

1st Reading

Exodus 17:3-7 The Israelites complain to Moses in the desert.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95.1-2, 6-7ab, 7c-9, (R.7c.+8a) If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

2nd Reading

Romans 5:1-2. 5-8 Christ laid down his life for us.

Gospel Acclamation

See John 4.42, 15 Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Gospel John 4:5. 42 Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at the well.

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 Vigil Mass & Sun 9.30am 1st & 3rd Sun of the month (during school term)

SUNDAY OF LENT

"If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." - Jn 4:10

VOICE FROM THE PEWS

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Water is basic for life. We need it for nourishment, for healing, and for cleansing. Water can also take life. Left under water long enough, we die. This is why water is the perfect sign for the sacrament of baptism. Through the waters of baptism, we die to our old self and receive new life in Christ. The church reinforces this imagery of baptism by sprinkling us with holy water at various times through the year, and by placing holy water fonts at church entrances.

Parishioners are also encouraged to take holy water home with them. This is something my husband and I did faithfully for the first few years of our marriage. We had been given a holy water font for our wedding. It hung by the front door of our first few apartments. I don't know what happened to it after that. The miniature font was a nice reminder that our home was the domestic church. Like the parish church, we dipped our hand and blessed ourselves when we entered or left. I remember dipping my finger in the font to bless my children on their first day of school each year. I continued to bless them as they grew up. I would make a simple Sign of the Cross on their foreheads before big events in their lives like final exams or a long trip. My children are all grown now, and I still bless them. Sometimes they even bless me back.

When we moved into our first house, my mother brought her own holy water on her first visit. Like the holy water used during the dedication of a new church, my mother sprinkled her holy water and blessed each room in our own house church. Blessing the house reminds us that our homes are church, and blessing each other reminds us that we are the embodiment of that church. Holy water is a sign of our new life as part of the body of Christ.

<u>PERSONAL RESPONSE</u>: How is your home like church for you and for your family?

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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.

To know more about the life of the parish, you can grab a copy of our Welcome Newsletter available in the foyer or go to this link on our website:

https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/w p-content/uploads/2021/03/Holy-Spirit-Parish-Welcome-Newsletter.pdf

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)

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

There is strength and peace that comes from when we pray for one another. If you have a prayer request or want to offer a Mass for a special intention, go to: <u>https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/mass-prayer-requests/</u> We ask you to please submit your prayer intentions a few days before preferred Mass.

SICK:

Benjie Santiago, Yvonne Funnell, Linda Allen, Tony Fagel, Elinor Ortiz, Sean, Rosario Ribay Hutching, Edna Studdert, Nympha Miller, Maria Sloan, Ramia, Michael Galea, Rosie Casha, Anne Fidler, Joel Dizon, Hanna Rose Stewart,

Bill Lynch, Andrew Boulos, Emilia Rose Moya, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Brian Barnes, Harry Young, Steven Johns, Alice Grech.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Vicenta Avila, Mark Constantine, Priscilla Amy Machado, Margaret Fernandes, Vivian Cañete, Anne Woodbury.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Fr Brendan Quirke OSA, George Paz, Henry Carlyle Blake, Fortunata Lim, Lorraine Assey, Cajetan Gonsalves, Piedad Gonsalves, Anthony Baxter, Emmanuela Cachia, Milton Fernandes, Feliciano Fernandes, Pat Shelley, Doris Carabott.

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

PARISH COLLECTIONS & REGULAR CONTRIBUTION

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 or go to the link provided below. 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.

Regular Parish Contribution Form and other ways to donate: <u>www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations</u>



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

GOD BLESS YOU.



LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the Week



With our world in such constant turmoil and conflict, it makes such good sense to return to the simple directives given in the Ten Commandments. God's unassuming guidelines provide the perfect recipe for ordering our relationships with God, others, and even ourselves. But yet, we are so quick to glance beyond them and even remove them from public view because we foolishly believe we can create something better. Arrogance runs far deeper in the members of our society than we can ever imagine. Lent is a perfect time to call ourselves back to our foundations and the basic relationships that comprise our lives. It is also a time to remember that Jesus is the true sign of God's presence. Everything he says and does, including his suffering and death, is a sign of the God who sent him. The anger we witness when Jesus exhorts those in the temple to stop making his Father's house a marketplace can equally be seen in his anger and frustration over humanity's constant mission to turn God's creation into a secular world. We have a lot of work to do for sure.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK:

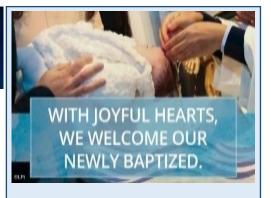
First Reading: In God's revelation to Moses of His "10 Commandments," seven of the ten Commandments regulate how we are to relate to each other. Which of these seven Commandments challenges you most?

