

1st Reading

Acts 6:1-7
Stephen is chosen as the first
deacon.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 33.1-2, 4-5, 18-19, (R.22) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

2nd Reading

1 Peter 2:4-9 *Jesus, a living cornerstone.*

Gospel Acclamation Verse

John 14.6

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!

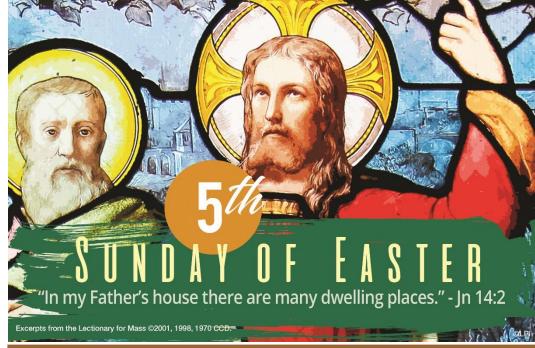
Gospel

John 14:1-12 Jesus the way, truth, and life.



Here are the suggested sites and TV channels where you can access Mass while isolated from the usual parish celebrations:

- Mass with Bishop Vincent (Sunday, 10am)
 - o www.youtube.com/user/Parra mattaDiocese
 - o www.facebook.com/parracathol ic
- Channel 10 (Aurora on Foxtel), Sunday 6am
- Mass with Archbp. Anthony Fisher (Sun, 10.30am)
- o www.facebook.com/SydneyCat
 - YouTube: St Mary's CathedralSydney
- Mass on Demand
 - o (YouTube, anytime of the day)
- Livestream from St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne
 - o M-F, 1pm, Sat 8am, Sun 11am
 - o www.melbournecatholic.org.au/
 - o Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Facebook page



VOICE FROM THE PEWS

Staying at home means my bedroom becomes my office during the day. As my room faces west, I like it in the late afternoon with the sun going down further towards the north. A golden glow along the horizon gives the promise of a beautiful day tomorrow, but a cold night before morning. Being present to God in each now as it comes around. A way to handle the isolation of these days.

At this time when we become focused on the brutality of the virus, we pray that our eyes be open to see the beauty and goodness within creation. St Augustine in his Confessions, praying to God, says, "The heavens, the earth and everything within them, all these things tell me to love you."

Thomas desired to know exactly the destination before setting out, Jesus set him straight, "I am the way, the truth and the life." Jesus invites us to trust him,

taking one step at a time. Philip wanted to see the Father, Jesus set him straight, "Whoever sees me, sees the Father". Jesus, the human face of the Father, reveals the infinite depths of the Father's love for all of us.

In his book "On Christian Doctrine" Augustine writes, "Jesus says, it is along me that you come, at me that you arrive, and in me that you abide." Jesus invites us to travel along His way, to know Him and to trust him. Jesus expects us to follow the need to be safe, to take care. Trusting in Jesus we feel whatever happens He is with us.

These days offer the opportunity to be still, to be present to each moment, to grow in friendship with Jesus, a friendship which does not require social distancing.

➤ Fr Peter Tangey, OSA



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:

We must not reduce the bosom of the universal church to a nest protecting our mediocrity.

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

In this time of pandemic, our clergy bring the sacraments of reconciliation, and anointing of the sick to members of the community who are very ill. For more information and to arrange receiving the sacraments, contact Parish Office, Ph: 9670 8222, or email admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au.



PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

SICK

Andrew Boulos, Louis Tham, Emilia Rose Moya, Linda Allen, Giulia Caruana, Joseph Caruana, Steven Batty, and all who tested positive from Coronavirus

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Barry Warren Lewis, Lisa Tagaule, Audrey Atkinson, Murial Aloysius Baxter, Leo Pereira, Magno Cuasay, Alfred Borg, John Schleifer, Marlon Jimenea, Dolores Jumaran Montaño, and all who died from Coronavirus

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Lisa Tagaule, Audrey Atkinson, Murial Aloysius Baxter

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	\$ 190.00	
2 ND COLLECTION	Loose plate		
For the administration & maintenance costs of the	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 270.00	
parish	Planned Giving Direct Debit & Credit Card	\$ 1,084.42	
Average Weekly Operating Expenses			_
SPECIAL COLLECTION	N/A		_

THIS WEEK IN SOCIAL JUSTICE DIARY:

Fri 15 May: Int'l Day of Families
Sat 16 May: Int'l Day of Living

Together in Peace

Sun 17 May: World

Telecommunications & Information Society Day



REFLECTION

Historical Context - It is for the best...

