



# C E L E B R A T E THE RESURRECTIONI

## LITURGY TIMES

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

**Sunday** Mass, 8am, 9.30am and 6pm Youth Mass, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun, 6pm

Monday and Wednesday Mass, 7am (except on Public Holidays which changes to 9.05am)

**Tuesday, Thursday and Friday** Mass, 9.05am Anointing Mass, 1<sup>st</sup> Fri, 9.05am

1<sup>st</sup> Friday Night Devotion Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 7.30pm

> **Children's Liturgy** Sat 6pm and Sun 9.30am 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun of the month (during school term)

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Anointing of the Sick by appointment

## EASTER VIGIL (3 Apr):

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING** Genesis 1:1-2:2 God saw all he had made, and indeed it was good.

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

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

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

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

**GOSPEL**Mark 16:1-8 *The women are greeted at the empty tomb by a young man.* 

## **VOICE FROM THE PEWS**

Imagine the emotion and excitement the disciples must have felt when they realized Jesus had risen. Sometimes I think I have listened to the Jesus story so often that those three words sound like the "they-lived-happily-ever-after" to Jesus' life.

I forget how powerfully momentous an event this was for the world. Easter is a big feast day, a huge holiday—even more significant than Christmas.

Easter is our Alleluia day: the day we were released from bondage. This is the day fear, loneliness, greed, prejudice and even death lost their power over us. Easter is a new-life day—a "We are reborn" day! It is truly an Alleluia day.

This is the year to make Easter a big deal, even if you are reading this on Easter evening, it is not too late to do some planning. Have an Easter party. Make it a surprise party for the family. (That first Easter was sure a surprise for everybody.) Or, have the family help

### EASTER SUNDAY (4 Apr):

**1<sup>ST</sup> 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 *Set your heart on the greater gifts.* 

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: 1**

Corinthians 5.7-8 Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** Jo<u>h</u>n 20:1-9 Mary Magdalene finds the tomb empty, Peter sees and believes.

plan it. Invite friends, and the extended family.

If you want, have an Easter egg hunt. Or play "Pin the tail on the lamb." Spend some time during the party to talk a bit about why this day is so special. Explaining why eggs and lambs are symbols for Easter is a good way to introduce the topic of new life.

Be creative; reenact the resurrection story.

Talk about what the apostles must have thought and felt when they saw the empty tomb.

If you are reading this reflection out of sequence with the church year, and it's not Easter, have an Easter party next Sunday anyway.

After all, every Sunday is a memorial of Christ risen—a celebration of our Easter joy.

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:**

We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love. Be poor among the poor. We need to include the excluded and preach peace.

## 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 at 9670 8222 or admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au.



## PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

### SICK:

Emmanuel Eric Ortiz, Pat Brown, Karmelo Galea, Ramon Rivera, Elena Crooks, Andrew Boulos, Louis Tham, Emilia Rose Moya, Linda Allen, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Deepa Mary Joy, Aaron Kelly, Anne Kirby, Tony & Myrna Fagel, Noe Galan, Helen Noriega.

## **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Vili Milistis, Juliana Ortiz Luis, Gary Chambers, Norbert Mascarenhas, Neil Duffeild, All who died from Corona Virus.

## **DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:**

Everly Marca, Orven Paranis, Anne Hazel Viado, Roberto Mandar, Aurora Salgado, Carmelo Avellino, Josephine Grima, Michael Rodrigues, Jovita Fernandes, Natividad Martinez, Ricardo Herft, Josefina Siazon, Jack Moriarty, Milagros & Fernando Nunag, Alden Gajo.

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 <sup>ST</sup> COLLECTION	For the care of our Augustinian clergy	\$ 781.85	
2 <sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION	Loose plate	\$ 292.35	
For the administration & maintenance costs of the parish	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 905.50	
	Planned Giving Direct Debit & Credit Card	\$ 1,370.29	
	Total 2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$ 2,568.14	
Weekly Parish's Running Costs		\$ 4,216.31	
SHORTFALL/Over		\$ 1,648.17	
SPECIAL COLLECTION	Project Compassion	\$ 678.25	



We're grateful to those who continue to financially support our parish.

