HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

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

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT, Yr C **6 MARCH 2022**

1st Reading
Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Moses tells the Israelites of God's care for them.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 91.1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15
Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

2nd Reading
Romans 10:8-13
All who call upon the Lord will be saved.

Gospel Acclamation
Matthew 4.4
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Gospel
Luke 4:1-13
Jesus is tempted in the desert.

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

Most folks will tell you it takes practice to say no to temptation. Consider Adam and Eve when they lived in paradise. They never had to practice saying no because they had everything they wanted. The first time they were tempted, they failed the test.

In this reading, we find Jesus in the desert tempted three times by the devil. He was physically weak, hungry and thirsty, and still he did not give in to temptation. He said no, not out of some superhuman power but from good old-fashioned willpower. Since Jesus is fully human, we can presume this was not his first encounter with temptation. Jesus had spent a lifetime building up his willpower by saying no to the easy way out, no to having fun at the expense of others, no to putting his needs or wants first.

How can we practice saying no to temptation? One way is by flexing the muscle of self-denial. Self-denial, or what we used to call, "giving stuff up," has been a part of Christian discipleship since Jesus walked with the first apostles: "...[G]o, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor..." (Matthew 19:21).

Lent may be the traditional time to practice self-denial, but it doesn't have to be the only time. You can practice saying no to your sweet tooth or the urge to buy one more thing on eBay. You can choose to drink water as your only beverage for a few days. You can even skip a couple of meals one day to experience what it feels like to go to bed hungry.

By practicing self-denial once in a while, we learn self-discipline, an important virtue for Christians. Often learning how to say no to small temptations can be very helpful when we find ourselves facing larger ones.

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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:

"From the cross, Christ teaches us to love even those who do not love us."

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, Yvonne Funnell, Lorraine Assey, 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, Chante M Are, Rita & John Cassar, Virna Susana Quiñonez Viloria, Nympha Miller, Pat Quine, Ava Renee P Aguirre, Maria Elena M Felix, Alessandra Lucia P Aguirre.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Amelia Matias, Lashman Dhammapala, Holly Carter-Madej, Rita Oliver, Joe Mifsud, Philip Vasou, Tina Ballaco, Andrew Javier.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Glen Bouche, Felix Cañete Sr, Cajetan Gonsalves, Billy Castillo, Joseph Rebeiro, Tony Kuljanic, Petrus Wayong, Bishop Bede Heather, Theresa Pavey, Shirley Salmon, Piedad Gonsalves, Anthony Baxter, George Paz.

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

Human beings did not come to believe in God just because of someone's private testimony about him. Rather, belief in God became real when human beings understood that all of human history is being guided and lead, kept and sustained by a God who is incredibly in love with all that he has made. It is this realization that leads us to thanksgiving and gratitude for the one who gives us "this land flowing with milk and honey." It also leads us to adoration and worship as we continue to see the creative power of God's presence in all of the events of our lives. The Church stands as a living witness to all of these things and calls us this Lent to reflect and remember. There is a great temptation for human beings to leave the truth of who they are, where they came from and who created them. Falling into this temptation we cease giving thanks to and worshipping our Creator as we pursue our own self-sufficiency, power, and prestige. While having more may seem better, the only thing we really need more of is love. This fortifies us and keeps us from falling.

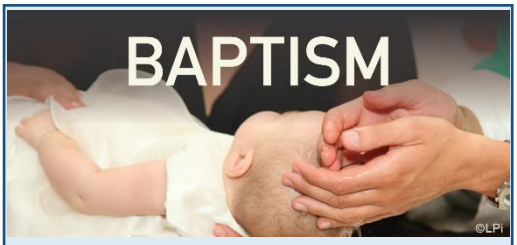
QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading: Moses taught the Israelites the importance of remembering and thanking God for how God saved them from Egyptian slavery. What has the Lord done for you that warrants your gratitude and thanksgiving?

Second Reading: Paul speaks of the importance of sincerity of heart and speech in one's belief in Jesus. How well do you uphold this spiritual exercise?

Gospel Reading: Jesus confronts and defeats the devil before he begins his public ministry. As we begin the season of Lent, in what ways do you think the devil is present in your life?

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.



