# HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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

**3RD SUNDAY OF LENT, Yr C** — **20 MARCH 2022**

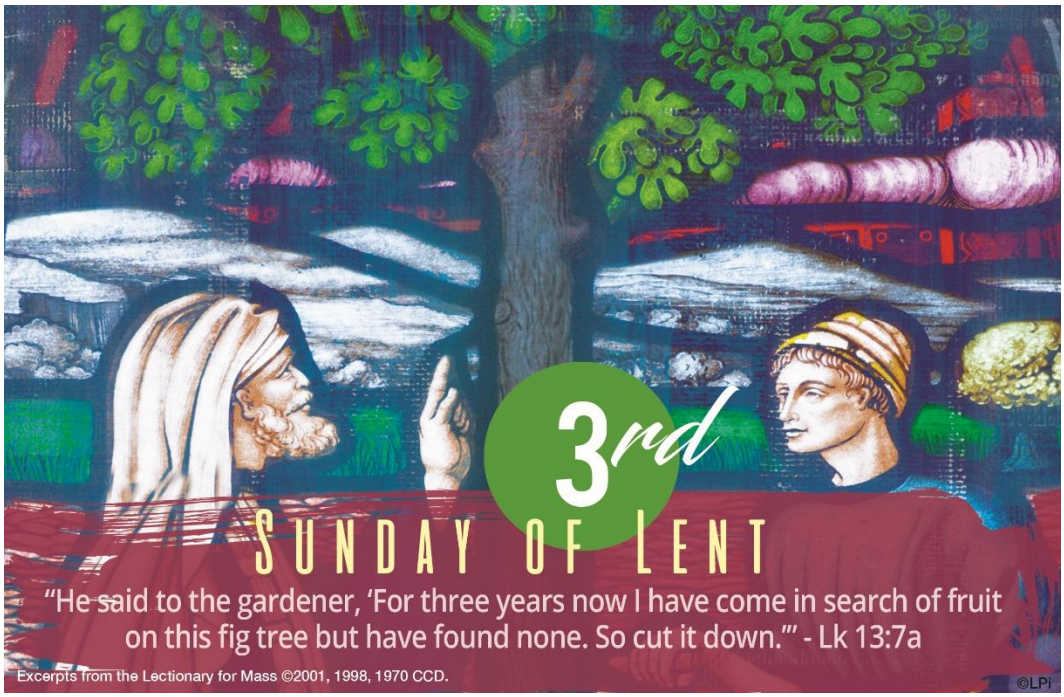
**1st Reading**
Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15
*The Lord calls Moses from a burning bush.*

**Responsorial Psalm**
Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8+11
(*R.*8a)
*The Lord is kind and merciful.*

**2nd Reading**
1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12
*We must learn from the example of our ancestors.*

**Gospel Acclamation**
Matthew 4.17
*Repent, says the Lord;*
*the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

**Gospel**
Luke 13:1-9
*The parable of the fig tree.*




## LITURGY TIMES

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

**Sunday**
Mass, 8am, 9.30am and 6pm
Youth Mass, 2nd & 4th 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, 1st Fri, 9.05am

**1st Friday Night Devotion**
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 7.30pm

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

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

## VOICE FROM THE PEWS

No element is mentioned more in the Bible than water. Water cleanses, nourishes, irrigates, creates and even destroys. But, most importantly, water is crucial for life to exist, and this fact is nowhere more evident than in the desert.

The Samaritan woman has come to the well for water to drink, cook and clean with. Jesus offers her water that will do much more. He offers her living water that will quench her thirst forever and become in her "a spring of water gushing up to eternal life" (v. 14). The woman is a sinner, ostracized from her village, and Jesus is offering her new life. She has suffered the pains of her old life, and, smart woman that she is, she gladly accepts Jesus' gift.

The not-so-secret secret, of course, is that Jesus is the living water. Meeting with Jesus, even for that short a time, changes the woman. The townspeople notice the changes, and when the woman tells them about Jesus they listen to her, and follow her back to the well. She has been healed, and now she, too, is able to share the living water with others.

The world is thirsty for the living water that Jesus offers. Where is Jesus, today, with his living water? Right here, in every local church and Christian home. All of us who have been blessed with this living water through baptism are called to share it just as the Samaritan woman at the well did. Like Jesus, we are to bring healing, forgiveness and wholeness to all those we meet. Like Jesus, we are the living water.

