

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.*

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

(except on Public Holidays which changes to 9.05am)

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Mass, 9.05am

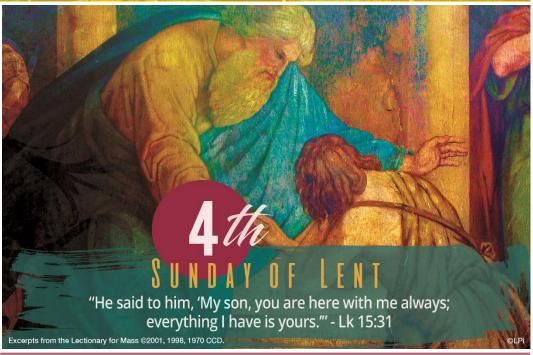
Anointing Mass, 1st Fri, 9.05am

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

When the Pharisees see the blind man who is healed, they do not see his openeyed joy or excitement. They see a beggar, a sinner who sat outside the gates for as many years as they can remember.

They hear his testimony, and the testimony of his parents, and presumably the testimony of the people who brought the man to them. But they don't really listen to what is being said. They still only see and hear a beggar, a sinner who is certainly not worthy of enlightening them.

By closing their eyes to the joy and wonder right in front of them, they miss out on seeing Jesus reflected in the eyes of the man once blind. By listening to only their own voices and the words they expect to hear from others, they fail to receive their own blessing, perhaps even their own salvation.

I wonder how often I do the same thing—react to what I see and pay little

attention to what I hear. I see one of my children's friends and judge him on my first impression. I see milk spilled on the counter and the floor and do not really listen to the apology or explanation. It takes time to look beyond what we see—to see past our prejudice or anger or frustration. It takes time to really listen—to hear what is in someone's mind and heart. Yet if we don't take the time, we are like the Pharisees, and miss an opportunity to see Jesus reflected in the eyes of our children.

PERSONAL RESPONSE: Just about every one of us wears blinders, which limit the way we see certain things or people. We have subtle (or not-so-subtle) prejudices, usually inherited from the family that raised us. Carrying these prejudices around with us is not a sin. Prejudice is like anger. It is what you do (or do not do) with it that matters. What are the blinders you wear?

🖎 © 2020 Judith Dunlap.

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:

"There is so much indifference in the face of suffering. May we overcome indifference with concrete acts of charity."

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, Roger Roxas, Brenda Gallagher, Andrew Boulos, Louis Tham, Emilia Rose Moya, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Joel Dizon, Angela Cook, Deepa Mary Joy, John Warne, Brian Barnes.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Joseph Mifsud, Mary Lou Martin, Elijah Paraan, Nita Untalan, Rajna Kocevski, Nicole Molina, Peter Aramini, Dennis Gordon, Roland Carlos Pasión, Barbara Kari, Connie Atto, Fe Decena, Nicholas Saliba, Muriel English, Sr Gabriel of St Joseph's Convent Nagpur.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Ricardo Herft, Shellie Becker, Anthony Farrugia, Caroline Bejasa, Vincent Mifsud, Vincent D'Mello, Oswald Movin D'Souza.

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.

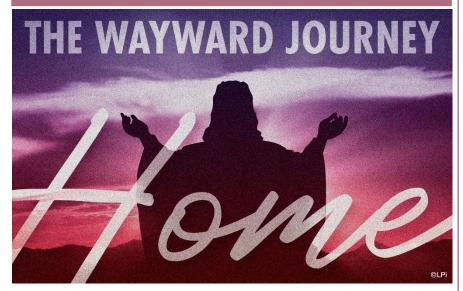
GOD BLESS YOU.

www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations



LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the Week



Have you ever given thought to the fact that you are an "ambassador for Christ?" An ambassador is an accredited diplomat and official representative. We are asked to be ambassadors for Christ and his message of reconciliation. Within each one of us is a prodigal son who realizes the need to return home, an elder brother who struggles with entitlement and self-pity, and a forgiving father who simply wants to celebrate love. Realizing that all of these things are operative in our hearts, we can bring credibility to God's ministry of reconciliation. Genuine witnesses are those who not only recognize their need for wholeness, mercy, and forgiveness but also their tendency to be over self-focused and stubborn. Then, discovering freedom from all that binds them, they can then extend the love they have received to others. These ambassadors embody unity, mercy, and reconciliation and can look on others with deep compassion because they know what it is to walk in their shoes. Can God count on you to deliver this message?

