

#### 1st Reading

1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23 *David spares Saul.* 

#### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 8+10, 12-13 (R.8)

The Lord is kind and merciful.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

1 Corinthians 15:45-49 *Iesus is the new Adam.* 

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

John 13.34 Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

#### Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

Love your enemy.

#### **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

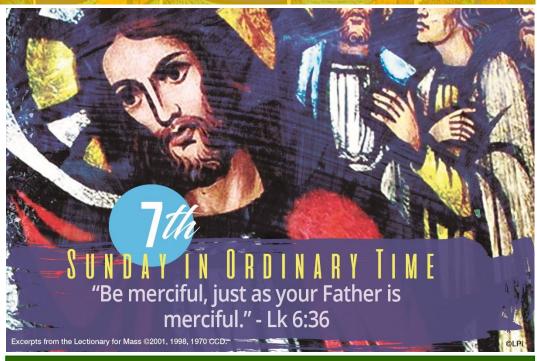
Mass, 9.05am Anointing Mass, 1<sup>st</sup> Fri, 9.05am

1st 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



#### **VOICE FROM THE PEWS**

This is the bottom line of what it means to be a Christian—loving even those who don't love you. However, it's important to understand what love really is. For example, you can love someone and not like him. Loving and liking are two different things. Love is a bond, sometimes accompanied by a warm and glorious feeling of devotion, even passion. But much of the time, love is just a strong sense of connection. The test for real love is when that wonderful, warm feeling is absent and the connection remains.

This is the love Jesus is talking about—a loving bond that demands respect and tolerance. We are expected to recognize the connection that exists not just within our own families but also within the family of humankind, and to honour its demands. If someone chooses not to love us back, we do not allow her actions to dictate ours. We don't give others that power over us.

In your household when one brother smacks another, you don't persuade him to hit back. When one child is disrespectful of another's toys, you certainly don't encourage reciprocal action. All people are part of the family of humankind, and God, as a parent, offers the same advice you would give your children.

Teach your children by example. That's what God did. Jesus stood up for what he believed. He never cowered. But when things got too hot, he walked away, and usually found a quiet spot to pray and regroup. When he was ultimately overpowered and put to death, he still triumphed. That's the message of the Resurrection: The love God asks of us will always see us through. It is even more powerful than death.

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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:

"The family is where we are formed as people. Every family is a brick in the building of society."

#### 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**

Yvonne Funnell, Lorraine Assey, John Cassar, Michelle Buhagiar, Linda Allen, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Deepa Mary Joy, Ramon Rivera, John Warne, Brian Barnes, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Emilia Rose Moya, Louis Tham, Andrew Boulos, Virna Susana Quinonez Viloria, Pat Quine, Ava Renee Aguirre, Maria Elena Felix, Chante Are, Mitchell Middleton, Alessandra Lucia Aguirre, Lachlan Alden, Sandra Moore, Nympha Miller, Monica Duffy, Ray Eid, Harry Young.

#### **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Vicki Caruana, Anthony Cassar, Nazaria Abaloyan, Joyce Madan, Tony Herbert, Luis Fernandes, Stephen D'Souza, Cally Rebello, Gino Vella, Christine Grosvenor

#### **DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:**

Geraldine Wayong, Malcolm Howse, Norbert Carvalho, Benjamin Morales Jr., Dunstan Herft, Hazel De Silva, Celine Gresseux, Angelina Xavier, Jim Cook

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

#### **PARISH COLLECTIONS**

If you are a new parishioner to Holy Spirit or an existing one and you would like to participate in the Regular Parish Contribution, 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. 30% of the collection is for the care of our Augustinian clergy and the 70% is for the administration and maintenance costs of the parish.

#### **SUMMARY OF JANUARY 2022 COLLECTIONS**

For the care of our Augustinian clergy	\$ 3,137.34
For the administration & maintenance costs of the parish	\$ 14,489.53
Monthly Parish's Running Costs	\$ 8,045.02
SHORTFALL/OVER	\$ 6,444.51
SPECIAL COLLECTION	N/A



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

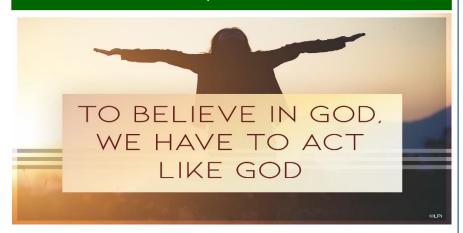
GOD BLESS YOU.

www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations



#### LIVE THE LITURGY

#### Inspiration for the Week



"Love your enemies and do good to them." We have such a hard time with this teaching! But it doesn't end there. Jesus continues with turning the other cheek when struck, giving to everyone who asks, doing to others as you would have them do to you, being merciful, stopping our judgment of others, forgiving, and giving. We are okay when God does these things but get a little anxious when we realize that God really wants us to do them too! Secular justice and Gospel justice are definitely not the same. We need to remember that we are made in the image of God, not the image of ourselves. The Christian is called to act like Christ even in those situations where a more assertive or defensive response may seem more justifiable. In order to live up to this call we have to leave our resentment and need for retaliation behind, lose our defensiveness and bring into our mind and heart the realization of who we represent in this world. We are not here to satisfy or promote our own well-being and agenda. We are here for God's. That's a hard nut to crack especially when it comes to loving and forgiving people who do hurtful and violent things.

#### QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

**First Reading:** King David exercised great restraint and forgiveness in not taking the life of Saul. What do you think is needed to live one's life with this kind of spiritual disposition?

**Second Reading:** Paul speaks of believers in the present age bearing the image of the "earthly one" (Adam) and in the future bearing the image of the "heavenly one" (Christ). What do you think bearing the image of Christ looks like?

**Gospel Reading:** Jesus taught his disciples some very challenging moral imperatives, such as love of enemy, non-retaliation, and unconditional forgiveness. In what ways are you able to live out these ethical standards in your life?

# 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 session is on Tue 8 March, 7pm, at the church. Presenter is Joyce McMahon.



# LEONARDO MARCO FOSSANO (Son of Michael & Farrah)

ZEKE SIMON ROBERTS
(Son of Simon & Emma)

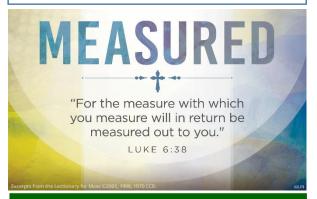
**MAVERICK GRAHAM TAKIIKA YON** 

(Son of Bradley & Eva)

## WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

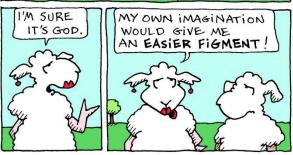
Luke's Gospel for Sunday presents some of the biggest challenges Jesus has ever given us. We are asked to love our enemies, stop judging people, turn the other cheek, and give to those in need. These are life-changing actions, each one demanding hearts of love and mercy. Your challenge this week is to choose someone or some group which you have looked on as the "enemy" in the past because they have hurt you or someone you love. Perhaps you are holding onto a grudge against the person(s). Instead, offer forgiveness! Let go of the past and find a way to help the person be who God created him or her to be.

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#### THE SUNDAY FLOCK





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"Love your enemies and do good to them ... be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

#### Sheepish Question:

Why is it so hard to love my enemies? How must I pray about this?

#### **PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS**



## **COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES COMMENCING 18 FEBRUARY**

NSW Health has updated the COVID-19 guidelines effective Friday 18 February 2022.

- · No more density limits
- · Wearing of mask is mandatory
- · Both the choir and congregation are able to sing at religious services at our churches.
- Social gatherings are permitted
- Check-in using the NSW QR Code and record keeping for attendees is no longer required for places of worship.

As of Friday, 25 February 2022, masks will no longer be mandatory for places of worship. However, masks are still strongly encouraged where you cannot maintain a safe distance from others.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, last year Catholics from the Diocese of Parramatta were dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation. From 15 December 2021 this Decree is now revoked and the Sunday obligation is now imposed once again given that public health orders no longer require adherence to density limits in our church buildings.



#### **SYNOD 2023: LEARNING TO JOURNEY TOGETHER**

We all need to be open to change and ongoing learning. How open are we to change and ongoing learning and how are we formed? Are our leaders open to change & ongoing learning? How can we do better?

Have a prayerful conversation with your family, friends or colleagues, and tell Bishop Vincent and Pope Francis what you find!

Online submissions close February 26. Find out more at https://parracatholic.org/synod-of-bishops/ Wendy 0427863149 or email MET@parracatholic.org if you need assistance

Would you buy a chair to help us? Your gift will enable loads of people to hear about Jesus and be encouraged to turn to him and grow in love for him.

# SPONSOR A



**GOAL: 450 Chairs** An initial funding of 70 chairs was purchased from a government grant

Each chair costs \$100

#### **WAYS TO GIVE:**

- · Eftpos available at the Piety Stall or Parish Office
- Cash/Cheque by using the envelopes provided in the foyer and place in collection basket
- · On our parish website
- Bank Transfer: Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Acc No. 000 00 578

St Clair **Description: CHAIR** 



#### PASTORAL FORMATION OFFERING **LEADERSHIP & FORMATION COURSES IN 2022**

In 2022, we can still deepen our community connections and growth in faith! To encourage this, Pastoral Formation -Diocese of Parramatta has two programs FOR YOU – all offered in a COVID-safe manner.