At the time of this gospel's writing, some 70 years after the events it describes, amazing things have taken place in the early Christian community. Rather than everything falling apart with the death of Jesus, the message of Jesus has spread further than he himself could ever have accomplished. It is the departure of Jesus from their midst and the sending of the Spirit that really prompts the disciples to act on what they had experienced while Jesus lived among them. The gospel writer has Jesus saying that he has to go away so that the disciples can reach their potential.

Scriptural Context - The Gospel of John

The gospel of John is very different from the other three 'synoptic' gospels. The other three have a very narrative style and can be seen together as different recounts of the same events. Whilst the gospel of John also has some beautifully narrated stories, it is better known as a more theologically reflective piece of writing. It assumes that the readers of this gospel are already familiar with one or more of the others, so it doesn't need to tell the story again. Rather, it presents a sweeping image of God, through Jesus, reaching out, in, through, and with love to the people.

Living the Gospel - The Way, The Truth, and The Life

When Thomas asks, 'we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus answers by saying, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' The reader of the gospel has known this truth all along from the opening line of the gospel, 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.' Our aim, as Christian people, is to be one with God, not only by sharing in the resurrection but also in the way we live. Jesus makes clear that the way to be with God is by following his example.

Questions for Adults

Why does this passage work as both a Last Supper speech and a pre-Ascension discourse? What does the image of the many rooms in the Father's house seek to convey? How might Jesus have felt in reaction to the disciples' questions? Why does Jesus need to return to the Father for the disciples to live out their potential?

 $\hbox{@ Greg Sunter. Creative Ministry Resources, Ltd.}.$

BAPTISMS BAPTISM PREPARATION

Baptisms and Baptism Preparation Sessions are temporarily cancelled. You can book baptism of your child once everything is back to normal. Thank you.



You can send your donations by electronic funds transfer or visit www.lent.caritas.org.au.

Call 1800 024 413 for details.



THE SUNDAY FLOCK



© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"Offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

Sheepish Question:

When I consider the sacrifices I've made lately, which ones likely are most acceptable to God?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

The Voice From The Pews

While we are staying at home to keep us safe, are you interested to share your faith experiences, Godmoments or reflections that may help others grow in their faith? Feeling inspired to inspire others, then email the Parish Office. The sharing can be in the form of an essay around 300 words, a prayer or a poem. Email to admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au.

Parish Office will continue closed until this
Wednesday as from
Thursday 14th May the Parish Secretary will be
back working from the office

Ph: 9670 8222 admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Would you like to receive thru email a copy of our weekly Parish Bulletin and Worship At Home Liturgy Resource?

Email our Parish Secretary: admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au

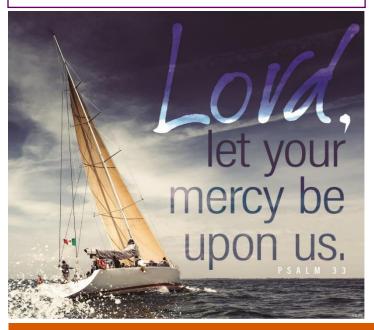
or register thru our Parish Website to subscribe www.holyspiritstclair.com.au

WORSHIP @ HOME



We invite parishioners to use this liturgy and pray together with your family. Available on our parish website (under Parish News) and Facebook page. It will be made available every weekend while Masses in the church are suspended.

#HolySpiritStClairWorshipAtHome





As you can imagine, our main source of income is greatly depleted with the suspension of public Masses. Please know you can still support Holy Spirit by signing up to contribute online. Setting up a one-time or recurring donation/Planned Giving is quick and easy. Just go to:

www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations

You can also send your offerings/donations thru bank transfer:

FIRST COLLECTION: For the Augustinian Clergy
Account Name: Augustinian Fathers

Bank: CBA
BSB: 067 950
Account Number: 000 030 02
SECOND COLLECITON: For the Parish

Account Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair

Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 000 005 78

If you encounter any issues signing up, please email Mila at accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au.

Or drop off your Planned Giving envelopes to the Priory at 3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair.

Thank you so much for your support of our parish!