Second Reading: Paul speaks of Jesus as both the "power of God and the wisdom of God." How could you prove Paul's assertion to a non-believer?

Gospel Reading: John connects Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem to Jesus' bodily resurrection from the dead with a quote from Psalm 69: "Zeal for your house will consume me." During this season of Lent, how passionate is your faith?

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 14th March 7.00pm, at the church. Presenter is Joyce McMahon.

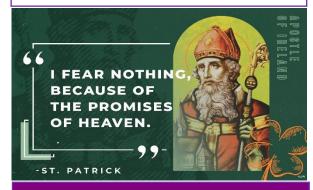


We have no baptisms during Lent, will be resumed after 8th April.

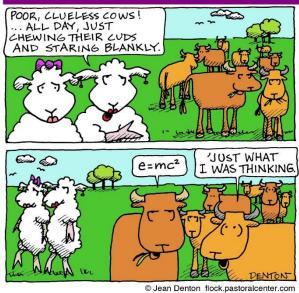


The Samaritan woman, also known as the woman at the well, is featured in Sunday's Gospel. She was a member of a tribe with which the lews did not interact, she was a woman, and she had a fairly bad reputation after being married several times. Even with these three strikes against her, Jesus made her the first evangelizer of her village. Your challenge this week is to identify someone in vour life who is not from your immediate circle of family and friends, someone you might consider an outsider, and listen to or closely observe that person. See if you can learn something about Jesus from the way he or she lives and speaks. Show appreciation for this "outsider" in any way you can.

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THE SUNDAY FLOCK



"Not as man sees does God see."

Sheepish Question:

How can I broaden my perspective to view life around me with the eyes of God?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



STATIONS of the CROSS

Men's Ministry is inviting **everyone** for the Stations of the Cross every Wednesday Evening (6 Wednesdays of Lent) at 7:30pm at the Church Foyer. Booklets will be provided.

24-Hour for the Lord Event at Schoenstatt, Mulgoa

Come and spend some time with Our Lord and Our Lady in the Schoenstatt Shrine: Mass on Friday, 17 March 6pm Mass, then Reconciliation 7:15pm-10.00pm; Saturday Reconciliation 10am-12pm, and 3:00pm-4.45pm with a Vigil Mass at 5:00pm. The Shrine will be welcoming people for prayer for the full 24 Hours. Groups to lead prayer are welcome. Contact paulandramani@gmail.com

HOLY SPIRIT PRIMARY SCHOOL - Kindergarten 2024

We will be hosting an Information Evening on Tuesday, 28 February, at 6:30 pm, where parents and carers can join us to find out about our school, as well as being provided with the opportunity to ask questions about our school.

Please visit our website and our facebook page to learn more about our school and to complete an Expression of Interest form.

Across the following 3 weeks we will host a number of sessions where parents can take a tour of our school to see learning in action. Please share this link with anyone you know who has a child ready to start Kindergarten in 2024.

2024 KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS OPEN

OPEN DAYS FOR 2023 Wed 1 March 9.30 - 10.30am Fri 3 March 11.30 - 12.30pm Tue 7 March 11.30 - 12.30pm Thurs 9 March 9.00 - 10.00am Tue 14 March 9.00 - 10.00am Fri 17 March 11.30 - 12.30pm

Visit our website to register to attend www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au/ or please contact the school office on 8886 3200



BIBLE STUDY

The Letter to the HEBREWS

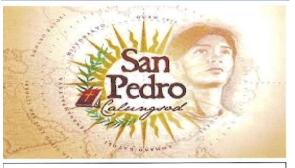
Duration: 8 weeks Registration will be on: 7pm on 27 April 2023 Start: 11th May 2023 *More details will be made available soon.* An initiative of the Spirituality Commission (Contact: Fleur on 0414838705)

ALLELUIA CHOIR

Is inviting you to join this group to thank, serve and glorify Our Lord with songs and music.