FAMILY RESPONSE:
Think about how your family or household can be the hands and feet of Christ and bring water to the thirsty. Where do you see people in practical or spiritual need? How can you be Christ in their midst?

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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:

*"Miracles happen. But prayer is needed! Prayer that is courageous, struggling, and persevering, not prayer that is mere formality."*

## 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:**

Linda Allen, Michelle Buhagiar, Yvonne Funnell, Rita & John Cassar, Andrew Boulos, Louis Tham, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Deepa Mary Joy, Ramon Rivera, John Warne, Brian Barnes, Brendan Gallagher.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Federico Ballecer, Nita Untalan, Nicole Molina, Rajna Kocevski, Barbara Kari, Rosita Lucy Dacoco Malolos, Lorraine Assey, Miguel Rossi Senior, Rita Oliver, Roland Carlos Pasión, Elvis Bullimore, Peter Aramini.

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:**

Felix Martinez, Natividad Martinez, Lily Abreo, Xavier Carvalho, Freddie Mathias, Leo & Therese Pereira, Roquel Cabiles, Doris Carabott, Lionel Batcho, David Macura, Douglas Oliver, Emiliano David, Anthony Farrugia.

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 FEBRUARY 2022 COLLECTIONS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *For the care of our Augustinian clergy* | | $ 5,896.66 |
| *For the administration & maintenance costs of the parish* | | $ 17,785.09 |
| Monthly Parish's Running Costs | | $ 24,987.26 |
| SHORTFALL/OVER | | $ 7,202.17 |
| SPECIAL COLLECTION | N/A | 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

God clearly reveals his identity as "I am who am." God, who is really beyond all names, is the One who simply "is" as the ground of all being. This ever-existing, uncreated, and all-encompassing presence of unconditional God, who is Love, is very patient as he waits for us to grow and change. God is so near to us that it is easy to miss his presence. As true love requires, God seeks a devoted, intimate, free, and exclusive relationship with each of us. As we walk through the parched, desert experiences of our lives it is easily in our thirst for water and a respite from the heat that we reach for and construct idols that will bring us immediate relief and satisfaction. These false gods, made out of our comforts and earthly desires can quickly take the place of the One who really has first dibs on our hearts. Humans have often wandered far away from God as St. Paul reminds us. In helping each other cultivate and fertilize the ground upon which we walk, God gives us yet another chance to bear fruit and return.

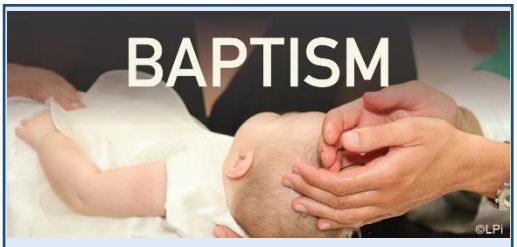
### QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

**First Reading:** In his initial encounter with the Lord, Moses learns the name of God, "I AM." What insight does this give us into the nature of the divine?

**Second Reading:** Paul believed that the past mistakes of the ancient Israelites in the desert served as an example of the dangers of too much self-confidence. How can one best avoid arrogance in faith?

**Gospel Reading:** In the parable of the barren fig tree, Jesus taught the crowds of the need to repent in order to bear good fruit. For what do you need to repent in this season of Lent?

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 12 April, 7.00pm, at the church. Presenter is Michael Zammit.




If you wish to book a baptism, visit our parish website: https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/sacraments/#baptism

Baptisms at Holy Spirit are on every Saturday at 11.30am (no Baptisms during Lent). We only limit up to four (4) children for baptism per weekend.

As we enter more deeply into Lent, we recall Jesus washing the feet of his apostles. This action contains two essential challenges for those who seek justice in the world: the challenge to serve and the challenge to be served. Jesus sets the example to serve in ways that may seem to be beneath us and calls Peter to accept service. Many great leaders, even in the corporate world, spend some of their time doing the work of the lowest paid person in the organization as an important reminder that all work is valuable. This act is also a beautiful sign that the service of these all-too-often forgotten people is well-received by the leader. Step out of your comfort zone this week and do a task that may seem to be beneath you. Experience the dignity in your simple service.