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading: After the Israelites settled into the land of Canaan (the Promised Land), no longer was there any need for the "manna" from heaven. As the season of Lent continues, what have you been able to let go of?

Second Reading: Paul emphasized to the Corinthians the importance of reconciliation with God. Why do you think reconciliation is so key to our relationship with God?

Gospel Reading: In Jesus' parable of the lost (prodigal) son, which character do you most resonate with, and why?

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



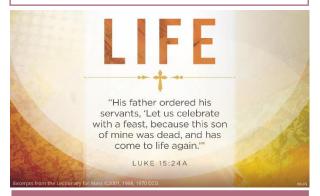
If you wish to book a baptism,
visit our parish website:
https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/sacra
ments/#baptism
Baptisms at Holy Spirit are on every

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.

WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

Sometime we become so enamored with the Parable of the Prodigal Son that we forget the interaction that prompted its telling. Jesus told the iconic parable in response to being criticized by the Pharisees and scribes for welcoming and eating with sinners. Who is welcome in your home? With whom are you willing to dine? The challenge this week is to spend some leisure time with someone who has made some serious mistakes and may even have a bad reputation. Can you offer the compassionate presence of Christ to this person and discern the goodness that lies beneath the surface of this person's life?

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THE SUNDAY FLOCK







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"Let us celebrate...he was lost, and has been found."

Sheepish Question:

This Lent how will I truly celebrate God's mercy?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

STATIONS OF THE

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

30 March, 6, 13 April, 7.30pm

An initiative of Men's Business, Holy Spirit Parish





BUY RAFFLE TICKETS & WIN



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

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



Love your neighbours as God loves you

Help Catholic Care support those who are isolated or have nowhere to turn



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.

PONSOR 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 Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair

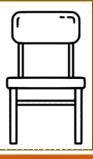
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UPDATE ON OUR "SPONSOR A SEAT" CAMPAIGN

Goal: 450 chairs Donations received: 245 chairs Remaining: 205 chairs

We greatly appreciate your support!



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



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.



SET-UP CHAIRS & TV SCREENS

on Good Friday, 15 April, 8am

TRAFFIC CONTROL VOLUNTEERS

- on Good Friday, 15 April, 2-3pm
- on Easter Sunday 17 April, 8.45am to 9.30am

CLEAN-UP (CHAIRS & TV SCREENS)

on Easter Sunday, after the 9.30am Mass







Bro John Zhang's Ordination to Diaconate will be on Saturday 30 April 2022, 10am at Holy Spirit Parish

For those who would like to come and attend the ordination and/or would like to donate food for the celebration, please complete the RSVP form available in the foyer. All welcome!

Let's pray for Bro. John as he prepares for his ordination.



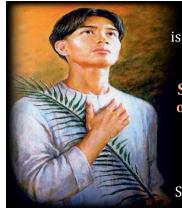


EMERGENCY Ukraine Appeal

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to people in Ukraine.

DONATE TODAY www.caritas.org.au/ukraine 1800 024 413 toll free





HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
is hosting the 6th Day Novena
Mass in honour of the
Philippines' Second Saint,
ST PEDRO CALUNGSOD
on Tue 5 April 2022, 7pm

All welcome!

Feast Day Mass will be on Sat 9 April, 11am at St Aidan's Parish, Rooty Hill

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"A Christian is: a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks, and a hand through which Christ helps."

St Augustine of Hippo

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CREATION CARE TIPS

"On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year. -loshua 5:11-12

Once the ancient Israelites were a free people in their own land, they could feed themselves from what they grew. This week, like the Israelites, consider where your food comes from. Do you buy produce shipped from thousands of miles away when there are farmer's markets within a few miles of you? Has it traveled long distances to be processed and packaged? Make a commitment to switch your buying power to more local, in-season foods so as to support the farmers in your region, even if you start small, like giving up bananas shipped from South America if you can get other locally grown fruit now.