- Ministry Leadership Program: Perfect for current and aspiring ministry leaders. 10 or 20 sessions (\$10/session).
- Themes of Faith Program: Ideal for people interested in asking life & faith questions in discussion groups. 10 sessions (\$5/session).

See our website pfparra.org.au email met@parracatholic.org for more details.

#### YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP PATHWAY

A new pathway for leadership in youth ministry is here!

Duc In Altum is an initiative of Catholic Youth Parramatta designed to provide practical youth ministry training, build community between youth leaders across the Diocese, and offer intentional time for prayer and reflection.

For more information and details to sign up visit

parracatholic.org/ducinaltum/

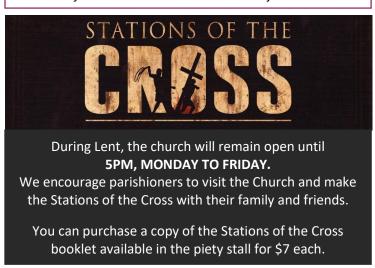
or email qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org

#### PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



# Wedding Anniversary Mass 27 February 2022, 9.30AM MASS

Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in the month of FEBRUARY are most welcome to join us.

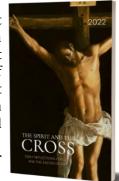




Wednesday 2 MARCH 2022 MASS TIMES @ HOLY SPIRIT PARISH: 7am, 9.05am and 7pm

# 2022 LENTEN REFLECTION PROGRAM

Purchase a copy of "The Spirit and the Cross", our 2022 Lenten Program. It is a 128-page booklet published by the Archdiocese of Brisbane and it contains short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday up to the Second Second Sunday of Easter).



It is perfect for individual or group devotional reading.

The daily reflections will invite the reader to contemplate a verse from the Scripture reading of the day. It also comes with a quote from Pope Francis and a simple prayer.

Available in the piety stall for \$5 each.





## **Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments**

Thanking God for Missing Spears

Imagine how Saul must have felt when he awoke from his sleep and saw his spear missing from its resting place. Now imagine how he felt when he realized that the person who had it was the same person seeking his life — and there he sat, safe and sound. Now there's a day you don't forget your morning prayers.

I think if we look, we can all find a "missing spear moment" in our lives, when it hits us right in the gut that God has kept us safe from an impending disaster. This can be physical disaster, sure — but more commonly, I think it is spiritual disaster. Often the salvation comes through the gift of a person, or people, through whom God reveals His mercy.

When I was in high school, I had a circle of friends who were really into their faith. We were all in youth ministry together, and the bond we shared taught me a lesson that changed me as a person: we become those with whom we associate. I can look back now, all these years later, and see that these people are evidence of God's hand in my life.

Take a look at your life. In whose love has God shown you comfort? By whose hand has God brought you closer to Him, or kept you away from harm? Through whose friendship has God shaped you into the person you are?

Let's strive to remember to thank God for these people — and to thank them, too.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

#### **AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY**



"I was not yet in love, yet I loved to love... I sought what I might love, in love with loving."

St Augustine of Hippo

# CROSSWORD Love your enemies 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

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#### **DOWN**

- 1: speaking highly of another
- 2: the side of your face
- 3: God will \_\_\_\_
  \_\_our sins
- 5: to let someone borrow
- 6: a gift for good deeds
- 8: clothing worn over the upper body

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

#### Question:

When Jesus says, "You cannot serve both God and mammon," what does he mean? What is mammon?

#### **Answer:**

When you hear Scripture proclaimed each Sunday, remember it wasn't originally written in English. Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek ancient tongues were the original language of our Old and New Testaments. Most of the time, all of the words are translated into our native language. Sometimes, a word or two is left in the original language. Such is the case in this Scripture passage.

Mammon is an ancient Aramaic word referring to money, wealth, or profit. Earthly wealth isn't bad in itself, nor does it automatically exclude us from being a disciple of Jesus. But what dominates our life? To serve money — that is, to seek accumulation of wealth for its own sake and to structure our lives around it is morally problematic. What good is our wealth if it isn't at the service of others? What good is our wealth if its pursuit selfishness. leads us to obsession, greed, envy, and comparison? There are many things that can be opposed to our service of God — power, popularity. prestige, Ultimately, something in our lives will be our master. But there is only one God worth serving.

#### **ACROSS**

- 1: feeling sorry for someone
- 4: currency, cash
- 5: \_\_\_\_your enemies
- 7: those who are against you
- 9: not soft
- 10: to assess someone's actions

#### **CREATION CARE TIPS**

"Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you." —Luke 6:30-31

You've probably seen ads in which one neighbor is using a tool, then another neighbor comes along, admires how well it works, and then declares that he's going to get himself one too. It's enough to make you want to wonder: "Why don't you just ask to borrow it?" Instead of accumulating tons of tools for all our needs, let's thank those generous neighbors who are willing to lend them to us. In exchange, we might have a tool or a service our neighbor needs. Neighbors could even chip in together to buy a bread machine, a lawnmower, a hedge clipper, or a snow blower. Yes, it might take shy folks or introverts a bit of energy to muster the courage to ask to borrow something, but the relationships that can be built over sharing, borrowing, and trading can be priceless.