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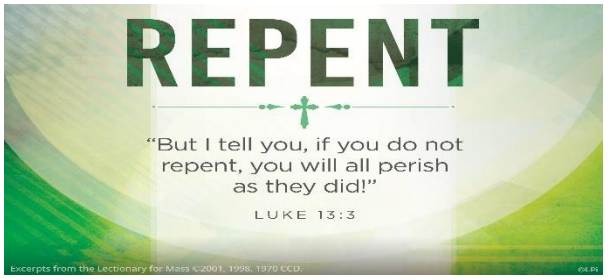


## THE SUNDAY FLOCK

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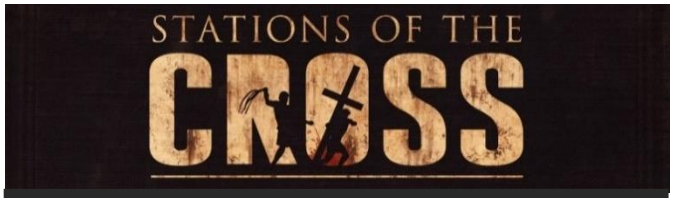
"Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground."

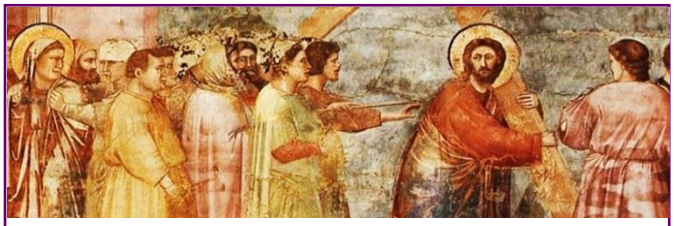
**Sheepish Question:**

Where do I look for — and respect — God's presence?

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS




During Lent, the church will remain open until **5PM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY.**
We encourage parishioners to visit the Church and make the Stations of the Cross with their family and friends.



**Join us in Praying the Stations of the Cross every Wednesday this Lent**

**23, 30 March, 6, 13 April, 7.30pm**

*An initiative of Men's Business, Holy Spirit Parish*

**Volunteer Carers for children aged 0 to 5 years are needed for Mamre Crèche** located at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Road, Orchard Hills. It is a service of Catholic Care which supports Sudanese Refugee Families.

We are looking for motivated, caring people who enjoy interacting with young children and can volunteer some of their time in supporting the staff at the Crèche.

If you are interested, please contact Iolanda Martino, Crèche Co-ordinator, CatholicCare Social Services (02) 8843 2506 (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 9.00am & 2.00pm) or email iolanda.martino@ccss.org.au

## BUY RAFFLE TICKETS & WIN

this beautifully crafted **ROSARY CANDLE** (worth $100).

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

**Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal**
yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

## APPEAL WEEKEND: 26-27 March 2022

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.

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH ST CLAIR
PASTORED BY THE AUGUSTINIANS

## SPONSOR A SEAT

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

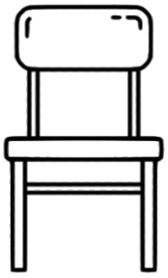
**Each chair costs $100**

**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**
  **Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair**
  **Description: CHAIR**

## UPDATE ON OUR "SPONSOR A SEAT" CAMPAIGN

| | |
|---|---|
| Goal: | 450 chairs |
| Donations received: | 229 chairs |
| Remaining: | 221 chairs |

We greatly appreciate your support!



## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

To donate, visit:
https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-nsw/vinnies-nsw-flood-appeal

***Palm Sunday is on 9-10 April 2022.***
*This year we ask you to bring your own palms. The church will not provide palms for parishioners. Thank you.*

## FIRST AID AND MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSES

Holy Spirit Parish is happy to announce that we were able to avail a government grant to offer two courses for any interested parishioners:

### 1. FIRST AID

This course is offered for free. Participants in this course will agree to be part of the First Aid volunteers of the parish.
There is a 2-4 hours e-learning, followed by an 8-hour face-to-face learning. Face-to-face learning will be on Saturday, 7 May, 9am-5pm at Holy Spirit.

### 2. MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

This course has a minimal fee of $50 each participant. There is a 1-2 hours e-course learning, followed by an 8-hour face-to-face learning. Face-to-face learning will be on Saturday, 14 May, 9am-5pm at Holy Spirit.

The training will be conducted by the St John's Ambulance. Certificate of Completion will be given to participants at the end of each course.

Limited slots are available in both courses. If interested, please contact or email the parish office.