PLEASE CONTACT JOY RULEWSKI MOB: 0425264642

JOIN OUR PRACTICE FOR HOLY THURDAY MASS



12th FIESTA CELEBRATION IN HONOUR OF ST. PEDRO CALUNGSOD (2nd Filipino Saint)

<u>NOVENA/FIESTA SCHEDULE</u> 6th Day Tuesday, 28 March Holy Spirit Parish – St. Clair at 7:00pm

Saturday, 01 April 2023– FEAST DAY 11:30 AM - Concelebrated Mass ST. AIDAN'S PARISH CHURCH 9 Adelaide St., Rooty Hill

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



FOOD DRIVE FOR JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICES

Weeks: 18/19 of March and 25/26 of March.

The food needed by the service are:

Basmati Rice (1kg) Dry Chickpeas

Cooking Oil Dry Red and Green Lentils

Long Life Milk Coconut Milk

A box will be provided in the foyer for collection.

Mission: Change their lives ... and yours.

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents.

- · You will re-ignite your professional passion as you share skills with colleagues abroad;
- You will strengthen individuals and organisational processes and procedures so that generations of people will have opportunities for growth long after you return home.
- You will Learn. It is a life changing opportunity to work with and live amongst some of the most
 appreciative and resilient people you will ever meet.
- You will be Supported. Since 1961, Palms Australia has supported qualified and experienced Catholics motivated to undertake this Mission.

Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know:

RING: 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567. WEB: www.palms.org.au





Third Sunday of Lent 11 & 12 March



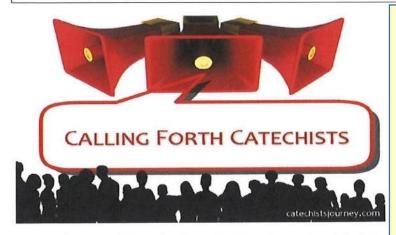
Zimbabwe is experiencing an intense drought, exacerbated by climate change. With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops and started poultry farming to support her family during the current food crisis.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *For All Future Generations*.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting <u>caritas.org.au/project-compassion</u>, or by calling 1800 024 413.



Our Parish is in need of people who would like to take a role as Catechist. Catechists are needed especially at James Erskine, Blackwell and Clairgate Primary Schools. Please give your prayerful consideration to respond to this worthwhile invitation. If you need more information how to become a catechist please contact our SRE Coordinator Peter Moriarty at sre@holyspiritstclair.com.au or 0452079043

DEVOTIONAL STALL ITEMS FOR SALE – DROP BY AND SEE MORE!!!!!



- Scapular green & brown
- Crucifixes (only wood)
- Rosaries
- First Missal
- Three fold wooden frame with Virgin Mary
- Chaplet of Immaculate Conception

AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"If we did not have rational souls, we would not be able to believe."

St Augustine of Hippo

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Iry to find these w	vords:	
ancestor	Jacob	town
bucket	Messiah	two
drink	Samaritan	well
food	Sychar	woman

CREATION CARE TIPS

"But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?""—Exodus 17:3

As the climate continues to change, millions suffer from a lack of clean water for drinking, washing, and irrigating. Even if your community isn't suffering from drought or reduced supply, do something big or small to reduce your usage. If you have the means, the next time you buy a dishwasher or washing machine, purchase one that uses less water. Learn about capturing the gray



water from your washing machine to use in your garden. Often the conversion is simple and inexpensive. Consider replacing your thirsty lawn with a drought tolerant landscape. On a smaller scale, cut back your shower time a few minutes.



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What's the difference between priests and brothers, friars, etc.?

Answer:

The distinctions titles and categories used for priests and the male members of religious communities can be confusing, especially since the categories can sometimes be intertwined as a man can be both a priest and a monk, or a brother and a friar. So, to help to piece the puzzle together, it's important to begin by noting some basic distinctions:

The distinction between priests (who are ordained for sacramental ministry) and brothers (who are nonordained members of religious communities and who are committed to lives of prayer and service).