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.

This Sunday's Gospel describes Jesus' temptation in the desert. Jesus was tempted with three things: satisfying the flesh by breaking his fast and eating the bread; becoming instantly famous by performing a super-hero act; and seizing power by making a pack with the devil. Jesus rejected all three temptations. Your challenge this week is to examine your own life to determine the temptations which the devil is placing in front of you. What do you need to say no to? What are you tempted to do which would cause others' lives to be lessened if you indulged in it?

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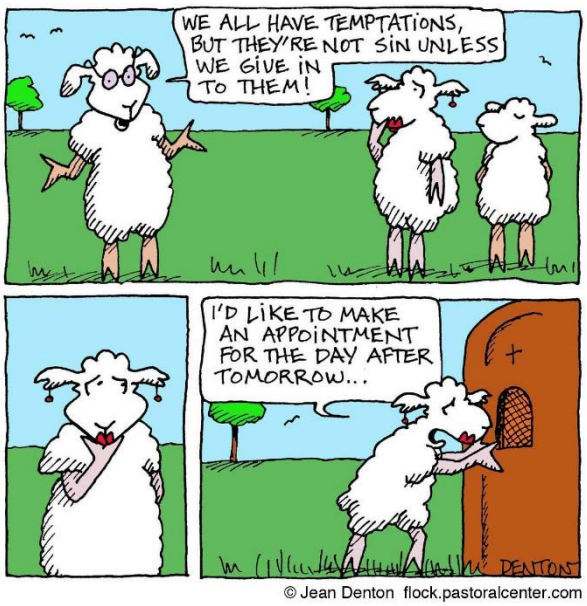
THE SUNDAY FLOCK



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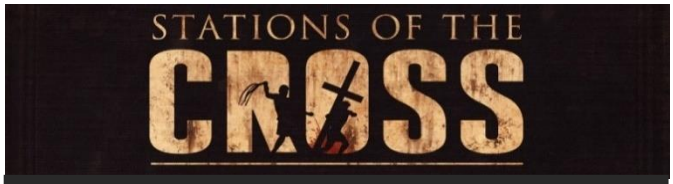
"One believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved."

Sheepish Questions:

What temptations do I least want to face right now? Why?

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.
You can purchase a copy of the Stations of the Cross booklet available in the piety stall for $7 each.

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

9, 16, 23, 30 March, 7.30pm
6, 13 April, 7.30pm

An initiative of Men's Business, Holy Spirit Parish

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.

1. Ministry Leadership Program: Perfect for current and aspiring ministry leaders. 10 or 20 sessions ($10/session).
2. 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* or email *met@parracatholic.org* for more details.

The parish is happy to offer 50% scholarship to those interested.

Children's Liturgy will commence next weekend.

Children's Liturgy at Holy Spirit Parish is on every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month (Saturday Vigil and Sunday 9.30am Mass)

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

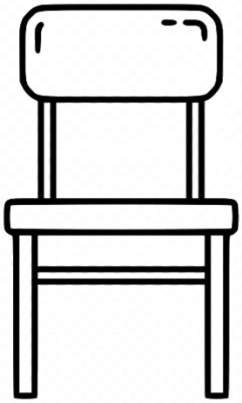
WAYS TO GIVE:

- **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:	176 chairs
Remaining:	274 chairs

We greatly appreciate your support!



BUY RAFFLE TICKETS & WIN

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

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

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

PROJECT COMPASSION FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

Please take home a Project Compassion box to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and For All Future Generations.

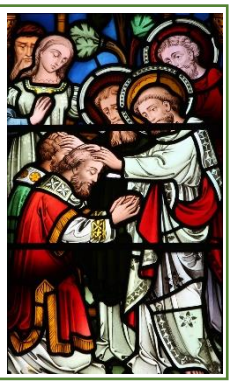
Project Compassion 2022 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come to build better future for all.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes available in the foyer, or by visiting **lent.caritas.org.au**, or by calling 1800 024 413.

ORDINATION OF BRO. JOHN TO DIACONATE

For those who would like to be part of the planning committee for the ordination of Brother John, there will be a meeting on Thursday 10 March 7pm, Pioneers Room. Thank you.