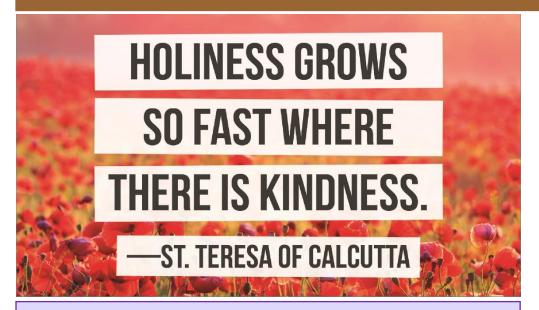


During this time when we are no longer able to gather to celebrate the Eucharist, LiturgyHelp has enabled free access to all parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta. The URL for Parramatta is:

www.liturgyhelp.com/aus/parra/pray.

They are providing Catholics with access to a range of resources for personal and family prayer. They hope that Catholics in social isolation can gain a sense of prayerful solidarity with their local faith communities and the whole Body of Christ. Feel free to print resources and give them to your friends, family and community, particularly those who do not have access to the internet.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



Jesuit Social Services-Ignite Food Store

The Jesuit Social Services has been connecting with and offering service to the people of Emerton and wider Mt Druitt. Ignite Food Store has become the point of hope for so many people. However as a result of the COVID19 virus, they are in short supply and currently require donations of groceries to provide to local residents.

If your family would like to donate groceries please email *Claire.Thomas@jss.org.au* or contact Claire on 0417 269 623. If you would like to make a financial donation to the Ignite Food Store to assist in purchasing wholesale goods, please go to: http://www.ignitefoodstore.com.au/.

Your contribution and generosity makes such a wonderful impact on the lives of so many. On behalf of the Ignite Food Store team and the Emerton and broader Mt Druitt communities a huge thank you!

TOP 14 GROCERY ITEMS:

- 1. Coffee/Milo
- 2. Breakfast Cereals
- 3. Honey/Vegemite/Nutella
- 4. Cake Mixes/Sugar/Flour
- 5. Assorted long life milk
- 6. Muesli Bars/LCM Bars
- 7. Savoury biscuits/Rice cracker/Crackers
- 8. Pasta Sauce/Simmer sauces
- 9. Rice
- 10. 2 minute noodles/noodles
- 11. Mayo/salad dressings
- 12. Canned goods Baked Beans/Spaghetti/Canned Vegies
- 13. Baby needs formula and nappies (toddlers-junior)
- 14. Toilet Rolls



Trinity Catholic Primary School Kemps Creek

2021 Enrolments are open.

We are located close to Erskine Business Park and share the same grounds as Emmaus Catholic College.

Please be assured that our enrolments are still proceeding for next year.

Contact the office to find out how on 8856 6200.





WHY DO WE DO THAT?
Catholic Life Explained:
Daily Prayer versus Mass

Question:

I have a friend who says she doesn't need to attend Mass because she prays to God every day. What are your thoughts on this justification?

Answer:

If the only reason for going to church were to talk to God, your friend might be right. Prayer is not something limited to a physical place or even a holy place. If the sole purpose of the Church were prayer, it would be a narrow purpose indeed. The Church is a community of believers, formed by "one Lord, one faith, one Baptism." It is an outward sign of our faith in God instituted by Christ, and the purpose of the Church is to give us grace, that is, a share in God's life.

Coming to Mass is not really for God's sake, but for ours. If we believe that Jesus is truly present in the holy Eucharist, then we will want to be in his presence. We will want to be fed by him. Our daily prayer works good strengthened by our authentic encounter with our Lord. For Catholics, it is at Mass that we celebrate the source and summit of our faith. If this is true, why would we ever stay away?

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



Do you wish to be great? Then begin by being. Do you desire to construct a vast and lofty fabric? Think first about the foundations of humility. The higher your structure is to be, the deeper must be its foundation.

St Augustine of Hippo, 354-430 AD

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TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS: © 2005 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd.														

believe	faith	Father
house	life	Philip
prepare	rooms	true
truth	way	worried

ON A LIGHTER NOTE

Dad: Wonderful. Do you have a girl in mind?!

Boy: Yes... grandma! She said she loves me, I love her, too....and

she's the best cook and story teller in the whole world!

Dad: That's nice, but we have a small problem there!

Boy: What problem?!

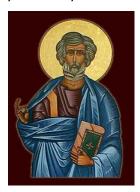
Dad: She happens to be my mother. How can you marry my mother!

Boy: Why not?! You married mine!

SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINT MATTHIAS

Feast Day: 14th May



The first act of the apostles after the Ascension of Iesus was to find a replacement for Judas. One hundred and twenty people were gathered for prayer and reflection in the upper room, when Peter stood up to propose the way to make the choice.