GOD BLESS YOU.

www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations

#### LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the Week



Alleluia! Christ is risen! About today's feast, St. Augustine writes: "And he departed from our sight that we might return to our hearts and find him there. For he left us, and behold, he is here." Christ's resurrected presence lives not only in the highest heaven but in the fragile human heart. Christ's life inspires us and moves us to see a future for every human being and discover our true purpose and meaning. Every human being has a desire to live, and this cry can be heard within. There is a longing for a connection with Someone greater than ourselves that gives an import to our existence that we cannot supply. Today, our deepest questions find answers.

#### **QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

**First Reading:** We hear today part of the speech that Peter delivered in the household of Cornelius, a centurion and Gentile-believer in Christ. Peter bore witness to his experiences with Jesus, including Jesus' resurrection. To whom do you bear witness to your faith in the resurrected Jesus?

**Second Reading:** Paul urges the Colossians to remain focused on Jesus' resurrection, ascension, and final return — to "seek what is above." What do you find appealing in this spiritual exercise?

**Gospel Reading:** Mark's account of Jesus' resurrection focuses on the women's discovery of the empty tomb. In fact, Jesus risen from the tomb is the original ending of the Gospel of Mark. Why do you think Mark would end his Gospel with the empty tomb?

#### 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 13 April 2021, 7.30pm, at the Church. Presenter is Michael Zammit.



# WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

The Good News of the resurrection is proclaimed this week in our Scripture readings. This good news is meant for everyone. Jesus was and is a universal savior. One of the insights we receive on Easter Sunday comes from Acts 10. Peter, struggling to be faithful to the teachings of Jesus, announces that he has learned that "God shows no partiality." This helped to shape many decisions made by the early Church leaders—and it should form our decisions as well. Your challenge this week is to examine how well you live by God's example. Do you personally and/or as a household show partiality to particular groups of people based on their race, religion, economic level, or occupation? Do you exclude any groups on the same basis? If your reflection reveals partiality to some and exclusion of others, make a commitment to change. Identify three steps you can take so that in the future you can say that you, like God, show no partiality.

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### THE SUNDAY FLOCK



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"I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord."

Sheepish Question:

Where do I see and celebrate new life today?

#### PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

## COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES COMMENCING 29 MARCH

With the announcement of the easing of restrictions commencing Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021, we are now limited by the 2 square metre rule. Hence, we can now accommodate 300 people in the church.

The wearing of face mask is encouraged if social distancing is not possible.

Congregational singing is now permitted.

Support 1.5m social distancing where possible.

## **CONTACT TRACING:**

Because NSW Government still requires contact tracing, there are three ways to do this:

- Sign-in using the QR Code displayed near the entrance doors.
- Mass Attendance cards MUST be completed by each household per mass. Cards are available in the foyer.
- Online Mass Attendance card (Eventbrite) is available. To register, go to:

https://holyspiritstclair.eventbrite.com.au Eventbrite registration will close 24 hours before the event

#### $\infty \infty \infty$

In order to maximise the use of our liturgical space, please observe the following:

- Families and those living under one household sit together.
- Proceed to end of row if vacant.
- Support social distancing from one household to another where possible.

#### $\infty \infty \infty$

The elderly, those with health conditions, flu-like symptoms and low-immune system are still advised to stay at home.

Catholics from Parramatta Diocese are still dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation until further notice.





**SATURDAY 10 APRIL, 2-6PM** 

Praise & Worship • Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament • Divine Mercy Chaplet • Reconciliation





DECEMBER 8, 2020 — DECEMBER 8, 2021

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VOTIVE MASS OF ST JOSEPH EVERY WEDNESDAY, 7AM commencing on 14 April until 8 December



PARISH CARPARK will not be available from Tue 6 April to Fri 9 April due to commencement of work for the automation of the carpark gate. Thank you.