Priests: A priest is a man who has ordained for sacramental been ministry and these fall into two categories: a) Diocesan (or Secular) Priests can either be attached to a diocese and who serve under a bishop. Their ministry is usually oriented toward pastoral service. b) Religious Priests are members of religious communities (like the Franciscans, Jesuits, Augustinians, or Carmelites) and their lives are guided by the special mission and charism of their community. While both kinds of priests practice sacramental ministry, their spirituality and how they live out their priesthood can be very different.

Brothers: Brothers are nonordained members of religious communities (such as those mentioned above) who live lives committed to prayer and service. Religious priests and brothers serve together in their communities and their ministries include much more than the care of parishes.

Monks, Friars, and Canons: These are broad categories that include religious priests and brothers, and each of these is connected to specific ways of life and spiritualities. ©LPi

NEXT WEEKEND (19th MARCH): FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, Yr A

1st Reading

Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13 *Samuel anoints David king.*

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (*R.1*) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

2nd Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14 *Live in the light.*

Gospel Acclamation

See John 9.1-41 Alleluia, alleluia! The man who was blind washed his eyes and came back able to see..

Gospel

John 9:1-41 On the Sabbath, Jesus cures a man who was blind from birth.

		Inu 16 Mar:	
CLEANERS:	Group 5	Fri 17 Mar:	S
BANNERS:	Purple		0
		Sat 18 Mar:	Sa

18 MARCH, 6PM

Minister at the Altar Jacob Fonseca

Eucharistic Ministers Bernadette Stevens

> Fiona Ferreira Mary Fonseca *Reader 1*

Fe Uy **Reader 2** Marinella Licuanan

> *Commentator* Eileen Baena

Music St Joseph's Choir

Powerpoint Nanette I.

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Selwyn Oliveira Sonia Oliveira Corinne Cerdor

19 MARCH, 8AM

Minister at the Altar Gloria Slade Eucharistic Ministers

> Pat Dowd Celeste Lapid Elsa Roberto **Reader 1** Sarah Damole

Reader 2 Shirley Croning

Commentator Carol Vella

Music Peter Mercia

Powerpoint Louise Bucholtz

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Sarah Damole Jun Damole Volunteers Needed

19 MARCH, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar Fred Harris

Eucharistic Ministers Michael Paulo Marie Sanosa Nida Hawley

> *Reader 1* Joanne Staunton *Reader 2*

Nida Hawley *Commentator* Derrick Pereira

Music Laudate Choir

Powerpoint Ivan Fernanes

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Joe Duval Sue Oram Volunteer Needed 19 MARCH, 6PM

Minister at the Altar Peter Smith

Eucharistic Ministers Lumen Decena Robert Lees Romana Cunanan

> **Reader 1** Sheila Francis

Reader 2 Joseph Valladores

Commentator Corinne Brooker

Music Esther Rose Choir

Powerpoint Volunteers Needed

Junior Servers Volunteers Needed

Welcomers Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteer Needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 12 FEBRUARY

Mon 13 Mar: Monday Of The Third Week Of Lent Tue 14 Mar: Tuesday Of The Third Week Of Lent Wed 15 Mar: Wednesday Of The Third Week Of Lent Thu 16 Mar: Thursday Of The Third Week Of Lent Fri 17 Mar: Saint Patrick, Bishop Sat 18 Mar: Saint Cyril Of Jerusalem, Bishop And Doctor Of The Church

	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 TBA
Parish Staff	 Parish Moderator: Fr Jepser Bermudez, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E pp@holyspiritstclair.com.au Asst Pastor: Fr Dave Austin, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E daustin@holyspiritstclair.com.au Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E ptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.au Augustinian Brother: Rev. Hoang Huy Nguyen P 02 9670 8222 E ix.hoanghuy@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): Peter Moriarty 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 Council	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, Michael Paulo, Vince Cachia, Carol Vella, Andrea Bouche,
	Seaview Kama, Benjie Santiago, Eleanor Stuart (BASIC GIFT Youth Representative) Fr Jepser Bermudez OSA, Fr Dave Austin OSA, Fr Peter Tangey OSA, Rev Hoang Huy Nguyen 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

12 MARCH 2023