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#### NEXT WEEKEND (27 FEBRUARY): 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Yr C

#### 1st Reading

Sirach 27:4-7 Speech shows state of mind.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 92.1-2, 12-13, 14-15 (R.1) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

1 Corinthians 15:54-58 *Death has no victory.* 

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

Philippians 2.15-16
Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright
stars; you are offering it the word
of life.
Alleluia!

#### Gospel

Luke 6:39-45
Take the plank from your eye.

**FLOWERS**: Group 3 (Green)

**CLEANERS:** Group 5 **BANNERS:** Green

26 FEB, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Ted Uy

**Eucharistic Ministers** 

Lea Jadraque Fe Uy Aruna Heslop

**Reader 1**Romeo Prieto

*Reader 2* Lea Jadraque

Commentator Janice Salmon

Music

Couples for Christ

**Powerpoint**Nanette I.

Junior Servers

Volunteers Needed

Welcomers
Terry Serrao
Volunteer Needed
Volunteer Needed

27 FEB, 8AM

*Minister at the Altar* Edward de Leon

Eucharistic Ministers

Gloria Slade Fiona Ferreira Frances Flood

**Reader 1**Frances Flood

**Reader 2**Espy Sarno

**Commentator** Vitolina Fidow

Music

Volunteer Needed

**Powerpoint** Manuel Fidow

Junior Servers
Volunteers Needed

Welcomers
Espy Sarno
Angela Pecnik
Volunteer Needed

27 FEB, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar Nono Gacis

**Eucharistic Ministers** 

Nilo Gajo Marthese Grima Anabel Jader

**Reader 1**Michael Paulo

**Reader 2**Carmen Marcelo

**Commentator**Tina Fernandes

*Music* Children's Choir

**Powerpoint** Joseph Valladores

Junior Servers
Volunteers Needed

Welcomers
Joe Duval
Volunteer Needed
Volunteer Needed

27 FEB, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Peter Moriarty

Eucharistic Ministers

Lumen Decena
Peter Smith
Robert Lees

**Reader 1**Iodie Donlan

**Reader 2**Robert Lees

**Commentator**Derrick Perreira

**Music** BASIC GIFT

**Powerpoint** BASIC GIFT

Junior Servers
Volunteers Needed

Welcomers
Eleanor Stuart
Esther Rose
Volunteer Needed

#### **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 20 FEBRUARY**

**Mon 21 Feb:** Monday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time, Yr 2

**Tue 22 Feb:** The Chair of St Peter, apostle **Wed 23 Feb:** St Polycarp, bishop and martyr

**Thu 24 Feb:** Thursday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time, Yr 2 **Fri 25 Feb:** Friday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time, Yr 2 **Sat 26 Feb:** Saturday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time, Yr 2



**Parish Council** 

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

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians since 1995 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 02 9834 2527

Parish Staff Parish Moderator: Fr Michael Belonio, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E mbelonio@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E ptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Augustinian Brother: Br. John Zhang, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E jzhang@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Parish Secretary: Elisa Reynolds P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Tue-Fri)

Parish Bookkeeper: Mila Llamas P 02 9670 8222 E accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Mon and Wed)

SRE Coordinator (Catechists): Ken & Cathy Allen P 02 9670 8222 E sre@holyspiritstclair.com.au Sacramental Coordinator: Germaine Gil M 0451 279 934 E sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Parish Youth Contact: Eleanor Stuart M 0431 639 895 E eleanor.stuart97@gmail.com 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 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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If you wish to advertise your business, contact Parish Office. See contact details on page 7.





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E: michelle@heavenlycelebrations.com.au 186 Queen Street (Star Arcade), St Marys NSW 2760

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# Bateman Battersby

We invite members of the parish to take advantage of our legal services specialising in:

- Property Law
- Family Law
- Business Law

- Negligence Law Wills & Estates Court Appearances

Ph: 02 4731 5899

www.batemanbattersby.com.au enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au





#### PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



Support the Parish by signing up to contribute online. Setting up a onetime or recurring donation/Planned Giving is quick and easy. Visit: www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations. Or thru bank transfer:

**Account Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair** 

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

The 70% of the collection is for the regular running costs of the parish.

The remaining 30% is to provide for the household expenses of our priests and to support the ministry of the Augustinians.

If you encounter any issues signing up, please email Mila, accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au. Thank you so much for your support of our parish!