Worshipping communities of St Clair, Erskine Park and parts of Kemps Creek

## 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 Readers, Ministers at the Altar, PowerPoint Ministers, Eucharistic Ministers, Welcomers, Altar Servers, Devotional Stall Holders and Carpark Attendants.
- To our volunteer Choirs: Couples for Christ (Holy Thursday), Victor Brangwin, Peter Mercia and company (Good Friday), Victor's Choir (Easter Vigil) and, Manuel's and Luchie's Choir groups (Easter Sunday).
- To those who assisted in the Holy Thursday Mass, including Geoff and Raelene Pirotta for the Altar of Repose
- To those help set-up the chairs and TV screens
- To the Banner Ladies, Flower Ministry & Cleaners who have worked tirelessly for our beautiful Liturgical Space

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 2021. 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%.



## BUY RAFFLE TICKETS & WIN

the beautifully crafted **ROSARY CANDLE** (worth \$100).

Raffle tickets are available at the Devotional Stall for \$1 each.



## Wedding Anniversary Mass 18 April 2021, 9.30AM MASS

Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in the month of April are most welcome to join us. Morning Tea available after Mass.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH

Each week we will feature a parishioner. Our hope is that in the end we come to know and strengthen our friendship among each other.

My name is Vince and I was born in Malta. I came to Australia at 7m old. I grew up in Greystanes. I moved to St Clair when I married my wife Carol in 1985. We have been in St Clair for over 35 years. We have been part of this parish since.



We brought our children to this church. Over the years I have seen the girls involved in the youth group and choir. Over the years I have seen the church change for better. There are many friendly people. I am involved in the men's group and now the PPG. My hobby is gardening and cooking. I also enjoy talking to the elderly.

## HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

11

2021 Sacramental Preparation

Early bookings can be made online thru the Parish Website commencing mid December 2020 www.holyspiritstclair.com.au

#### **FIRST RECONCILIATION (Year 3)**

- Parent Information & Catechesis—online link will be provided
- Preparation Sessions will be in May (3 weeks)
- First Reconciliation: 22, 24, 27, 29 May

#### **FIRST COMMUNION (Year 4)**

- Parent Information & Catechesis—online link will be provided
- Preparation Sessions will be end July/August(3 weeks)
- First Communion Masses: 14-15, 21-22, 28-29 August

PLEASE NOTE : THESE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO ANY FURTHER COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS.

#### AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek him the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement".

St Augustine of Hippo

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#### TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS:

cloth	dark	entrance
face	life	linen
Mary	Peter	Scriptures
stone	taken	tomb





### WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained

#### **Question**:

Do we need to fast for one hour before Mass, or one hour before communion?

#### Answer:

The practice of fasting before receiving the Eucharist is a centuriesold act of devotion that was once very different than it is today. In the 1917 Code of Canon Law, for example, anyone who wanted to receive the Eucharist had to fast from midnight until the time of communion (even and medications water were forbidden). Over the following decades, the rules for the eucharistic fast were relaxed, first by Pope Pius XII and, later, by Pope Saint Paul VI.

The current Code of Canon Law (1983) states very clearly: "A person who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain for at least one hour before holy communion from any food and drink, except for only water and medicine" (Canon 919, §1). And, in the case of those who are ill and the elderly, the rules are even more accommodating, "The elderly, the infirm, and those who care for them can receive the Most Holy Eucharist even if they have eaten something within the preceding hour" (Canon 919, §3).

So, if we strictly follow the "letter of the law," the fast is calculated from the time of Holy Communion and not the start of Mass. However, when we remember why we fast — it is a reminder of the deeper hungers of the spirit that our physical thirst or hunger symbolize — we see that the issue is much bigger than simply fulfilling what is called for by Church Law and tradition. Joining fasting to our prayers and reflection before Mass is an opportunity to really center ourselves and to prepare our minds, hearts, and bodies to welcome the One we receive in the Eucharist.

## ON A LIGHTER NOTE

## NEXT WEEKEND (11 APRIL): 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER, YR B

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Acts 4:32-35 Early believers share what they have.

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 118.2-4, 16-18, 22-24 (R.1) *Give thanks, for the Lord is good,* God's love is everlasting.