Bro. John's ordination will be on Sat 30 April, 10am here at Holy Spirit.



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH 40TH YEAR FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY 1981-2021

The Parish Pastoral Council would like to organize an Ad Hoc Committee for our Parish's 40th Year Foundation Anniversary.

For those who would like to be part of this committee, please contact the parish office or Fr Michael.

Thank you.

becoming a catechist

Become an SRE Volunteer!

What is an SRE?
SREs are parish volunteers who:

- Teach and share their faith with children of their parish who attend government schools.
- Have a passion for sharing the gift of faith with young people.
- Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time and talents with young people
- Are people who respond to the central mission of the Church to make Jesus known and loved.

In this parish Special Religious Educators, SREs, (previously known as Catechists) go into the state primary schools in St Clair and Erskine Park. New volunteer SREs will be given support, training, teaching materials and will start as a classroom helper.

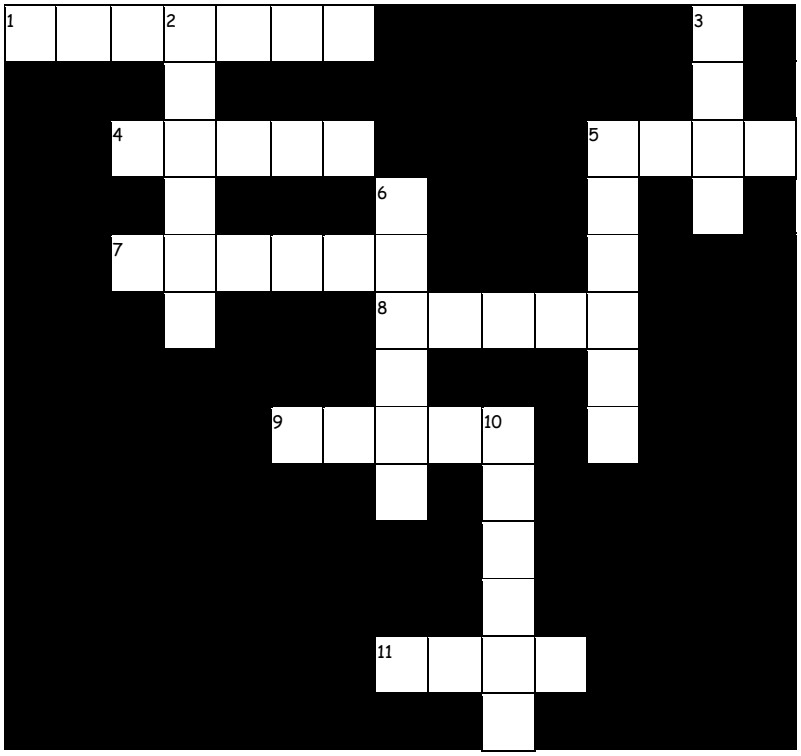
To register your interest or make further enquiries, contact the Parish Office or email Ken and Cathy Allen at sre@holyspiritstclair.com.au.

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY

"Right is right even if no one is doing it;
wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it."

St Augustine of Hippo

CROSSWORD The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert



ACROSS:
1: praise and give thanks to God
4: the number of days Jesus was in the desert
5: the limbs attached to your shoulders
7: a special place of worship
8: to perform an act of service
9: food made from grains
11: feel pain, injury

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DOWN:
2: rocks
3: leap
5: God's special messengers
6: Jesus was _____ by the devil
10: a barren, sandy environment

CREATION CARE TIPS

If you are looking for something to fast from this Lent, why not set yourself the challenge of fasting from buying anything new (except groceries and essential toiletries)? For six weeks vow to buy things second-hand, borrow, barter, trade, or do without. You may just discover that some things you thought were essential are not essential after all. You could also discover new channels for second-hand resources such as Freecycle or "Buy Nothing New" groups in your area that are committed to reducing the waste stream.

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WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

After a civil divorce, is a Catholic obligated to pursue an annulment?

Answer:

Many Catholics are not exactly sure what an annulment does. An annulment does not deny that a marriage took place, nor does it deny that there once was love. It does not mean that people say anything untrue, such as they never loved each other or that everything in their marriage was wrong. An annulment does not negate children, nor make them illegitimate. An annulment addresses the spiritual aspect of marriage. In effect, an annulment says that at the time of the wedding, there was either something present or something absent that prevented the sacrament from taking place. It is a spiritual determination that, if granted in the affirmative, allows a person to marry in the Church.

