gospels and was portrayed as a prostitute and sinner. Mary is named in each of the four gospels and not once is it indicated that she was a sinner or prostitute. She has been a victim of mistaken identity for 2000 years.

Gospel Focus - The disciple Jesus loved

In this week's gospel we see reference to a disciple as 'the one Jesus loved'. It is generally agreed that this disciple is John. There is some suggestion that the disciple, John, is in fact the John ascribed as the author of this gospel. If this is so, to describe himself as the disciple Jesus loved is merely a means of avoiding using a personal pronoun – I or me. Just as Jesus described himself as 'the Son of God' or 'the Son of Man' rather than say 'I', John uses the same convention to avoid naming himself. It is not to suggest that Jesus didn't love his other disciples.

Different View - An empty tomb

There are some writers who have questioned the historical accuracy of the empty tomb account of the resurrection. Some theologians and biblical scholars (e.g. members of the 'Jesus Seminar') argue that historically, it is far more likely that the victim of Roman crucifixion would be left to rot on the cross or buried in a shallow criminal's grave – not laid to rest in an expensive private tomb. However, they do not argue against resurrection. They maintain that Jesus' body was not 'resuscitated' or 'reanimated'. What happened to his corpse, they argue, is irrelevant to Christ's resurrection.

Questions for Adults

Why is the passion, death and resurrection central to Christian belief? What message do you take from the beloved disciple who 'saw and believed'. Does the significance of the Easter events receive proper recognition in society today? Why do you think the cross became the symbol of Christianity, rather than the empty tomb?

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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 23 Apr, 7.30pm, Pioneers Rm. Presenters are Benjie & Rhoda Santiago.

We welcome into our faith community

KINGSTON PETER JOHN FIDOW

(Son of Atonio and Jade)

CHARLIE JAMES GREEN

(Son of Luke and Cassandra)

who will be baptised this Sunday



PARISH MEETINGS & EVENTS

Mon 22 April

Tue 23 April

SVDP, Mercy Room, 7pm Baptism Preparation, Pioneers Rm, 7.30pm

Wed 24 April

Sacrament Preparation Team, Augustine Rm, 7pm

BASIC GIFT, Mercy Room, 8pm Pentecost Planning, Pioneers Rm, 7.30pm

Thu 25 April

ANZAC Day, Church, 9am

Fri 26 April

Blessing of Shrine of Our Mother of Good Counsel, Church, 9.05am

Sat 27 April

Women's Afternoon Tea, HS School MPA, 3pm

Anglo-Indian Choir practice, Church, 3.30pm RCIA, Pioneers Rm, 5pm

Sun 28 April

Divine Mercy Feast Day Celebration, Church, 2pm

THE SUNDAY FLOCK





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"Were not our hearts burning within us?"

Sheepish Question:

So what really IS my greatest hope?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Thank You and Happy Easter to all!!!

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32) As we celebrate the most joyous and important time of the year for Christians, I want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone for all of your involvement towards the success of our Easter Triduum liturgies. I am thankful for the many ways people support our Parish and more importantly serve our Lord. Thank you to:

- Those who have volunteered their Ministry as Acolytes. PowerPoint Ministers. Readers. Eucharistic Ministers, Welcomers, Altar Servers, Devotional Stall Holders and Carpark Attendants.
- To our volunteer Choirs: Peter Mercia & Micheal Hay (Holy Thursday and Easter Sunday), Mary Immaculate Choir (Good Friday), Couples for Christ Choir (Easter Vigil) and, Laudate Choir (Easter Sunday).
- To those who assisted in the Holy Thursday Mass and the Washing of the Feet
- To those who volunteered to cover the windows with curtains and setting up the side of church for **Good Friday**
- To the BASIC GIFT Youth Group for their Good Re-enactment and Friday Passion commitment and dedication to the Gospel and Rehearsals
- To the Video Team for Good Friday
- To Emmaus College for the use of their grounds for Stations of the Cross
- To the RCIA and RCIC team and candidates for the journey they have shared with us all
- To the Banner Ladies, Flower Ministry & Cleaners who have worked tirelessly for our beautiful Liturgical Space
- To all involved in the Stations of the Cross at **Emmaus College and Emmaus Village**

And to you all for joining us, may you all have a blessed Easter celebration!





Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2019. If you still have your Project Compassion box at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.

Lives change when we all give 100%.





Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in the month of April are most welcome to join us. BBQ sizzle will follow after Mass.



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



FEAST DAY AND BLESSING
OF THE SHRINE OF
OUR MOTHER
OF GOOD COUNSEL

Fri 26 Apr 2019 9.05am Mass



Mass at 9.05am, Holy Spirit Parish

We welcome



Lin Nguyen Lamelia Rasmussen Sean West Tamika Nelson Mia Nelson Michaela McKeown Angelina Jubian Isabella Jubian Rachael Daniels Taryn Williamson Tiana Pringley Keala Pringley

who was initiated into the Catholic faith at the Easter Vigil ceremony at Holy Spirit Church.

BINGO NECHT

Sat 11 May 2019, 7.30PM at Holy Spirit School Hall

COME WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS 10 ROUNDS + 1 BUMPER ROUND

Sausage Sizzle & Soft Drinks on Sale Free tea, coffee & biscuits

Donations welcome

Organised by the Community and Cultural Commission

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

FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY 2nd Sunday of Easter 28 April 2019

2.30pm

- Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Praise and Worship

3:00pm

- Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Silent Reflection

3:30pm

- Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- End of Confession
- Fellowship and Meal



AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"A Chrístían should be an Alleluía from head to foot"

St Augustine of Hippo 354-430 AD

ACROSS:

- 4: the front opening of a building
- 6: this covered the entrance to Jesus' tomb
- 9: without light
- 10: a piece of fabric
- 12: a type of cotton fabric

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DOWN:

- 1: Jesus' disciple who was also known as Simon
- 2: the front part of the head
- 3: sacred texts
- 5: burial chamber
- 7: removed
- 8: she was the first to notice that Jesus' body was missing
- 11: the opposite of death

ON A LIGHTER NOTE

Wife: I'm heading to the store. Do you want anything?

Hubby: I want a sense of meaning and purpose in my

life. I seek fulfillment and completeness to my soul. I want to connect to God and discover the

spiritual side to me...

Wife: Be specific - Black Label or Chivas?

SAINT OF THE WEEK

MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL

Feast Day: 26th April



Mother of Good Counsel is a title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary after a painting said to be miraculous, was found in the thirteenth century Augustinian church at Genazzano, near Rome, Italy.

Measuring 40 x 45 cm, the image is a fresco on a layer of plaster no thicker than an egg shell. Over the centuries, devotions to Our Lady of Good Counsel grew among saints and Popes, to the extent that a reference to it was added to the Litany of Loreto and devotion spread throughout the world.

According to tradition, in the year 1467, in the midst of the festivities for the Feast of St Mark, the town folk suddenly heard "exquisite music." A mysterious cloud descended on an unfinished wall of the parish church, and after it dissipated, a beautiful fresco of the Virgin Mary and the Christ Child was revealed. It was widely believed that it had been miraculously transported from a church in Scutari, Albania.

In 1630, Pope Urban VIII on his visit to Genazzano, invoked the protection of the Queen of Heaven, as did Pope Pius IX in 1864. On 17th November, 1682, Pope Innocent XI had the picture solemnly crowned.

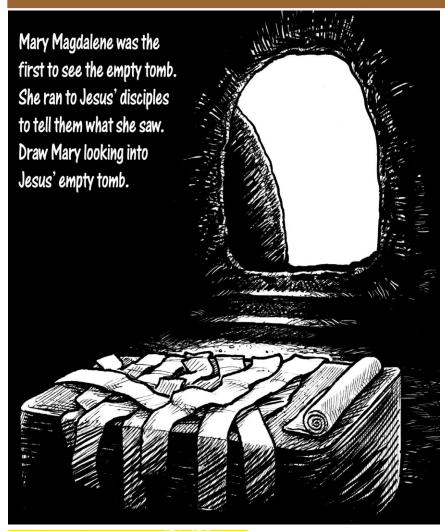
Art experts believe the fresco is likely the work of the early fifteenth century artist Gentile da Fabriano, probably painted around the time of Pope Martin V (1417-1431).