Peter had one criterion, that, like Andrew, James, John, and himself, the new apostle be someone who had been a disciple from the very beginning, from his baptism by John until the Ascension. The reason for this was simple: the new apostle must become a witness to Jesus' resurrection.

Two men fit this description --Matthias and Joseph called Barsabbas. They knew that both these men had been with them and with Jesus throughout his whole ministry. They cast lots in order to discover God's will and Matthias was chosen. He was the twelfth and the group was whole again as they waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

That's the first we hear of Matthias in Scripture, and the last. Legends like the Acts of Andrew and Matthias testify to Matthias' enthusiastic embrace of all that being apostle including an meant evangelization, persecution, death in the service of the Lord.

Prayer: "Saint Matthias, pray that we may become worthy witnesses to the resurrection of Jesus in the way we live the eternal life we have right now. Amen."

An initiative of Evangelization and Catechesis Commission

Readings for the Week

11 May: Monday, 5th Week of Easter

Acts 14:5-18 • Psalm 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab] • John 14:21-26

12 May: Sts Nereus & Achilleus; St Pancras

Acts 14:19-28 • Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12] • John 14:27-31a

13 May: Our Lady of Fatima

Acts 15:1-6 • Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1] • John 15:1-8

14 May: St Matthias

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 • Psalm 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8] • John 15:9-17

15 May: Friday, 5th Week of Easter

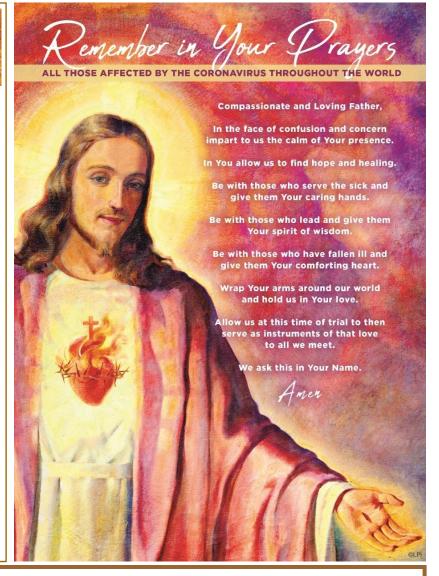
Acts 15:22-31 • Psalm 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a] • John 15:12-17

16 May: Saturday, 5th Week of Easter

Acts 16:1-10 • Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 5 [2a] • John 15:18-21

17 May: 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 • Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1] • 1 Peter 3:15-18 • John 14:15-21





Holy Spirit Parish

St Clair • Erskine Park • Parts of Kemps Creek

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

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians

Diocese of Parramatta www.parra.catholic.org.au

Parish Office

Facebook

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 Priory Parish Staff

Parish Council

9.00am to 5pm (Monday to Friday)

3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair

Parish Moderator: Fr Michael Belonio, OSA P 8416 1633 E mbelonio@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA P 8416 1634 E ptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Deacon: Rev Quang Tuyen Pham, OSA (Tuyen) **P** 8416 1636 **E** tpham@holyspiritstclair.com.au **Parish Secretary:** Elisa Reynolds **P** 9670 8222 **E** admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Tue-Fri)

Parish Bookkeeper: Mila Llamas P 8416 1637 E accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Mon and Wed)

SRE Coordinator (Catechists): Margaret Currie M 0466 412 223 E mmcurrie9@gmail.com

Sacramental Coordinator: Germaine Gil M 0451 279 934 E sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au

BASIC GIFT Youth Ministry: Eleanor Stuart M 0431 639 895 E eleanor.stuart97@gmail.com

Chair: Ana Gregoriou • Asst Chair: Sarah Cañete-Damole • Secretary: Bernadette Stevens

Members: Cathy Allen, Dominic Dimech, Jamie Dowsett, Gus Morgan, Manuel Fidow, Paola Dicenso,

Michael Paulo, Eleanor Stuart (BASIC GIFT Youth Representative)

Fr Michael Belonio OSA, Fr Peter Tangey OSA, Rev 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

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Beautiful Funerals

As a professional civil celebrant and funeral planner with Picaluna Funerals and member of this parish, it would be my honour and privilege to guide and support you in arranging a beautiful funeral for a departed loved one. A funeral that is personalized, authentic, and respectful of Christian values,

whilst ensuring that your wishes are treated with understanding and sensitivity. I am proud to belong to this parish and with Picaluna, will donate 10% of profit to a charity and cause of your choice.

For more information: Joy Rulewski Celebrant/Planner M: 0425 264 642

P: (02) 9191 5006 iov.rulewski@picaluna.com



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