Annulments have no legal standing and are unable to be used in a civil court. Therefore, a Catholic has no moral obligation to pursue an annulment. However, when the tragedy of divorce occurs, and there is no hope for reconciliation, annulments may help bring some spiritual closure to a person's life. Some people have found the process to be healing and others have found it to be difficult. Speak to your priest or a member of the Diocesan Tribunal staff to decide what is best for you.

NEXT WEEKEND (13 MARCH): 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT, Yr C

1st Reading
Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18
The Lord establishes a covenant with Abraham.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 27.1, 7-8, 9, 13-14 (*R.*1a)
The Lord is my light and my salvation.

2nd Reading
Phil 3:17 – 4:1
Our citizenship is in heaven.

Gospel Acclamation
Luke 9.35
Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel
Luke 9:28-36
Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James and John.

12 MAR, 6PM	13 MAR, 8AM	13 MAR, 9.30AM	13 MAR, 6PM
Minister at the Altar	***Minister at the Altar***	***Minister at the Altar***	***Minister at the Altar***
Lorensz Herft	Carol Vella	Anthony Bertumen	Volunteer Needed
Eucharistic Ministers	***Eucharistic Ministers***	***Eucharistic Ministers***	***Eucharistic Ministers***
Dita Sy	Belen Leynes	Ken Allen	Kate Blasco
Moira Rebello	Celeste Lapid	Cathy Allen	Esther Rose
Janice Salmon	Elsa Roberto	Jenny Kyd	Sue Oram
Reader 1	***Reader 1***	***Reader 1***	***Reader 1***
Dudley Littlewood	Sally Banguis	Unise Blake	Sue Oram
Reader 2	***Reader 2***	***Reader 2***	***Reader 2***
Corinne Cerdor	Stephen Middleton	Bianca Dowsett	Candice Salmon
Commentator	***Commentator***	***Commentator***	***Commentator***
Florence Pusey	Manuel Fidow	Joy Rulewski	Marty Facciol
Music	***Music***	***Music***	***Music***
Victor Brangwin	Pierre D'Cunha	Mary Immaculate	BASIC GIFT
Powerpoint	***Powerpoint***	***Powerpoint***	***Powerpoint***
Nanette I.	Christine Younes	Boy Sanosa	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	Jenny Kyd	Eleanor Stuart
Fiona Ferreira	Sarah Damole	Volunteer Needed	Esther Rose
Volunteer Needed	Jun Damole	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed

FLOWERS: Group 5 (Violet)
CLEANERS: Group 2
BANNERS: Violet

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 6 MARCH

Mon 7 Mar: Monday of the 1st Week of Lent
Tue 8 Mar: Tuesday of the 1st Week of Lent
Wed 9 Mar: Wednesday of the 1st Week of Lent
Thu 10 Mar: Thursday of the 1st Week of Lent
Fri 11 Mar: Friday of the 1st Week of Lent
Sat 12 Mar: Saturday of the 1st 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

Pls support the advertisers that support us. Thank you.

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

Heavenly Celebrations
Celebrate a loved one's life
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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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
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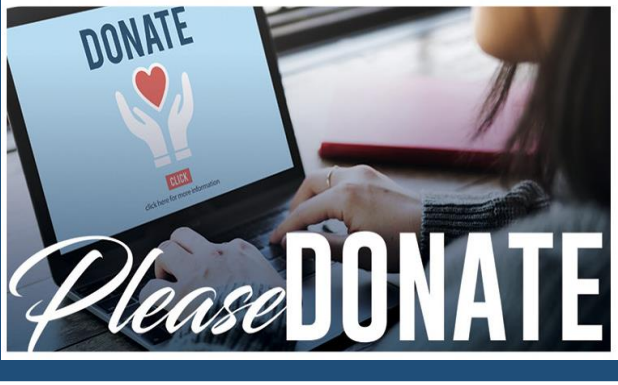
www.batemanbattersby.com.au
enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au

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!