> 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading 1 John 5:1-6 *Love God by keeping the* commandments.

#### **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.

	Wed 7 Apr:Wednesday Within the Octave of EasterThu 8 Apr:Thursday Within the Octave of EasterThu 9 Apr:Friday Within the Octave of EasterSat 10 Apr:Saturday Within the Octave of Easter					
	Holy Spirit Parish St Clair • Erskine Park • Parts of Kemps Creek					
	Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians Diocese of Parramatta www.parra.catholic.o					
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 02 9834 2527					
Parish Staff	<ul> <li>Parish Moderator: Fr Michael Belonio, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E mbelonio@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E ptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Augustinian Brother: Br. John Zhang, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E jzhang@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Parish Secretary: Elisa Reynolds P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Tue-Fri)</li> <li>Parish Bookkeeper: Mila Llamas P 02 9670 8222 E accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Mon and Wed)</li> <li>SRE (Catechists) Coordinator: Ken &amp; Cathy Allen P 02 9670 8222 E sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Sacramental Coordinator: Germaine Gil P 02 9670 8222 E sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au</li> <li>Parish Youth Contact: Eleanor Stuart M 0431 639 895 E eleanor.stuart97@gmail.com</li> </ul>					
Parish Council	Chair: Ana Gregoriou • Asst Chair: Paola Dicenso • Secretary: Bernadette Stevens Members: Dominic Dimech, Jamie Dowsett, Gus Morgan, Sarah Cañete-Damole, Stephen Middleton Michael Paulo, Vince Cachia, Eleanor Stuart (BASIC GIFT Youth Representative) Fr Michael Belonio OSA, Fr Peter Tangey OSA, Br John Zhang, OSA					
Schools/College	<ul> <li>Holy Spirit Primary School (7 Todd Row, St Clair) P 02 8886 3200 W www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au</li> <li>Trinity Primary School (61 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 8856 6200 W trinitykempscreek.catholic.edu.au</li> <li>Emmaus Catholic College (87 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 9670 8300 W emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au</li> </ul>					
Retirement Vill						

Reader 1 **Corinne Cerdor** 

> Reader 2 Lea Jadraque Commentator

10 APR, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Peter Moriarty

**Eucharistic Ministers** 

Moira Rebello

**Dudley Littlewood** Music Victor B / Michael H **Powerpoint** Nanette I.

**Junior Servers** Volunteer Needed **Devotional Stall** 

Lorensz Herft

Welcomers **Terry Serrao** Fiona Ferreira Volunteer Needed

**11 APR, 8AM** Minister at the Altar

Carol Vella **Eucharistic Ministers Frances Flood** 

Reader 1 **Stephen Middleton** 

Reader 2 **Manuel Fidow Commentator** 

Sally Banguis Music

Pierre D'Cunha

**Powerpoint Christine Younes** 

**Junior Servers** Volunteer Needed **Devotional Stall** 

Louise Bucholtz **Welcomers** 

Sarah Damole Jun Damole Espy Sarno

#### 11 APR, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar **Anthony Bertumen** 

**Eucharistic Ministers** Marie Sanosa

> Reader 1 Kelly Apikotoa

Reader 2 Joy Rulewski

Commentator Uinise Blake

Music Mary Immaculate

**Powerpoint** Boy Sanosa **Junior Servers** 

Volunteer Needed **Devotional Stall** Marthese Grima

Welcomers Jenny Kyd Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed

**11 APR, 6PM** 

Minister at the Altar Danny Esguerra

**Eucharistic Ministers** Pearl Joson

> Reader 1 **Candice Salmon**

Reader 2 Marty Facciol

Commentator **Derrick Pereira** 

> Music **BASIC GIFT**

Powerpoint **BASIC GIFT** 

**Junior Servers** Volunteer Needed

**Devotional Stall** Volunteer Needed

Welcomers **Eleanor Stuart** Esther Rose Volunteer Needed

## **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 4 APRIL 2021**

Monday Within the Octave of Easter Mon 5 Apr: Tue 6 Apr: Tuesday Within the Octave of Easter

### 4 April 2021