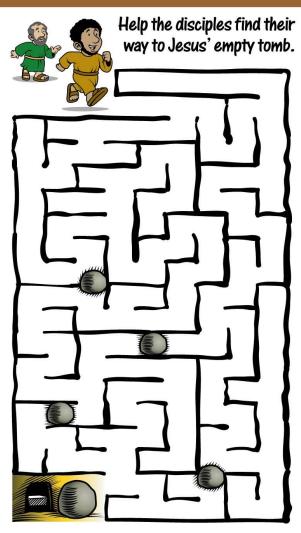
The Augustinian Order contributed to the spread of this devotion internationally. Through the years, various institutions in honour of Mary under the title of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Her Feast is celebrated on April 26.

An initiative of Evangelization and Catechesis
Commission

CHILDREN'S CORNER

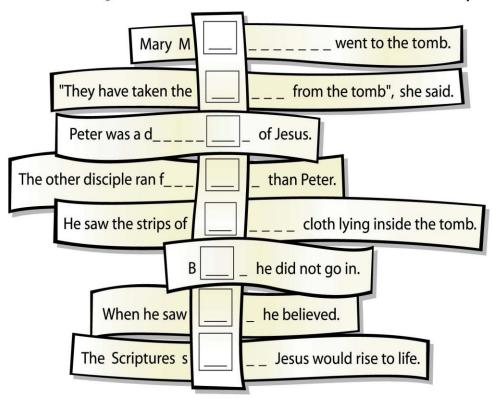




This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice!

What can you do to make people glad today?

Fill in the missing words below to find out what the letters in the boxes spell.



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NEXT WEEKEND (28 APRIL): 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY), Yr C

1st Reading

Acts 5:12-16

The Apostles perform many signs.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118.2-4, 22-24, 25-27a (R.1) Give thanks, for the Lord is good, God's love is everlasting.

2nd Reading

Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19 Son of Man appears to John, instructing him to write his visions.

Gospel Acclamation Verse

See John 20.29
Alleluia, alleluia! You believed in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:19-31 Doubting Thomas.

FLOWERS: Group 4 (White)

CLEANERS: Group 2 **BANNERS:** White

27 APR, 6PM

Acolyte/Senior Server
Jacob Fonseca

Eucharistic Ministers

Lois Schleifer
Marion Durbin
Lorensz Herft
Sylvia Herft
Lea Jadraque
Dita Sy
Pat Dowd
Mary Fonseca

Reader 1 Lea Jadraque

Reader 2 Janice Salmon

Commentator Romeo Prieto

Music Anglo-Indian Choir

PowerpointNanette I.

Junior Servers Myles Morgan Jake Fenech

Devotional StallFiona Ferreira

Welcomers
Terry Serrao
Selwyn Oliveira
Sonia Oliveira

28 APR, 8AM

Acolyte/Senior Server
Edward DeLeon

Eucharistic Ministers Celeste Lapid

> Belen Leynes Frances Flood Elsa Roberto Annette Brackett Lisa Brackett Faye Aboghazaleh Volunteer Needed

> > **Reader 1** Espy Sarno

Reader 2Vitolina Fidow

Commentator Frances Flood

Music Gabrielle Rumora

Powerpoint Christine Younes

Junior ServersJoseph Westerlund
Francis Buenavista

Devotional StallVolunteer Needed

Welcomers
Espy Sarno
Dorotea Seed

Yvette Pinto

28 APR, 9.30AM

Acolyte/Senior Server
Fred Harris

Eucharistic Ministers

Shirley Croning
Uinise Blake
Anabel Jader
Ken Allen
Nilo Gajo
Seaview Kama
Lorraine Robertson
Marthese Grima

Reader 1Carmen Marcelo

Reader 2Tina Fernandes

Commentator Michael Paulo

Music Children's Choir

Powerpoint Joseph Valladores

Junior Servers
Rhys Sarno
Isaiah Banguis

Devotional StallMarthese Grima

Welcomers
Ray Portelli
Sue Oram
Volunteer Needed

28 APR, 6PM

Acolyte/Senior Server
Peter Smith

Eucharistic Ministers

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

Reader 1Derrick Perreira

Reader 2James Pirotta

Commentator Volunteer Needed

> *Music* BASIC GIFT

Powerpoint BASIC GIFT

Junior Servers
Seb Santos
Raphael Ortiz

Devotional StallJacinta 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

Facebook

Holy Spirit Parish St Clair-Erskine Park • Holy Spirit Parish St Clair Family Ministry • BASICGIFT (Youth Ministry)

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3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair **P** 9834 2527

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Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA P 9670 8202 E ptangey@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 Village (85 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 8804 0200