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

Question:

I have seen the title of Vicar General and Chancellor used in our Catholic newspaper. Who are they and what do they do?

Answer:

A bishop is in charge of a diocese and appoints people to help with its administration. Two of those positions are the General Vicar and Chancellor. Both play a role in the life of a diocese, despite the many jokes priests may tell at their expense! A chancellor is the archivist of a diocese, charged with task of keeping the records of the diocese. Often a bishop may add other responsibilities and chancellor may end up being like the executive director of the diocesan office. The chancellor does not need to be a priest.

The vicar general is a priest, appointed by the bishop and acts in the name of the bishop in administering the diocese. He has an advanced degree in canon law or theology. He also has executive authority within the diocese. This means that he is involved in the day-to-day pastoral and temporal administration of the diocese. Canon law does not allow a bishop to appoint a relative to the position, nor the priest in charge of the sacrament of penance. In both cases, the purpose of the law is to avoid conflicts of interest.

NEXT WEEKEND (3 APRIL): 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT, Yr C

1st Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21 God has done and will continue to do great things.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 126.1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5, 6 (R.3) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

2nd Reading

Philippians 3:8-14 Paul forfeits all for Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Joel 2.12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! With all your heart turn to me, says the Lord, for I am tender and compassionate. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,

king of endless glory! Gospel

John 8:1-11

The Pharisees confront Jesus with an adulteress.

FLOWERS: Group 5 (Violet)

CLEANERS: Group 5 **BANNERS:** Violet

2 APR, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Peter Moriarty

Eucharistic Ministers

Hazel Littlewood Sylvia Herft Jeanne Appleton

Reader 1

Moira Rebello

Reader 2 Eileen Baena

Commentator Sheila Francis

Music

Volunteer Needed

Powerpoint Volunteer Needed

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers

Selwyn Oliveira Sonia Oliveira Volunteer Needed **3 APR, 8AM**

Minister at the Altar **Tony Cleary**

Eucharistic Ministers

Louise Bucholtz Ron Brackett Lisa Brackett

Reader 1

Christine Younes

Reader 2 Micheal Hay

Commentator

Stephen Middleton

Music

Manuel Fidow

Powerpoint Carol Vella

Junior Servers

Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Frances Flood Angela Pecnik Volunteer Needed 3 APR, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar Nono Gacis

Eucharistic Ministers

Sina Carvalho Tina Fernandes Seaview Kama

> Reader 1 Tess Barnes

Reader 2

Ken Allen

Commentator Cathy Allen

Music

Luchie's Choir **Powerpoint**

Ivan Fernandes

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers

Sue Oram Jenny Kyd Volunteer Needed 3 APR, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Volunteer Needed

Eucharistic Ministers

Esther Rose Lumen Decena Kate Blasco

Reader 1 Rebert Lees

Reader 2

Corinne Brooker Commentator

Kate Blasco

Music El Shaddai Syd Gosp

Powerpoint

El Shaddai Syd Gosp

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers

Esther Rose Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed

www.parra.catholic.org.au

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 27 MARCH

Mon 28 Mar: Monday of the 4th Week of Lent Tue 29 Mar: Tuesday of the 4th Week of Lent Wed 30 Mar: Wednesday of the 4th Week of Lent Thu 31 Mar: Thursday of the 4th Week of Lent Friday of the 4th Week of Lent Fri 1 Apr: Sat 2 Apr: Saturday of the 4th Week of Lent



Holy Spirit Parish

3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair P 02 9834 2527

St Clair • Erskine Park • Parts of Kemps Creek

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians since 1995

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

Diocese of Parramatta

Facebook 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 Priory

9.00am to 5pm (Monday to Friday)

Parish Staff

Parish Council

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 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

Emmaus Retirement Village (85 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 8804 0200 **Retirement Vill**

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If you wish to advertise your business, contact Parish Office. See contact details on page 7.





Contact Michelle for-**Pre-Planning & Pre-Paid Funerals**

P: 02 9623 6656 M: 0418 250 242 E: michelle@heavenlycelebrations.com.au

186 Queen Street (Star Arcade), St Marys NSW 2760

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- Family Law
- Business Law

- Negligence Law Wills & Estates Court Appearances

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

Advertising pace Available 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 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!