*We thank the Grants Team of the parish for preparing the grant application.*

## Wedding Anniversary Mass
## 27 March 2022, 9.30AM MASS

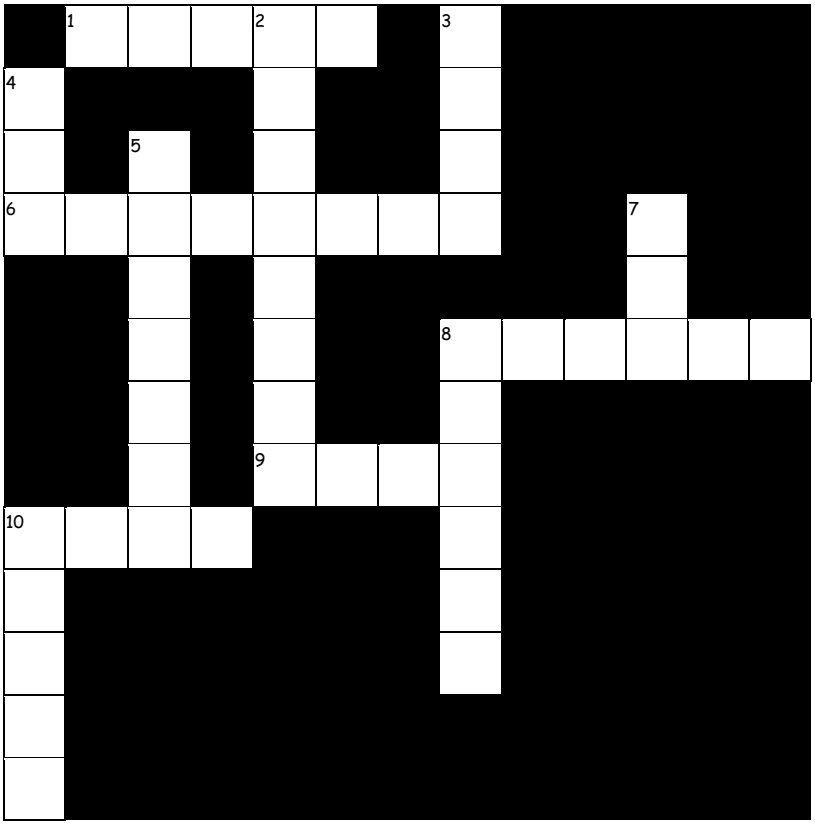
*Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in the month of MARCH are most welcome to join us.*

## AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY

*"Miracles are not contrary to nature but only contrary to what we know about nature."*

St Augustine of Hippo

## CROSSWORD God will help us bear fruit



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**DOWN:**
2: a plantation of grape vines
3: a long measure of time
4: turn over and remove earth or dirt
5: getting bigger
7: to slice with a sharp tool
8: used to help fertilise plants
10: past tense of 'find'

**ACROSS:**
1: go away or depart
6: someone who works in a garden
8: a servant's boss
9 the opposite of up
10: the vineyard owner couldn't find any _____

## CREATION CARE TIPS

During Lent the readings are full of desert imagery, especially the Old Testament readings which tell the story of the Israelites wandering in the desert for 40 long years, sometimes on the brink of death from lack of food and water. As Pope Benedict preached, "The external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become so vast." Pope Francis' proposed solution for this is an interior conversion whereby our faith in Jesus is demonstrated by our relationship with the natural world. This week consider whether others can recognize in you a faith that moves you to action on behalf of the environment.

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## WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained

**Question:**

Why do priests wear vestments? Do they have a special meaning?

**Answer:**

Vestments are clothes worn for a specific purpose. Priests will joke that they cover a thousand flaws. But our own manner of dress often corresponds to what we do. We dress up for special occasions, and for special guests. We wear certain clothes for golf, for outdoor activities, and years ago, we even had our "Sunday best" clothes we wore just for Church. Vestments are much the same, and each one has a meaning. The alb is a reminder of the baptismal garment. The stole is a symbol of ordained ministry and authority within the Church. The chasuble reminds us that we are on a pilgrimage of faith, passing through this life towards heaven.

Priests wear vestments for two basic reasons. First, they draw attention to the importance and solemnity of the act of worship. The colour of the vestments indicates the season of the year or the feast being celebrated. Secondly, vestments draw attention to what the priest does, rather than who he is. In the celebration of the Mass, the focus is on what we do together, on our common unity, and on the mystery and person of Christ.

## NEXT WEEKEND (27 MARCH): 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT, Yr C

**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**
Luke 15.18
*Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*
*I will rise and go to my father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.*
*Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

**Gospel**
Luke 15:1-3. 11-32
*Parable of the prodigal son.*

| 26 MAR, 6PM | 27 MAR, 8AM | 27 MAR, 9.30AM | 27 MAR, 6PM |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Minister at the Altar*** | ***Minister at the Altar*** | ***Minister at the Altar*** | ***Minister at the Altar*** |
| Ted Uy | Edward De Leon | Fred Harris | Volunteer Needed |
| ***Eucharistic Ministers*** | ***Eucharistic Ministers*** | ***Eucharistic Ministers*** | ***Eucharistic Ministers*** |
| Lea Jadraque | Gloria Slade | Nilo Gajo | Lumen Decena |
| Fe Uy | Fiona Ferreira | Marthese Grima | Peter Smith |
| Aruna Heslop | John Shelley | Anabel Jader | Robert Lees |
| ***Reader 1*** | ***Reader 1*** | ***Reader 1*** | ***Reader 1*** |
| Janice Salmon | Vitolina Fidow | Tina Fernandes | Florence Pusey |
| ***Reader 2*** | ***Reader 2*** | ***Reader 2*** | ***Reader 2*** |
| Romeo Prieto | Millie Perez | Michael Paulo | Jodie Donlan |
| ***Commentator*** | ***Commentator*** | ***Commentator*** | ***Commentator*** |
| Lea Jadraque | Espy Sarno | Carmen Marcelo | Robert Lees |
| ***Music*** | ***Music*** | ***Music*** | ***Music*** |
| Couples for Christ | Gabrielle Rumora | Children's Choir | BASIC GIFT |
| ***Powerpoint*** | ***Powerpoint*** | ***Powerpoint*** | ***Powerpoint*** |
| Nanette I. | Manuel Fidow | Joseph Valladores | BASIC GIFT |
| ***Junior Servers*** | ***Junior Servers*** | ***Junior Servers*** | ***Junior Servers*** |
| Volunteers Needed | Volunteers Needed | Volunteers Needed | Volunteers Needed |
| ***Welcomers*** | ***Welcomers*** | ***Welcomers*** | ***Welcomers*** |
| Terry Serrao | Espy Sarno | Joe Duval | Eleanor Stuart |
| Volunteer Needed | Angela Pecnik | Volunteer Needed | Esther Rose |
| Volunteer Needed | Volunteer Needed | Volunteer Needed | Volunteer Needed |

**FLOWERS:** Group 2 (Violet)
**CLEANERS:** Group 4
**BANNERS:** Violet/Rose

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 20 MARCH

**Mon 21 Mar:** Monday of the 3rd Week of Lent
**Tue 22 Mar:** Tuesday of the 3rd Week of Lent
**Wed 23 Mar:** Wednesday of the 3rd Week of Lent
**Thu 24 Mar:** Thursday of the 3rd Week of Lent
**Fri 25 Mar:** Annunciation of the Lord
**Sat 26 Mar:** Saturday of the 3rd Week of Lent

## 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
**Safeguarding Parish Support Officer:** Elsa Roberto **P** 02 9670 8222 **E** safeguarding@holyspiritstclair.com.au
**Parish Youth Contact:** Eleanor Stuart **M** 0431 639 895 **E** eleanor.stuart97@gmail.com

**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** 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.


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

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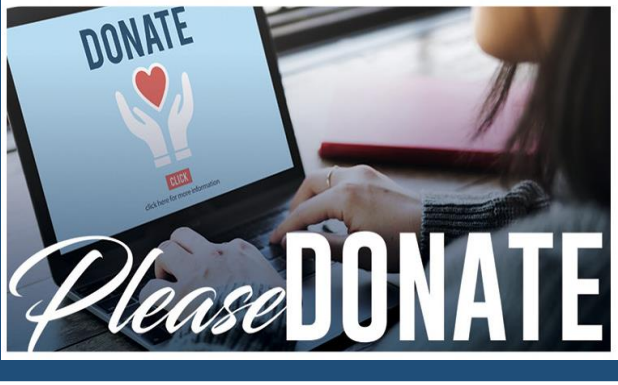
email Parish Office at admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au

**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 one-time 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!